MINUTES

of the

John Wheeler Association

of

Free Will Baptist

1975

Proceedings

of the

Ninety-Seventh Annual Association

Convened with the

EAST BRISTOL CHURCH

Bristol, Tennessee

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1975

1976 SESSION

The next session will convene with the Liberty Church, Saturday before the first Sunday in October, 1976.

OFFICERS

MODERATOR: ..... Rev. C. F. Sprinkle, Rt. 1, Bristol, Va.
CLERK/TREASURER: ..... Bro. Raymond J. Freeman, Rt. 3, Marion, Va.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. Kyle French ..... Box 87, Chilhowie, Va.
Rev. John Taylor ..... Cleveland, Va.
Bro. Steve Knipp ..... 328 W. Main St., Marion, Va.
Rev. Johnny Hooker ..... Rt. 1, Blountville, Tenn.
Bro. Sandy Bentley ..... 223 Delaney St., Bristol, Tenn.

HOME MISSION BOARD

Rev. Walter Statzer ..... 238 Meadowcrest Drive, Bristol, Va.

SUNDAY SCHOOL EVANGELIST

Mrs. Claude Cardwell ..... Box 88, Saltville, Va.

TRUSTEES

Rev. Walter Statzer ..... 238 Meadowcrest Drive, Bristol, Va.
Rev. Kyle French ..... P. O. Box 87, Chilhowie, Va.
Rev. C. F. Sprinkle ..... Rt. 1, Bristol, Va.

PROCEEDINGS

The John Wheeler Ninety-Seventh annual Association of Free Will Baptist convened with the East Bristol Free Will Baptist Church, Bristol, Tenn. on October 4, 1975.

The meeting began with the singing of "Where The Soul Never Dies". Singing led by Bro. James White.

Welcome given by Rev. Shelton Norris.

The following scripture was read by the Clerk, St. Matthew, chapter 9, verse 35 through 38.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Bob Surber.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. C. F. Sprinkle.

The congregation sang "Heavenly Sunlight" while having fellowship. All were in Fellowship.

Move was made and passed to enter into business.

DELEGATES ENROLLED

SOUTHWESTERN QUARTERLY

Mr. and Mrs. Warren White, Sister Bertha Helbert, Sister Mildred Helbert.

NORTHEASTERN QUARTERLY

Sister Lottie Cardwell, Sister Mary Taylor, Bro. Lacy Frye, Bro. Dennis Frye.

STANDING DELEGATES ENROLLED

MINISTERS:

Walter Statzer, Levi Arnold, Howard Campbell, Robert Smith, Bob Surber, Elmer Cardwell, Jr., Bobby Collins, Kenneth Skeens, George Sizemore, Orville O'Quinn, Shelton Norris, Arthur Rhymer, Herman Cress, Ralph Graham, Herbert Adams, Kyle French, Johnny Hooker, C. F. Sprinkle, E. E. Edwards.

DEACONS:

James White, M. A. Hammett, John Calhoun, Frank Stout, Howard Epperson, Leon Harlas, Sandy Bentley, Dennis Frye, Jack Freeman.

VISITORS PRESENT: 1

EXECUTIVE BOARD SERVING TODAY:

Rev. Kyle French, Rev. Johnny Hooker, Bro. Sandy Bentley.

The reports from the Quarterly Meetings were read and received as read.

QUARTERLY MEETING REPORTS

SOUTHWESTERN QUARTERLY:

MODERATOR: Rev. Walter Statzer
CLERK: John Calhoun

Number of Churches	8
Church Membership	533
Number of Ordained Ministers	19
Number of Licensed Ministers	1
Number of Ordained Deacons	26
Enrollment of Sunday Schools	543
Average Attendance of Sunday School	440
Enrollment of Church Training Service	75
Average Attendance of Church Training Service	50
Enrollment of Woman's Auxiliaries	42
Average Attendance of Womans Auxiliaries	28
Mid-week service average attendance	153

Financial Report:

Pastors Salaries	$ 13,694.72

Evangelistic Work	2,419.12
Building and Repair	5,813.91
Literature	1,567.62
Other	3,729.33
	530.75
TOTAL SPENT FOR LOCAL CAUSES	$ 27,755.45
Home Missions	785.47
Education	103.85
Orphanage	929.73
Superannuation	20.00
State and National Projects	100.00
TOTAL SPENT FOR OUTSIDE CAUSES	$ 1,939.05
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	$29,694.50
Value of Church Property	$442,000.00
Amount enclosed for Fees	150.00

NORTHEASTERN QUARTERLY

MODERATOR: Rev. Kyle French
CLERK: Sister Lottie Cardwell

Number of Churches	9
Church Membership	666
Number of Parsonages	1
Number of Ordained Ministers	20
Number of Licensed Ministers	7
Number of Ordained Deacons	31
Enrollment of Sunday Schools	671
Average attendance of Sunday School	565
Average attendance of Church Training Service	93
Average attendance of Woman's Auxiliaries	49
Enrollment of Master's Men	19
Mid-week Service average attendance	237

Financial Report:

Pastors Salaries	$ 25,403.61
Evangelistic Work	2,821.73
Building and Repair	5,553.09
Literature	2,271.72
TOTAL SPENT FOR LOCAL CAUSES	$ 36,050.15
Cooperative Plan	380.46
Foreign Missions	942.63
Home Missions	1,694.14
Orphanage	1,442.12
TOTAL SPENT FOR OUTSIDE CAUSES	$ 4,459.35

TOTAL EXPENDITURES	$ 40,509.50
Value of Church Property, (3 churches)	$185,000.00
Value of parsonage property, (1)	30,000.00
Amount enclosed for fees	150.00

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Balance on hand, October 5, 1974	$ 438.94
Expenditures:	
Postage and Certified Letters	14.90
Printing of Minutes	218.40
Writing Supplies	9.26
Virginia State Association	100.00
Treaties Books	3.00
Clerk/Treasurer	25.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	$ 370.56
Balance	68.38
Friday Night Offering	69.30
Saturday Morning Offering	22.29
Received from Quarterlys — Northeastern	150.00
Southwestern	150.00
Received from Youth Revival	44.89
Personal Donations	27.00
Sale of Treaties	2.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	$ 465.48
TOTAL TO ACCOUNT FOR	$ 533.86

REPORT OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL EVANGELIST

Workshops conducted	5
Training Sessions	1
Number of Churches represented at class	5
Registration at class	41

FINANCIAL REPORT OF TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAM

Money received through special song services.

Liberty Church	$ 67.87
Shiloh Church	40.90
Lake Park Church	38.81
Cardwell Town Church	32.00
Macedonia Church	30.00
Rooty Branch Church	44.10

East Bristol Church	25.00
Adwolfe Church	22.50
Balance from 1974	9.58
TOTAL RECEIVED	$310.76

Expenditures:

Teacher (Stanley Outlaw)	$150.00
Patrick Henry School	12.50
Janitor	28.84
Total Spent	191.34
BALANCE IN TREASURY	$122.42

SUMMARY OF TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAM

The second class, in a series of Teacher Training Classes, was held at the Patrick Henry High School June 16 to 20, 1975. The text book for this class was DISCIPLING AND DEVELOPING, by Malcolm C. Frye. The instructor was Stanley Outlaw, a Minister and Teacher from the Free Will Baptist Biblle College in Nashville. A total registration of 41 people benefited from the clalss with representives from 5 of the 17 churches of the John Wheeler Association.

REPORT OF HOME MISSION BOARD

Rev. Walter Statzer, a member of the Home Mission Board talked about the Cooperative Plan.

OLD BUSINESS ..... **NONE**

NEW BUSINESS

The Clerk was authorized to purchase a typewriter from Sears.

The Clerk discussed the need for the Association to purchase some land for the use of the Association. This land would be used for Quarterly Meetings, Revivals, etc. This land could also be used for a Bible Camp as funds are secured in the future.

A motion was made and passed by the body to hold the 1976 Association meeting at the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church, Marion, Va.

The following recommendations were made by the Executive Board. All were voted on and passed by the body.

Rev. Howard Campbell will be the Moderator for the 1976 yearly session of the John Wheeler Association of Free Will Baptist.

Rev. Kyle French will bring the Eleven o'clock message at the 1976 yearly meeting of the John Wheeler Association of Free Will Baptist.

Bro. James White to serve on the Executive Board. He is to replace Rev. Kyle French who's term expires this year. Bro. White's term will expire in 1980.

Rev. Walter Statzer be retained as our representive on the Home Mission Board.

Sister Lottie Cardwell be retained as Sunday School Evangelist.

SCHEDULE OF YOUTH RALLYS

Second Saturday night in November, 1975 ..... Shiloh

Second Saturday night in February, 1976 ..... Cardwell Town

Second Saturday night in May, 1976 ..... Pine Hill

Second Saturday night in August, 1976 ..... Macedonia

Motion was made and passed by the body to adjourn until the eleven o'clock service.

Closed in prayer by Rev. Howard Campbell.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

The service opened by singing, "Some Day".

Sister Mary Taylor sang, "Make Room In The Life Boat for Me".

Received the morning offering, $22.29.

Rev. C. F. Sprinkle asked the Blessing upon the offering.

Rev. Herman Cress brought the eleven o'clock message, using the Scripture from St. John, chapter 8, verses 37 through 44.

Text, "Are We Killing the Influence of the Church".

Morning message closed with Altar Prayer.

Services dismissed for Lunch.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The evening service began with the singing of "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms".

The following scripture was read by the Clerk, St. Luke, chapter 12, verse 48.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Ralph Graham.

The following recommendation was made by the Executive Board. It was voted on and passed by the body.

We the Executive Board recommend that Rev. Robert Smith be re-

instated in the John Wheeler Association, and receive his Ministers Card.

Delegates chosen to attend the State Association when it convenes in Roanoke, Va. on Friday, before the 3rd Sunday in June, 1976, are as follows, Sister Mary Taylor.

Sister Lottie Cardwell has the authority to fill in names of delegates to complete the number of delegates required.

A motion was made and passed by the body to print 500 copies of the Minutes.

A motion was made and passed by the body that the Clerk has the authority to correct any and all mistakes in the Minutes.

TERMS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD EXPIRES AS FOLLOWS:

Rev. John Taylor ..... Oct. 1976
Bro. Steve Knipp ..... Oct. 1977
Rev. Johnny Hooker ..... Oct. 1978
Bro. Sandy Bentley ..... Oct. 1979
Bro. James White ..... Oct. 1980

A motion was made and passed by the body to adjourn.

Closed in prayer by Rev. C. F. Sprinkle.

We the delegates of the represented classes and visiting Brothers and Sisters, offer our sincere and heartfelt thanks to the East Bristol Free Will Baptist Church and Community for their kind hospitality shown us during our stay in their locality.

Rev. C. F. Sprinkle, Moderator
Bro. Raymond J. Freeman, Clerk

OBITUARY REPORT

Kyle Dennison, Joe Tolliver, Robert Hess, Mrs. Nora Hess, Nellie Atwood Mc'Crosky.

MINISTERS WHO BELONG TO THE JOHN WHEELER ASSOCIATION AND THEIR REPORTS

Rev. Junior Gobble ..... Route 5, Abingdon, Va. 24210
Sermons Preached, 109; Churches Pastored, 1; Revivals Held, 4; Professions Witnessed, Unknown; Number Baptized, Several; Additions to Church, 3; Funerals Preached, 2; Miles traveled, Many; Money Received, $1,080.00.

Rev. Elmer Cardwell, Jr. ..... Route 2, Saltville, Va. 24370
Sermons Preached, 17; Professions Witnessed, 1.

Rev. Harold Rouse ..... Rt. 4, Bristol, Tenn. 37620
Sermons Preached, 40; Churches Pastored, 1; Professions Witnessed, 15; Additions to Church, 35; Churches Organized, 1; Funerals Preached 3; Marriages Solemnized, 3.

Rev. Ralph Carty ..... Route 5, Abingdon, Va. 24210
Sermons Preached, Approx. 60; Churches Pastored, 1; Revivals Held, 4;Professions Witnessed, Approx. 20; Number Baptized, Several; Funerals Preached, 2; Marriages Solemnized, 1; Miles Traveled, Unknown; Money Received, Approx. $1,000.00.

Rev. Cecil Presley ..... Box 337, Saltville, Va. 24370
Sermons Preached, 76; Churches Pastored, 1; Revivals Held, 2; Professions Witnessed, 5; Number Baptized, 1; Funerals Preached, 1; Miles Traveled, Approx. 9500; Money Received, $1,866.95. I am not presently Pastoring. Pray for me as I seek the Lord's will.

Rev. E. E. Edwards ..... Route 3, Blountville, Tenn. 37617
Sermons Preached, 10; Professions Witnessed, 1.

Rev. Homer Goodson ..... Route 5, Bristol, Va. 24201
Sermons Preached, Many; Churches Pastored, 1; Revivals Held, 1; Professions Witnessed, 10; Additions to Church, 6; Funerals Preached, 9; Marriages Solemnized, 8; Miles Traveled, Many; Money Received, $3,000.00

Rev. Kenneth M. Skeens ..... 414 Fairfax Ave., Richlands, Va. 24641
Sermons Preached, 108; Churches Pastored, 1; Professions Witnessed, 1; Funerals Preached, 3; Marriages Solemnized, 2; Miles Traveled, 9,000; Money Received, $1,860.00.

Rev. Herman Cress ..... Route 1, Marion, Va. 24354
Sermons Preached, 67; Revivals Held, 5; Professions Witnessed, 84; Number Baptized, 5; Miles Traveled, 6256; Money Received, $265.

Rev. Walter Graham ..... Route 4, Marion, Va. 24354
Sermons Preached, 36; Churches Pastored, 1; Revivals Held, 1; Professions Witnessed, 8; Additions to Church, 1; Funerals Preached, 1; Money Received, $362.18.

Rev. Kenneth Shaffer ..... 1208 Va. Ave., Bristol, Tenn. 37620
Sermons Preached, 60; Professions Witnessed, Few; Number Baptized, 1; Miles Traveled, 3,000; Money Received, $50.00.

Rev. Orville Trivett ..... Route 4, Bristol, Tenn. 37620
Sermons Preached, 21; Churches Pastored, 1; Revivals Held, Helped in 1; Professions Witnessed, 2; Number Baptized, 3; Marriages, Solemnized, 2; Money Received, $1,300.00.

Rev. C. C. Olinger ..... Box 274, Saltville, Va. 24370
Sermons Preached, 36; Professions Witnessed, 5; Funerals Preached, 3; Marriages Solemnized, 2; Miles Traveled, Many; Money Received, $108.00. Visited Hospitals and Homes.

Rev. John Taylor ..... Cleveland, Va.
Sermons Preached, 69; Professions Witnessed, 18; Number Baptized, 10; Funerals Preached, 3; Miles Traveled, Unknown; Money Received, $200.00. Please pray for us that I may do more for God.

Rev. Herbert Adams ..... Route 6, Bristol, Va. 24201
Sermons Preached, 99; Churches Pastored, 1; Revivals Held, 2; Professions Witnessed, 27; Number Baptized, 1; Funerals Preached, 3; Marriages Solemnized, 1; Miles Traveled, 1,771; Money Received, $274.65; Sick Persons Visited, 45; May the Good Lord Bless You All. Pray for us.

Rev. Robert Spears ..... Route 3, Abingdon, Va. 24210
Sermons Preached, 80; Churches Pastored, 1; Revivals Held, Ass't. in 2; Professions Witnessed, 12; Number Baptized, 3; Funerals Preached, 1; Miles Traveled, 1,500; Money Received, Approx. $275.00.

Rev. Jennings Wilson ..... Chilhowie, Va. 24319
Churches Pastored, 1; Revivals Held, 2; Professions Witnessed, 81; Number Baptized, 5; Additions to Church, 12; Funerals Preached, 14; Marriages Solemnized, 15; Money Received, $7,020.00

Rev. Kyle French ..... Box 87, Chilhowie, Va. 24319
Sermons Preached, 106; Churches Pastored, 1; Revivals Held, Ass't. 1; Professions Witnessed, 35; Number Baptzied, 19; Additions to Church, 11; Funerals Preached, 2; Marriages Solemnized, 5; Money Received, $3,920.00.

Rev. Avery Sheets ..... Route 3, Marion, Va. 24354
Sermons Preached, 90; Churches Pastored, 1; Professions Witnessed, 15; Number Baptized, 6; Additions to Church, 24; Funerals Preached 3; Marriages Solemnized, 4; Miles Traveled, 2,000; Money Received, Approx. $4,500.00.

Rev. David Neitch ..... Route 3, Marion, Va. 24354
Sermons Preached, 51; Revivals Held, 2; Professions Witnessed, 35; Number Baptized, 3; Funerals Preached, 2; Miles Traveled, 500; Money received, $273.00.

Rev. Joe Powers ..... Route 2, Marion, Va. 24354
Sermons Preached, 35; Revivals Held, 2; Professions Witnessed, 25; Miles Traveled, 140; Money Received, $146.00.

Rev. Shelton Norris ..... Box 3078, Bristol, Tenn. 37620
Sermons Preached, 88; Churches Pastored, 1 and assisted 1; Revivals Held, 1; Professions Witnessed, 21; Number Baptized, 4; Additions to Church, 1; Churches Organized, Ass't. in 1; Funerals Preached, 3; Marriages Solemnized, 1; Miles Traveled, Many; Money Received, $670.00.

Rev. John Tilson ..... Route 3, Bristol, Tenn. 37620
Sermons Preached, 66; Churches Pastored, 1; Funerals Preached, 1; Miles Traveled, 7,000; Money Received, None from F.W.B.

Rev. Ed Pendergrass ..... Route 1, Bristol, Tenn. 37620
Sermons Preached, 40; Churches Pastored, 1; Revivals Held, 2; Professions Witnessed, 30; Number Baptized, 40; Miles Traveled, 400; Money Received, $1,000; Pray for us in the work of the Lord.

Rev. Bob Surber ..... Route 2, Meadowview, Va. 24361
Sermons Preached, 23; Revivals Held, Ass't. 1; Professions Witnessed, 5; Funerals Preached, Ass't. 1; Miles Traveled, 260; Money Received, $7.00.

Rev. Bobby Collins ..... Route 2, Saltville, Va. 24360
Sermons Preached, 19; Revivals Held, 1; Professions Witnessed, 3; Miles Travelled, 588.

Rev. Howard Campbell ..... Route 4, Bristol, Tenn. 37620
Sermons Preached, 119; Churches Pastored, 1; Revivals Held, 2; Professions Witnessed, 20; Number Baptized, 1; Additions To Church 5; Funerals Preached, 9; Marriages Solemnized, 6; Miles Traveled, Unknown; Money Received, $1,925.00.

Rev. Walter Statzer ..... 238 Meadowcrest Drive, Bristol, Va. 24201
Sermons Preached, 180; Churches Pastored, 1; Revivals Held, Ass't. 2; Number Baptized, 14; Additions to Church, 14; Funerals Preached 4; Marriages Solemnized, 4; Money Received, $8,469.90. Singing Schools Held, 2; Bible Schools Held, 3.

Rev. John E. Floyd ..... Rt. 2, Marion, Va. 24354
Sermons Preached, 163; Churches Pastored, 1; Revivals Held, 2; Professions Witnessed, 65; Number Baptized, 19; Additions to Church 26; Funerals Preached, 7; Marriages Solemnized, 6; Miles Traveled, 50,000. Money Received, $5,900.00.

Rev. George Sizemore ..... Box 521, Abingdon, Va. 24210
Sermons Preached, 46; Churches Pastored, 1; Revivals Held, 2; Professions Witnessed, 5; Number Baptized, 8; Additions to Church, 5; Funerals Preached, 6; Marriages Solemnized, 23; Miles Traveled, 7,246; Money Received, $1,530.00.

Rev. Johnny Hooker ..... Route 1, Blountville, Tenn. 37617
Sermons Preached, 72; Churches Pastored, 1; Revivals Held, 1; Professions Witnessed, 17; Number Baptized, 6; Additions to Church, 5; Marriages Solemnized, 2; Money Received, $600.00 paid on expenses.

Rev. C. F. Sprinkle ..... Route 1, Bristol, Va. 24201
Sermons Preached, 201; Churches Pastored, 1; Revivals Held 3; Professions Witnessed, 53; Number Baptized, 27; Additions to Church, 16; Funerals Preached, 5; Marriages Solemnized, 2; Miles Traveled, Approx. 20,000. Money Received, $6,760.00. I pray that God may use me in his work in a mighty way.

Rev. Orville O'Quinn ..... 228 Crockett St., Bristol, Va. 24201
Sermons Preached, 24; Professions Witnessed, 1; Miles Traveled 1,000. Money Received, $224.93. Paid travel expenses, $53.65.

Rev. Glen Powers ..... Route 2, Marion, Va. 24354
Sermons Preached, 25; Professions Witnessed, 3; Number Baptized, 2; Miles Traveled, Unknown; Money Received, $122.17.

Rev. Elmer Adkins ..... Route 4, Blountville, Tenn. 37617
Sermons Preached, 35; Professions Witnessed, 6; Funerals Preached, 2; Miles Traveled, Many; Money Received, $350.00. Pray for me, may God bless you.

Rev. Arthur Rhymer ..... Route 3, Bristol, Tenn. 37620
Sermons Preached, 61; Revivals Held, 1; Professions Witnessed, 12; Number Baptizezd, 2; Funerals Preached, 1; Money Received, $365.45.

Rev. Otis Barker ..... Route 1, Marion, Va. 24354
Sermons Preached, 10; Professions Witnessed, 3;; Number Baptized, 7; Miles Traveled, 1808; Money Received, $42.15.

Rev. Clyde Gamble ..... 2975 Lee Highway, Bristol, Va. 24201
Sermons Preached, 55; Revivals Held, 2; Professions Witnessed, Unknown; Number Baptized, 13; Funerals Preached, 2; Miles Traveled, Unknown; Money Received, Unknown.

Rev. Levi Arnold ..... Route 9, Jonesboro, Tenn.
Sermons Preached, 110; Churches Pastored, 1; Revivals Held, 3; Miles Traveled, 5,000; Money Received, $300.00.

Rev. Clifton Vanover ..... 103 Nita St., Bristol, Tenn. 37620
Sermons Preached, 25; Professions Witnessed, 4; Miles Traveled, Approx. 2,000; Money Received, $10.00.

The following Ministers have not sent in their reports:
Samuel Johnson, Calvin Baumgardner, Eddie Foster, Lula Henley.

SUNDAY SCHOOL WORKSHOP

The Annual Sunday School Work Shop was held at the East Bristol Free Will Baptist Church, Bristol, Tenn. on October 2nd, 1975.

Services began with the singing of "I'm Going That Way".

Singing was led by Bro. James White.

Welcome given by Rev. Shelton Norris.

The following scripture was read by the Clerk, 1st Thessalonians, chapter 5, verses 1 through 11.

Prayer by Rev. Orville O'Quinn.

WORKSHOP

Sister Lottie Cardwell, Sunday School Evangelist, used the following Scripture's to discuss, "The Rewards We Will Receive When We Stand Before the Judgement Seat". (Five Crowns). 2nd Corinthians, Chapter 6, verse 11, 1st Corinthians, chapter 9, verses 25 to 27, Revelation, Chapter 2, verse 10, 1st Peter, chapter 5, verses 1 to 4, 2nd Timothy,

chapter 4, verses 6 to 18, 1st Thessalonians, chapter 2, verses 19 and 20, 1st Corinthians, chapter 3, verses 11 to 16, Ephesians, chapter 2, verses 8 to 10, Revelation, chapter 4, verse 10.

Sister Frances Powers demonstrated the Make and Do book used in the Nursery and Beginners Sunday School Class.

Rev. Walter Statzer used Dolls to represent people of the Bible. These dolls can be used in small childrens Sunday School Classes.

Rev. C. F. Sprinkle taught a lesson from the book, "Precepts for Practice", using the chapter on devotions.

An open floor discussion was held on Teaching Sunday School.

Sister Lottie demonstrated a story to be used at Halloween.

Number of persons present, 30.

Closed in prayer by Rev. Shelton Norris.

MINISTERS AND DEACONS CONFERENCE

The Ministers and Deacons Conference convened with the East Bristol Free Will Baptist Church, Bristol, Tenn. on Oct. 3rd, 1975.

The meeting began by singing, "Just Over In The Glory Land".

Singing led by Bro. James White.

Welcome given by Rev. Shelton Norris.

The following scripture was read by the Clerk, Ephesians, chapter 5, verses 6 through 14.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Howard Campbell.

The Devotional Message was brought by Rev. Kenneth Skeens, using scripture from Zechariah, chapter 9, verse 9, chapter 12, verse 10, chapter 13, verse 7, chapter 14, verse 8.

Text used, Zechariah, chapter 14, verse 1., "Behold The Day of The Lord Cometh".

The conference was called to order by the moderator, Rev. Ed Pendergrass.

Move was made and passed to enter into business.

The congregation sang, "Amazing Grace", while having Fellowship All were in Fellowship.

Minutes of the 1974 Conference were read by the Clerk.

Letters from the following ministers were read to the body, Rev. Elmer Cardwell, Jr., Rev. Ralph Carty, Rev. Harold Rouse. These letters were voted on and passed by the body.

Ministers report were read and received as read.

EXECUTIVE BOARD SERVING

Rev. Kyle French
Rev. Johnny Hooker
Rev. John Taylor
Bro. Sandy Bentley

NEW BUSINESS

The following recommendations were made by the Executive Board.

Rev. C. C. Olinger will be Moderator for the 1976 Ministers and Deacons Conference. This was voted on and passed by the body.

Rev. C. F. Sprinkle will bring the 1976 Devotional Message. This was voted on and passed by the body.

A motion was made and passed by the body to hold the new Ministerial Card of Rev. Paul Rouse, Jr., until the Executive Board can question him.

A motion was made and passed by the body to have Rev. Robert Smith appear before the Executive Board Saturday morning. This concerns him being reinstated in the Association.

Rev. Garry Rowlett is no longer a member of the John Wheeler Association of Free Will Baptist, having asked for and received his letter.

New Ministerial Cards were presented to the following Ministers: C. F. Sprinkle, Howard Campbell, Johnny Hooker, Kenneth Skeens, Avery Sheets, Kyle French, Herbert Adams, Cecil Presley, Walter Statzer, Robert Spears, David Neitch, Otis Barker, Herman Cress, Jennings Wilson, George Sizemore, Orville Trivett, Shelton Norris, Glen Powers, John Tilson, Levi Arnold, C. C. Olinger, Elmer Adkins, John Taylor, Orville O'Quinn, Kenneth Shaffer, Ralph Graham, Arthur Rhymer, Clyde Gamble, Ed Pendergrass, Joe Powers, Bob Surber, Bobby Collins, John Floyd, J. W. Chesnutt.

Cards received by mail and approved, Rev. Elmer Cardwell, Jr., Rev. Ralph Carty, Rev. Harold Rouse.

The following Ministers were approved pending the receipt of their Reports, E. E. Edwards, Calvin Baumgardner, Homer Goodson, Samuel Johnson, Junior Gobble, Eddie Foster, Lula Henley.

The congregation sang, "I Feel Like Traveling On", while receiving the offering. Bro. James White asked the blessing upon the offering. Amount of Offering — $69.30.

Number of Ministers present	34
Number of Deacons present	12
Number of visiting Ministers	1
Number of Visitors	6

Motion was made and passed by the body to adjourn.
Meeting closed with prayer by Rev. Orville O'Quinn.

YEARLY MEETING OR ANNUAL ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1. This yearly meeting or association shall be called the John Wheeler Association of Free Will Baptist, and shall be composed of such regularly organized and well-disciplined Free Will Baptist quarterly meetings, conveniently located, as may embody themselves under this constitution.

ARTICLE 2. The conference of this yearly meeting or association shall consist of delegates from the several quarterly meetings of which it is composed; every quarterly meeting being entitled to one delegate, every quarterly meeting containing five hundred members to two delegates, and one additional delegate for every additional five hundred members.

ARTICLE 3. The officers of this yearly meeting or association shall

be a standing clerk, treasurer and a moderator who shall be chosen at every session of the yearly meeting or association, with assistants, as may be found necessary.

ARTICLE 4. Any well-organized and well-regulated Free Will Baptist quarterly meeting, composed of such churches as conform to the practices and adopt the doctrines of the Free Will Baptist denomination as published in the Treatise of their faith and in the minutes of the National Association and are in favor of all the benevolent enterprises of the denomination, may at any time, on application and by vote of this body, become a member thereof.

ARTICLE 5. This yearly meeting or association shall have power to discipline the quarterly meetings of which it is composed, and to exclude them for disorderly walks if labor proves unsuccessful, but in no case to reverse their decisions nor to interfere with any of their internal regulations.

ARTICLE 6. The sessions of this yearly meeting or association shall be held on , at which time it shall be the duty of the quarterly meetings of which this yearly meeting or association is composed to represent themselves by letter and delegate, and report their standings, prospects and statistics; at which time the association shall act upon 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 to the practices of the denomination, or in its judgement may promote the cause of Christ and the interests of the church and quarterly meetings within the limits of this yearly meeting or association.

ARTICLE 7. This yearly meeting or association shall have power to adopt any regulations or bylaws, not inconsistent with this constitution, which may be deemed essential to the further regulation of its sessions.

ARTICLE 8. This constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of the yearly meeting or association at any regular session, notice of such intended alteration having been given in writing and recorded at the next previous session.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. THE BIBLE. The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. GOD. There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver and Righteous Governor of the universe; and in the Scriptures as Father, Son and Holy Ghost, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are to supremely love, adore and obey.

3. CHRIST. Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The Mediator between

God and man, once crucified. He is now risen and glorified, and is our ever present Saviour and Lord.

4. THE HOLY SPIRIT. The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God.

5. THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD. God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of men requires.

6. THE SINFULNESS OF MAN. Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherit a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability, sin and become guilty before God.

7. THE WORK OF CHRIST. The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death, and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free, and is the ground of salvation by faith.

8. THE TERMS OF SALVATION. The conditions of salvation are:
   (1) Repentance of sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it.

   (2) Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Saviour and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith, the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God.

   (3) Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

9. ELECTION. God determines from the beginning to save all who should comply with the condition of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

10. FREEDOM OF THE WILL. The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.

11. SALVATION FREE. God desires the salvation of all, the gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all and whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.

12. PERSERVERANCE. All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.

13. GOSPEL ORDINANCES. Baptism, or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the gospel. Feet washing, or ordinance teaching humility or universal obligation, is to be ministered to all true believers.

14. TITHING. God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament, Jesus Christ endorsed it in the gospel (Matthew 23:23), and the apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let every

one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, . . ." (I Corinthians 16:2).

15. THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH. The divine law required that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements; for rest, worship, holy works and activities, and for personal communication with God.

16. RESURRECTION, JUDGEMENT, AND FINAL RETRIBUTION. The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solem covenant.

We promise, by His grace, to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions and social worship; and by self-denial, faith and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship and the observance of the ordinances of the gospel; nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor and all its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace. To be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, to promote the success of the church and of the gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principles sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society, constantly praying and toiling that the kingdom of God may come and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of education and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday schools and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.