

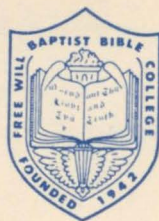
MINUTES
OF THE
JOHN WHEELER ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

1949

Proceedings of the
SEVENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

Convened With
SPOON GAP CHURCH
Abingdon, Virginia, Route 1
Thursday, Friday—September 1-2, 1949

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM, MONETT, MO.



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented by

Rev. Damon Dodd

MINUTES
Of The
SEVENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION
Of The
JOHN WHEELER ASSOCIATION
Of
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Held With
SPOON GAP CHURCH
Abingdon, Virginia, Route 1

OFFICERS

Moderator.....Rev. E. F. Mitchell
Holston, Va., Route 1
Assistant Moderator.....Rev. W. G. Henley
P. O. Box 128, Abingdon, Va.
Associational Evangelist.....Rev. Jennings Wilson
Abingdon, Va., Route 1
Clerk & Treasurer.....Sarah B. Foran
321 Boone St., Bristol, Va.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. A. L. Prator, Chairman.....113 3rd St., Bristol, Tenn.
Rev. Elmer Adkins.....Route 5, Kingsport, Tenn.
Rev. R. N. Waycaster.....Route 4, Kingsport, Tenn.
Rev. George Newman.....Route 2, Bristol, Tenn.
Rev. Charlie Roark.....P. O. Box 201, Abingdon, Va.
Rev. P. L. Trivette.....Route 3, Marion, Va.
Rev. Jennings Wilson.....Route 1, Abingdon, Va.

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Any three or more ministers

The next session of the John Wheeler Association will convene with East Bristol Church, East Mary Street Extension, Bristol, Tennessee on Thursday before the First Sunday in September, 1950. Rev. Jennings Wilson and Rev. E. F. Mitchell will preach the Introductory Sermons.

PROCEEDINGS

Thursday Morning Session

The John Wheeler Association of Free Will Baptists convened with Spoon Gap Church.

The conference session was called to order by Bro. E. F. Mitchell.

The opening song, "Amazing Grace."

Prayer was offered by Bro. W. G. Henley.

The scripture lesson, the 6th chapter of Ephesians, was read by Bro. E. F. Mitchell who also read the Rules of Decorum and the Church Covenant to the body.

Motion carried that Bro. E. F. Mitchell be re-elected for Moderator for the next three years.

Brother W. G. Henley was elected Assistant Moderator for the next three years.

Sister Sarah B. Foran was re-elected as Clerk and Treasurer for three years.

Elected to the Executive Board for three years:

Bro. A. L. Prator, Chairman; Bro. Elmer Adkins, Bro. R. N. Waycaster, Bro. George Newman, Bro. Charlie Roark, Bro. P. L. Trivette and Bro. Jennings Wilson.

Other Committees elected were as follows:

Finance Committee—Bro. Joe Tolliver, Chairman; Sis. Beulah Gross and Sis. Damaras Tolliver.

Pulpit Committee—Bro. Dave Price, Chairman; Sis. Anna Rouse and Sis. John Newman.

Sunday School Committee—Sis. Mayme Graybeal, Chairman; Sis. Virginia Price and Sis. Bertha Graybeal.

Obituary Committee—Sis. Thelma Combs, Chairman; Bro. George Shepherd and Bro. Scott Broynhill.

Temperance Committee—Bro. Willie Gregg, Chairman; Bro. John W. Newman and Bro. Robert Carr.

Moved by the Moderator that this conference adjourn until 1:30 p. m.

Bro. R. N. Waycaster gave the closing prayer.

Eleven O'clock Service

Opened by singing, "Where could I Go?"

Opening Prayer by Bro. Elmer Adkins.

Bro. Robert Carr and Bro. Hubert H. Daniels brought the Introductory Messages. Bro. Carr read from I Cor. 13 for the scripture lesson, taking as a text, "If you love

God keep His commandments." Wonderful messages were enjoyed by all.

Thursday Afternoon Session

Opened 1:30 p.m. by singing "I Won't Have to Cross Jordan Alone."

Prayer by Bro. A. H. Dillard.

Bro. E. F. Mitchell read from the 3rd ch. Malachi.

Conference declared in order by the moderator.

Church and Ministers' letters read and adopted. They will be found elsewhere in this volume.

Delegates enrolled:

Dry Hollow: Bro. O. C. Waycaster, Sis. Betty Elkins, Sis. Lillie Barnett, and Bro. J. C. Barnett.

Macedonia: Sis. Sallie Moore, Bro. Sam Hulse, Sis. Virgie Ford, Sis. Betty Arnold, Sis. Myrtle Hulse, Sis. Claudie Ramey, Sis. Virgie Brewer, and Bro. Virgil Lovegrove.

Rooty Branch: Sis. Sue Hogsed, Sis. Sylvia Catlett, Sis. Pauline Rosebaum, Sis. Mary Shaver, and Bro. James Rosenbaum, and Alex Harless.

Shiloh: Sisters Lillian Parks, Novella Blaylock, and Bro. Fred Parks.

Friendship No. 1: Bro. John Harless, Chairman; Bro. Tom Rouse, Jack Woods, Sisters Anna Rouse, and Beulah Gross.

East Bristol: Sisters Damaras Tolliver, Peggy Moore, Gay Hockett, Sarah Foran, and Bro's. Elmer Adkins, Charles Richardson.

Greggs Chapel: Sis. Debbie Gregg and Bro. William Gregg.

Spoon Gap: Sisters Virginia Price, Eula Price, Lilly Price, Bro. and Sis. Palmer Graybeal, Bro's. Jennings Wilson, C. C. Norris, Worley Price, and Dave Price.

Cedar Bluff: Mayme Graybeal.

Greenwood: Bro's. Roy Blevins, Burg Baumgardner and Sis. Myrtle Parks.

Free Zion: Sisters Elsie Mann, Lockie Roark, Ella Roark, Bro's Charles Roark, Preston Roark, and Bro. and Sis. Dewey Foran!

West Bristol: Bro. and Sis. W. C. Brannan, Bro's. A. L. Prator, John W. Newman, E. F. Mitchell, Claude Newman, George Newman, Sis. John Newman, Sis. Thelma Combs, Bro's. J. W. Chesnutt, E. A. Wagner.

Mt. Olivet: Bro's. Arnold Ford, P. L. Trivette.

New Bethel: None.

Heaven of Rest: None.

Sis. Thelma Combs and Sis. Virginia Brannon present letters from West Bristol Church recommending them for licenses to preach for one year.

Sis. Thelma Combs, Sis. Virginia Brannon, and Bro. George F. Sheperd were granted licenses to preach for one year.

Motion carried this conference adjourn for 3 o'clock service to reconvene at 9:00 a.m. Friday.

Closing prayer by Sis. John Newman.

Three O'Clock Service.

Three p.m. service opened by singing "Heavenly Sunlight."

Prayer by Bro. E. F. Mitchell.

Bro. R. N. Waycaster and Bro. George Newman brought the afternoon messages reading from Psalms 133:2.

Closing song, "I'll Fly Away."

Closing prayer by Bro. W. G. Henley.

Friday Morning Session

Opened 9:00 a.m. by singing "When I Reach That City."

Scripture lesson, the sixth chapter of Acts, was read by the moderator.

Opening prayer by Bro. George Newman.

Rules of Decorum were read by Bro. E. F. Mitchell.

Conference declared in order to transact any business that may come before the body.

Motion carried that Sis. Sarah B. Foran be re-elected as clerk and treasurer for the next 3 years.

Donations to the ass'n. from the churches are as follows:

Roöty Branch.....	\$5.00
Shiloh	5.00
Macedonia	5.00
Free Zion	3.00
East Bristol.....	5.00
West Bristol.....	5.00

Moved by the moderator that this conference adjourn until 1:00 p.m.

Bro. Joe Tolliver offered the closing prayer.

Eleven O'clock Service

Opened by singing "The Blood That Stained the Old Rugged Cross."

Prayer was offered by Bro. J. W. Chesnutt.

Sis. Thelma Combs brought the message followed by Sis. Brannan. Sis. Combs read from first chapter of Hebrews taking for a text, "Neglect."

The Spirit of the Lord was greatly manifested. One soul, Bro. Pope, accepted the Lord and was made to rejoice in His great love.

Service closed with a duet entitled, "I'll Claim Jesus," by Bro. and Sis. J. C. Barnett.

Report of Pulpit Committee:

We, your Pulpit Committee, do recommend Bro. R. N. Waycaster and Bro. George Newman bring the afternoon messages and Bro. Elmer Adkins and Bro. Charlie Richardson bring the 8:00 o'clock service message.

We also recommend Sis. Thelma Combs and Sis. Virginia Brannan bring the message at the eleven o'clock service Friday.

And Bro. Jennings Wilson and Bro. J. W. Chesnutt bring the afternoon message and Bro. Elmer Adkins and Bro. Preston Roark bring the closing message Friday night.

Report of the Temperance Committee:

We, your Temperance Committee, submit the following report: That the churches should be temperate in all things and abstain from all intoxicating beverages.

Sunday School Report:

We, your Sunday School Committee, submit the following report: That every church should have a Sunday School and use our own Free Will Baptist literature for the junior classes and the Bible for the adult class. Ministers should not be put in as superintendents. They should be free to preach the gospel. It would also deprive some lay-member of a duty he could be doing.

Executive Committee Report:

We, your Executive Committee have this to report: That we have examined Bro. George Shepherd and Sisters Thelma Combs and Virginia Brannan and have found them eligible for licenses.

We, your Executive Committee, do request that the

next Quarterly Conference be sent to Rooty Branch convening Friday before the first Sunday in December. We also ask that the next annual association be held at East Bristol convening Thursday before the first Sunday in December, 1950.

Obituary Committee Report:

"The Deceased"

Dry Hollow Church—Mrs. Rea died November 6, 1948, Bro. C. C. Summer.

Greenwood Church—Robert Smith Thomas, Suga Widener died February, 1949; Granville Reed died February, 1949; Jack Chatman died May 15, 1949, Susie Widener.

Rudy Branch Church—Nannie Miller.

Friendship No. 1—Nannie Fritz died April 5, 1949.

East Bristol Sunday School—Jerry Wayne Tester, May 30, 1949.

West Bristol—Martha Dallas Marshall, January 30, 1949; Anna Sexton, June 25, 1949; Roy Sherman, July 13, 1949; Worley Newton, September 1, 1949; W. F. Gaultney, August 18, 1949; Rev. Joe Faulks, 1948.

MINISTERS' REPORTS

Hubert H. Daniels—

Churches pastored, 1; sermons preached, 67; revivals held, 1; conversions witnessed, 15; number baptized, 3; received into the church, 8; sick room visits, 3; homes visited, 15; prayer meetings held, 4; money received \$35.00.

H. M. Whittaker—

Churches pastored, 1; sermons preached, 40; No. miles traveled, many; conversions witnessed, 14; money received, \$162.64.

David N. Warren—

Sermons preached, 200; conversions witnessed, many; baptized, 7; miles traveled, many; money received, very little.

Jennings Wilson—

Revivals held, 6; conversions witnessed, 159; No. baptized, 40; funerals, 4; miles traveled, many; sick visits, many; money received, a good sum.

George Newman—

Revivals held, 2; conversions witnessed, 25; baptized, 3; miles traveled, many; money received, \$84.34.

W. A. Howington—

Churches pastored, 2; conversions witnessed, many; sick room visits, many; funerals, 4; No. baptized, 19; miles traveled, 1500; money received, \$248.29.

J. C. Barnett—

Sermons preached, 130; prayer meetings held, 50; revivals held, 1; conversions witnessed, 35; No. baptized, 1; marriage ceremonies, 1; money received, \$100.

H. R. Rouse—

Churches pastored, 1; members received into church, 3; sermons preached, many; miles traveled, many; revivals held, 4; funerals conducted, 3; money received, \$150.

R. N. Waycaster—

Churches pastored, 2; revivals held, 3; sermons preached, 70; miles traveled, 2,200; money received, \$250.

Joe Tolliver, evangelist—

Sermons preached, 85; conversions witnessed, 30; reinstated churches, 1; funerals conducted, 3; revivals held, 5; miles traveled, many; money received, \$93.80.

IN MEMORIUM

To our Deceased Brother

Rev. C. C. Summer

1649 "C" Street, Kingsport, Tenn.

Brother Claude was pleasant in our brotherhood, and in his death we are not divided.

Yet he has fallen in the midst of life while trusting in the shadow of God's wing. I believe he is asleep in Jesus and God will bring him with Him when He comes to gather His saints from all ends of the earth.

May the blessings of God be with his family and his life a mark for them, a path to life eternal.

Rev. Joe Tolliver

J. W. Chesnutt—

Churches pastored, 1; revivals held, 1; No. baptized, 10; weddings, 1; money received, \$51.55.

E. F. Mitchell, Moderator of the John Wheeler Ass'n.—

Quarterly conferences held, 3; associations held, 1;

ministers' conferences held, 1; revivals held, 3; conversions witnessed, 100; No. baptized, 40; funerals conducted, 37; marriage ceremonies, 2; miles traveled, many; money received, \$600.

A. L. Prator —

Sermons preached, unknown; revivals held, 3; No. baptized, 3; Sunday Schools organized, 3; prayer meetings held, several; churches reinstated, 2; received into church, 26; marriage ceremonies, 3; miles traveled, many; money received, \$58.00.

Elmer Adkins—

Churches pastored, 2; sermons preached, 171; revivals held, 8; conversions witnessed 78; No. baptized, 5; funerals conducted, 3; miles traveled, many; money received, \$600.93.

James A. Ramey—

Miles traveled, many; sermons preached, several.

W. G. Henley—

Sermons preached, 25; marriage ceremonies, 12; funerals conducted, 12; revivals held, several; conversions witnessed, several; prayer meetings, several; miles traveled, unknown.

L. F. Henley—

Sermons preached, 25; conversions witnessed, many; funerals conducted, 2; revivals held, several; miles traveled, many.

CHURCH REPORTS

Dry Hollow—

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with Spoon Gap Church. We send as delegates our beloved sisters Lillie Barnett and Betty Elkins whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your Godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; members received this year, 1; No. dismissed by letter, 2; No. deceased, 2; total membership, 33; condition of prayer meeting, good; condition of Sunday School, good; average No. of pupils, 75; No. officers, 7; value of church property, \$3,000; amount for building repair, \$316.53; amount for foreign mission, \$16.50; amount for home mission, \$82.00; amount for

publication & S. S. Lit., \$388.75; amount enclosed for association minutes, \$5.00; amount paid pastor, \$10.85.

Pastor's name and address for coming year. Rev. J. C. Barnett, 734 Howard Hill, Kingsport, Tenn.

Names and addresses of ministers and deacons:
Rev. J. C. Barnett, 734 Howard Hill, Kingsport, Tenn.
Rev. Elmer D. Ball, Rt. 2, Kingsport, Tenn.

Deacons:
Kelly Estep, Rt. 6, Kingsport, Tenn.
Fred Nelms, Rt. 6, Kingsport, Tenn.
O. C. Waycaster
Cecil White, Howard St., Kingsport, Tenn.
George Head, 115 Mull St., Kingsport, Tenn.

Done by order of Dry Hollow Church assembled in conference this 6th day of August, 1949.

Moderator, J. C. Barnett
Clerk, Alice Burchell
1129 Pierce St.
Kingsport, Tenn.

Shiloh—

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with Spoon Gap Church. We send as delegates our beloved brothers and sisters: Bro's. Powers, Fred Parks, Sisters Novella Blayock, Lillian Parks whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your Godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; members received this year, 8; total membership, 63; condition of prayer meeting, good; condition of S. School, good; average No. of pupils, 50; amount for evangelistic work, \$150; amount for church lot, \$425; amount paid pastor, \$51.55; amount paid out, \$651.66; amount enclosed for minutes, \$5.00.

We are building a new church out on the main highway and would appreciate any help the association can give us. Pray for us in our undertakings.

Pastor's name and address for the coming year: J. W. Chesnut, 520 Paige St., Bristol, Va.

Clerk, Blanche Blaylock

West Bristol—

West Bristol Church to the John Wheeler Association when convened with Spoon Gap Church. We send as delegates our beloved brothers and sisters W. C. Brannon, Virginia Brannon, John Newman, Sis. John New-

man, Bro. Claud Newman, Thelma Combs whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your Godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; members received this year, 8; No. baptized, 8; No. dismissed by letter, 1; No. deceased, 2; total membership, 60; condition of prayer meeting, good; condition of Sunday School, good; average No. of pupils, 60; No. of officers, 7; condition of league, good; league membership, 12; condition of auxiliary, good; auxiliary membership, 15; value of church property, \$4500; amount paid pastor, \$937.15; amount for evangelistic work, \$139.91; amount for foreign mission, \$70.00; amount for incidentals, \$438.12; amount enclosed for minutes, \$5.00.

Pastor's name and address for coming year: Rev. R. N. Waycaster, Rt. 4, Kingsport, Tenn.

Names and addresses of Ministers and Deacons:

Ministers	Deacons
Rev. E. A. Wagner	W. C. Brannon, Chairman
Rev. J. W. Chesnutt	W. E. Newton
Rev. E. F. Mitchell	S. C. Gonyea
Rev. A. L. Prator	Howard Hobson
Rev. W. A. Howington	Howard Miller

Done by order of West Bristol Church assembled in conference this 31st day of August, 1949.

Moderator, Rev. R. N. Waycaster.
Clerk, Virginia Brannon

Rooty Branch—

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with Spoon Gap Church. We send our beloved brothers and sisters, Dot White, William Gross, Flora Hobbs, M. E. Harless, Sylvia Catlett, Ardinia Cox, Tom Woodby, Jimmy Shaver, and Orville Shaver, whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your Godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; members received this year, 32; No. deceased, 1; total membership, 32; condition of prayer meeting, good; condition of Sunday School, good; average No. of pupils, 90; No. of officers, 7; value of church property, \$540; amount paid pastor, \$167.45; amount paid for evangelistic work, \$148.50; amount enclosed for minutes, \$5.00.

Pastor's name and address for the coming year, Rev. W. A. Howington, Bristol, Tenn.

Deacons: Jessie Boling, Orville Shaver, H. E. Harless.
Done by order of the Rooty Branch Church assembled
in conference this 20th day of Aug., 1949.

Moderator, Rev. W. A. Howington
Clerk, Nellie Boling

Cedar Bluff—

To the John Wheeler Association Greetings. We haven't had any worship since the church was damaged by fire; so we didn't get to elect delegates to the conference. We haven't elected a pastor for the coming year. Pray for us that we can soon have services again.

Clerk, Fay Price

Greggs Chapel—

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with Spoon Gap Church. We send as delegates our beloved sister Debley Gragg and brothers, Charlie Gragg and William Gragg, whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your Godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; members received, 8; No. baptized, 3; No. members, 18; condition of Sunday School, good; average No. of pupils, 30; No. of officers, 5; value of church property, \$1000; amount paid pastor, \$22.00; amount paid evangelistic work, \$36.10.

Pastor's name and address for the coming year, Rev Hubert H. Daniels Telford, Tenn.

Done by order of Greggs Chapel assembled in conference this 20th day of August, 1949.

Moderator, Hubert H. Daniels
Clerk, Nora Bacon

Greenwood—

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with Spoon Gap Church. We send as delegates our beloved brethren, Bro's Ray Blevins, Burg Baungardner, and Sis. Myrtle Parks, whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your Godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; total membership, 50; condition of prayer meeting, good; condition of Sunday School, good; average N. pupils, 35.

Pastor's name and address for the coming year, Rev. Elmer Adkins, Rt. 5, Kingsport, Tenn.

Assistant pastor, Rev. Charlie Richardson, Rt. 1, Abingdon, Va.

Done by order of Greenwood Church assembled in con-

ference this 27th day of Aug., 1949.

Moderator, Rev. Elmer Adkins
Clerk, Eulala Parks

Macedonia—

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with Spoon Gap Church. We send as delegates our beloved brothers and sisters, Sam Hulse, Virgil Lovegrove, Sallie Moore, Virgie Ford, Betty Arnold, Myrtle Hulse, and Claudia Ramey, whom we pray you to receive to sit with you and aid you in your Godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; members received, 22; No. baptized, 3; total membership, 27; condition of prayer meeting, good; condition of Sunday School, good; average No. pupils, 69; No. officers, 7; condition of league, good.

Pastor's name and address for coming year, Rev. Albert Prator, 113 3rd St., Bristol, Tenn.

Deacons: Virgil Lovegrove, Sam Hulse, and Robert Phipps.

Done by the order of Macedonia Church assembled in conference this 27th day of August, 1949.

Moderator, R. N. Waycaster
Clerk, Virgie Brewer

Free Zion—

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with Spoon Gap Church. We send as delegates our beloved sisters Ella Roark, Lockey Roark, and Elsie Mann whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your Godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; members received, 2; total membership, 21; condition of prayer meeting, good; condition of Sunday School, good; average No. pupils, 22; No. of officers, 3; value of church property, \$1500; amount paid pastor, \$45.96; amount enclosed for minutes, \$3.00.

Pastor's name and address for the coming year Rev. Palmer Graybeal, Rt. 2; Abingdon, Va.

Names of ministers and deacons:

Ministers:

Rev. Charlie Roark, Box 201, Abingdon, Va.
Rev. Preston Roark, Gen. Del., Abingdon, Va.
Rev. E. T. Tolliver, 321 Boone, St., Bristol, Va.

Deacons:

Cam Miller, Rt. 2, Abingdon, Va.
Andy Roark, Rt. 2, Abingdon, Va.

Done by order of Free Zion Church assembled in conference this 27th day of August, 1949.

Moderator, Bro. Palmer Graybeal
Clerk, Elsie Mann

Friendship No. 1—

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with Spoon Gap Church. We send as delegates our beloved brothers and sisters John Harless, Jack Woods, Cliff Vanover, Mollie Gross, and Bertha Thomas whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your Godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; members received, 3; No. baptized, 3; total membership, 90; Sunday School, good; average No. pupils, 60; No. officers, 7; value of church property, \$2500.

Pastor for coming year Rev. Joe Tolliver, Rt. 2, Bristol, Tenn.

Done by order of Friendship Church No. 1 assembled in conference this 27th day of August, 1949.

Moderator, Joe Tolliver
Clerk, Anna Rouse

East Bristol—

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with Spoon Gap Church. We send as delegates our beloved sisters Damaras Tolliver, Carrie Shoemaker, Gay Hockett, and Peggy Moore whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your Godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; No. conversions, 7; total membership, 25; condition of Sunday School, good; average No. pupils, 35; No. officers, 7; condition of prayer service, good; attendance, 37; value of church property, \$4,500; amount paid pastor, \$124.90; amount paid for evangelistic work, \$176.35; amount for building repairs, \$158.03; amount for incidentals, \$107.36; amount for foreign missions, \$5.75; amount for publication, \$18.34; amount enclosed for minutes, \$5.00.

Pastor's name and address for the coming year, Bro. George Newman, Rt. 2, Bristol, Tenn.

Ministers: Rev. Elmer Adkins, Rev. Charlie Richardson.

Deacons: M. C. Foran, Eugene Newman and Dowell

Moore.

Done by order of East Bristol Church assembled in conference this 31st day of August, 1949.

Moderator, Rev. Joe Tolliver
Rt. 2, Bristol, Tenn.

Clerk, Sarah B. Foran
321 Boone St., Bristol, Va.

West Bristol—

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with Spoon Gap Church we hereby recommend Sis. Thelma Combs, a member in good standing with this association, for license to preach for one year.

Done by order of West Bristol Church assembled in conference this 15th day of May, 1949.

Moderator, J. W. Addington
Clerk, Virginia Brannan

West Bristol—

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with Spoon Gap Church we hereby recommend Sis. Virginia Brannan, a member in good standing with West Bristol Church to you for license to preach for one year.

Done by order of West Bristol Church assembled in conference this 31st day of August, 1949.

Moderator, Rev. R. N. Waycaster
Assistant Clerk, E. A. Wagner

Friday Afternoon Session

Opened 1:00 p.m. by singing "The Old Country Church."

Prayer by R. N. Waycaster.

Scripture lesson James 4.

Conference declared open for any legal business that may come before the body.

The clerk's statistical report was read and adopted as follows:

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with Spoon Gap Church. I, as your clerk and treasurer do hereby make this report August 20, 1949.

Receipts:

Sept. 2, 1949 Annual Ass'n. bal.....	\$ 67.94
Dec. 3, 1948 Quarterly Conference.....	37.50
Feb. 5, 1949 Ministers' Conference.....	20.75
Mar. 4, 1949 Quarterly conference.....	30.23

June 3, 1949 Quarterly conference..... 33.31
 Total\$189.73

Paid Out:

For minutes.....\$ 64.65
 For moderator..... 12.50
 For Va. State Association..... 15.00
 For clerk and treasurer..... 25.00
 Total paid out.....\$117.15
 Balance in treasury.....\$ 72.58
 Old aged ministers' fund.....\$ 79.36

Motion carried that the next Quarterly conference convene with Rooty Branch Friday before the 1st Sunday in Dec. and the yearly meeting to East Bristol Thursday before the first Sunday in September, 1950.

Motion carried that Bro. Bill Howington bring the opening address at the quarterly conference followed by Bro. Palmer Graybeal.

The introductory sermon at the annual association will be preached by Bro. Jennings Wilson followed by Bro. E. F. Mitchell.

Motion carried that the ministers' conference be set for West Bristol Church Saturday before the first Sunday in October.

Finance Committee Report—

Amount on hand.....\$ 78.80
 Given to Bro. Jennings Wilson for car accident..... 16.25
 Balance\$ 62.25
 Total Balance.....\$134.83

Motion carried this conference adjourn until we meet with Rooty Branch Church in the Quarterly Conference.

Three O'clock Service

Opened by singing "Give Me Your Hand."

Scripture lesson, 25th chapter of St. Matthew, was read by Bro. Jennings Wilson who also brought the message followed by Bro. J. W. Chesnutt. The text was "The Judgment, Cry Loud and Spare Not."

Interesting messages were brought and enjoyed by all.

Closing song "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be."

Prayer by Bro. J. W. Chesnutt.

We, the delegates of the represented classes and visiting brothers and sisters, offer our sincere and heartfelt thanks and grateful appreciation to the people of Spoon

Gap Church and community for the kind hospitality rendered us during our stay in your locality.

Respectfully submitted,

Moderator, Rev. E. F. Mitchell
Clerk, Sarah B. Foran

I, Sarah B. Foran, Clerk and Treasurer of the John Wheeler Association of Free Will Baptists, do hereby certify these minutes are here produced correctly to the best of my knowledge and ability with such corrections and revisions as permitted me by the association.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah B. Foran

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

Of the John Wheeler Association convened with West Bristol Free Will Baptist Church Saturday, Feb. 5, 1949.

Opening song "Amazing Grace."

Prayer by J. W. Addington, the pastor of West Bristol Church.

Scripture reading, Matthew 4, read by the Moderator, Rev. E. F. Mitchell who also explained to the Brother ministers that this conference was for the good of all the brothers to help and strengthen them.

Fellowship was then taken.

All in fellowship.

Conference was then declared open for any business that might come before the conference by the moderator.

Rules of Decorum were read to the body.

The conference appointed Bro. George Shepherd, followed by Bro. Bob Ratliff to bring the morning messages.

Motion carried that Bro Robert Carr be elected to take the place on the Executive Board vacated by the death of Bro. C. C. Summer.

Executive Board

Bro. W. J. Henley, Chairman
Bro. R. N. Waycaster
Bro. Elmer Adkins
Bro. Robert Carr
Bro. George Newman
Bro. A. L. Prator
Bro. Charles Roark

Finance Committee

Bro. Joe Tolliver, Chairman

Sis. J. C. Barnett

Sis. Flora Rainey

An address was given by Bro. E. T. Tolliver.

At the request of Bro. J. W. Addington, the conference stood in silent prayer in honor of Bro. C. C. Summer.

Conference stood adjourned until 1:30 to give way for the morning service.

Closing song "I'll Be Satisfied."

Eleven O'clock Service

Morning service opened by singing "I'll Be Listening."

Bro. George Shepherd brought the message followed by Bro. Bob Ratliff. Scripture lesson St. John 10:1-14. Text, "Feeding the Flocks."

Saturday Afternoon Session

Opened 1:30 p.m. with song "Since Jesus Came into My Heart."

Prayer by Bro. C. T. Troutman.

Bro. J. W. Addington read the 46th Psalm.

Conference declared in order by the moderator for business.

Bro. Addington was called to serve on the Executive Board in the absence of Bro. Newman.

Finance Committee reports \$20.75 on hand.

The Executive Board asks this conference to stamp its approval on Bro. P. L. Trivette as Elder to look after the churches in the eastern part of the state.

The Bro. moderator has this to say concerning some illegal churches that are being held. If the churches don't honor their pastor, they don't need a pastor, and if they study their Bibles and Free Will Baptist Treatise, they will quit doing this illegal business. He demands that there be no more business meetings in the absence of the pastor unless the pastor sends an ordained minister to take his place.

MINISTERS ENROLLED

Rev. E. T. Tolliver.....Bristol, Va.

Rev. E. F. Mitchell.....Holston, Va., Rt. 1

Rev. H. M. Whittaker.....Bristol, Va. Rt. 2

Rev. J. C. Barnett.....134 Howard Hill, Kingsport, Tenn.

Rev. H. R. Rouse.....Bristol, Tenn., Rt. 4
 Rev. James Moore.....Bristol, Va.
 Rev. Robert Carr.....Abingdon, Va., Gen. Del.
 Rev. Elmer Adkins.....Kingsport, Tenn., Rt. 5
 Rev. W. G. Henley.....Abingdon, Va., B. 128
 Rev. L. F. Henley.....Abingdon, Va. B. 128
 Rev. Palmer Greybeal.....Abingdon, Va., Rt. 1
 Rev. R. N. Waycaster.....Kingsport, Tenn., Rt. 4
 Rev. Dewey Foran.....Abingdon, Va., Rt. 1
 Rev. A. L. Prator.....113 3rd St., Bristol, Tenn.
 Rev. E. A. Wagner...141 Blountville Pike, Bristol, Tenn.
 Rev. J. W. Chesnutt.....520 Paige St., Bristol, Va.
 Rev. James Ramey.....Church Hill, Tenn., Rt. 3
 Rev. P. L. Trivette.....Marion, Va., Rt. 3
 Rev. Roby Roark.....Abingdon, Va., Rt. 1
 Rev. Charles Roark.....Abingdon, Va., B. 102
 Rev. Cicero C. Noris.....Abingdon, Va., Rt. 1
 Rev. W. A. Howington.....Bristol, Tenn., Rt. 3
 Rev. Joe Tolliver.....Bristol, Tenn., Rt. 2
 Rev. David Warren.....Bristol, Va., B. 886
 Rev. L. J. Howell.....Chilhowie, Va., Rt. 1, B. 152
 Rev. Amos L. Pope.....Abingdon, Va., Rt. 1
 Rev. Preston Rorak.....Abingdon, Va., Rt. 1
 Rev. Jennings Wilson.....Abingdon, Va., Rt. 1
 Rev. Charles Richardson.....Abingdon, Va., Rt. 1
 Rev. Elmer D. Ball.....Kingsport, Tenn.
 Rev. George Newman.....Bristol, Tenn., Rt. 2
 Rev. George Shepherd.....Fordtown, Tenn., Rt. 2
 Rev. H. H. Daniels.....Telford, Tenn.
 Rev. Thelma Combs.....109 12th St., Bristol, Tenn.
 Rev. Virginia Brannan.....Abingdon, Va.

VISITING MINISTERS

Rev. C. T. Troutman
 Rev. Bill Powers
 Rev. H. A. Hess
 Rev. Ramon Cross
 Rev. J. M. Durham
 - Rev. Bob Ratliff

DECEASED MINISTERS

Rev. C. C. Summer
 Rev. Joe Fulks

CONSTITUTION

Article 1. The Association shall be composed of delegates chosen and sent from each individual church.

Article 2. The delegates chosen and sent shall be recommended in a letter from the church to which they belong, and shall include the minister and some of the most able members belonging to the church.

Article 3. The Association shall elect annually a Moderator and Clerk.

Article 4. The Rules of Decorum shall be read immediately after the body is organized.

Article 5. This Association will encourage a sound ministry, such as presents Christ as an all-sufficient Saviour having made salvation possible for every human being on the terms of the Gospel, which is freely offered to all.

Article 6. Any minister in good standing, whether a delegate or not, may be invited to a seat and take part in the deliberations and have his name enrolled in our minutes.

Article 7. The Association may appoint such committees as may be necessary for the expedition of business, shall report their proceedings in writing to the Association while in session, and all reports made by committees may be adopted or rejected by the body.

Article 8. All proceeding queries regularly presented to the Association by any church shall be attended to.

Article 9. The Association shall have a book in which shall be recorded an accurate account of all its proceedings.

Article 10. Any church may become a member of the Association by making application by letter or delegate and adopting our Articles of Faith and Church Covenant.

Article 11. The Association may withdraw from any church that becomes disorderly or refuses to be represented.

Article 12. There shall be an Association fund for defraying expenses and charges that may accrue, and for replenishing such, each church may contribute at pleasure.

Article 13. There shall be a treasurer appointed by the Association whose duty it shall be to have care of and

account of all money committed to his charge.

Article 14. The Association shall use the Free Will Baptist Treatise in full.

Article 15. Each church shall be allowed one vote for every ten members or fraction thereof.

Article 16. The Association advises all its churches to commemorate the death and suffering of our Lord at least twice a year.

Article 17. The Association shall pay its clerk at least \$5.00 for his services at each annual meeting.

Article 18. The Association assumes no higher authority than an advisory council.

RULES OF DECORUM

1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

2. There shall be no conversation by members one with another as to interrupt business while in session.

3. Every member wishing to speak shall first rise to his feet and address the moderator.

4. No member shall interrupt another while speaking.

5. We will admit no other title but that of brother while speaking.

6. Every member speaking shall attend to the subject under consideration.

7. No member shall speak more than three times on one subject.

8. Every motion made and seconded shall be attended unless withdrawn by the person who made it.

9. No member shall absent himself from the body while in session without leave of the moderator.

10. On all motions made, when the vote of the body is taken, a majority shall prevail.

11. The moderator shall have the same privilege to speak as any other member, provided the chair is filled.

12. Any member transgressing the above rules shall be admonished by the moderator.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe that there is one living and true God, who is in personality the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, equal and harmonious in every divine perfection. "There

is one God and one mediator between God and man, the man Jesus Christ who gave himself a ransom for all to be testified in due time." I Timothy 2:5.

2. The Holy Scripture—We believe that God is the Author of the Holy Bible and its teachings constitute the only infallible doctrine for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness. II Timothy 3:16.

3. Original Apostasy—We believe that Adam was created holy, but by voluntary transgression fell into depravity and consequently involved his posterity in sin. "And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was pleasant to the eye, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof and did eat, and also gave her husband with her, and he did eat." Gen. 3:6.

4. Free Grace—We believe that the grace of God comprehends all blessings, that the Gospel is the power of God unto salvation, that the Holy Spirit not only reproofs the world of sin, but is also the means whereby sinners are converted and made wise unto salvation. "For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon Him." Romans 10:12.

5. Christian Faith—We believe that Christian faith is belief in Jesus Christ as the Son and Redeemer for the world and in the divinity of the Holy Scripture, that faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life, and he that believeth not the Son, shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him." John 3:36.

6. Repentance—We believe that repentance is sorrow for sin, and the kind of sorrow which produces Godly repentance must be preceded by effectual conviction of sin.

"Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance, for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of, but sorrow of the world worketh death." II Cor. 7:9,10.

7. Free Agency—We believe that the human will is free and that men have the ability to accept or reject the conditions of salvation as they are revealed in the Holy Scriptures.

"He hath showed thee, O man what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" Micah 6:8.

8. Perseverance—We do not believe under the Gospel dispensation any soul is elected to eternal life unconditionally, but those who by faith persevere to the end will be saved; but it is possible again to sin and be lost.

"And Jesus said unto him: No man having put his hand to the plough and looking back is fit for the kingdom of God." Luke 9:62.*

9. Good Works—We believe that good works are the results of faith, and are not of necessity; that those who have faith will do the works of righteousness, while those who do not have faith cannot do anything pleasing or acceptable to God.

"Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruits is fruits ye shall know them." Matt. 7:19,20.

10. Christian Baptism—We believe that Christian Baptism is the immersion of a believer in water, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; that baptism cannot be spiritually administered without faith in the subject who receives it.

"Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the Father, even so we should walk in newness of life." Romans 6:4.

11. The Lord's Supper—We believe the supper was instituted by our Saviour as a commemorative ordinance; that the bread and wine represent His body and blood; that it was instituted for Christians and all Christians should be united in service regardless of name of denominational distinction.

"But let a man examine himself and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body." I Cor. 11:29.

12. Feet Washing—We believe that washing the saint's feet is a command of our Saviour, and that His followers ought to practice the same.

"If I, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet ye ought also to wash one another's feet." John 13:14.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to the Lord through Jesus Christ, we agree to adopt the Free Will Baptist Faith. We give ourselves to each other by the help of God.

We solemnly covenant before God that we will carefully observe the commandment implied in a confession of faith in the spirit of meekness, rebuke and admonish those who have gone astray and watch over each other, being careful of each other's reputation and our influence to the upbuilding of the church and for the advancement of the cause of Christ, endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace, and to confess our faults one to another and to strengthen those who are weak.

We promise by the help of God that we will faithfully practice family and secret prayer, and strive to cultivate the doctrine of God's revealed Word in the minds of those under our care.

We agree to use our influence for the support of the Gospel and to contribute liberally to aid the ministry according to our abilities. Also we agree to be liberal with those that are implied in profession of faith.

We also agree to abstain from all sinful and vain amusements.

We also agree to abstain from all intoxicating liquors and not to use it as a beverage, nor to aid or assist in the manufacture of such, nor furnish it to others.

We also agree to encourage home and foreign missions, education, Sabbath Schools, good morals, and everything that is to the glory of God and to the welfare of men. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly and prepare us blameless until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, that we may be happily admitted into the kingdom of God where we can ascribe honor unto the Lamb forever. Amen.

