

The 2nd. Annual Session
of
The Liberty Association
of

Free Will Baptist
When convened with the
Free Will Baptist Temple

MAY 1 - 3, 1952

Detroit,

Michigan



OFFICERS

REV. MALCOM RODGERS	Moderator
REV. N. P. GATES	Asst. Moderator
MISS ELSIE HAWKINS	Clerk
MRS. EVA CHATTERTON	Asst. Clerk



Next Session to convene with the Free Will Baptist
Temple, April 30 - May 2, 1953.
Rev. Henry A. Howard to preach
Introductory Message.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

by
Rev. N. P. Gates

INTRODUCTORY SERVICE

On Thursday evening 7:30 p. m. May 1st 1952, a goodly number of Ministers, Deacons and Messengers composing the Liberty Association of Free Will Baptist, came together by singing, led by Rev. N. P. Gates, accompanied at the piano by Miss Fay Stanley; Prayer by Rev. Henry A. Howard. Followed by Scripture lesson by Mod. Rev. Malcom Rodgers reading from I Thess. 5:1-12.

First item of business was the calling for letters from the various churches, To-wit: Ten Mile F. W. B. Church, Free Will Baptist Mission, Free Will Baptist Temple and Free Will Baptist Tabernacle. Letters were read and delegates seated in conference. (See list of delegates). Prayer of consecration led by Rev. N. P. Gates. Followed by the Moderator Rev. Rodgers delivering the introductory message, using for Scripture lesson from II Tim. 2:8-14; Text, "... therefore endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." II Tim. 2:3. A good service was enjoyed by all present. Services were adjourned until 9:00 o'clock Friday morning. Dismissed by Rev. E. J. Marine.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Pursuant to adjournment, the assembly came together at 9:00 o'clock by singing, led by Rev. John Gallagher; Prayer by Rev. Jake Adkins, followed by the Moderator reading for Scripture lesson Col. 3. At this interval the clerk called the roll of delegates.

Next item of business was the election of officers for the ensuing year, resulting in the retaining, by acclamation present moderator; the election of Rev. N. P. Gates, asst. moderator; Sis. Elsie Hawkins was retained as clerk; and the election of Sis. Eva Chatterton, asst. clerk.

Next item of business was the reading the minutes of the previous session.

The moderator read Rules of Decorum.

Next item of business was the appointment of the several committees. (See Committees).

The present setting of the body being properly organized, a call was given for corresponding letters. None were received.

Call for petitionery letters. None were received.

Next item was, the call for unfinished business, to which Rev. E. J. Marine gave a variable report concerning the

proposed "Youth Camp." Saying, that for the limited time, it would not be possible to have a camp this year. Such being the case, a motion was sustained to table the matter and the committee be retained for further activities.

YOUTH CAMP COMMITTEE

Rev. N. P. Gates, Rev. E. J. Marine and Rev. Malcom Rodgers.

Next item, was the call for new business. At this interval the Committee on Divine Services reported with the appointment of Messengers, as follows:

Rev. John Q. Gallagher was selected for the immediate 11:00 o'clock message.

Rev. N. P. Gates for the Ordinance message at 7:30 p. m.

Rev. Jake Adkins was selected for Memorial message 11:00 o'clock Saturday morning.

At this interval, a motion was entertained to adjourn business until 1:30 p. m. giving way for the message hour.

11:00 O'CLOCK SERVICES

Service was opened by singing, led by Rev. N. P. Gates, at which time a few moments were engaged in testimonial service led by the Moderator.

After which, pursuant to appointment, Rev. Gallagher took the services as message bearer, reading for Scripture lesson Eph. 2nd Chapter. Benediction was given by Bro. Rabe Pearce.

NOON HOUR

After a good time of services, all present gathered together in the dining hall where the good ladies of the host church had the table prepared with, 'all that go with it,' for a good time of refreshments, pausing for an expression of thanks for the occasion and the many blessings of the day to the heart's content of all present.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

At about 1:30 p. m. the assembly was called together by singing, led by Rev. E. J. Marine, accompanied at the piano by Sis. Floy Crozier. After which, the Moderator read for Scripture lesson from Phill. 1:2-11. Prayer by Rev. Jake Adkins.

First item of business, was a suggestion by Rev. Marine, that, the Committee on Divine Services be selected at the first setting (Thursday eve) of each session; Which, for lack of support, was tabled indefinitely.

Next item of business followed with the discussion of a committee, formerly, and temporarily appointed as an effort for expansion, relative to prospective churches, and especially in the interest of disbanded churches, or those infringed upon by outside groups, resulting in the matter of the River Rouge Church be dropped and the former committee be discontinued.

On this occasion, it was deemed necessary that a "Home Mission Board" be set up for the advancement of the cause locally. Resulting in the election of members of the Board: the tenure of office in the cycle of 1 to 5 years respectively, as follows:

Rev. Jake Adkins (1 yr.), Bro. Hurshal Stanley (2 yrs.), Bro. Halley Hatfield (3 yrs.)

Sis. Smith (4 yrs.) and Sis. Shumacher (5 yrs.)

Next item was the election of a member for the expiring term of the Presbytery Board. Resulting in the Rev. Claud Wright, to fill the vacancy of Rev. Rodgers expired. (See Presbytery Board).

Next item, was the matter of electing a member to supply the vacancy of the retiring member's place on the Executive Board. Resulted in the selection of Rev. Jake Adkins to serve for the period of five years.

FRIDAY EVENING SERVICES

Came together at the usual hour, by singing, led by Bro. Ralph Clouse, accompanied at the piano by Sis. Jessie Haley. Prayer by Bro. Morgan.

The Quartet from the F. W. B. Mission sang "Look for the Silver Lining" and "The Old Camp Meeting Days."

The Ten Mile F. W. B. Church Quartet: "The Glad Reunion Day," "I'm Just a Stranger Here" and "The Old Time Preacher Man."

The Gates Quartet, (F. W. B. Temple) with Bro. Otis Butcher pinch-hitting for the absent member sang, "I'd Rather Be An Old Time Christian" and "He Bore It All." A special feature was the singing by Sis Jessie Haley, "The Rock in a Weary Land."

At the conclusion of the song "Jesus Saves" by the congregation, Rev. N. P. Gates took the pulpit for the message on the Ordinance of the Gospel, using the following Scriptures: Matt. 26:1-4, 17-31; I Cor. 11:17-29; Jn. 13:2-16, Text,

"This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him." Matt. 17:5b.

A remarkable service, and the witnessing power of the Holy Spirit attended this service in the breaking of Bread, taking a Cup and the washing of each other's feet, wherein about 65 or 70 participated. They sang a hymn (Amazing Grace), and went out.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

At about the usual hour of 9:00 o'clock, the assembly was called together by singing, led by Rev. N. P. Gates, followed by the Moderator reading from the Phillipian letter, and prayer by Rev. Frank Pritchard.

After the roll call we proceeded for regular business; At which time a call was given for committee reports. (See reports).

At this interval, the Presbytery Board recommended the extension of license for Bro. Burris be extended for another year, or until such time merits might approve ordination.

Business was recessed for the F. W. B. League Program, presided over by Bro. Graydon Gates, President of the League of the host church.

First on program was the Ten Mile Church, under the direction of Bro. Morgan, presenting the following: Reading a Scripture lesson, followed with prayer by Bro. Rodgers. At which time Sis. Marjorie Shumacher, as Group Captain presented the cast and program entitled "A Christian and His God." The York children sang "I Shall Not Be Moved." The following topics were discussed; "A Christian Believes in His God," Bro. Anderson, Scripture reading St. Jn. 9:1-19 and Ps. 116:1-19; "A Christian Walks and Talks With His God," by Bro. Ray Maxwell; "A Christian Serves His God," by Nancy Pearce, followed by a poem of prayer, by Sis. Marjorie Morgan.

Next on program, Rev. Marine presented the F. W. B. Mission Junior Quartet, singing, "I'm on the Battlefield for My Lord" and "It is No Secret." The Hull Sisters sang "Away Over Jordon"; the Juniors sang "Jesus Wants Me for a Tither," "Hallelu-Hallelu-Hallelu" and "Here I Am, Send Me."

By reason of the fact, all time allotted for these services had been consumed, it was deemed wise, on the part of the host church that no further program should entertain; Therefore, the program of the League from the F.W.B. Temple was suspended, except for a brief by the Juniors, as follows:

Wanda Minnear and Carol Bradford sang, "Just a Closer Walk With Thee."

A poem was given by Earl Stanley. A group of young ladies sang, "Will Jesus Find Us Watching."

11:00 O'CLOCK SERVICE

Services were opened by singing "All Alone." Followed by a Quartet composed of Rev. and Mrs. N. P. Gates, Bro. Graydon Gates and Bro. Ray Maxwell, sang, "Will the Circle be Unbroken?" Memorial sermon was delivered by Rev. Jake Adkins, using for Scripture lesson, St. Jn. 14:1-6. His Text, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." Ps. 23:4. A splendid time of fellowship and the shaking of hands was enjoyed, and the closing item of business, that of the reading of minutes, and the preparation for publication be made by the clerk and her assistant; a total of \$118.03 having been appropriated, for which Bro. Gates agreed to print 600 minutes.

Motion was sustained to adjourn this session, And, by reason of none other request for the next session, it was agreed that the time, and place be designated: to meet with the Free Will Baptist Temple, Detroit, Mich. on Thursday night, April 30 through May 2, 1953.

Rev. Henry A. Howard to preach the introductory message.

Next item, a motion was sustained that the matter of discussion relative to certain absentees be tabled indefinitely.

Motion was sustained to adjourn the business session until 9:00 o'clock Saturday morning. Dismissed by Bro. Hurshal Stanley.

Rev. Malcom Rodgers, Moderator
Sis. Elsie Hawkins, Clerk.

DELEGATE ENROLLMENT

F. W. B. MISSION: Sis. Jessie Haley, Sis. Alice Hull, Sis. Floy Crozier, Sis. Eva Chatterton and Sis. Odessa Michelcamp.

TEN MILE CHURCH: Sis. Lona Gene Tucker, Sis. Margie Morgan, Sis. Claudia Miller, Sis. Irene Maxwell and Sis. Beulah Butcher.

F. W. B. TABERNACLE: Sis. Geneva Perry, Sis. Eva Clum and Sis. Sabra Arant.

F. W. B. TEMPLE: Sis. Ima Lee Bradford, Sis. Lillie Kelley, Sis. Fay Stanley, Sis. Gladys Minnear and Sis. Ida Furgerson.

MINISTERS ENROLLMENT

<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>
Rev. E. J. Marine.....	992 E. Coy, Hazel Park, Mich.
Rev. Malcom Rodgers	1462 E. Meyers St., Hazel Park, Mich.
Rev. Claude Wright	375 W. Evelyn St., Hazel Park, Mich.
Rev. Henry A. Howard	2175 E. Jarvis St., Hazel Park, Mich.
Rev. N. P. Gates	19405 Danbury, Detroit, Mich.
Rev. C. E. Riggs	935 E. Coy, Hazel Park, Mich.
Rev. John Q. Gallagher.....	5648 W. Jefferson Ave., Detroit, Mich.
Rev. Jake Adkins	Detroit, Mich.
Rev. Frank Pitchard.....	1748 Vermont, Detroit, Mich.

LICENTIATES

Rev. Clyde Burris..... Hazel Park, Mich.

DEACONS ENROLLMENT

<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>
F. W. B. TEMPLE: Bro. Hurshal Stanley....	3718 Townsend, Detroit, Mich.
Bro. Leslie Gallagher.....	18826 Keystone, Detroit, Mich.
Bro. Y. V. Hayley.....	Crossville, Tenn.
F. W. B. TABERNACLE: Bro. Halley H. Hatfield.....	Detroit, Mich.
F. W. B. MISSION: Bro. John B. Crozier....	30480 Brush, Royal Oak, Mich.
Bro. Henry Finney.....	1897 Saratoga, Ferndale, Mich.
TEN MILE CHURCH: Bro. W. E. Gates....	1478 E. Meyers, Hazel Park, Mich.
Bro. Chas. E. Miller.....	1045 E. Pearl, Hazel Park, Mich.
Bro. Rabe Pearce.....	1983 Ardmore, Ferndale, Mich.
Bro. J. O. Butcher.....	1244 E. Jarvis, Hazel Park, Mich.
Bro. Enoch Ellis.....	963 E. Elza, Hazel Park, Mich.
Bro. Edward L. York.....	337 W. Lincoln, Royal Oak (Twp.), Mich.

CLERKS ENROLLMENT

<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>
F. W. B. TEMPLE: Sis. Grace Gallagher....	18826 Keystone, Detroit, Mich.
F. W. B. MISSION: Sis. Ida Marine.....	992 E. Coy, Hazel Park, Mich.
F. W. B. TABERNACLE: Sis Lelia Gallagher	
.....	5648 W. Jefferson Ave., Detroit, Mich.
TEN MILE CHURCH: Sis Marjorie Shumacher.....	Hazel Park; Mich.

PRESBYTERY BOARD

Rev. John Q. Gallagher	One year
Rev. Henry A. Howard	Two years
Rev. N. P. Gates	Three years
Rev. E. J. Marine	Four years
Rev. Claud Wright	Five Years

HOME MISSION BOARD

Rev. Jake Adkins	One year
Bro. Hurshal Stanley	Two years
Bro. Halley Hatfield	Three years
Sis. Mable Smith	Four years
Sis. Marjorie Shumacher	Five years

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Bro. Edward York	One year
Rev. N. P. Gates	Two years
Bro. L. T. Minnear	Three years
Rev. Claud Wright	Four years
Rev. Jake Adkins	Five years

COMMITTEE ON DEVINE SERVICES

Sis. Marjorie Morgan, Sis. Eva Chatterton and Sis. Gladys Minnear.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Sis. Geneva Perry, Sis. Fay Stanley and Sis. Jessie Haley.

COMMITTEE ON OBITUARY

Sis. Ida Furgerson, Sis. Claudia Miller and Sis. Sabra Arant.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

DIVINE SERVICES: We, your committee on Divine services, desire to make the report of the appointment of Messengers, as follows: 11:00 o'clock Friday morning, to be supplied by Rev. Gallagher.

7:30 o'clock Friday evening, to be supplied by Rev. N. P. Gates.

11:00 o'clock Saturday morning, to be supplied by Rev. Jake Adkins.

COMMITTEE: Marjorie Morgan
Eva Chatterton
Gladys Minnear.

FINANCE: We, your committee on finance, desire to make the report of our findings as follows: Seeing that the accumulated amount on hand at the time of this setting, \$68.83, having been appropriated, in near equal proportions by the Free Will Baptist Temple and the Ten Mile Church, since they were the only churches contributing quarterly. Adding to the above amount as follows:

Balance on hand	\$68.83
Free Will Baptist Temple	5.50
Ten Mile Free Will Baptist	8.70
Free Will Baptist Mission (annual contribution)	20.00
F. W. B. Tabernacle (total, since admission)	15.00
Grant total for the association year	\$118.03

COMMITTEE: Geneva Perry
Fay Stanley
Jessie Haley.

COMMITTEE ON OBITUARY

We, your committee on Obituary, find, that our heavenly Father has seen fit, in His infinite love and mercy, to spare the little flock; that there has been no deaths in the immediate realms of our number since the inception of this association.

COMMITTEE: Ida Furgerson
Claudia Miller
Sabra Arant.

RESOLUTIONS

No. 1

Be it resolved, that, each Minister of this association be required to attend at least Three sessions of this association (Embracing Quarterly Conferences) in the associational year.

No. 2

Be it resolved, that this association give praise and thankfulness unto our heavenly Father, that He has seen fit in His kind providence to spare the flock, in that there has been no deaths reported among us through the year.

No. 3

Be it resolved, that, this association give a standing vote of thanks to the host church for their kind hospitality, and the way and manner of entertaining this setting of the association.

CHURCH REPORTS

FREE WILL BAPTIST TEMPLE: State of religion, Good; Sunday School, Good; F. W. B. L., Good; Mid-Week Service (Bible Study), Good; League attendance, about 40; Regular service, average attendance 100.

Received into fellowship for the year, 24; Dismissed by letter, 5; Excluded, 8; Many displaced members (no counted); Died, none; Total active members, 53.

• Paid Pastor, (above all other expenses)	\$2,932.94
Paid Pianist	445.00
Evangelist (Rev. Billy Rogers)	183.00
Evangelist (Pastor)	50.00
Evangelist (Rev. Don Lee)	180.00
Sent to Kentucky Orphanage	27.50
Sent to Tennessee Orphanage	18.53

Rev. N. P. Gates, Pastor
Sis. Grace Gallagher, Clerk.

TEN MILE FREE WILL BAPTIST: State of religion, Spiritual; Condition of Prayer Meeting, Good; Condition of Sunday School, Good; Average number of pupils, 169; Number of officers, 15; Teachers, 8; Received into fellowship for the year, 53; Baptized, 14; Dismissed, 1; Total membership, 99; Paid Pastor, Weekly Salary, \$100.00.

Rev. Malcom Rodgers, Pastor
Sis. Marjorie Shumacher, Clerk.

FREE WILL BAPTIST MISSION: State of religion, Good; Condition of Prayer Meeting, Good; Condition of Sunday School, Good; Average number of pupils, 98; Number of officers, 4; Number of teachers, 5; Received into fellowship for the year, 31; Baptized, 26; Dismissed, 2; Died, none; Total membership, 80.

Paid Pastor a week salary of \$75.00

Total for the year \$2,025.00

Home Missions 58.49

Foreign Missions 170.00

Distributed to the needy, 16 Baskets of Groceries; Sent Christmas presents to Orphans' Home, 51.

Sunday School Bus, paid for; Bought and paid for 36 Samsons folding chairs; Bought and paid for two lots, buying three others joining them on Goulson and West End, upon which to build our new church.

REMARKS: Two members in Service at Arms; Four

moved away; 38 Saved and reclaimed.

Rev. E. J. Marine, Pastor
Sis. Ida Marine, Clerk.

FREE WILL BAPTIST TABERNACLE: New Church, recently organized, 8 members; Attendance Sunday School past two Sundays, 35; Routine services, Sunday School Morning Worship, Evening Evangelistic Services, Wednesday evening Prayer Service, Saturday evening Bible Study.

Rev. John Q. Gallagher, Pastor
Sis. Lelia Gallagher, Clerk.



ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to order by moderator.
2. Call for letters from churches.
3. Election of moderator and clerk.
4. Read Rules of Decorum.
5. Appointment of Committees: Divine Service, Finance, Obituary, Arrangement of Business.
6. Call for corresponding letters.
7. Call for petitionary letters.
8. Unfinished business.
9. New business.

STATISTICAL TABLE

<i>Church</i>	<i>Pastor</i>	<i>Clerk</i>	<i>Enrollment</i>
F. W. B. Temple	Rev. N. P. Gates	Sis. Grace Gallagher	53
Ten Mile F. W. B.	Rev. Malcom Rodgers	Sis. Marj. Shumacher	99
F. W. B. Mission	Rev. E. J. Marine	Sis. Ida Marine	80
F. W. B. Tabernacle	Rev. John Q. Gallagher	Sis. Lelia Gallagher	8
Maple Grove Church	Rev. Henry A. Howard	(Not reporting)	—
Total.....			240

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **GOD.** We believe in one true and living, Triune God; composed of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, equal in divine Essence, Purpose, Power and Glory.—St. John 1:1, 1 Cor. 8:6; St. John 10:30.

2. **Christ.** We believe that Jesus Christ is the divine Son of God. Was with the Father and the Holy Spirit at the time of the Creation, left the Courts of Heaven and came to this earth. Took upon Himself the form of humanity, sin excepted, by being born of the Virgin Mary, manifested His power, was crucified, placed in Joseph's tomb, rose from the dead the third day, completed the great plan of salvation, walked and talked with His disciples, publicly ascended up to Heaven, and that He will descend again to gather His jewels home.—Isaiah 9:6; St. John 1:14; Luke 1:26-28; Matt. 14:13-21; Mark 16:9-19; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:9-12; Mark 15:22-47.

3. **HOLY SPIRIT.** We believe that the Holy Spirit has visited true believers in all ages, and especially since the ascension of the SON back to the Father, and His coming on the day of Pentecost. Has taken up His office work among all nations of people, as a Divine Reprover, Comforter and Guide.—Judges 6:34; 11:29; St. John 16:8-14; Isaiah 63:10-12; Ephesians 4:30; Acts 8:17-20; Ezek. 36:27; Joel 2:28.

4. **THE BIBLE.** We believe the Bible, which is composed of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, was given by Inspiration of God, is our way-bill from earth to heaven, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice.—2 Peter 1:19-21; 2 Tim. 3:14-17; Daniel 10:21; Acts 1:16-17; Matt. 21:42.

5. **THE FALL OF MAN.** We believe that GOD created man good, gave him a just law by which he should be governed; with promise of reward for faithfulness and with penalties of punishment for disobedience. Gave man power of free moral agency to choose the right and reject the wrong. But our first parents heeded the voice of the great enemy of souls, voluntarily transgressed the law of GOD, fell, with their posterity, under the just penalty of the same, and were unable of their own power to extricate or save themselves from the great dilemma into which they had fallen. God gave them the hope of salvation through the coming of CHRIST.—Gen. 1:27; 2:16-17; Psalms 51:5; Gen. 6:5; Rom. 5:12-19; John 3:6; Eph. 2:3.

6. **REDEMPTION, SALVATION, ADOPTION.** We believe that Jesus Christ by His birth, death, burial, resurrection and ascension paid the purchase price for the redemption of the whole human race, arranged a pardon for all who come upon Gospel terms; and a law of adoption into the Kingdom of Heaven, and an eternal inheritance into the glorified Kingdom above.—Heb. 9:12; Gal. 3:13; 4:4-5; Titus 2:14; St. John 3:16; Isaiah 15:22.

7. **CONDITIONS OF SALVATION.** We believe that all persons, dying in infancy and all idiots are saved by the atoning merits of the Son of God without any act on their part that persons coming to the years of accountability, transgressing the law of God, must upon their part, exercise faith in Jesus Christ through repentance toward God, at

the completion of which pardon takes place in the mind of the Father and by the Holy Spirit they pass through the ordeal of regeneration, are washed in the blood of the Lamb and are planted in the Kingdom of Christ—John 3rd chapter; Matt. 19:13-22; 1 Cor. 7:10; Luke 18:16-17; St. John 4:11-16; Psalms 98:3.

8. **SALVATION FREE.** We believe that God desires the salvation of all Christ died for all; and whosoever will may come and be saved upon the terms of the Gospel.—1 Peter 1:9-25; 2:9-25; Revelation 22:17.

9. **BAPTISM.** We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of believers in water, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, in which are represented the burial and resurrection of Christ; also represents our death to sin, and only those who have come under the presbytery of the elders are qualified to administer the same.—Matt. 3:14-16; 3:5-6; 1 Peter 3:21; St. John 3:23; Acts 10:47; Matt. 28:19.

10. **COMMUNION AND FEET WASHING.** We believe that the Lord's Supper and the washing of the saints' feet are ordinances of the Gospel of Christ; the Lord's Supper was instituted by our Saviour to commemorate His broken body and shed blood for the sins of the world, and to show our remembrance of Him till He comes. All Christians have a right to the Lord's Supper and should be invited; "Let a man examine himself and so let him eat."

The washing of the feet was instituted by our Lord at the same time that the Supper was instituted as an act of humility to show our love for each other, and both ordinances should be perpetuated by all Christians until His second coming.—Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:20-29; St. John 13:1-17; Matt. 26:26-29.

11. **THE SABBATH.** We believe that the Christian Sabbath should be observed as a day of rest and for the worship of God; that we should abstain from all sinful amusements and secular employments, works of mercy and piety excepted.—Exodus 20:11; 31:12-18; Deut. 5:12-15; Ezek. 20:12; Matt. 28:1; Luke 23:56; Acts 13:42-48; Mark 2:27.

12. **CALL TO THE MINISTRY.** We believe in a divine call of the ministry; that God in His goodness and power of grace, impress His ministers with the burden of lost souls, to the extent that the call becomes irresistible with personal contentment; that when they yield to the call and exercise the native gifts according to the Scriptures, with a full reliance upon Him, He accompanies them in person of the Holy Spirit to guide them in the way of truth and to bless their labors according to His purpose.—Jonah 1:1; Jer. 1:5; Mark 3:14; Acts 1:22-26; Matt. 28:19.

13. **THE INVISIBLE CHURCH.** We believe that the Invisible or Spiritual Church is the redeemed in the aggregate, is the family of God, is composed of all true Christians of every congregation from righteous Abel to the restitution of all things, from every kindred, nation, tongue and people.—Eph. 3:16-21; Heb. 12:22-23; 1 Pet. 2:5; Eph. 2:20-22; Acts 2:47; Matt. 16:18.

14. **THE VISIBLE CHURCH.** We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women, having obtained fellowship with the Lord and with each other, agreeing to keep up a good discipline and doctrine according to the rules of the Gospel.—2 Thess. 1:1; Acts 16:5; 3 John 1:10; Matt. 18:17; Acts 20:28; Revelation 1:4-20.

15. **PERSEVERANCE.** We believe that all true believers in Christ should persevere in divine grace and in the knowledge of the truth, and that God's grace is sufficient to help them to overcome all the obstacles of life, and that all the combined forces of the great enemy of souls on earth and in hell (or in his eternal abode) are not able to pluck them from His hand so long as they walk in the path of duty; but those who sidestep and wilfully refuse or neglect to perform their duty, they would backside if persistently continued, would be eternally lost.—2 Pet. 1:12; 2 Cor. 9:10; 2 Peter 1:4-8; 2 Peter 2:2; Rom. 8:35-39; Apostasy; 2 Peter 1:8-9; 1 Cor. 10:1-13; Heb. 12:15-17; 1 John 5:16; Heb. 6:1-6; 1 Tim. 4:1-2; Heb. 3:12; St. John 15:1-7; Matt. 12:31-32.

16. **CHRIST THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH.** We believe that Christ is the Head of the Church, and that the government of the local church is with the body.—Col. 1:18-19; Matt. 16:18; Heb. 12:23; Matt. 21:42; Eph. 1:22; Acts 16:4-5.

17. **SANCTIFICATION.** Sanctification is a work of God's grace, by which the soul is cleansed from all sin and wholly consecrated to Christ. It takes place in regeneration, and the Christian can and should abide in this state to the end of life, constantly growing in the grace and the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.—1 Cor. 6:11; 2 Thess. 2:13; Heb. 12:14; Phil. 3:21; 2 Thess. 5:19-23; St. John 17:17-19; 2 Tim. 2:20-21.

18. **THE RESURRECTION.** We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of the righteous and the wicked. When the resurrection shall take place, the soul and body shall be united, the righteous shall be received into everlasting happiness to reign with God for ever; but the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment.—Matt. 28:6; John 5:28-29; 1 Cor. 15:51-58.

19. **THE SOUL.** The soul is endless, hence does not die with the body, but immediately after death enters into a conscious state of happiness or misery, according to the spiritual character here possessed.—Phil. 1:23; Luke 23:43; Rev. 6:9; Luke 16: 19-25; Matt. 10:28.

20. **JUDGMENT.** We believe that there will be a general universal judgment, when all men shall be judged according to their works, whether they be good or bad, and that immediately thereafter the wicked shall enter into everlasting punishment, and the righteous into eternal happiness.—2 Thess. 1:4-9; Rev. 14:9-13; Luke 16:23; Rev. 21:8; 2 Cor. 5:10; Matt. 12:36-37; Rev. 20:12-13; Acts 17:31.

CONSTITUTION of THE LIBERTY ASSOCIATION of FREE WILL BAPTIST

1. This Association, when properly convened, shall consist of a Moderator, and Ass't Moderator; Clerk, and Ass't Clerk, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present. The duty of the Moderator shall be to keep the Association in order, state questions fairly and take the vote thereon; to have no vote unless the Association be equally divided, in which case he shall have the deciding vote.

The duty of the Clerk shall be to keep a fair record of the proceedings of the Association. The Assistants to the Moderator and Clerk shall be to assist, or occupy their respective seats when vacant, or otherwise necessary.

2. This Association shall be composed of ordained Ministers, Deacons and Licentiates, together with messengers duly chosen by the church of their membership in our union, whom the members judge best qualified to represent them. Said messengers bearing letters certifying to their appointment.

Said Ministers and Licentiates shall be men of good report, within, and without, of honest integrity and full of the Holy Ghost, meeting the qualifications to that of I Tim. 3. Coming under the hands, or approval of the Ordaining Council. Pastors shall be chosen by the suffrage of the church, or churches they serve; whose tenure of service shall be faithfully maintained until terminated, and that effected only by a 60 days notice of said intention, and the selection of an active Minister within the bounds of this Association to succeed him. It is agreed, however, one may be selected from other sources, being approved by the Ordaining Council of this Ass'n.

3. In the letters from the churches shall be expressed their respective number in fellowship, and the number received, dismissed, excluded or died since the last setting of the Association, day of church meeting, Pastor and Clerk.

4. No query shall be received by this Association from any church until it has been acted upon by said church and referred to the Association. In which case the Association shall take up the matter, acting as an advisory counsel to promote peace and harmony according to true discipline of Divine grace.

5. Every church in this Association shall be entitled to a representation of Messengers not exceeding five; together with said clerk and ordained authority.

6. This Association shall maintain a Presbytery Board selected from the ordained authority, preferably Ministers: five in number; also an Executive Board consisting of five, selected from the body, whose tenure of office shall be ranging from one to five years. The Association shall select, annually, to supply the vacancies as they occur.

7. Every motion, when in order and properly sustained, shall be acted upon unless withdrawn by the mover: that is to say, to present matters for discussion, trying the merits of the same, and, if found worth and orthodox, to adopt it.

8. This Association shall not exercise power so as to lord it over God's heritage so as to infringe on the internal rights of any. Maintaining the rights and privileges, and relationship to each church to that of individual members: that is to say, if a church trespasses against a sister church, the church injured shall try to reclaim them by Gospel steps; whereupon, if a reconciliation cannot be effected, the said church in default shall be dropped from our counsel.

9. We agree to do all regular business by a majority of members present.

10. Any church may be admitted into this Association by a petitionary letter and messengers, if however, said church is found to be orthodox and orderly. Such admission shall be manifested by the Moderator extending the right hand of fellowship to said messengers.

11. This Association shall sit as an advisory council, to advise, if prudent, in all matters of difficulty; to ascertain the cause of non-representation, to select from this body such committees deemed necessary to the functioning of the body; to invite and entertain counsel with all brother ministers commensurate with safety; to exclude, or disannul any member not conforming to the Rules of Decorum, and shall report his, or their conduct to the church of which they hold membership.

12. This Association shall not, at any time, engage in what may seem to be of a commercial nature. However, it shall be the duty of each church to provide means to defray current expenses of the Association.

13. This Association possesses appellate jurisdiction in all matters concerning the Ministers of the council, as touching their qualification, of his manly character and general conduct; strict adherence to the principles and doctrine of faith and practice, not deviating from that set forth in the Articles of Faith of Free Will Baptist. Particularly that of the plan of redemption, of the Christian fellowship in the unity of Spirit and the bonds of peace; or failing to keep the Ordinances, and the perseverance in faith, ready to be revealed in glory at the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ; when both saints, and the wicked dead shall be resurrected, the saints to everlasting life, and the wicked to eternal damnation.

14. The Lord's Supper and feetwashing shall be administered at each annual setting of this Association.

15. This Association shall advise, or recommend the support of denominational enterprises according to the ability, or means otherwise provided, and under the jurisdiction of the local church.

16. This Association shall possess the rights to repel, or exclude anyone coming unto us preaching, or advocating any other doctrine than that set forth in the original Articles of Faith of Free Will Baptist.

17. This constitution shall not be changed, or amended, only by a three-fourths majority of Ministers, as also the Deacons, and likewise the duly elected representatives at the regular annual setting of the Association.

RULES OF DECORUM

1. The Association, when convened, shall be opened and closed by singing and prayer.

2. Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall arise to his feet and address the moderator.

3. Each person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in speech, except by the moderator, until he gets through; nor shall the moderator interrupt him unless he breaks order.

4. The person speaking shall adhere to the question and shall in no wise cast reflections on any person who may have spoken before him.

5. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave of the Association.

6. No person shall laugh or whisper in time of public speech.

7. Members shall address each other by the appellation of brother or brethren, or sisters.

8. No members of this Association shall absent himself when the association is sitting in conference without leave of the moderator.

9. The names of the members of this association shall be enrolled and called over as often as the association thinks is necessary.

10. No member shall speak longer than fifteen minutes at any one time without leave of the moderator.

FREE WILL BAPTIST 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 the 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 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, promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle 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.

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 Savior Jesus Christ." We will not forget 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.

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