

MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-NINTH SESSION OF
LIBERTY ASSOCIATION No. 1

OF THE

United Freewill Baptist Church of Christ

HELD WITH

PLEASANT PLAIN CHURCH,

Perdido, Baldwin Co., Ala.

Oct. 21, 22, 23, 1920

OFFICERS

W. J. Covington, -----	Moderator
R. P. Watts, -----	Assistant Moderator
J. A. Friers, -----	Treasurer
R. T. Skipp, -----	Clerk

Associate Deacons

J. M. Dockens -----	D. C. Wilson
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THE NEXT SESSION OF THIS BODY WILL CONVENE
WITH FRIENDSHIP NO. TWO AT CREALA,
MISS., ON THURSDAY BEFORE THE 4TH
SUNDAY IN OCTOBER, 1921, AT 10 A.M.

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PROCEEDINGS

Perdido, Ala., October 21, 1920.

The body was called to order at 2 p. m. by the former Moderator, Rev. J. J. Thomley, and the former Clerk being absent, Brother R. T. Shipp was appointed Clerk pro tem.

The clerk enrolled the names of the ministers and delegates present. The body was organized by electing Bro. W. J. Covington Moderator, and Bro. R. P. Watts, Assistant Moderator, Bro. R. T. Shipp, Clerk, and Bro. J. A. Briers, Treasurer and Brothers J. M. Dockens and D. C. Wilson, Deacons.

We extended the Right Hand of Fellowship to all the ministers and delegates present and the Moderator elected took the chair and declared the body ready for business and appointed Brothers J. M. Dockens and J. E. Wiggins, Reading Clerks and called for Church Letters and several were brought in after which we adjourned until eight a. m. Friday morning.

FRIDAY MORNING

The body was called to order at 8 a. m. and after prayer, was declared ready for business. We called for letters and a petitionary letter was handed in from Oak Spring, which was received and we extended the right hand of fellowship to all delegates who came in since we adjourned. The following committees were appointed:

On Devine Services:

Robert Thomley, J. A. Briers, Fred White.

On Sabbath School and Temperance:

G. W. Murphy, Sister M. J. Grant, Sister Hattie Jackson.

On Obituaries:

T. H. Perry, W. M. Grant and Warren Renfrøe.

On Home Mission:

L. M. Thomley, S. C. Wilson, D. C. Wilson.

On Suggestions:

W. J. Covington, R. P. Watts, and J. A. Briers.

Committee on the Standing of the Churches:

S. B. Dockens, W. T. Smith, R. M. Powell.

On the Standing of the Ministry:

O. L. Grubbs, J. E. Wiggins, W. E. Fretwell.

On Finance:

R. T. Shipp, J. M. Dockens, J. A. Slay.

Recess 30 minutes giving committees time in which to make up their reports. On reassembling we called for reports and some made reports and the state of the same was noted. Recess until one p. m.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The body met pursuant to adiournment, called for letters and one was brought in and the Moderator extended the right hand of fellowship to the Delegates. We renewed the call for committees and several made their reports. It was moved and carried that we dispense with the Regular Order of Business and take up miscellaneous business.

Moved and carried that we hereafter organize no church within six mles of another.

It was moved and carried that we extend the South boundry line of No. 1 Liberty from Mobile to Gulfport and to Brooklyn north to New Augusta.

We recessed 30 minutes.

On reassembling we called for reports and the Finance Committee made a partial report and several ministers made their reports.

We elected the Executive Committee by re-electing: J. A. Briers, W. E. Fretwell, J. M. Dockens and electing Brothers O. L. Grubbs and G. L. May.

We adjourned to meet at 8 a. m. Saturday.

SATURDAY—MORNING SESSION

The Body was called to order by the Moderator and after song service prayer was led by Brother J. J. Thomley. Body was declared ready for business and we called the roll and proceeded to business.

It was moved and carried that no member shall speak more than twice on any question without the consent from the body and not more than five minutes at a time.

We had several good talks on the Mission Work. It was moved and carried that we appoint a committee to draw up a place on which to base our Mission Work, and Brothers W. J. Covington, J. M. Dockens and J. A. Briers were appointed. Recess 30 minutes.

On reassembling we called for committee reports and the committee on Home Missions made their report which, with some amendments, was adopted. The committee on Missions made their report, which, after some discussion, was adopted. We proceeded to elect missionary worker, and Brother W. J. Covington was selected. It was moved and carried that our Executive Committee constitute our Mission Board.

Recess until one o'clock p. m.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

The Body met pursuant to adjournment and the Body was declared ready for business, and called for reports. The Committee on Suggetion made their report, which was adopted. It was moved and carried that we allow our Missionary \$3.00 per day and railroad fare; also allow the Evangelist \$3.00 per day and railroad fair.

It was moved and carried that Brother J. J. Thomley write up recommendations for our Evangelist and Missionary and others. The Finance Committee and the Executive Committee made their report, which was adopted.

W. J. Covington was chosen to preach the Introductory Sermon at the 1921 Session.

Vote of Thanks.

We wish to extend our sincere thanks to the good

people of Pleasant Plain Church and community at large for their kind care and hospitality shown us during our stay with them.

We adjourned to meet with Friendship Church Creala, Miss., on Thursday before the 4th Sunday in October 1921, at 10 a. .m

COMMITTEES' REPORTS

Committee on Sabbath School:

We beg leave to report; we find only two Sabbath Schools in the Association and we urge Delegates and Preachers to get busy around their church and show the duties of the parents to their children. We should bring the children up in the way they should go, and if we bring them up in the service of the Lord we believe that the Sabbath School is the place for the children. We should be more careful how we handle our little ones.

G. W. MURPHY, Chairman.

The report was received and Committee discharged.

On Standing of the Churches:

We your committee on the Standing of the Churches beg leave to report we find all the churches in Liberty No. 1 in good standing, so far as we were able to ascertain.

S. B. DOCKENS, Chairman.

The report was received and Committee discharged.

On the Standing of the Ministry:

We your Committee on the Standing of the Ministry beg leave to report: We find all the preachers in Liberty No. One in good standing, except Brothers Dan Byrd, Z. T. Land and A. V. Mitchel, who are not doing much for the cause. We give them one more year to bring in the fruits of their labor.

A. L. GRUBBS, Chairman.

The report was received and Committee discharged.

On Home Mission:

We your Committee on Home Mission beg leave to report: We find very little done concerning this work and we suggest that there be two more added to the Home Mission Committee, and that they visit the homes of each

member and nsist on them doing their duty in this cause, and report at each 5th Sunday Meeeting.

L. M. THOMLEY, Chairman.

On Suggestions:

We your Committee on Suggestions beg leave to report: We reccommend that the next Annual Session of this Body be held with Friendship No. 2 Church, Creala, Miss., on Thursday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1921. We also suggest that the Fifth Sunday Meeting be held with Sardis No. 2, the 5th Sunday in May, 1921, commencing on Thursday night before; and the Second Fifth Sunday Meeting be held with Cemira Springs in July, to begin on Thursday night before the 5th Sunday in July, 1921. We suggest that the salary of the Missionary be fixed by this Association; all of which we humbly submit to your humble Body.

W. J. COVINGTON, Chairman.

The report was received and Committee discharged.

P. S.—We reccommend that each church elect a Home Mission Treasurer and all money collected for Home Mission be retained in the church and be paid out only by the order of the Church.

On Missions and Evangelistic:

We your Committee on Missions and Evangelistic: We resolve that we send out a Evangelist Preacher, and that we put behind him a Missionary to work and co-operate together; and we further resolve that the Missionary elect a missionary board and treasurer and the missionary shall turn over all money collected by them to the treasurer with a receipt of work done. We recommend that this Board meet quarterly for the purpose of making settlement with the Evangelist and Missionary.

W. J. COVINGTON, Chairman.

The report was received and Committee discharged.

On Finance:

We your Committee on Finance beg leave to report: We find brought in with the letters, as follows: Minutes and Associational purposes, \$29.00; Home Mission, \$10.96

R. T. SHIPP, Chairman.

The report was received and Committee discharged.

On Obituaries:

We find from Shioah church there was four deaths, Brother Coleman and wife, Sister Nalen and Sister Ledkins, from Good Hope, Richard Carlisle from Friendship 17, from High Pine, Sister Jane Hall. She was baptised in the Freewill Church on the 3rd Sunday in August, 1904 and she lived a devoted Christian the remainder of her life. We regret to part with our loved ones, but His will must be obeyed.

T. H. PERRY, Chairman.

The report was adopted and Committee discharged.

REPORT OF MINISTERS

J. J. Thomley: Sermons preached 160; members received 45; baptized 23; organized two churches; money received, \$83.95; railroad fair, \$13.10.

T. H. Perry: Miles traveled, 1,665; sermons preached 66; members received 12; baptized 2; churches organized 1; money received, \$38.00; railroad fare, \$40.00.

W. Renfroe: Sermons preached 45; members received 9; baptized 4; money received \$51.32; railroad fare, \$6.15.

G. W. Murphy: Sermons preached 72; members received, 34; baptised 13; money received \$44.50.

W. J. Covington: Miles traveled 1300; sermons preached, 65; members received, 3; money received, \$85; railroad fare, \$47.50.

L. M. Thomley: Miles traveled 1,088; sermons preached, 46; members received, 13; baptized 3; money received, \$745; railroad fare, \$50.18.

W. M. Grant: Sermons preached, 14; members received 1; money received \$13.33; railroad fare \$15.80.

List of Missionaries Present:

J. J. Thomley, Robertsdale, Ala.; R. P. Watts, Century, Fla.; W. R. Renfroe, Bluff Springs, Fla., Route B, box 96; A. J. Slay, Perdido, R. T. Coleman, Perdido, Ala.; G. W. Murphy, Uriah, Ala., Route 1, box 83; W. J. Covington, Perdido, Ala.; L. M. Thomley, Duett, La.

Visiting Ministers From No. 1.

N. G. Baggett, Brewton, Ala.; Thomas Owens.

Churches and Delegates:

Shiloh: J. M. Dockens, J. E. Wiggins.

Happy Home: J. J. McGille, Owen Lewis.

Pine Grove: W. T. Smith, G. L. May.

Cemira Springs: W. M. Hasppord.

Oak Grove: By Letter.

Friendship No. 1: R. M. Powell.

New Home: By Letter.

Sardis No. 2: O. L. Grubbs.

Good Hope: Dan Morrow.

Stick River:

Oak Spring: A. Jackson, Mrs. Jackson.

Friendship No. 2: W. M. Grant.

Harvest Home: S. F. Jones, P. J. Clark.

High Hill: David Taylor, Ella Loyd.

Pleasant Plains: Robert Thomley, Fred White.

High Pine: By Letter.



ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. As to God—One God and Father of all. Eph. 4:6.

As to the Scripture—All Scripture is given by inspiration of God. 2 Tim., 3:16.

3. As to Freedom of the Will—Ye will not come unto me. John 5:40. Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. Rev. 22:17.

4. As to Conditions of Salvation—He (Christ) died for all. 2nd Cor. 5:15. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. Rom. 10:13. For in due season we shall reap if we faint not. Gal. 6:9. Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life. Rev. 2:10.

5. As to Election—God is no respecter of persons, but in every nation he that feareth Him and worketh righteousness is accepted with Him. Acts 10:34-35.

6. As to Grace—For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men. Titus 2:11. For by grace are ye saved through faith. Eph. 2:8.

7. As to Faith—Justified by faith. Rom. 5:1. This is the victory which overcometh the world, even our faith. 1st John 5:4.

8. As to Works—Faith without works is dead. James 2:6. God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. Eph. 2:10.

9. As to Baptism—And they went down both into the water, and when they were come up out of the water. Acts. 8:39. We are buried with Him by baptism unto death. Rom 6:4.

10. As to Subject of Baptism—If thou believest with all thine heart thou mayest. Acts 8:39. So then everyone of you will give an account of himself unto God. Rom. 14:12.

11. As to the Oneness of the Christian Church—Is Christ divided? 1 Cor. 1:33. I am the vine, ye are the branches. John 15:5. That they may be one as we are. John 17:11-21. There is one body and one spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling. Eph. 4:4.

12. As to Communion—This do in remembrance of Me. Luke 22:19. But let a man examine himself and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. 1 Cor. 11:28. Let no man therefore judge you. Col. 2:16.

13. As to the Resurrection—For the hour cometh in which all that are in the grave shall hear His voice and shall come forth. John 5:28. For the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 1 Cor. 15:52.

14. As to the Judgment, Reward and Punishment—For we shall stand before the judgment seat of Christ. Rom. 14:10. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal. Matt. 25:46.

15. As to Feet Washing—Ye also ought to wash one another's feet. John 13:14. For I have given you an example. John 13:15. Verily, verily, I say unto you, the servant is not greater than his lord. John 13:16. If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them. John 13:17. Because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example. 1 Peter 2:21.

AS TO RULES—ARTICLE 1

Section 1. When a sufficient number of members are ready for organization the articles of faith and church covenant shall be read, if adopted the right hand of fellowship shall be extended, and after prayer they shall proceed to the election of officers, after which they shall be declared organized and ready for business.

Sec. 2. No church shall be organized with less than three male members, nor within six miles of another church of the same faith, unless in towns or cities.

Sec. 3. The officers of a church shall be a pastor, one or more deacons and a clerk and a treasurer, and not less than three trustees.

Sec. 4. The church shall call their pastor at the next preceeding the last regular conference, in the associational year, unless in case of a vacancy; in such case they may call a conference for that purpose.

Sec. 5. Any church in case of necessity may call a conference and elect one of their members or a visiting minister as moderator.

Sec. 6. The church may hold a conference as often as it deems it necessary.

Sec. 7. It is suggested that the church commune and wash the members' feet as often as convenient, and it shall not be postponed on account of disobedient members, and they may commune oftener if they so desire.

Sec. 8. The church shall not try a member without a hearing unless said member refuses to attend the conference, when notified to do so.

Sec. 9. The church may grant a license to any member in good standing to preach the gospel if it deems him worthy and competent, and said license shall be good as long as he is an advantage to the cause, but he shall be ordained only by the recommendation or order of the church.

Sec. 10. When ministers or deacons are to be ordained, the church shall call a presbytery or instruct their pastor to do so for that purpose. And said presbytery shall be composed of two ministers or one minister and two deacons.

Sec. 11. Deacons shall not be ordained until they have been tried.

Sec. 12. Each minister shall be a member of some live church and in good standing with his church.

Sec. 13. It shall be the duty of every member, male and female to attend each conference meeting if they can, for on that day the pastor is expected to instruct the church in a spiritual manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on doctrine and discipline, and the rule of holy living and the church members' duties.

Sec. 14. No member shall give or attend card parties or attend other places of worldly amusement, or allow such things to be given in their homes, and drunkenness is strictly forbidden.

ARTICLE 2

Section 1. The pastor shall attend his church monthly unless providentially hindered, and shall sit as moderator and see that justice is done, but he may appoint some suitable brother to sit in his stead when he thinks proper for cause, he shall also hold a protracted meeting with his churches once a year.

Sec. 2. The deacons shall be elected by the church and shall hold office at the discretion of the church, they shall watch over the flock, advise the unruly members and report such to the church in conference when necessary, and may administer the ordinance of baptism; they shall make all necessary arrangements for the com-

munion, look into the needs of the church, and the support of the pastor; they shall take notice of such members as refuse or neglect to partake of the Lord's Supper and wash each other's feet, and endeavor to ascertain the cause that the same may be laid before the church in conference if necessary.

Sec. 3. The clerk shall be elected by the church and shall hold office at the discretion of the church; he shall keep a record of the members and a minute of the business transactions of the church, and shall read same at the conference as often as the church may demand, and shall turn all books and papers to his successor in office.

Sec. 4. The treasurer shall be elected by the church, shall hold office at the will of the church, shall hold all monies paid into the church for general expenses, and pay out same only on an order from the church, in conference, and shall turn over all money and papers to his successor.

Sec. 5. The trustees shall be elected by the church, and shall hold office for two years and until their successors are elected, unless removed for cause; they have charge of the deeds and all other church property, and shall look after the repairs of the church, but they cannot sell or otherwise dispose of the church property without an order from the church in conference.

Sec. 6. No one shall be received in the church unless scripturally baptised, and members shall not miss three conferences in succession without a good excuse.

Sec. 8. Members must pay all debts contracted by them or make satisfactory arrangements with their creditors, and they shall help pay their pastors.

ORDER OF CONFERENCE

1. Opportunity for members.
2. Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.
3. Reading the minutes of last conference.
4. Church report of acknowledgements.
5. Deacons report.
6. Unfinished business.
7. Miscellaneous business.
8. Motion to adjourn.

CHURCH COVENANT

In order to have more perfect and free Christian love and fellowship for each other, and to advance the cause of our Lord and Master, we do hereby agree and covenant by the help of God our Father, and aided by the Holy Spirit, to keep the ordinances, precepts and examples as laid down in the New Testament of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



STATISTICAL TABLE

FOR THE YEAR 1920

OF LIBERTY ASSOCIATION NO. 1

CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK	POST OFFICE	Time of Meeting.....	Paid Pastor	Present Membership.....	Amount for Minutes.....	Home Mission
Shiloh.....	N. G. Baggett	John Coleman	Atmore, Ala	1 S	\$67.65	108	\$3.00	\$21.60
Canoe.....	J. A. Slay	Ben Childres	Canoe, Ala.	1 S	13.00	31	2.95	
New Life.....	W. J. Covington	Allie Mobry	Wilmer, Ala.	4 S	18.50	11	1.00	
Robertsdale.....	J. J. Thomley	J. H. Cooper	Robertsdale	3 S	12.40	30	1.75	2
Harvest Home.....	W. J. Covington	P. J. Clark	Lottie, Ala.	1 S	14.50	45	1.20	
Cem'ra Spring.....	G. W. Murphy	A. O. Allen	Uriah, Ala.	4 S	30.10	103	3.00	
Pleasant Plains.....	J. J. Thomley	B. F. Smith	Perdido, Ala.	2 S	46.80	69	2.65	2
Friendship No. 1.....	J. J. Thomley	Cora Powell	Pollard, Ala.	1 S	13.00	95	3.00	1.00
Pine Grove.....	R. T. Coleman	W. T. Smith	Perdido, Ala.	3 S	4.97	48	2.00	
Friendship No. 2.....	W. M. Grant	S. C. Carthen	Kreala, Miss.			6	1.00	
Oak Spring.....	G. W. Murphy	J. M. Calbert	Local, Ala.			20	3.00	
Dry Springs.....		Mary Stewart	Pineville, Ala.			34	1.00	
High Hill.....	Bro. Graham	Lucie Stabler	Uriah, Ala.				1.00	
Happy Home.....	A. J. Slay	Winnie Sedman	Perdido, Ala.		2.73		2.10	
Stick River.....	Dan Byrd	Mary Bass					2.00	
New Home.....	T. H. Perry	W. M. Rollan	Atmore, Ala.				1.00	
Oak Grove.....	T. H. Perry	Essie Perry	Escatampa, Miss.	4 S	32.25	12	1.00	
High Pine.....	A. J. Slay	S. H. Morthershed	Bay Minette, Ala.	2 S	25.82	6	1.00	