

Minutes

of the

**JOHN THOMAS
ASSOCIATION**

of

Freewill Baptists

STATE OF VIRGINIA

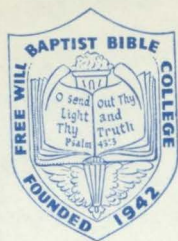
THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION

Held With

Ephesus Church

Swords Creek, Va.

SEPTEMBER 7-9, 1956



Total in T	FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE	\$627.44
King I	<i>Presented by</i>	267.09
King I	Rev. E. M. French	9.81
Everet		20.00
		\$296.90
Balance		\$330.54

Received into Treasury 9-9-56:

Letcher County—(Check)	\$100.00
Tri-State Conference — (Cash)	17.50
Dickenson County—(Check)	200.30
New Durm—(Cash)	40.00
Added to Treasury 9-7-56	357.80
Balance Brought Forward	330.54
Total in Treasury 9-9-56	\$688.34

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Officers

Officers of the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptist who were elected for the year 1956-1957:

ALBERT DINGUS, JENKINS, KY.	Moderator
ASA HUGHES, CLINTWOOD, VA.	Assistant Moderator
EVERETT JOHNSON, CLINCHCO, VA.	Clerk
LESTER ABLE, JENKINS, KY.	Treasurer

Ordaining Councils

LETCHER COUNTY CONFERENCE

ALBERT DINGUS, <i>Chairman</i>	Jenkins, Ky.
C. W. ISOM	Burdine, Ky.
L. D. MAHAN	Payne Gap, Ky.

NEW DURM CONFERENCE

JAMES HUTCHISON, <i>Chairman</i>	Keen Mt., Va.
HARLEY DYE	Swords Creek, Va.
JAMES HALL	Drill, Va.

DICKENSON COUNTY CONFERENCE

E. C. KISER, <i>Chairman</i>	Stratton, Va.
C. E. REEDY	Millard, Va.
ALVIE DINGUS	McClure, Va.

TRI-STATE CONFERENCE

CLAUDE CONN, <i>Chairman</i>	Paw Paw, Ky.
GEORGE HARDING	Paw Paw, Ky.
HENRY ESTEP	Paw Paw, Ky.

VISITING MINISTERS

CARL SENTERS, Ky. State	Betsy Lane, Ky.
H. B. JOHNSON, Southwest Va. Asso.	Dorchester, Va.
HOWARD BOSTIC, Sandy Valley Asso.	Swords Creek, Va.
KYLE HUBBARD, Sandy Valley	Swords Creek, Va.
ORVILLE O'QUINN, Sandy Valley	Council, Va.

Introduction

Introductory message was given by Bros. Asa Hughes and Alva Dingus. Bro. Fred Taylor opened service with prayer. Text used, 13 verses of 13 chapter of 1st. Cor.: "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity."

PROCEEDINGS

The thirty-fourth session of the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptists convened with the Ephesus Church, Swords Creek, Va., Sept. 7-9, 1956.

Clerk read for lesson 8 verses of 91st Psalm. Singing by congregation; prayer by Bro. Asa Hughes.

Clerk proceeding by enrolling delegates, ministers, visiting ministers and corresponding messengers.

DELEGATES

Dickenson County:

Flora Keith
Bertha Stanley
Alva Lee Fleming

Nellie Robinson
Warren Salyers
(Sub. for Carmel Johnson)

Letcher County:

Amos Gray

New Durm:

Walter Whited
Frazier Hale
Bert Diamond and Wife

Cleve Dye and Wife
Ellen Dye

Tri State:

Roscoe Estep

MINISTERS

DICKENSON COUNTY CONFERENCE

Fred Taylor
Asa Hughes
Alva Dingus

C. E. Reedy
Everett Johnson
E. M. Rose

NEW DURM CONFERENCE

M. P. Ball

Harley Dye
Johnnie Stevenson

LETCHER COUNTY CONFERENCE

Albert Dingus

Lester Able
Donald Sexton

TRI-STATE CONFERENCE

Willie Compton

Clerk proceeded by electing moderator. By move and second, Bro. Albert Dingus was elected. Moderator taking charge, was given power by the association to appoint such committees as needed. Moderator appointed Bro. Asa Hughes to assist him.

Pulpit Committee was appointed as follows: Bro. Amos Gray, Chairman; Sisters Ella Dye, Lilly Hughes. (Moderator appointed Sister Marie Tate to fill the vacancy of Sister Hughes.)

A committee was also appointed to audit the Treasurer's books. They were: Alva Dingus, Chairman, Harley Dye, M. P. Ball.

Minutes of last session were read and approved by the Association. Moderator called for letters from corresponding messenger. No letters being present, messengers gave oral reports as follows:

Bro. Carl Senters gave oral report of Ky. State.

Bro. H. B. Johnson gave oral report of Association.

Bro. Orville O'Quinn gave oral report of Southwest State.

Bro. Lester Able also reported from Ky. State, and Southwest Va. Association.

These reports were read in regular order and accepted. By move and second the letters were tabled until Saturday morning session. By move and second conference adjourned until 9:30 A. M. Saturday morning.

FRIDAY EVENING PREACHING SERVICE 3:00 P. M.

Committee appointed Bro. Carl Senters and Fred Taylor for this hour. Reading of a lesson was omitted and Bro. Senters used for text "Faith", by request Sister Dye led in prayer.

FRIDAY NIGHT PREACHING SERVICE 8:00 P. M.

Committee appointed Bro. Harley Dye and Benton Miller for this hour. Bro. Dye used for foundation, "An Invitation." Bro. Miller read four verses of 2nd chapter of Acts. Prayer by Sister Lena Wilson. Text: "Many are called but few are chosen."

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION 9:30 A. M.

Conference opened with singing. Moderator read for lesson 16 verses of 4th chapter of Ephesians. Prayer by Brother Orville O'Quinn.

Moderator called for the work to be taken care of at this time. Letters from various conferences were presented to the clerk. They were as follows:

Dickenson County Quarterly Conference.
Letcher County Quarterly Conference.
New Durm County Quarterly Conference.
Tri-State Quarterly Conference.

September 8, 1956

To the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptist while in session with the Swords Creek, Va., from Sept. 7-8-9, 1956.

We, the Tri-State Conference, met on August 18th 1956 and elected Bro. Claude Conn as moderator and Emert Stiltner as Clerk. We appointed the following delegates to attend the association: Bro. Willie Compton from Harman Chapel Church, Bro. Claud Conn from Kelsa Chapel Church, Bro. Walter Hurley from Bull Creek Freewill Baptist Church and Floyd Looney, Big Rock Church. We have four churches and a membership of about 175 members and are getting along good. We have 7 ordained ministers and some licentiates. This bringing the work of the conference to a close for this session. While in session with the Bull Creek Freewill Church, Mohawk, W. Va. from August 18-19, 1956. Done by order of the Tri-State Conference, pray for us that we will grow and increase in churches and members.

Claud Conn, Kelsa, Va., Moderator
Ernest Stiltner, Grundy, Va., Clerk

The Letcher County Conference met with the Pine Chapel Church August 25 and 26, 1956. The following were Delegates:

Thelma Hansford
Crit Belcher
Thomas Hyden
John Damron
Floyd Stewart
Effie Stafford
Grace Sexton
Sister Puckett
John Vanover
O. L. Burdette
Golia Sexton

Sister Taylor
Oliver Blaton
Alta Mae Blevins
Fred Young
Neomia Wilson
Amos Gray
Eldred Hayes
Hover Bartley
Luther Dingus
Louise Sweeton
Orell Caudell

Anna Profit
 Issac Branham
 Earnest Blevins
 Edna Bates
 Sarah Potter
 Grace Huff
 Claude McHone
 Gertrude Hale
 Aster Gibison
 Ellis Younce
 Patricia Sweeton
 Millie Young
 Charles Gallian
 Delma Hansford
 Daniel Green
 Jack Williams
 Donald Cooper
 Ann Bartley
 Dorothy Green
 Ola Holland
 Bernard Coldwell
 Donna Gale Kisor
 Eugene Burdette
 Melvin Killen
 Harold Miles

Joyce Kelly
 Mary Lou Elkins
 Jeff Ratliff
 Cletis L. Garret
 Lester Hyden
 Marybel Whitaker
 Dwight Puckett
 Vonda Green
 Junaita Kiser
 Claude McHaney
 Robert Profit
 Elmer Collins
 Kimeron Gardner
 Lon Ledford
 Jimmie Hall
 Geneva Butler
 James Damron
 Woodrow Mullins
 Ollie Sanders
 Jenny Bartley
 Sister Davis
 Margaret Ledford
 Ethel Mullins
 Belva Senters

Number of Churches.....	31
Number of Members.....	1000
Number of Sunday Schools.....	20
Number on Roll.....	1200
Average Attendance.....	1000

This has been a good year for our conference. Pray for us that we will do a lot more good for the Lord.

The Ordaining Council ordained Brother Arnold Kelly in our last conference.

Rev. Ezra Johnson, Moderator
 Rev. Lonnie P. Hale, Assistant Moderator
 Rev. Eugene Adkins, Clerk

To the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptist which convenes with the Kelsia Chapel Church beginning on Friday before the 2nd Sunday in September, 1956:

We the Dickenson County Conference of Freewill Baptists met with the Pine Creek Church on Friday before the 4th Sunday in July, 1956, and organized our conference by electing Alvie Dingus, Moderator; Quinton Keith, Assistant Moderator; Lloyd Hillman and Clinton Lambert as Clerks.

The following delegates were present and are delegates to the association:

Clinchco—

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Phipps	Mr. and Mrs. Carmel Johnson
Mrs. Nellie Robinson	

Charlies Chapel—

Mr. and Mrs. Elzie Cantrell	Mrs. Maudella Slimp
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Counts Chapel—

Stacey Viers	Alfred Green
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Davis—

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Bevins	Mr. and Mrs. Arcie Adkins
Emory Taylor	

Duncan Gap—

Mr. and Mrs. Noah Hamilton	Erwin Hall
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Dyers Chapel—

H. L. Kiser	Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Rose
Mr. and Mrs. Orbin Rose	

Flemington—

Ervie Dutton	Luke Wright
Tivis Mullins	James Wright

Ferby—

Edna Sturgill	Gertie Baker
Otis Sturgill	John Mead

Fremont—

Patsy Spearsls	Emma Smith
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Georges Fork—

Virgie Kennedy	Edna Browning
Dolly Hibbitts	

Hillridge Chapel—

Cleve Green	Alva Lee Fleming
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Honey Camp—

Clara Smith	Fallie Rose
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Hubbard Chapel—

Mr. and Mrs. Barnie Collins	Mrs. Nora Rose
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Lick Fork—

Mr. and Mrs. Brack Powers	Hattie Kieth
Maco Kieth	

Martins Chapel—

Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Amburgey	
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Middlebranch—

Ruben Lambert	Ritter Lambert
Lizzie Lambert	Bruce Lambert

McCoys Chapel—	
Bennit Kilgore	Slimp McCoy
Retha Kilgore	
Mill Creek—	
Wesley Edwards	
Zella Lambert	Martha Ann Sauls
Mills Chapel—	
Absent	
Pine Creek—	
Holliday McFall	Ersel Johnson
Willie Newberry	Julia McFall
Vandey Newberry	
Pine Grove—	
Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Gouge	Mr. and Mrs. Emmitt Hamilton
Pippins Chapel	
Troy Large	Roger Marshall
Peuther Chapel—	
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Yates	Flora Reedy
Claude Carty	Oma Arrowood
Pyles Memorial—	
Everett Mullins	Frank Tompkins
Rachels Chapel—	
Samantha Mullins	Delsa Carty
Millard Mullins	
Rugsby Chapel—	
Trigg Smith	Pearl Mullins
Lila Sayler	Vora Mullins
Splashdam—	
Ethel Puckett	
Tarpon—	
Virgie Kiser	Vesta Potter
Union Light—	
Bert Raines	Molen Justice
Janey May	Unis Plumey
Valleyview—	
Bertha Stanley	Cora Orr
Flora Kieth	
Yates Chapel—	
Merdia Boggs	Vinia Edwards
Alta Boggs	

Our standing is as follows:

Number of Churches.....	31
Membership.....	2003
No. of Sunday Schools.....	22
Ordained Ministers.....	50
Licentees.....	1

By order of the Dickenson Quarterly Conference of Free-will Baptist while in regular session with the Pine Creek Church, July 20, 21, 1956.

Rev. Alvie Dingus, Moderator

Rev. Quinton Kieth, Assistant Moderator

Lloyd Hillman, Clinton Lambert, Clerks

To the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptist when convened with Ephesus Church, Swords Creek, Va. began on the 7th of Sept., 1956:

We the Russell County, New Durm Conference, met with the Clinch View Church and organized by electing the following: Rev. Hanley Dye, Moderator; Rev. James Hall, Assistant Moderator; Faye Rasnake, Clerk.

The following delegates were from their respective Churches and were Delegates to the association:

Clinch View Church—

Bertha Stevens

Alta Rasnake

I. F. Stevens

Elbert Rasnake

Swords Wood Mt. Church—

Ora Wilson

Jaunita Wilson

Graven Wilson

Hazel Wilson

Mt. Zion Church—

Edith McGlothan

Ruth Dye

Leonard Dye

Drills Chapel Church—

Frazier Hale

Ida Hale

Bennie Perkins

Lyndia Perkins

Paul Hess

Eula Hess

B. E. Dye

Guiding Light Church—

Arnold Smith

Mt. View Church—

Bert Diamond

Aubny Compton

Taze Pruner

Fullers Chapel Church—

Walter Whited
Jimmie Whited

Ralph Rasnake

Hales Chapel Church—

Alice Ball

Fletchers Ridge Church—

Brady Farmer

Ephesus Church—

Ellen Dye
Ted Miller

Cleve Dye
Ella Dye

Our standing is as follows:

Number of Churches.....	10
Number of Members.....	400
Number of Ministers.....	17
Number of Sunday Schools.....	5

By order of the New Durm Conference while in regular session with Clinch View Church, August 10-12, 1956.

Rev. Hanley Dye, Moderator

Rev. James Hall, Assistant Moderator

Faye Rasnake, Clerk

The four letters were read and passed on by the Association. The treasury report was read. The auditing committee reported the treasurer's book in good order.

The appointing of messengers to the various Associations were as follows:

Kentucky State Association

Convenes on the 3rd Saturday in June at Betsy Lane, Ky.

Alva Dingus

Albert Dingus

E. M. Rose and Wife

Virginia State Association

Convenes on Friday before 3rd Sunday in June with the Shilo Church, Bristol, Va., Route 3.

Benton Miller

Clyde Reedy

Lester Able

C. W. Isom

Sandy Valley Association

Convenes on Friday before the 4th Sunday in August with the Linkous Chapel, Tazewell, Va.

Harley Dye and Wife

Alva Dingus

Southwest Virginia Association

Convenes on Friday before the 4th Sunday in August with Stone Gap, Va.

Lester Able

Donald Sexton

C. W. Isom

The executive committee reported that the next association convenes with the Pine Chapel Church, Jenkins, Ky., on Friday before the 2nd Sunday in September 1957.

The minutes to be distributed as follows:

Dickenson County	700
New Durm	300
Letcher County	500
Tri-State	150
Total	1650

This finishing the work of the association the same adjourned until Friday before the 2nd Sunday in September 1957, unless called together by the moderator, when it will convene with the Pine Chapel Church, Jenkins, Ky.

PREACHING SERVICE AT 11:00 A. M. SATURDAY

Committee appointed Brothers Clyde Reedy and H. B. Johnston for this hour. Brother Reedy read for a lesson the 7th chapter of 2nd Chronicles. Prayers by Sisters Mae Van-over and Ella Dye. Text: "If my people which are called by my name shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will hear their land."

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION 2:00 P. M.

Conference opened with singing. Brother Dingus read for a lesson 4 verses of the 4th chapter of 2nd Timothy. Prayer by Brother Donald Sexton.

Clerk continued by organizing the Minister Conference. By move and second the same moderator and clerk were retained. Letters from Ministers Conference as follows:

The Letcher County Preachers Conference met with the Pine Chapel Church Saturday, August 25, 1956. Albert Dingus was elected Moderator, Eugene Adkins was elected Clerk.

The following are ministers of the Letcher County Conference:

Albert Dingus, Burdine, Ky.	D. D. Moore, McRoberts, Ky.
J. B. Banks, McRoberts, Ky.	C. W. Ison, Burdine, Ky.
L. D. Mahan, Payne Gap, Ky.	Ersel McPeaks, Payne Gap, Ky.
Ezra Johnson, Jenkins, Ky.	Everett Potter, Payne Gap, Ky.
Clyde Huff, McRoberts, Ky.	Robert Madden, Cincinnati, Ohio
Donald Sexton, Rt. 1, Coeburn, Va.	Jimmy Seals
Edward H. Hall	Geo. Lester Able, Jenkins, Ky.
W. A. Looney, Burdine, Ky.	John Vanover
John Akers, Scuddy, Ky.	Hilt Taylor, Jenkins, Ky.
Johnny Stoffer, Burdine, Ky.	Bill Smith, Happy, Ky.
Ira Harvey	Johnny Skeens, Pikeville, Ky.
Lonnie P. Hale, Elton, Va.	Leo Good, Stanley, Va.
Darwin Mullins, Jenkins, Ky.	Parkis Brewer
J. H. Miller, Jackhorn, Ky.	Eddie Bryant, Jackhorn, Ky.
C. O. Caudell, Dunham, Ky.	Curtis Maggard
Glen Miller	Dewey Griffith
Lloyd Pike, Mayking, Ky.	Dempsey Akers
Isaac Branham, Hellier, Ky.	Noble Wright, Clintwood, Va.
Bill Harris, Pikeville, Ky.	Robert Prater, Pikeville, Ky.
Adam Wright	Dallas Kelly, Burdine, Ky.
Eugene Adkins, Jenkins, Ky.	Percy Elkins, Jenkins, Ky.
Eddie Rose, Dorton, Ky.	Langley Milton
Williams McDuffie	Ike Young, Kona, Ky.
James Richer	Linville Proffitt
Clyde Kelly, Burdine, Ky.	Hubert Mason, Whiteburg, Ky.
James Wheeler	Harrison Middleton
Cletis Garret	Floyd Stewart
Harold E. Harvey, Cincinnati, Ohio	Aronald Kelly, Kent, Ohio

We have 56 ordained Ministers and 5 Licentiates.

The following Ministers were dropped from the Minister Conference: Henry Don Vest, Frank Delph, Harold Miles and Rollie Collins.

The characters of all ministers were voted on and passed.

Albert Dingus, Moderator
Eugene Adkins, Clerk

We, the New Durm Ministers Conference met with the Clinch View Church August 11, 1956 and organized by electing: Rev. Hanley Dye, Moderator; Faye Rasnake, Clerk.

There were 12 ordained Ministers present an 5 absent. Their names were called and each was voted on and their character passed as good. They were as follows:

Harley Dye	James Hall
Benton Miller	James Hutchuson
M. P. Ball	Grover Lambert

Lee Wilson
Edward Perkins
Eligah Tiller
Johnie Stevens
Gordon Kelley
H. H. Ball

Jim Lambert
J. C. Rasnake
Everette Rasnake
Glen Peck
Charlie Keen

By order of the New Durm Conference while in regular session with the Clinch View Church August 11, 1956.

Rev. Hanley Dye, Moderator
Faye Rasnake, Clerk

To the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptists:
We, the Tri-State Ministers Conference, met on August 18, 1956, when in session with the Bull Creek Freewill Baptist Church of Christ. The Ministers Conference was organized by electing: Claud Conn, Moderator; Ernest Stiltner, Clerk.

The following ministers were present:
Claude Conn Walter Hurley
George Harding Troy Dotson
Willie Compton

They were voted on and passed to accept their report, and their character good. The ministers that were absent were: Henry Estep, Alfred Flannington.

This brings the Ministers Conference to a close unless called together by Moderator until next August 1957. Done by order of Tri-State Conference while in session with Bull Creek Freewill Baptist Church. August 18-19, 1956.

Claude Conn, Moderator
Ernest Stiltner, Clerk

We, the Dickenson County Ministers Conference, met with the Pine Creek Church on Saturday before the 4th Sunday in July 1956 and organized our Conference, electing Rev. Alvie Dingus as Moderator, and Lloyd Hillman and Clinton Lambert as Clerks.

The following ministers were present:
Alvie Dingus C. E. Reedy
Erwin Hall E. M. Rose
Asia Hughes Josh Rose
E. C. Kiser Troy Robinson
Willard Kiser Fred Taylor
Quinton Kieth Emory Vanover

Rit Large
George Mooney
Hie A. Mullins
Ted Mullins
Monroe Mullins

James Wright
Luke Wright
Joe Johnson
Rice Bowman
Rufus Kieth

The following were absent:

W. R. Bise
S. P. Davis
C. T. Dutton
Kermit Deel
Emory Estep
Bill Harrison
Walter Hughes
Everett Johnson
Kasper Lane
Lee Mullins
Gobel Rose
Maston Rose
Cecil Ramey

Luther Taylor
Ivan Reedy
Marion Belcher
Everett Smith
James Hobbs
Newton McGlothian
D. F. Kennedy
B. M. Moore
Adam Stanley
Carmel Lane
Earl Slimp
Bertsie Stanley

All the ministers' names were passed upon in good standing except Vernon Kiser, Lawrence Hicks who were dropped for violating Article No. 5 of the Ministers Conference.

Creed Fleming was ordained to preach the Gospel.

Done by order of the Dickenson County Ministers Conference while in regular session with the Pine Creek Church July 22, 1956.

Alvie Dingus, Moderator
Clinton Lambert, Lloyd Hillman, Clerks

Letcher County Ministers Conference, New Durm Ministers Conference, Dickenson County Ministers Conference. Letters were read and accepted. The conference retained their previous ordaining councils.

This finishing the work of the Ministers Conference same was adjourned by move and second, until Saturday before the 2nd Sunday in September 1957 when it will convene with the Pine Chapel Church, Jenkins, Ky.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE 3:00 P. M.

Committee appointed Bro. E. M. Rose and Bro. Broadwine for this hour. Brother Rose read for the lesson 8 verses of the 18th chapter of 2nd Kings, using for text: "Then the fire of the Lord fell."

(The Association takes this means of thanking the people in and around Swords Creek for the kindness shown and extended to the people during this Association.)

Ministers' Report

ARNOLD KELLEY RFD #3, Hudson, Ohio

Churches Pastored	1
Sermons Preached	40
Revivals	2
Prayer Services	40
Conversions Witnessed	26
No. Baptized	15
Miles Traveled	2500

ALBERT DINGUS Jenkins, Ky.

Churches Pastored	1
No. Sermons	50
Revivals	2
Conversions Witnessed	55
No. Baptized	12
Burials Attended	13
Memorials	3
Amount Received	\$2400

HAROLD E. HARVEY

Churches Pastored	1
No. Sermons	160
Revivals	1
Conversions Witnessed	10
No. Baptized	5
Memorials	1
Prayer Services	52

ROBERT MADDEN Clinton, Ohio

Churches Pastored	2
No. Sermons	90
No. Baptized	2
Prayer Services Held	50
Amount Received	\$50.00

EDMON C. MAGGARD

Baptized	1
Funerals	2
Conversions Witnessed	13
Sermons	105
Prayer Services	46
Churches Pastored	1
Assisted	1
Miles Traveled	1800
Amount Received	\$20.25

LESTER ABLE

Sermons	30
Conversions Witnessed	6
Burials Attended	2
Memorials Held	1
Prayer Services Held	54
Miles Traveled	1973

IKE YOUNG, JR. Kona, Ky.

Sermons	116
Revivals Held	5
Conversions Witnessed	38
Baptized	15
Miles Traveled	2410
Couples Married	1
Funerals Attended	5
Amount Received	\$194.70

BILL HARRIS Pikeville, Ky.

Churches Pastored (Ass't)	1
Sermons Preached	59
Revivals Held	1
Conversions Witnessed	3
No. Baptized	1
Miles Traveled	1636

EZRA JOHNSON Jenkins, Ky.

Churches Pastored	1
Sermons Preached	86
Conversions Witnessed	10
No. Baptized	8
Burials Attended	6
Memorials Held	2
Prayer Services Held	52
Couples Married	6
Miles Traveled	3000
Amount Received	\$218.00

DARWIN MULLINS Jenkins, Ky.

Churches Pastored	3
Sermons Preached	75
Revivals Held	1
Conversions Witnessed	6
No. Baptized	2
Burials Attended	1
Prayer Services Held	25
Couples Married	2
Miles Traveled	1000

ROBERT PRATER Pikeville, Ky.

Sermons Preached	76
Revivals Held	1
Conversions Witnessed	7
Burials Attended	1
Prayer Services Held	49
Miles Traveled	460

LLOYD PIKE

Mayking, Ky.

Churches Pastored	2
Sermons Preached	333
Revivals Held	11
Conversions Witnessed	212
No. Baptized	100
Burials Attended	18
Memorials Held	1
Prayer Services Held	20
Couples Married	2
Miles Traveled	13,120
Amount Received	\$1075.00
Expense	\$ 525.00

ADAM WRIGHT

Sermons Preached	50
Conversions Witnessed	2
Burials Attended	2
Prayer Services Held	35
Miles Traveled	750

CLINTON GARRETT

Sermons Preached	65
Memorials Held	1
Funerals Held	1

LONNIE P. HALE

Elton, Va.

Churches Pastored	1
No. Sermons	60
Conversions Witnessed	2
Burials Attended	1
Prayer Services	50

LEO GOOD

Stanley, Va.

Churches Pastored	1
No. Sermons	60
Prayer Services	30

JAMES WHEELER

No. Sermons	75
Conversions Witnessed	13
Burials Attended	3
Prayer Services	35

FLOYD STEWART

No. Sermons	54
Conversions Witnessed	4
Burials Attended	1
Prayer Services	52
Miles Traveled	1500

GLEN MILLER

Jackhorn, Ky.

Sermons Preached	100
Revivals Held	2
Conversions Witnessed	5
No. Baptized	1

Burials Attended	5
Prayer Meeting	50
Miles Traveled	700

EUGENE ADKINS

Churches Pastored	3
Sermons Preached	100
Revivals Held	1
Conversions Witnessed	15
No. Baptized	12
Burials Attended	3
Memorials Held	1
Prayer Services	20
Couples Married	1
Miles Traveled	4000
Amount Received	\$40.00

CLAUD CONN

Kelsa, Va.

Churches Pastored	2
Sermons Preached	75
Baptized	10
Funerals	10
Memorials	1
Miles Traveled	600

GEORGE HARDING

Matewan, W. Va.

Sermons Preached	75
Baptized	3
Funerals	3
Memorials	2
Miles Traveled	3000
Amount Received	\$10.00

WILLIE COMPTON

Grundy, Va.

Sermons Preached	90
Baptized	10
Memorials	2
Funerals	3
Miles Traveled	4000
Amount Received	\$10.00
Churches Pastored	1

WALTER HURLEY

Mohawk, W. Va.

Sermons Preached	65
Funerals	3

TROY DOTSON

Mohawk, W. Va.

Sermons Preached	30
Funerals	2
Miles Traveled	1500

HENRY ESTEP

Paw Paw, Ky.

Churches Pastored	1
Sermons Preached	80

OBITUARIES



P. T. WILLIAMSON

In memory of a dear beloved husband and father, P. T. Williamson, age 71 years, 1 month and 16 days at his death Jan. 1, 1956.

In the year of 1911 on Sept. 15 he married Minnie Jones Williamson. To this union were born four children, two who preceded him in death. Two are living—Ralph Williamson of Lorado, W. Va., and Thelma Jones of Ford's Branch; one foster daughter, Minnie Marie. He also leaves seven grandchildren, four sisters and two brothers: Mrs. Minnie Gannon of Pond Creek, Ky., Mrs. Mary Phillips of Meta, Ky., Mrs. Texie Scott of Meta, Miss Maxie Williamson of Meta, Mrs. Hollis Williamson of Richwood, W. Va. He also leaves a host of friends and relatives to mourn his loss.

He belonged to the Free Will Baptist Church and he loved so well to go to church. Our home is so lonely since Daddy has gone, because there is a vacant place that will never be filled.

Daddy was dearly loved by those who knew him and he loved for people to visit him. To Daddy we say, "Sleep on, dear Daddy, and take your rest. We know some day you will live with the blessed." We loved Daddy so much. It was hard to give him up, but we know God knew best. Up in Heaven he won't be sick any more. We wish to thank the many friends that were so kind during his funeral.

Written by his broken-hearted
wife and daughter,
MINNIE AND MINNIE MARIE

JOSEPH BREEDING

Joseph Breeding, born Jan. 3, 1893, age 62 years and 22 days, departed this life Oct. 25, 1955. He was affiliated with Free Will Baptist Church. Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Mima Breeding, and the following children: Smith, Della Mae, Hazel, Mary Fannie, Gilmer, Glen, Jo Ella, Mary Frances, Freddie Lee, Robert and George. One son preceded him in death 33 years ago. Also 19 living grandchildren and two step grandchildren. He is survived by three brothers, Floyd, Davis and Frank and many other relatives.

DALLAS WAYNE BALL

Dallas Wayne Ball, son of Verlin and Beulah Ball, was born Oct. 20, 1953. Departed this life Jan. 17, 1954, making his stay on earth two months, 27 days. He leaves behind his father and mother, two grandfathers, two grandmothers and a host of friends and relatives. The Lord just gave him to us a little while. He plucked a little tender bud from our arms to decorate around the great white throne. May this little baby be a light to his friends to draw closer to the Lord and be ready when the summons comes for them.

Just a little flower from us is gone,
A loving voice is still.
It leaves a vacant place in our home
That can never be filled.
Could we but hear its little tongue
So sweetly sing in the heavenly home,
Could we but see its smiling face
Delighted with the happy place.
While weeping around its little casket
We promised in our hearts
We would meet him in heaven
Where we shall never part.

DADDY AND MOTHER

RICHARD DOLPHIS MURPHY

Richard Dolphis Murphy was born August 3, 1867 and died April 14, 1956, making his life 88 years, 8 months and 11 days. He married Prissey Deel on July 14, 1886 and to this union was born Hattie Caroline, who is now Hattie Blankenship. On April 2, 1895, he married Martha Breeding. To this union was seven children and one set of twins stillborn who were not named. The living children are James B., Elijah H., Davis, Betty and Mary. Luanne Ball and Richard Dolphis Junior died before him. He had 37 grandchildren, 72 great grandchildren and ten great great grandchildren. His friends and relatives who are left to mourn his loss are unnumbered.

Into the harbor of Heaven now we glide
We're home at last;
Softly we drift on its bright silver tide,
We're home at last;
Glory to God!! All our dangers are o'er
We stand secure on the glorified shore;
Glory to God!! We will shout evermore,
We're home at last.

ELBERT HAMMOND BALL

Elbert Hammond Ball was born September 15, 1890—died November 19, 1955; having reached the age of sixty-five years, two months and three days. He was a lifetime resident and citizen of Buchanan County.

He was married to Miss Hattie Ball June 21, 1910. To this union was born ten children. Two of the ten preceded their father in death—one having died in infancy and the other, a son Roscoe, having departed this past spring.

He is survived by his widow and eight children: Mrs. Howard Collins and Mrs. Grady Kiser of Council; Mrs. Louis J. Mihaly, Mrs. Edward P. Batchelor and Miss Mary Joan Ball of Cleveland, Ohio; Pascoe of Frostburg, Md.; James Earl of the U. S. Navy and B. W. of Council, Va.

He is also survived by three sisters and five brothers: Mrs. Holland Tiller, Mrs. Asa Barton, Mrs. Emmett Barton, Rev. Martin Ball, Henry, Coy, Paul and Luther Ball.

Along with his dear widow and precious children, brothers and sisters, he will be greatly missed by his thirteen grandchildren, many relatives and friends.

At different intervals during his illness he reminded his family that he was ready to go to meet his Lord.

CROSSING THE BAR

1. Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning at the bar
When I put out to sea.
2. But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep,
Turns again home.
3. Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell
When I embark.
4. For though from out our bourne of Time and Place,
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face,
When I have crossed the bar.

—Tennyson

GEORGIA BLANCHE WILSON

Georgia Blanche Wilson was born April 4, 1936 and departed this life Nov. 4, 1955, making her stay on this earth 19 years and 7 months. She is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson of Council, Va.; five sisters, Mrs. Luanna Watts of Troy, N. Y., Mrs. Arlene Thompson of Salem, Va., Mrs. Margaret Smith of Banner, Va., Miss Betty Wilson and Mary Lois Wilson of Council, Va.; four brothers, M/Sgt. John Wilson of the U. S. Army in Korea and Sp/2 Jesse J. Wilson of the U. S. Army, Norfolk, Va., and Robert Wilson and Donald Wilson of Council, Va.; her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. George Bostic of Council, Va. Many friends and relatives and schoolmates mourn her loss, for to know her was to love her. She always had a cheery word and bright smile for everyone she met on the way, just like a ray of sunshine that's gone from our midst.

On the hilltop sad and lonely
Where the tall trees gently wave,
Lies the one we loved so dearly
In the lone and silent grave.
Somewhere there is no parting,
Somewhere there is no pain,
Somewhere loved ones are waiting
To greet us once again.
Some may think we have forgotten
When they sometimes see us smile,
But they don't know the sorrow
That smile hides all the while.

REV. NED L. WESLEY

In memory of our beloved pastor, Rev. Ned L. Wesley, who was born Aug. 11, 1924, was called from this life June 12, 1956, having lived on this earth 31 years, 11 months and 10 days. He was a Christian who was steadfast in the ways of the Lord, and devoted most of his Christian life to the ministry. He was an ordained Freewill Baptist minister, and served for three years as pastor of the Freewill Baptist Church at Negan-gord Corner, Milan, Indiana. He was devoted to his church and all mankind.

Besides his devoted wife Ethel, he leaves three children, Jackie 10, Cathy 2, Estel Lane 1. Also two brothers, Eddie B. and Fred Wesley and one sister, Lattie Iverson and many, many friends.

OBITUARY OF BOBBY ELLIS PUCKETT

Bobby Puckett was born February 24, 1939, at Tarpon, Va., and died December 24, 1955, at the age of 16 years and 10 months. He was the son of Arlie Puckett and Georgia Senters Puckett, of Millard, Va.

Bobby attended elementary school at Bise and was in his third year of high school at Ervinton. He was a devoted and obedient member of his family. He was always ready to do his share of the family duties and was glad to work for others who wished to employ him in the community. He was also a popular student at school, well-loved by his fellow pupils and teachers. He was quiet-natured, very dependable and moral, and friendly with everyone. He attended Sunday school and church regularly at Pewther Chapel. Bobby leaves his father and mother to mourn his loss and nine brothers: Ray, Billy, Asa, Randy and Tommy of Millard; Jay and Raymond of Baltimore; Junior of the U. S. Army, New York, and Cevert of the U. S. Army in Germany; and three sisters: Judy, Janie and Joyce of Millard. He also had many relatives and friends who will miss him very much in the community and at school.

Written by
REV. C. E. REEDY
RAY PUCKETT



MARY SUTHERLAND

In memory of our loving mother, Mary Sutherland, the daughter of John and Cattiata Hicks, was born March 13, 1884, and departed this life April 12, 1956, making her stay here on earth 72 years and 29 days. She was married to William Floyd Sutherland and to this union was born 10 children. Her husband and one son preceded her in death.

Left to mourn her loss are five daughters, four sons, three stepsons, three stepdaughters, one brother, two sisters, 40 grandchildren and 22 great grandchildren; lots of relatives and friends. We're sure our loss is Heaven's gain.

She was a member of the Freewill Baptist Church and she lived a good devoted life. She was good and kind to everyone and a good and loving mother, and we miss her so much, but we understand it was God's will.

Sleep on, dear mother and take your rest. God knows best, He called you to be with His angels. May we meet on that happy shore to part no more and go home to wear a crown, and there I hope to shake your loving hand and live forever and ever in the glory land.

Written by her daughter,
ETHEL



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 consecration 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,

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS (Continued)

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 to 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 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 move 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; 1 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 impressive 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.

