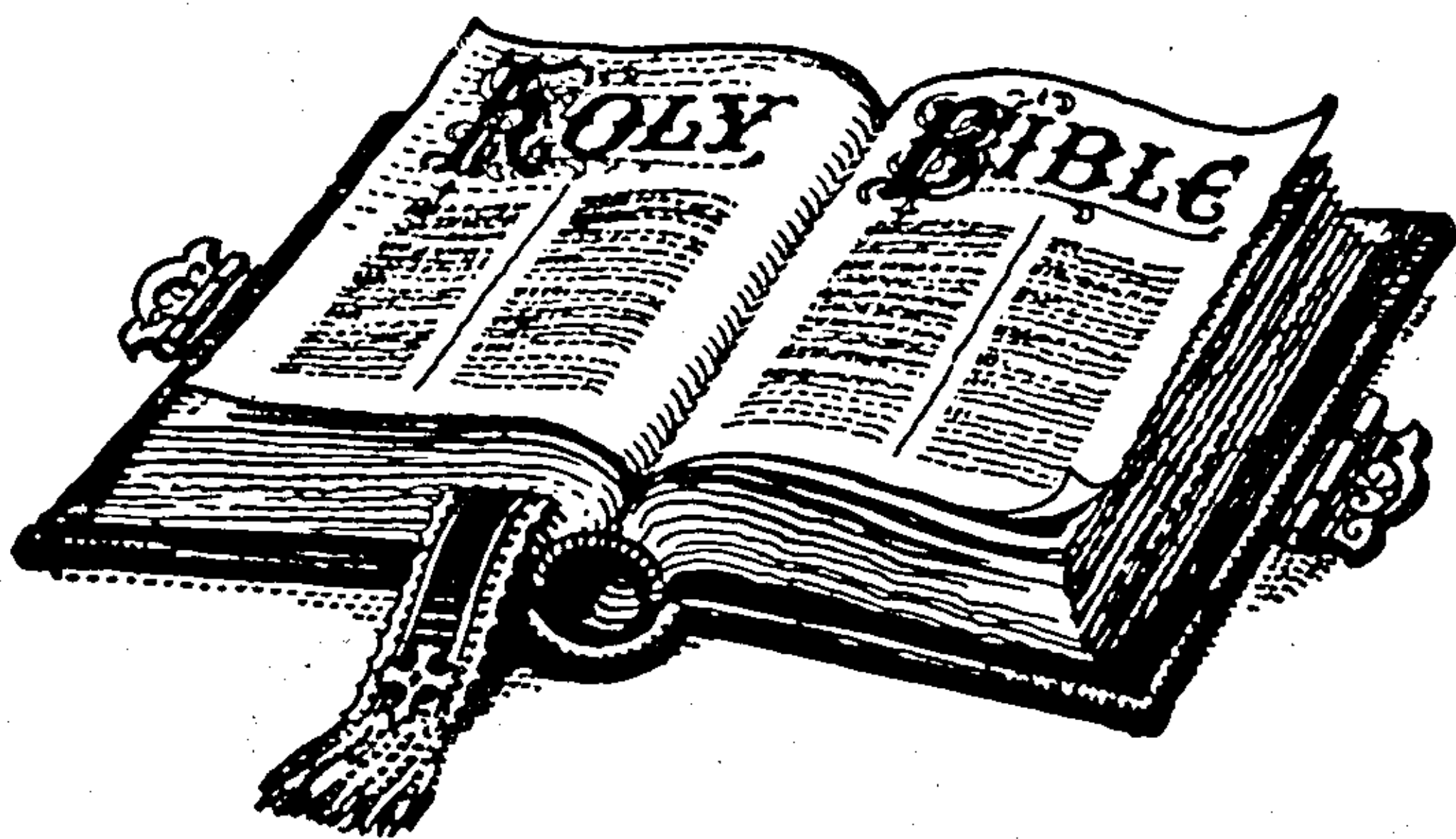


THE LIBERTY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

1990-91

Minutes of the Year
and Annual Session



When convened with

Troy Free Will Baptist Church
2300 John R
Troy, MI 48033

Troy Free Will Baptist Church

2300 John R

Troy, MI 48033

Minutes of the Forty First Annual Session of the Liberty Association of Free Will Baptist

Moderator Rev. Charles Cooper
313/435-5932

Assistant Moderator Rev. Jim Robinson
313/241-3162

Clerk Bro. Louis Tolbert
313/461-6435

Treasurer and Assistant Clerk Bro. Clinton V. Garrett
313/482-4605

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order by Moderator
Call for letters from churches
Election of Officers
Rules of Decorum
Corresponding letters
Board Reports
Unfinished Business
New Business

BOARD MEMBERS PRESBYTERY BOARD

Rev. Rick Locklear 5 years
Rev. Ralph Nix 4 years
Rev. Darrell Hyder 3 years
Rev. Loyd Locklear 2 years
Rev. Ollie Lafferty 1 year

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. William Ford 5 years
Rev. Robert Roscoe 4 years
Rev. Terry Lester 3 years
Rev. Larry Murphy 2 years
Rev. George Johnson 1 year

YOUTH CAMP BOARD MEMBER

Rev. Rick Locklear

STATE HOME MISSIONS

Rev. George Johnson

**Minutes of the Liberty Association of
Free Will Baptist when convened at the
Woodhaven Free Will Baptist Church
August 3 & 4, 1990**

Rev. Loyd Locklear, host pastor, welcomed everyone to this setting of the Liberty Association. Sis. Frances Sheets led the congregation in "Victory In Jesus". Rev. Ollie Lafferty prayed the opening prayer. Rev. Leon Gibson gave the devotion reading from Luke 10:25 and gave a report on the Tecumseh Mission.

Rev. Charles Cooper, Moderator, welcomed everyone to the conference and called the setting of the Liberty Association to order. An offering was received. Rev. Cooper prayed for the offering and the congregation sang "I'm Going That Way".

Special singing with Rev. Charles Cooper, Rev. George Johnson, Rev. Loyd Locklear and Bro. Vernon Garrett. Sis. Sheets lead the congregation in "Just a Little Talk With Jesus". Sis. Teresa Ray sang "Consider the Lily" and "Amazing Grace". Sis. Ruth Dingas sang "I'll Stand for Jesus".

Rev. James Robinson read from Romans 12: 1-2 for the message. An invitation was given with the congregation singing "Glory to His Name". Rev. Hurston Webb dismissed in prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING

Sis. Frances Sheets lead the congregation in "I'm Goin That Way" and "I Feel Like Traveling On". Rev. Locklear welcomed everyone. Rev. Terry Lester prayed the opening prayer. Rev. Austin Begley read from Genesis 6: 7-8 and 7:1 for the devotion prayer.

Rev. Charles Cooper, Moderator, called the conference to order. Bro. Louis Tolbert read the letters from the churches. Delegates were seated and excused the Boards. Rev. Cooper recognized visiting minister Rev. Roger Cooper.

Rev. Cooper read the rules of decorum and Bro. Louis Tolbert read the minutes from the last setting. Minutes approved as read. Bro. Vernon Garrett gave the Treasurer's Report. Report approved as read.

Placement: North of Warren FWB October 26, & 27, 1990. Dates change due to conflict with Womens Retreat.

Introductory Message: Rev. Larry Murphy with Rev. Loyd Locklear as alternate.

BOARD REPORTS

Executive Board

Item #1: We recommend that the next setting of the Liberty Association be rescheduled so that it doesn't conflict with the Women's Retreat. Changed to October 26th and 27th

Item #2: We recommend that the Liberty Association donate \$500.00 to the Tecumseh Mission for drywall.

Item #3: We recommend that we give host church standing vote of thanks.

Motion made to accept report.

Item #1: Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.

Item #2: Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.

Item #3: Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.

PRESBYTERY BOARD:

Bro. Bill Lucas has surrendered his credentials to the Presbytery Board. Motion made to accept as information.

Home Mission: No Report

Ladies Auxiliary: Pray for Sis. Arilla Wode. Remember Christmas Stockings to be taken to the Women's Retreat in November at Battle Creek. National Retreat in North Carolina in September. Liberty District in October at the Flint Church. Remember supplies needed on the mission fields. Also remember Provision Closet. Motion to receive as information. Motion carried.

Business From Floor: Bro. Vernon Garrett made motion we send \$100.00 to Youth Camp. Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried. Motion made to give guest speakers \$50.00. Motion carried. This is to be a standing practice.

Youth Camp: Bro. Cooper gave report on camp's, Attendance is down. We need to promote camp for the youth. Motion to accept. Carried.

BREAK

Sis. Frances Sheets lead the congregation in song for the worship service. "Standing on the Promises. Rev. Ollie Lafferty prayed for the service. Sis. Sheets sang "Jesus and Me" for the special singing. Rev. Roger Cooper read from Ephesians 5: 8-17: Redeeming the time. Invitation was given as Sis. Teresa sang Amazing Grace. Announcements were made, and Bro. Vernon Garrett prayed the benediction and for the noon meal.

**Minutes of the Liberty Association of
Free Will Baptist when convened at the
North Warren Free Will Baptist Church
October 26 & 27, 1990**

FRIDAY EVENING

The service began with the congregation singing "I Am Resolved". The Host Pastor, Rev. George Johnson, welcomed everyone to this setting of the conference. Rev. Tom Ford prayed and brought devotions reading from John 19:11-16, and 2 Corinthians 5:20. The conference was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. Charles Cooper. An offering was received as the congregation sang "Send A Great Revival". Rev. Loyd Locklear prayed for the offering. The congregation sang "Can the World See Jesus In You". Special singing was by the Local Church Quartet singing "Jesus is Mine", "The Wonder of Wonders", and "Coming Soon". Rev. Larry Muphy brought the introductory message reading from 1 Corinthians and Gospel of Luke. An invitation was given and the benediction was prayed by Rev. Terry Lester.

SATURDAY MORNING

The conference opened with the congregation singing "Rescue The Perishing" led by Bro. Strouse. Rev. George Johnson prayed and brought morning devotions reading from John 14:27. The conference was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. Charles Cooper. The letters from the churches were read by the Clerk, Bro. Louis Tolbert. Bro. Tolbert called the Roll of Officers and Board Members. The delegates were seated and the Boards were excused at this time. Rev. Johnson and Rev. Webb were appointed by the Moderator to sit on the Presbytery Board for this sitting only. The Moderator read the Rules of Decorum, the Clerk read the minutes from the last setting, The Treasurer, Bro. Vernon Garrett, gave the Treasurers Report. A motion was made to send back allowances to the two (2) students at the Free Will Baptist College. Placement for the February setting will be February 1 & 2, 1991 at the Flint Free Will Baptist. The Introductory Speaker was selected by the conference to be Rev. George Johnson with Rev. Hurston Webb as the alternate.

Executive Report:

We the Executive Board Recommend:

Item #1 That we give \$500.00 to the Tecumseh Mission.

Item #2 We recommend that we give \$200.00 towards youth camp property.

Item #3 We recommend that we give extra \$50.00 to today's speaker.

Item #4 We recommend that we give host church standing vote of thanks.

Motion to receive report

- Item #1** Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.
Item #2 Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.
Item #3 Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.
Item #4 Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.

Presbytery Report:

We the Presbytery Board recommend:

- Item #1** That we radify Brother Clifford Byrd's credentials after examining him.
Item #2 We recomend that we license Brother Robert Moran to preach the Gospel.
Item #3 We recommend that Brother Larry Murphy replace Rev. Larry Iddins on Executive Board for three year term.
Motion to receive report.

- Item #1** Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.
Item #2 Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.
Item #3 Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.

Rev. George Johnson, the State Home Mission Director, gave the Home Mission Report. Brother Gordon Roroff gave report on activities of Teen Scene. An offering was received, Rev. Charles Cooper prayed for the offering. After a short break, the Morning worship service began with the congregation singing "There is Power in the Blood" and "Amazing Grace". Rev. Ollie Lafferty prayed for the service. Special singing by Brother & Sister Riggs, They sang "Look What's Waiting for Me". Rev. Riggs brought morning message reading from Acts 27:21-25, and led the congregation in singing "I surrender All" for Invitation. Brother Robinson prayed benediction and blessing on Noon meal.

Minutes of Liberty Association of Free Will Baptist when covenend at the First FWB of Flint Feburary 1-2, 1991

The service began with Song Leader leading congregation in "I'm Going That Way". Everyone gatherd at the altar for prayer with Rev. Charles Cooper, praying opening prayer. Rev. Larry Murphy welcomed everyone and read Hebrews 13:7-8 entitled "Rule" for the devotion. Rev. Charles Cooper called the conference to order and mentioned new property purchased for Youth Camp. An offering was received with Rev. Cooper praying for offering. Rev. Cooper dismissed the Boards. The Song Leader led the congregation in "Living By Faith". Sister Alice from host church sang "When They Ring Those Golden Bells". Sister Dorothy & Sister Evelyn sang "When I Cross That River". Rev. George Johnson read from Ezekial 37:1-11 and brought the message entitled "Renewal In Our Dry Valley". The congregation sang "Have Thine Own Way" as

the invitation was given. Announcements were made and Rev. Ollie Lafferty prayed the benediction.

SATURDAY MORNING

Bro. Glen Strouse led the congregation in "Praise Him Praise Him". Rev. Larry Murphy welcomed everyone, Rev. Robert Roscoe read Jeremiah 42:1-12 for the devotion. Rev. Charles Cooper welcomed everyone and called this setting of the Liberty Association to order. Brother Louis Tolbert read the letters from each church. Rev. Cooper seated the delegates and Brother Tolbert called roll. Brother Cooper recognized the visitors, Pastor and Deacon from the First FWB Church in Plymouth and Rev. Bob Thomas from Oklahoma. A special prayer for the military personnel in Saudia Arabia with Rev. Locklear leading the prayer.

Rev. Charles Cooper read the Rules of Decorum. Brother Louis Tolbert read the minutes from the last setting. Motion to receive as read. Motion carried. Sister Stella Harris gave the Treasurers Report. Motion made to accept report. Motion carried. Rev. Cooper dismissed the Boards.

Placement: August 2 & 3, 1991. Tabled until annual setting along with the speakers. Annual setting Troy FWB May 3-4, 1991.

BOARD REPORTS:

Executive Board: We the Executive Board recommend:

Item #1: That the conference gives \$1,000.00 towards the Michigan State Camp.

Item #2 That we give the Flint Church a standing vote of thanks.

Motion made to accept report.

Item #1 Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried

Item #2 Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried

PRESBYTERY BOARD: No Report

Home Mission: Brother Cooper gave the Report on Tecumseh Mission & Youth Camp.

Women's Auxiliary: Given by Sister Pearl McKinney.

Item #1 Ladies Liberty District Auxiliary will be at 10 mile Church March 9, 1991. Registration at 9:30 a.m.

Item #2 State Meeting at Woodhaven, April 27. Bring all items to the meeting for the provision closets for our missionaries.

Motion made to accept the report. Motion carried.

Correspondence: Tawonica Locklear & Rev. Bill Hughes

Morning Worship

Brother Strouse lead "Revive Us Agian". Brother Ollie Lafferty prayed for morning worship. Special singing was Brother Loyd,

Brother Rick, Brother Bob Thomas and Brother Cooper. "We'll Soon Be Done With Trouble & Trials", and "Hide the Rock of Ages". Brother Bob Thomas sang "I'm A Child of the King".

Morning Message:

Brother Ray Thomas, General Director National Home Mission read Ezekial 37:1-10 "Valley of Dry Bones". Brother Tryman Messer was recognized as visitor. Everyone gathered at the altar at the close of the message. Brother Cooper led the congregation in "Amazing Grace". Offering was taken, Brother Cooper prayed for the offering.

Brother Louis announced that Brother Eddie Harris, Brother Walker Harris and himself had answered God's call to preach the Gospel.

Brother Larry Murphy prayed benediction and blessing on noon meal.

Minutes of the Liberty Association of Free Will Baptist when covenanted at the Troy Free Will Baptist Church May 3-4, 1991

FRIDAY

Brother Strouse led the congregation in "Blessed Assurance". Brother Cooper welcomed everyone to this setting of the Liberty Association.

Congregation sang "Amazing Grace" and met at the altar for prayer. The ushers came forward to receive offering, Brother Cooper prayed for the offering, and dismissed the Presbytery Board.

Brother Strouse led the congregation in "He Set Free". Brother Cooper made announcement that Brother Gene Norris, State Moderator, will bring morning message. Also each church is to send an extra \$10.00 for State Association.

National Association meets in Charleston West Virginia, 3rd Sunday in July.

Special singing by Brother Creech and Sister Creech from Plymouth FWB Church, "Do You Know My Jesus" and "I'd Rather Have Jesus". Brother Robert Roscoe read from John 3:17 and Luke 9:45-56 "Help One Another". The song leader led the congregation in "Just As I Am". Brother Cooper made announcements that the conference convenes at 9 a.m. Brother Larry Murphy dismissed in prayer

SATURDAY MORNING

Brother Strouse led "Jesus Paid IT All" and Revive Us Again". Brother Terry Lester read I Samuel 17:23-29 for devotion "God's Champion".

Rev. Charles Cooper welcomed everyone and called this setting of the Liberty Association to order. Brother Louis Tolbert read the letters from each church. Rev. Cooper seated the delegates and Bro. Tolbert called roll. Rev. Cooper recognized visitors, Rev. Gene Norris and Sue Hendricks.

Rev. Charles Cooper read the Rules of Decorum, Brother Tolbert read the minutes from the last setting. Motion to receive as read. Motion carried. Brother Vernon Garrett gave the Treasurers Report. Motion made to accept the Report. Motion carried. Rev. Cooper excused the boards.

Obituary Report:

North Warren

Bro. William Goodgine
Sis. Mae Canupp

Ten Mile FWB

Bro. Charles Miller
Bro. James Johnson

Woodhaven FWB

Bro. Freeman Hamilton
Bro. Calvin White
Sis. Mary Zubor
Bro. Charlie Tacket
Bro. Joe Estill
Sis. Ann Barris
Sis. Bessie Hall
Sis. Clara Byrd
Sis. Doris Powell
Sis. Pat Barker

First FWB Monroe

Sis. Cecil Green

Troy FWB

Bro. James Howard

First FWB Adrian

Bro. Homer Elliott

The Congregation stood for a moment of silence and Brother George Johnson prayed for those that have passed on in the last year

Women's Auxiliary:

Item #1 We just celebrated our 20th anniversary of Women's Auxiliary at our State Meeting in Woodhaven with Sis. Riggs as our speaker on our theme "In God's Time" with 164 present.

Item #2 Our next meeting is on June 8, 1991 at North Warren.

Item #3 Ladies Retreat for 1991 will be October 4-5 in Toledo, Ohio.

Item #4 Sister Lucille Stewart is still receiving items for the Provision Closet. The total of the Provision Closet will be ready at the next meeting.

Item #5 Please continue to pray for our missionaries.

Motion made to accept Women's Auxiliary Report. Motion Carried.

Master's Men Report:

Banquet dinner is \$50.00 a couple at Woodhaven FWB June 1st (6-6:30). Money to go to State Youth Camp.

BOARD REPORTS

Executive Board:

Officers:

Retain: Reverend Charles Cooper Moderator

Brother Louis Tolbert Clerk
Brother Vernon Garrett Treasurer

Accepted by acclamation.

Elect Brother Jim Robinson as Assistant Moderator.

Elect Brother Rick Locklear to Presbytery Board.

Accepted by acclamation.

Executive Board:

We the executive Board recomend:

Item: #1 That we go alphabetically for conference settings.

Item: #2 That we give \$1,000.00 to Youth Camp and \$500.00 for Tecumseh Mission.

Item #3 Give a standing vote of thanks to the Troy FWB Church.

Motion made to accept report.

Item #1 Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.

Item #2 Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.

Item #3 Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.

Brother Leon Gibson gave report on Tecumseh Mission, the Mission is doing well, Received as information.

Presbytery Board:

We the Presbytery Board recommend:

Item #1 Brother William Ford to the Executive Board.

Item #2 That we accept the First FWB of Plymouth as members of the Liberty Association.

Item #3 That the credentials of Jerry Lambert be accepted.

Item #4 That we accept Brother Jack Hughes' credentials on letter from Floyd Co., KY conference.

Item #5 Brother Brian Tolliver be ordained.

Item #6 Brother Eddie Harris be licensed.

Item #7 Brother Walker Harris be licensed.

Item #8 Brother Louis Tolbert be licensed.

Motion made to accept report

Item #1 Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.

Item #2 Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.

Item #3 Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.

Item #4 Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.

Item #5 Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.

Item #6 Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.

Item #7 Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.

Item #8 Motion made to accept recommendation. Motion carried.

Brother Cooper asked Brother Hughes and deacons to come forward for right hand of fellowship. Brother Cooper gave report on Constitution changes. Brother Tolbert made motion we give conference permission to present Constitution changes at August 3-4 setting 1991. Motion carried.

Delegates for National Association July 20-25, 1991, Charleston, West Virginia; Sister Mary Johnson. Delegates to State, 7th Street, May 17-18, John Spry and Brother Ernest Wilmoth.

BREAK:

Morning Worship

"I'll Fly Away" was led by Brother Glenn Strouse, Special Singers from Plymouth FWB "I'll Climb the Highest Hill".

Reverend Gene Norris from Philadelphia FWB preached in Mark 1:1-11 for the message. Rev. Cooper turned the service over to Rev. Ollie Lafferty for the ordination of Brother Brian Tolliver. Brother Glen Strouse dismissed in prayer.

TREASURERS REPORT 1990-1991

Starting Balance	\$ 3,781.18
Total Income	11,407.00
	15,188.18
Total Expenses	11,764.32
Ending Balance	3,423.86

INCOME:

Special Offerings	356.00
Lewiston Payments	2,354.00
East Side FWB	190.00
First FWB Adrian	100.00
First FWB Flint	1,497.00
First FWB Monroe	970.00
First FWB Plymouth	250.00
First FWB Ray Twsp	60.00
Memorial FWB	100.00
North Warren FWB	1,270.00
Ten Mile FWB	200.00
Trinity	970.00
Troy FWB	930.00
Whittaker FWB	960.00
Woodhaven FWB	1,200.00
Total Income	11,407.00

EXPENSES

National Board Retirement	3,702.72
Michigan State Association	3,645.00
National Co-Op	495.00
Department Home Mission	1,512.50
Department Foreign Mission	120.02
Corporation Fee	10.00
First FWB Flint	100.00
Tecumseh FWB	500.00
Troy FWB	100.00
Randall House	54.73
Standard Printing	380.00
Postmaster-Postage	160.75
Loius Tolbert-Clerk Fee	100.00
Louis Tolbert-Gift	100.00
RogerCooper-Gift	50.00
Charles Cooper-Gift	100.00
Rev. Raymond Riggs-Gift	100.00
Tim Johnson-Bible College	190.00
Twonica Locklear- Bible College	190.00
Vernon Garrett-Gift	100.00
Gene Norris	50.00
Bank Service Charge	3.60
Total Expenses	11,764.32

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 and not proceed until recognized by 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 member 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 it necessary.
10. No member shall speak longer than fifteen minutes at any time without leave of the Moderator.

CONSTITUTION OF THE LIBERTY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

1. This Association, when properly convened, shall consist of a Moderator, and Assistant Moderator, Clerk, and Assistant Clerk, whom 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 or 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, who 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 1 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 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 Association.

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 or 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 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 eternal rights of any. Maintaining the right and privileges, and relationships to each church to that of individual members; that is to say, if a church trespass 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 disannual any member not conforming to the Rules of Decorum, and shall report his, or their conduct to the church of which they held 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 the means of defraying 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 many 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 bounds 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. 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.**
- 15. 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 Baptists.**
- 16. 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.**

LIBERTY ASSOCIATION

Rev. Charles Cooper
654 S. Bywood
Clawson, MI 48017
313-435-5932

CHURCH

East Side FWB
13781 E. 9 Mile Rd.
Warren, MI 48089
313-773-4307

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Faith FWB
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313-752-7002

First FWB of Adrian
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Adrian, MI 49221
517-263-7620

First FWB of Flint
G-5458 Fenton Rd.
Flint, MI 48507
313-239-2391

First FWB of Monroe
6248 E. Dunbar Rd.
Monroe, MI 48161
313-243-0025

First FWB of Plymouth
41233 Ann Arbor Trail
Plymouth, MI 48170
313-455-5860

Memorial FWB
1326 E. Lincoln
Royal Oak, MI 48068
313-398-9749

North Warren FWB
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Warren, MI 48092
313-264-6720

Ten Mile FWB
74 W. Ten Mile Rd.
Madison Hts., MI
313-541-5157

PASTOR

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313-791-5368

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11117 Whittaker Rd.
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Box 734
Willis, MI 48191

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Cuba Goins
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Taylor, MI 48180
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313-243-0600

Rev. Oddis Birchett
Riverbend Nursing Home
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Rev. Milford Byrd
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Rev. Charles Cooper
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Rev. Oscar Cummings
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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; I 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. — II Peter 1:19-21; II Tim. 3:14-17; Daniel 10:21; Acts 1:16-17; Matthew 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. God 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 or adoption into the Kingdom of heaven, and an eternal inheritance into the glorified kingdom above. — Heb. 8:12; 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 3; Matt. 19:13-22; I 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. — I Peter 1:9:25; Revelation 22:17.

9. **BAPTISM.** We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of the believers in water, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, in which are represented the burial and the 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; I 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 Savior 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; I 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; I 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. — II Thess. 1:1; Acts 16:5; III 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. — II Peter 1:12; II Cor. 9:10; II Peter 1:4-8; II Peter 2:2; Rom. 8:35-39; Apostasy; II Peter 1:8-9; I Cor. 10:1-13; Heb. 12:15-17; I John 5:16; Heb. 6:1-6; I 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 knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. — I Cor. 6:11; II Thess. 2:13; Heb. 12:14; Phil. 3:21; II Thess. 5:19-23; St. John 17:17-19; II 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 the body shall be united, the righteous shall be received into everlasting happiness to reign with God forever; but the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment. — Matt. 28:6; John 5:28-29; I 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. 19:28.

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. — II Thess. 1:4-9; Rev. 14:9-13; Luke 16:23; Rev. 21:8; II Cor. 5:10; Matt. 12:36-37; Rev. 20:12-13; Acts 17:31.