

MINUTES
of the
John Wheeler Association
of
Free Will Baptist
1979

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
101st ANNUAL ASSOCIATION

CONVENED WITH THE
SHILOH CHURCH
Bristol, Virginia
SATURDAY, OCT. 6, 1979

THE 1980 SESSION WILL CONVENE WITH THE
MACEDONIA CHURCH
SATURDAY BEFORE THE FIRST SUNDAY IN OCTOBER, 1980

OFFICERS

MODERATOR REV. DAVID NEITCH
Rt. 5, Marion, Va. 24354
CLERK BRO. RAYMOND J. FREEMAN
Rt. 3, Marion Va. 24354

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Bro. James White Rt. 3, Bristol, Va. 24201
Rev. Avery Sheets Rt. 5, Marion, Va. 24354
Rev. Elmer Cardwell, Jr. 2728 Dell Ave. N.E., Roanoke, Va. 24012
Bro. Dennis Frye Rt. 2, Saltville, Va. 24370
Rev. Kenneth Shaffer 1208 Va. Ave., Bristol, Tenn. 37620

HOME MISSION BOARD

Rev. Walter Statzer 238 Meadowcrest Drive Bristol, Va. 24201

TRUSTEES

Rev. Walter Statzer 238 Meadowcrest Drive Bristol, Va. 24201
Rev. Kyle French P. O. Box 87, Chilhowie, Va. 24319

PROCEEDINGS

The One Hundred and First Annual Session of the John Wheeler Association of Free Will Baptist convened at the Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, Bristol, Va. on October 6, 1979.

The meeting began with the singing of "At Calvary" and "Jesus Saves".

Singing was led by Rev. Walter Statzer.

Welcome was given by Rev. Walter Statzer.

The following scripture was read by the Clerk, Isaiah, Chapter fifty-five, verse one thru eleven.

Prayer was led by Rev. Kyle French.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. David Neitch.

The congregation sang, "Trust and Obey", while having fellowship.

All were in fellowship.

A motion was made and passed by the body to enter into business.

The congregation voted to accept the Quarterly Meeting Reports as read by the Clerk.

QUARTERLY MEETING REPORTS

SOUTHWESTERN QUARTERLY

MODERATOR, Rev. Herbert Adams
CLERK, John C. Calhoun

LIST OF DELEGATES

Sister Shirley Gross, Sister Mary Blaylock and Sister Joan Fleenor.

Number of Churches	8
Church Membership	686
Number of Ordained Ministers	18
Number of Licensed Ministers	3
Number of Ordained Deacons	28
Enrollment of Sunday Schools	763
Average attendance of Sunday Schools	615
Enrollment of Church Training Service	101
Average attendance of Church Training Service	95
Enrollment of Woman's Auxiliaries	59
Average Attendance of Woman's Auxiliaries	56
Mid-week service average attendance	209

Financial Report:

Spent for Local Causes

Pastor's Salaries	\$20,546.29
Evangelistic Work	4,222.80
Building and Repair	24,873.97
Literature	3,345.55
Other	10,506.03

TOTAL SPENT FOR LOCAL CAUSES \$63,494.64

Spent for outside causes

Foreign Missions	\$ 979.60
Home Missions	3,842.73
Orphanage	717.91
State and National Projects	988.65

TOTAL SPENT FOR OUTSIDE CAUSES \$ 6,528.89

TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$70,023.53

Value of Church Property \$789,000.00

Amount enclosed for fees \$ 280.00

NORTHEASTERN QUARTERLY

MODERATOR, Rev. Bob Surber
CLERK, Sister Lottie Cardwell

Number of Churches	7
Church Membership	577
Number of Parsonages	3
Number of Ordained Ministers	19
Number of Ordained Deacons	27
Average Attendance of Sunday School	596
Average Attendance of Church Training Service	83
Average Attendance of Woman's Auxiliaries	60
Mid Week Service Average Attendance	257

Financial Report

Spent for Local Causes

Pastors Salaries	\$ 35 997.71
Evangelistic Work	3,688.77
Building and Repair	42,271.88
Literature	3,225.52
Other	17,043.29
TOTAL SPENT FOR LOCAL CAUSES	\$102,227.17

Spent for Outside Causes

Foreign Missions	\$ 1,810.49
Home Missions	1,228.00
Education Bible College	1,010.70
Orphanage	2,201.46
Superannuation	240.00
TOTAL SPENT FOR OUTSIDE CAUSES	\$ 6,490.65

TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$108,717.82

Value of Church Property — **2 Churches** \$305,000.00

Value of Parsonage Property — **2 Parsonages** \$ 75,000.00

Amount enclosed for Fees \$ 280.00

STANDING DELEGATES ENROLLED

MINISTERS:

Orville O'Quinn Johnny Hooker, Jim Cox, Kyle French, Curtis Haven, Ronnie Snider, Kenneth Shaffer, David Neitch, Avery Sheets, Elmer Cardwell, Jr., Walter Statzer, Joe Powers.

DEACONS:

Dennis Frye, Jack Freeman.

VISITING MINISTERS:

Robert Crowford, Walter Sumerline.

VISITORS PRESENT: 10

The body elected Rev. Joe Powers and Rev. Walter Statzer to serve on the Executive Board today in the absence of Bro. Sandy Bentley and Bro. James White.

EXECUTIVE BOARD SERVING TODAY

Rev. Avery Sheets Rev. Elmer Cardwell, Jr. Bro. Dennis Frye
Rev. Joe Power Rev. Walter Statzer

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Balance on hand September 30, 1978 \$ 1,106.22

Expenditures

Roy Thomas \$ 50.00
Printing of Minutes 220.48
Va: State Association 150.00
Postage and Envelopes 9.00
Clerk 25.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$ 454.48

BALANCE 651.74

Friday Night Offering 23.53
Saturday Morning Offering 22.00

Received from Quarterlys —
 Northeastern \$280.00
 Southwestern \$280.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS 605.53

Balance Oct. 6 1979 \$1,257.27

A motion was made and passed by the body to accept the Treasurers Report as read.

REPORT OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL EVANGELISM

Sister Lottie Cardwell, Sunday School Evangelist for the Northeastern Quarterly, conducted two Bible Schools. Announced plans for a Sunday School Retreat to be conducted in the near future. See Sunday School Workshop for more details on this Retreat.

Sister Edith Baker, Sunday School Evangelist for the Southwestern Quarterly, reported on the Sunday School Enlargement Campaign held in the Southwestern Quarterly.

A meeting was held at Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church on Feb. 5,

1979, to make plans for a Sunday School enlargement Campaign in the Southwestern Quarterly. Bro. Statzer was in charge and spoke on Campaigns increasing attendance. Most of the churches participated in a Sunday School Enlargement Campaign during March, April and May. Also there has been other methods used by some of the Churches to increase attendance.

At the Quarterly Conference in June a Plaque was presented to the church with the largest increase in attendance in March, April, and May. This church had a 62% increase in attendance over the previous year in March, April, and May.

The Moderator welcomed Rev. Raper from the Childrens Home at Greeneville, Tenn.

Rev. Jim Cox reported on the HOME MISSION BOARD. The Home Mission Board has been successful in establishing a Free Will Baptist Church in Charlottesville, Va. Rev. Walter Sumerlin is in charge of this church. \$800.00 to \$1 000 per month has been raised for this work. Southwestern Quarterly gave \$500.00 to this work. See Ministers and Deacons Meeting for more information on this.

Rev. Kyle French reported on work in Wytheville area. Work is moving very slowly.

Rev. Jim Cox spoke concerning the Bible Camp at Wise, Va. This is very good for our Young People.

Sister Cardwell reported that plans are being made for a Youth Revival to be held next spring.

Rev. Crawford from the Free Will Baptist College in Nashville, Tenn., spoke concerning the college. See report in Ministers and Deacons Meeting.

Rev. Walter Sumerlin spoke concerning the new church at Charlottesville, Va. See report in Minister and Deacons Meeting.

Rev. Raper from the Childrens Home in Greenville, Tenn. spoke on the Home for Children. He thanked the churches for their support of the Home. Please continue to support the Home.

OLD BUSINESS NONE

NEW BUSINESS

The John Wheeler Association will give \$200.00 toward the expenses of the Sunday School Retreat.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

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

The Moderator of each Saturday Morning Session is responsible for choosing a speaker for the 11:00 a.m. service, beginning with the 1980 session and each year thereafter.

Rev. Bob Surber to be Moderator for the 1980 Saturday Session.

Rev. Kenneth Shaffer to replace Bro. Sandy Bentley on the Executive Board. Bro. Bentleys term expires today. Rev. Shaffers term will expire in 1984..

Rev. Walter Statzer to represent us to the Home Mission Board.

The congregation sang "Sweet By and By" while receiving the offering.

Amount of offering \$22.00.

The morning session recessed for 10 minutes. Closed in prayer by Rev. Joe Powers.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

The service opened by singing, "Bringing In The Sheaves".

Prayer by Rev. Sumerlin.

Sister Cardwell sang a special number.

Rev. Avery Sheets brought the eleven o'clock message using scripture from Hebrews, chapert 11, verses 26 and 27 and 32 thru 40.

Business continued after the eleven o'clock preaching service.

The 1980 State Meeting will be at First Free Will Baptist Church, Roanoke, Va. on June 12 and 13.

A motion was made and passed by the body giving Sister Lottie Cardwell authority to appoint delegates to the State Meeting.

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 to hold the 1980 Association Meeting at the Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church, Saltville, Va.

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

Minutes of the 1979 session were read by the Clerk. Minutes were approved by the body as read.

A vote of thanks was given to the Ladies of Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church for the Lunch to be served.

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

Closed in prayer by Rev. Johnny Hooker.

We the delegates of the represented classes and visiting Brothers and Sisters offer our sincere and heart felt thanks to the Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, and community for their kind hospitality shown us during our stay in their locality.

Rev. David Neitch, Moderator
Bro. Raymond J. Freeman, Clerk

TERMS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD EXPIRES AS FOLLOWS

Bro. James White	1980
Rev. Avery Sheets	1981
Rev. Elmer Cardwell, Jr.	1982
Bro. Dennis Frye	1983
Rev. Kenneth Shaffer	1984

**MINISTERS WHO BELONG TO THE
JOHN WHEELER ASSOCIATION
AND THEIR REPORTS**

- Rev. C. C. Olinger Box 274, Saltville, Va. 24370
Sermons preached, 26; Churches Pastored, helped churches which had no pastor; Professions witnessed, 8; Funerals preached, 2; Marriages solemnized, 2; Miles traveled, many; Money received, \$200.93. Visited homes and hospitals. May the Lord bless you always.
- Rev. Homer Goodson Rt. 5 Bristol, Va. 24201
Sermons preached, many; Churches pastored, 1; Revivals held, 2; Professions witnessed, 25; Additions to church, 10; Marriages solemnized, 27; Money received, \$900.00.
- Rev. Clifton Vanover 103 Nita St., Bristol, Tenn. 37620
Sermons preached, 20.
- Rev. Shelton Norris Box 3078, Bristol, Tenn. 37620
Sermons preached, 37; Churches pastored one for two months; Funerals preached, 2, assisted in one; Money received, approx. \$340.00.
- Rev. Bob Surber Rt. 2, Meadowview, Va. 24361
Sermons preached, 109; Churches pastored, 1; Revivals held, 2; Professions witnessed, 14; Money received, \$1,717.61; Held 41 Rest Home Services; Visited hospitals and homes. Thank the Lord for the privelege to Minister for Mim.
- Rev. Elmer Adkins Rt. 4 Blountville, Tenn. 37617
Sermons preached, 7; Professions witnessed, 4; Money received, \$75.00.

- Rev. George Sizemore 329-56th Ave. N. St., Petersburg, Fla. 33714
Sermons preached, 68; Churches pastored, 1; Revivals held, 3;
Professions witnessed, 18; Number baptized, 1; Additions to Church,
2; Funerals preached, 2; Marriages solemnized 20; Miles traveled,
4,274; Money received, \$3,241.00; May God bless in all FWB
Churches and all others that Preach the Gospel.
- Rev. Elmer Cardwell, Jr. 2728 Dell Ave. N.E., Roanoke, Va. 24012
Sermons preached, 90; Churches pastored, assisted in one; Revivals
held, 1; Professions Witnessed, 15; Money received, \$250.00.
- Rev. Joe Powers Rt. 5 Marion, Va. 24354
Churches pastored, 1.
- Rev. Curtis Havens Rt. 1, Saltville, Va. 24370
Sermons preached, 25; Churches pastored, assisted one; Profes-
sions witnessed, 1; Number baptized, helped 2; Miles traveled,
approx. 2,000; Money received, \$220.00.
- Rev. Kyle French Box 87, Chilhowie, Va. 24319
Sermons preached, 98; Churches pastored 1; Revivals held, 2;
Professions witnessed, 11; Number baptized, 8; Funerals preached,
2; Marriages solemnized, 12; Money received, \$4,240.00.
- Rev. Walter Statzer 238 Meadowcrest Drive, Bristol, Va. 24201
Sermons preached, 160; Churches pastored, 1; Revivals held 2;
Number baptized, 4; Additions to Church, 2; Funerals held, 12;
Marriages solemnized, 20; Money received, \$12,231.23.
Conducted 3 Bible Schools and one singing school.
- Rev. Ed Pendergrass Rt. 1 Bristol, Tenn. 37620
Churches pastored, 1; Revivals held, 1; Professions witnessed, 4;
Number baptized, 2; Additions to church, 1; Money received,
\$1,200.00. Pray for us as onward we go in the work of the Lord.
- Rev. Kenneth Shaffer 1208 Va. Ave., Bristol, Tenn. 37620
Sermons preached, 73; Churches pastored, 1; Revivals held 1;
Funerals preached, 2; Money received, \$2,678.52.
- Rev. Jennings Wilson 1869 Pittstown, Bristol, Tenn. 37620
Churches pastored, 1; Revivals held, 1; Professions witnessed, 26;
Number baptized, 2; Additions to church, 3; Funerals preached, 10;
Marriages solemnized 8; Money received, \$6,400.00.
- Rev. Orville O'Quinn 228 Crockett St., Bristol, Va. 24201
Sermons preached, 7; Miles traveled, 100; Money received, \$13.75.

Rev. Howard Campbell Rt. 3, Bristol, Tenn. 37620
Sermons preached, 104; Churches pastored, 1; Revels held, 3;
Number baptized, 1; Funerals preached, 10; Marriages solemnized,
10; Money received \$2,700.00.

Rev. Bobby Collins Rt. 2, Saltville, Va. 24370
Sermons preached, Many; Miles traveled, 3,000; Money received,
\$45.00; Helped in area revival; Started Youth Group; Tried out for
Pastor in 2 churches.

Rev. Herbert Adams Rt. 6, Bristol, Va. 24201
Sermons preached, 109; Churches pastored, 1; Revivals held, As-
sisted in 3; Professions witnessed, 13; Number baptized, 2;
Funerals preached 2; Marriages solemnized, 1; Money received,
\$460.84. May the Lord bless all the churches. Pray for us.

Rev. John Taylor Rt. 1, Cleveland, Va.
Sermons preached, 30; Professions witnessed, 8; Money received,
\$280.00. Please pray for me that I can do more for God and His
Kingdom.

Rev. Clyde Gamble 540 Willow Branch Road, Bristol, Va. 24201
Sermons preached, 69; Churches pastored, 1; Revivals held, 1;
Number baptized, 8; Marriages solemnized, 2.

Rev. David Neitch Rt. 5, Marion Va. 24354
Sermons preached, 170; Churches pastored, 1; Revivals held, 1;
Number baptized, 6; Additions to church, 10; Funerals preached, 5;
Marriages solemnized, 4; Miles traveled, 20,000; Money received,
\$6,700.00. Please pray for us that God's will might be done in
our lives.

Rev. Avery Sheets Rt. 5, Marion Va. 24354
Sermons preached, 80; Churches pastored, 1; Revivals held, 1;
Professions witnessed, 33; Number baptized, 5; Additions to church,
5; Funerals preached, 3; Marriages solemnized, 4; Miles traveled,
5,000; Money received, \$1,500.00.

Rev. Johnny Hooker Rt. 1 Blountville, Tenn. 37617
Sermons preached, 148; Churches pastored, 1; Revivals held, 2,
helped in 2; Professions witnessed, 43; Number baptized, 13;
Additions to church, 11; Funerals preached, 2; Marriages solemnized,
4; Money received, \$1,600.00.

Rev. Ronnie Snider 706 Goolsby St., Marion, Va. 24354
Sermons preached 45; Revivals held, 1; Professions witnessed, 8;
Marriages solemnized, 1; Miles traveled, 600; Money received,
\$37.00.

Rev. Cecil Rouse Rt. 4, Bristol, Tenn. 37620
Sermons preached, 30; Churches pastored, 1; Professions witnessed,
1; Additions to Church, 1; Money received, \$200.00.

Rev. J. W. Chesnutt 520 Page St., Bristol, Va. 24201

Rev. Johnny Sloan Rt. 3, Bristol, Tenn. 37620

Rev. Harold Rouse Rt. 3, Bristol, Tenn. 37620

Rev. Levi Arnold Rt. 9, Jonesboro, Tenn.

Rev. Ralph Carty Rt. 5, Abingdon, Va. 24210

Rev. Lulu Henley 264 Lowland St., Abingdon, Va. 24210

SUNDAY SCHOOL WORKSHOP

The annual Sunday School Workshop was held at the Shiloh, Free Will Baptist Church, Bristol, Va. on October 4, 1979.

Services began with the singing of "The Life Boat" and "Blessed Assurance".

Singing led by Rev. Walter Statzer.

Prayer led by Rev. Ed Pendergrass.

Welcome given by Rev. Walter Statzer.

Scripture read by Rev. Walter Statzer, 2nd Timothy, Chapter 2, verse 1 thru 9.

WORKSHOP

Sister Lottie Cardwell, Sunday School Evangelist, for the North-eastern Quarterly, spoke on the topic "Think about the condition of our World Today".

Sister Cardwell read and discussed scripture from Hebrews, chapter 5, verses 12, 13, and 14.

Sister Cardwell taught a Flannel Graph lesson on Obedience to God and Man's Law.

Sister Doris Dunn taught a lesson on "Follow the Leader", using chalk board and drawings to illustrate her lesson.

Sister Dunn teaches the Beginner Class.

Sister Frances Cregger taught a lesson on "My God shall supply my needs". She used Elijah as an example. She used Flannel Graph to illustrate her lesson. Sister Cregger teaches the Adult Ladies Class.

Sister Ethel Tester taught a lesson. She used a Photo Viewer as her teaching aid. The viewer and records may be bought from our

Sunday School Department. Viewer about \$79.00, records about \$3.00 each.

Sister Cardwell reported there will be a Sunday School Retreat in March. Place: Hemlock Haven, Marion, Va. This will be on Friday night and all day Saturday. There will be a team of Teachers from the Bible College to conduct the teaching.

More information on this event will follow later.

Number present at meeting: 29.

Closed in prayer by Rev. David Neitch.

MINISTERS AND DEACONS CONFERENCE

The Ministers and Deacons Conference convened at the Shilo Free Will Baptist Church, Bristol, Va. on October 5, 1979.

The meeting began by singing "Blessed Assurance."

Singing led by Rev. Walter Statzer.

Welcome given by Rev. Walter Statzer.

The Association Clerk read the following scripture: St. Mark, chapter 13, verses 1 thru 13.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Howard Campbell.

The meeting was called to order by the Moderator Rev. Walter Statzer.

The Devotional Message was brought by Rev. David Neitch, using scripture from Nehemiah, chapter 4, verses 1 and 2. Text, "Face the Enemy". Prayer by Rev. Neitch.

The congregation sang, "The Promised Land", while having fellowship.

All were in fellowship.

Offering received: \$23.53.

Prayer by Rev. Bobby Collins.

Motion made and passed to enter into business.

The Moderator recognized Bro. and Sister Crawford from the Bible College, also Rev. Walter Sumerlin from Charlottesville, Va.

Ministers reports were read to the congregation by the Clerk.

All reports were accepted as read.

Letters were read and reports made on the following ministers: — Homer Goodson, Clifton Vanover, Shelton Norris, Bob Surber, Elmer Adkins, G. C. Sizemore, J. W. Chesnutt, Sistre Henley, C. C. Olinger.

A motion was made and passed by the body to receive the Letters and reports as read.

OLD BUSINESS NONE

NEW BUSINESS

Ministers present to receive their new Ministerial Cards were: — Bobby Collins, Avery Sheets, John Taylor, Jennings Wilson, Kenneth Shaffer, David Neitch, Ronnie Snider, Herbert Adams, Clyde Gamble, Walter Statzer, Johnny Hooker, Ed Pendergrass, Orville O'Quinn, Howard Campbell, Robert Harless, Cecil Rouse, Carl Gregg.

The body elected Rev. David Neitch to be Moderator for the 1980 Ministers and Deacons Conference.

The body elected Rev. Clyde Gamble to bring the Devotional Message at the 1980 Ministers and Deacons Conference.

Number of Ministers present	16
Number of Visiting Ministers present	2
Number of Deacons present	7
Number of Visitors present	7

Rev. Crowford, from The Free Will Baptist College at Nashville, Tenn., spoke to the Congregation about the college. He reported that all the teachers are humble. It is the purpose of the college to train God called Ministers, Teachers, and Missionaries. All students must major in Bible. Send your gifts to the College and pray for them.

Rev. Walter Sumerlin from Charlottesville, Va. has now started to have services there. They have a building to use. They have 100 chairs and 28 pews and a speakers stand., also one bus. People are getting saved. Pray for them.

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

The meeting closed in prayer by Bro. James White.

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 solemn 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.

