

MINUTES
OF THE
JOHN WHEELER ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

1951

Proceedings Of The
SEVENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

Convened With
WEST BRISTOL CHURCH
Bristol, Virginia
Thursday - Friday, August 30 - 31, 1951

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM—MONETT, MO.

M. I. N. U. T. E. S
Of The
SEVENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION
Of The
JOHN WHEELER ASSOCIATION
Of
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Held With
WEST BRISTOL CHURCH
Bristol, Virginia

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OFFICERS

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. Elmer Adkins, Chm. Indian Springs, Tenn.
Rev. R. N. Waycaster Route 4, Kingsport, Tenn.
Rev. Charlie Roark P.O. Box 201, Abingdon, Va.
Rev. Jennings Wilson Route 1, Abingdon, Va.
Rev. Scott Broyhill Route 1, Meadowview, Va.

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Any three or more ministers

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The next session of the John Wheeler Annual Association will convene with Rooty Branch Church, Bristol, Tennessee, beginning Thursday before the First Sunday in September, 1952. Rev. Douglas Offield and Rev. Andy Rutherford will preach the introductory sermon.

PROCEEDINGS

Thursday Morning Session

The John Wheeler annual Association of Free Will Baptists convened with West Bristol Church.

The conference session was called to order by the moderator, Rev. E. F. Mitchell.

The opening song; "The Everlasting Arms."

Prayer by assistant moderator, Rev. W. G. Henley.

Fellowship was taken.

Scripture lesson 3rd chapter Acts was read by the moderator, who also read Rules of the Decorum.

Committees elected as follows:

Erecutive Board: Bros. Elmer Adkins, Chairman; R. N. Waycaster, Charlie Roark, Jennings Wilson and Scott Broyhill.

Finance Committee: Rev. Joe Tolliver, Chairman; Sis. Virginia Brannon.

Pulpit Committee: Bro. Audy Roark, Chairman; Sis. Nannie Roark and Sis. Frankie Trivette.

Sunday School Committee: Sis. Gracie Helbert, Chairman; Sis. Bertha Helbert and Sis. Leona Chapman.

Temperance Committee: Bro. Andy Rutherford, Chairman; Bros. Ernest Carmicheal and W. B. Christian.

Obituary Committee: Sis. Thelma Combs, Sis. Dimple Jones and Sis. Louise Gilreath.

Delegates Enrolled:

West Bristol Church: Bro. and Sis. Howard Hobson, Sis. Anna Hutson, Sis. Thelma Combs, Sis. Fannie Mitchell, Sis. Constance Duncan, Bro. and Sis. Howard Miller, Sis. Jewel Sweeney, Sis. Rosa Sherman, Sis. R. N. Waycaster and Sis. E. A. Wagner.

East Bristol: Sis. Frances Sykes, Sis. Ada Pendergrass, Sis. Louise Gilreath, Sis. Dimple Jones, Bro. and Sis. C. C. Wright, Bros. Robert Carr, W. G. Henley and Bill Skeens.

Rooty Branch: Sis. Virginia Brannon, Sis. Blanche Wright, Sis. Dorothy Wright, Sis. Sylvia Catlett, Bro. Clifton Vanover and Bro. and Sis. Douglas Offield.

Mount Olivet: Sis. Frankie Trivette and Sis. Nannie Roark.

Shiloh Church: Sis. Mary Lou Helbert, Sis. Novella Blaylock, Sis. Gracie Helbert, Sis. Maxine Murray, Sis. Charlie Aldrich, Bros. Dan Jackson, Parley Bryant, Jay Tolliver and Joe Tolliver.

Free Zion Church: Bros. Charlie Roark, Preston Otey, E. T. Tolliver, Bro. and Sis. Dewey Foran.

Greenwood Church: Bros. Clarence Parks, Ray Blevins and Sis. Verly Price.

Friendship No. 1 Church: Sis. Meriah Gross.

Pine View Church: Bros. W. B. Christian, Andy Ruth-
erford, David A. Martin, Sis. Christine Martin, Sis. Carrie
Gentry, A. C. Gentry, Bro. and Sis. Lester Davis.

Greggs Chapel: Bros. Willie Gragg, Frank Littleton.

Spoon Gap: Bros. Scott Broyhill, Jennings Wilson.

Cedar Bluff: None.

New Bethel: None.

Delegates from the Christian Unity Baptist Association: Elder Claude Norris, Elder F. Carl Sturgill.

Motion carried that Executive Board change from seven members to five members.

Conference was adjourned to convene back at 1:30 p. m. Closing prayer by Bro. R. L. Carr.

Eleven O'clock Service

Opened by singing, "Amazing Grace." Bro. R. L. Carr and Bro. R. N. Waycaster brought the introductory message, Bro. Carr reading for Scripture lesson the first chapter of St. James. Wonderful sermons were brought and enjoyed by all.

Thursday Afternoon

Opened 1:30 by singing, "I'll Fly Away." Prayer by Sister Virginia Brannan.

Meeting called to order by the Moderator, reading from the 18th chapter of St. Matthew.

Bro. E. T. Tolliver brought an interesting talk for the good of the association.

Pulpit Committee report—

We recommend Bro. Elmer Adkins and Bro. Ernest Caricheal to preach at 3:00 o'clock, and Bro. E. A. Wagner and Bro. W. G. Henley to bring the message at the 7:30 p. m. service.

We suggest that this conference adjourn at eleven o'clock for preaching service, to convene back at 1:30.

Obituary Committee report—

We, your Obituary Committee, wish to submit the following:

The Deceased

Roppy Branch Church: Sister Annie Miller expired July, 1950; Brother Robert Shaffer died January 26, 1951.

Friendship Church No. 1: Brother Matthew Gross, expired November, 1950.

Greenwood Church: Brother Albert Lowe expired May 27, 1951.

Sunday School Committee report—

We, as your Sunday School Committee, submit the following report. We believe that all churches should have Sunday School and that all officers and teachers should be Christians and able to teach the youth in the way of the Lord Jesus Christ, and all teachers have prayer over their own classes. We also believe that the minister should not be put in as superintendent, as their job is to preach that the sinners may be saved and the Christians be drawn closer to the Lord.

Temperance Committee report—

We, your Temperance Committee, agree that we should be temperate in all things and stress total abstinence from all intoxicating beverages, motion picture shows, ball games, worldliness and fleshly lusts.

Bro. Andy M. Rutherford, Chairman; Bro. Ernest Carmichael, Bro. W. B. Christian.

Executive Board report—

We, the Executive Board, have examined Bro. David A. Martin and found him eligible for license to preach.

We agree that each Quarterly Meeting be changed from Friday to Saturday.

We ask that Brother and Sister Dewey Quales be ordained by the laying on of hands.

We agree that Bro. Claude Norris followed by Bro. F. Carl Sturgill be the speakers at the eleven o'clock service.

We have examined Bro. Douglas Offield and found him eligible for license to preach.

We ask that the next Quarterly convene with Shiloh Church, and that Bro. W. A. Howington and Bro. Elmer Adkins preach the introductory sermon.

We request that the annual association convene with Rooty Branch Church, and that Bro. Douglas Offield and Bro. Andy Rutherford preach the introductory sermon.

Finance Committee report—

Receipts of Churches:

Pine View Church	\$ 5.00
Mount Olivet Church	3.00
East Bristol Church	5.00
West Bristol Church	5.00
Rooty Branch Church	5.00
Greenwood Church	5.00
Donations	25.85
Treatise sold	2.00

Total	\$ 55.85
Received for Orphanage	101.84
Carried forward	73.75

Grand Total	\$231.54
Balance in Treasury	\$129.70
Old Age Ministers' Fund	\$ 69.36

Clerk's report—

August, 1901

Balance carried forward	\$130.48
December 1—Q. C., Greggs Chapel	\$ 4.50
March 3—Q. C., Shiloh	40.85
June 1—Q. C., Greenwood	31.07
Total Receipts	76.42

Grand Total	\$206.90
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Disbursements:

For Minutes	\$56.15
For Moderator	20.00
For Virginia State Association	25.00
For Treatise	3.00
For Blanks	1.80
For Clerk & Treasurer	25.00
Mount Olivet	3.00

Total Disbursements	133.15
Balance in Treasury	\$ 73.75
Old Age Ministers' Fund: Balance in Treasury	\$ 69.36

Ministers' Reports

Received and adopted as follows:

J. W. White—Sermons preached, 46; conversions witnessed, 6; miles traveled, many; sick visits, 36; for charity, \$236.55; enclosed for finance, \$1.00.

R. N. Waycaster—Churches pastored, 1; miles traveled, many; sick visits, many; received, \$1,025.00.

W. A. Howington—Churches pastored, 1; conversions witnessed, many; sick visits, many; funerals, 10; baptised, 37; marriage ceremonies, 12; received, \$1,979.28.

W. S. Broyhill—Baptised, 7; sermons preached, 9; conversions witnessed, 4; received, \$9.00.

Dimple Jones—Sermons preached, 5; conversions witnessed, 3; sick visits, many; enclosed for finance, \$1.00.

A. L. Prator—Revivals, 1; sermons preached, several; funerals, 3; sick visits, many; marriage ceremonies, 3; received, \$75.00; enclosed for finance, \$1.00.

Andy M. Rutherford—Sermons preached, 12; miles traveled, many; prayer meetings, several; revivals attended, several; received, \$5.00. Brethren, pray for me that God may use me to His glory.

E. F. Mitchell—Revivals held, 7; conversions witnessed, 150; baptised, 31; miles traveled, many; marriage ceremonies, 9; funerals, 7; sick visits, many; Quarterly Meetings attended, 3; associations, 1; church dedications, 2; received, \$700.45.

Virginia Brannan—Sermons preached, 14; conversions witnessed, many; prayer meetings conducted, 10; assisted in revivals, 3; miles traveled, several; sick visits, many.

H. H. Daniel—Churches pastored, 1; sermons preached, 70; revivals, 2; conversions witnessed, 18; funerals, 1; received in church, 2; sick visits, 10; prayer meetings, many; received, \$150.00.

H. M. Whittaker—Sermons preached, several; conversions witnessed, many; received in church, 1; funerals, several; marriage ceremonies, 4; sick visits, several; attended a number of prayer meetings; received, \$60.00.

Jennings Wilson, Evangelist—Revivals held, 11; conversions witnessed, 157; baptised, 31; churches dedicated, 2; funerals, 7; marriage ceremonies, 14; poundings received, 7; received, \$14.57; enclosed for finance, \$1.00.

George Newman—Churches pastored, 1; sermons preached, many; revivals, 2; conversions witnessed, 30; baptised, 15; received in church, 19; funerals, 2; miles traveled, many; received, \$406.44; enclosed for finance, \$1.00.

Robert Carr—Sermons preached, 75; revivals, 1; conversions witnessed, several; miles traveled, several; sick visits, several; witnessed several healed; attended several prayer meetings; received, \$100.00; enclosed for finance, \$1.00.

Parley Bryant—Churches pastored, 1; sermons preached, 27; assisted in revivals, 1; conversions witnessed, 22; miles traveled, many; baptised, 13; Sunday School, good; good attendance for service; church growing rapidly; money received—gave to the orphanage; enclosed for finance, \$5.00.

Elmer Adkins—Sermons preached, 140; churches pastored, 2; revivals, 3; baptised, 13; conversions witnessed, 54; miles traveled, many; received, \$600.00.

J. W. Chesnutt—Dear Brethren in Christ. I'm sorry that condition beyond my control has made it impossible for me to be with you in the conference. The company that I work for has sent me to New Jersey on business. Church pastored, 1; funerals, several; marriage ceremonies, 3; received, \$50.00; enclosed for finance, \$2.00.

Louise Gilreath—Sermons preached, 10; conversions witnessed, 3; revivals attended, 3; sick visits, many; received, \$3.45; enclosed for finance, \$1.00.

Thelma Combs—Sermons preached, several; conversions witnessed, several; miles traveled, several; sick visits, many; prayer meetings conducted, many; revivals attended, several; enclosed for finance, \$1.00. Due to sickness in the home, was unable to conduct other revivals asked to.

Motion carried Bro. Douglas Offield be granted license to preach the Gospel for one year.

Bro. Dewey Quales and Sis. Ailene Quales were accepted by the committee for ordination.

Conference adjourned for 3:00 p. m. preaching service.

Three O'Clock Service

Opened by singing, "Free Waters." Prayer by Bro. Dan Jackson. Bro. Elmer Adkins brought the message, followed by Bro. Ernest Carmichael.

Thursday Night

Bro. E. A. Wagner and Bro. W. G. Henley were the evening speakers.

Friday Morning Session

The conference session was called to order by the moderator, Bro. E. F. Mitchell, reading from the 10th chapter of Romans for a Scripture lesson. Prayer by Sis. Virginia Brannan. Opening song, "Nothing But the Blood."

Fellowship taken. A letter from Pine View Church requesting that the association ordain two deacons for their church. The letter met the approval and motion was carried, and Bro. W. B. Christian and Bro. A. E. Gentry were ordained as deacons for Pine View Church, Kingsport, Tennessee.

Church letters received and read and passed on.

Conference adjourned 10:45 to convene back at 1:35.

At this time the association was happy to welcome Sis. I. L. Stanley and the children from the F.W.B. Orphanage of Greenville, Tennessee. They presented a very touching and inspiring program which every one was delighted to witness. A collection of \$101.80 was made and presented to Sis. Stanley to help with the finance of the Orphanage.

The eleven o'clock service opened by singing, "Amazing Grace." Elder Claude Norris and Elder F. Carl Sturgill, visiting ministers from the Christian Unity Baptist Association, were the speakers, taking their text from the Scripture, Rev. 22.

Friday Afternoon Session

Opened 2:00 p. m. by the choir from the Rooty Branch Church singing, "Troublesome Waters." Scripture lesson 2nd chapter of I John. Prayer by Sis. L. F. Henley.

Moved and motion carried that the ministers' letters be received and recorded in the minute. Motion carried that Bro. Jennings Wilson be retained as Associational Evangelist.

Motion was carried that the Quarterly Meetings be changed from Friday to Saturday for the convenience of all the ministers.

Motion carried that Bro. David A. Martin, Route 7, Box 72R, Kingsport, Tennessee; and Bro. Dan Jackson, Route 2, Abingdon, Virginia, be licensed to preach the Gospel for one year.

Motion carried that the next Quarterly convene with Shiloh Church, and that Bro. W. A. Howington and Bro. Elmer Adkins preach the introductory.

Motion carried that the next annual association will convene with Rooty Branch Church Thursday and Friday before the First Sunday in September, and that Bro. Douglas Offield and Bro. Andy Rutherford preach the introductory sermon.

Motion carried Bro. Claude Norris and Bro. F. Carl Sturgill bring the message at eleven o'clock service.

Roll call of ministers as they received their Annual Cards.

Rev. Charles Roark	P.O. Box 102, Abingdon, Va.
Rev. E. F. Mitchell	Route 1, Holston, Va.
Rev. W. G. Henley	Box 128, Abingdon, Va.
Rev. L. F. Henley	Box 128, Abingdon, Va.
Rev. Andy Rutherford	R 2, Bx 127, Kingsport, Tenn.
Rev. Joe Tolliver	Route 2, Bristol, Tenn.
Rev. E. A. Wagner	145 Hgy., Bristol, Tenn.
Rev. E. T. Tolliver	321 Boone St., Bristol, Va.
Rev. Robert L. Carr	Gen. Del., Abingdon, Va.
Rev. R. N. Waycaster	Route 4, Kingsport, Tenn.
Rev. Elmer Adkins	Indian Springs, Tenn.
Rev. Thelma Combs	
Rev. Virginia Brannan	Texas Ave., Bristol, Va.
Rev. George Newman	Route 2, Bristol, Tenn.
Rev. Charles Richardson	Route 3, Abingdon, Va.
Rev. Jennings Wilson	Route 1, Abingdon, Va.
Rev. Dewey Quales	114 State St., Bristol, Tenn.
Rev. Ailene Quales	114 State St., Bristol, Tenn.
Rev. H. H. Daniel	Telford, Tenn.
Rev. H. M. Whittaker	Bristol, Va.
Rev. J. W. White	Route 9, Jonesboro, Tenn.
Rev. P. L. Trivette	Route 3, Marion, Va.
Rev. A. L. Prater	6th St., Bristol, Tenn.
Rev. Scott Broyhill	Route 1, Meadowview, Va.
Rev. Dewey Foran	Route 3, Bristol, Tenn.
Rev. W. A. Howington	Route 3, Bristol, Tenn.

Rev. Bordie McMurray Long Island, Kingsport, Tenn.
 Rev. Preston Roark Route 1, Abingdon, Va.
 Rev. Amos Pope Route 1, Abingdon, Va.
 Rev. Cicero C. Norris Route 1, Abingdon, Va.
 Rev. J. W. Chesnutt 520 Paige St., Bristol, Va.
 Rev. Palmer Graybeal Route 1, Abingdon, Va.
 Rev. H. R. Rouse Route 4, Bristol, Tenn.

Licentees:

Rev. Parley Bryant McDowell, W. Va.
 Rev. Douglas Offield Route 1, Bristol, Tenn.
 Rev. David A. Martin R 7, Box 72R, Kingsport, Tenn.
 Rev. George Shepherd Fordtown, Tenn.
 Rev. Ray Wilson Route 1, Abingdon, Va.
 Rev. Dowell Moore 205 22nd St., Bristol, Tenn.
 Rev. Dimple Jones
 Rev. Louise Gilreath Sun Set Village, Bristol, Tenn.
 Rev. Andy Rutherford R 2, Bx 127, Kingsport, Tenn.
 Rev. Claude Lethcoe Route 1, Abingdon, Va.

Visiting Ministers:

Elder Claude Norris Marion, Va.
 Elder F. Carl Sturgill Marion, Va.

Ministers received this year, 13; ministers dismissed, 3; licentees, 10; ordained ministers, 32.

Motion carried that this conference adjourn till we meet in the Quarterly Meeting at Shiloh Church Saturday before the First Sunday in December. Bro. W. A. Howington offered the closing prayer.

3:00 P. M. Service

Opened by singing, "In the Sweet Bye and Bye." Scripture reading, 14th chapter of Mark, by Sis. Louise Gilreath who brought the message, followed by Bro. Parley Bryant. Bro. Bryant's comments were pertaining to the Orphanage and how this wonderful group of children and their beautiful program had impressed him, and how his heart went out to the orphans everywhere.

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 East Bristol and community for their kind hospitality rendered us during our stay in your locality.

Respectfully submitted,

Ass't. Moderator, W. G. Henley
 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,

/s/ Sarah B. Foran

CHURCH LETTERS

West Bristol Church:

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with West Bristol Church.

We send as delegates our beloved Sisters: Mrs. Rosa Sherman, Constance Duncan, Annie Hutson, whom we pray you to receive to sit with you in your deliberations.

State of religion, good; members received, 4; dismissed, 4; total membership, 60; Sunday School, good; average number pupils, 75; number officers & teachers, 10; receipts from Sunday School, \$476.23; paid pastor, \$1,022.69; paid evangelist, \$199.64; foreign missions, \$7.59; paid orphanage, \$100.00; publication, \$54.95; minutes, \$15.00; evangelist, \$120.09; visiting ministers, \$40.07; Bible School, \$18.50; flowers, \$12.06; charity, \$8.60; receipts in for church, \$1,812.59; disbursements, \$1,725.99; total receipts Church and Sunday School, \$2,288.82.

Done by order of West Bristol Church assembled in conference this 25th day of August, 1951.

Moderator, Rev. R. N. Waycaster
Clerk, Sis. Thelma Combs

East Bristol Church:

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with the West Bristol Church. We send as delegates our beloved Sisters: Frances Sykes, Ada Pendergrass, Ailene Quailes, and Mattie Pendergrass, whom we pray you to receive to sit with you in your godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; members received, 19; baptised, 15; deceased, 1; total membership, 84; prayer meeting, fair; Sunday School, fair; average number of pupils, 60; officers & teachers, 8; valuation church property, \$5,400.00; paid pastor, \$386.44; paid evangelist, \$168.44; home mission, \$18.00; foreign mission; building repairs, \$932.74; enclosed for minutes, \$5.00.

Ministers belonging to our church: Rev. Robert Carr, Rev. Elmer Adkins, Rev. W. G. Henley; Deacons: C. C. Wright, Arthur Pendergrass, Edgar Pendergrass.

Done by order of East Bristol Church assembled in conference this 26th day of August, 1951.

Moderator & Pastor, Rev. George Newman
Clerk, Bertha Wright

Mount Olivet Church:

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with West Bristol Church. We send as delegates our beloved Brother Charles Blevins, and Sisters: Frankie Trivett, Nannie Roark, whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; members received, 1; conversions, 6; baptised, 1; dismissed, 2; Sunday School, good; paid pastor, \$113.00; enclosed, \$3.00; pastor for coming year, Rev. Elmer Adkins; assistant pastor, Rev. Preston Roark.

Moderator, Rev. Elmer Adkins
Clerk, Ethel Made

Greggs Chapel Church:

To the John Wheeler Association. We send as delegates our beloved Brothers: J. W. White, Frank Littleton, Willie Gragg, and Sis. Debbie Gragg.

State of religion, good; Sunday School, fair; average number of pupils, 20; number of officers, 5; paid evangelist, \$45.91; paid pastor, \$50.10; members received, 2; total membership, 34; pastor for coming year, Rev. Herbert H. Daniels, Telford, Tennessee.

Clerk, Nora Bacon

Pine View Church:

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with West Bristol Church. We send as delegates to the association our beloved Brothers: W. B. Christian, George Steffey, and Sis. Christine Martin, whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; members received, 3; total members, 17; prayer meeting, good; Sunday School, good; value of church property, \$1,500.00; paid pastor, \$72.00; building repairs, \$85.92; expenses, \$57.95; pastor for coming year, Rev. Ernest Carmichael, Kingsport,

Tenn., Route 5; ministers belonging to church: Rev. Andy Rutherford, Rev. David A. Martin. For minutes: enclosed with this letter find \$5.00. Done by order of Pine View Free, Will Baptist Church when in conference August 16, 1951.

Pastor, Rev. Ernest Carmichael
Clerk & Treasurer, Martha Rutherford

Pine View Church:

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with West Bristol Church. We, the church body of Pine View, humbly ask that you please receive and ordain to be deacon our beloved Brothers A. E. Gentry, Route 7, Kingsport, Tennessee, and W. B. Christian, Kingsport, Tennessee. We have examined these men and found them to be capable of this office. Passed and voted by church when in session August 30, 1951.

Pastor, Rev. Ernest Carmichael
Clerk, Martha Rutherford
Supply, Andy Rutherford

Pine View Church:

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with West Bristol Church. We, the church body of Pine View Church, humbly ask that our beloved Brother David Martin be placed under the watchcare of the church and licensed to preach the Gospel for one year. We, the church body, know Brother Martin and believe that God has His hand upon him to preach. Bro. Martin is ready to stand for Christ and proclaim the wonderful love of Jesus to a lost world.

Done by order of church when assembled in conference August 16, 1951. Moved by Bro. Andy Rutherford, seconded by Bro. W. B. Christian, voted on passed unanimously by the church.

Pastor, Rev. Ernest Carmichael
Clerk, Martha Rutherford

Shiloh Church:

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with West Bristol Church. We send as delegates Sisters: Goldie Eldrith, Mary Powers, Bertha Helbert, Mary Booher, Novela Blaylock, whom we pray to sit with you and aid you in your godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; Sunday School, good; prayer meeting, good; charity, \$76.25; paid pastor, \$50.00. May the Lord bless you all is my prayer.

Pastor, Rev. J. W. Chesnutt
Clerk, Blanche Blaylock

Shiloh Church:

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with West Bristol Church. We recommend Bro. Dan Jackson, a member in good standing of the Shiloh Church, to the association for license to preach the Gospel for one year. Our prayer is that God will make a great soul winner out of him.

Pastor, Rev. J. W. Chesnutt
Clerk, Blanche Blaylock

Free Zion Church:

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with West Bristol Church. We send as delegates Sisters: Ollie Blackwell, Mable Otey, Relda Blackwell, whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your godly deliberations.

Prayer meeting, good; Sunday School, good.

Pastor, Rev. Palmer Graybeal
Clerk, Kathleen Marrison

Rooty Branch Church:

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with the West Bristol Church. We send as delegates our beloved Brothers and Sisters: Blanche White, Sylvia Catlett, Blanche Wright, Clifton Vanover, Bro. Ashburn, whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; prayer meeting, good; Sunday School, good; average number pupils, 150; paid pastor, \$1,527.85; enclosed for minutes, \$5.00.

We recommend Bro. Douglas Offield to the association for license to preach the Gospel for one year. Pray for us.

Pastor, W. A. Howington
Clerk, Dorothy Wright

Greenwood Church:

To the John Wheeler Association when convened with the West Bristol Church. We send as delegates our beloved Brothers and Sisters: Ray Blevins, Green Wright, Clyde Hilliard, Verly Price, Tish Hand, whom we pray

you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; prayer meeting, good; Sunday School, good; average number of pupils, 60; membership, 45; paid pastor, \$541.67; paid evangelist, \$63.61; for minutes, \$5.00.

Done by order of the Greenwood Church assembled in conference August 25, 1951.

Moderator, Rev. Elmer Adkins
Clerk, Eulala Baumgardner

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." Genesis 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 reproves 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 Corinthians 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 that showeth 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 hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them." Matthew 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 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.

