

**MINUTES**  
OF THE  
**Fifty-Third Session of the Liberty Association**  
OF THE  
**United Free-Will Baptist  
Church of Christ**

HELD WITH  
**Union Grove Church**  
**CASTLEBERRY, ALABAMA**

**October 8, 9, 10, 1942**

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**OFFICERS**

W. S. Thomley, Moderator      E. E. Brooks, Assistant Moderator  
F. R. Shipp, Clerk and Treasurer  
Arthur Worrell and O. B. Hobbs, Associational Deacons

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**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

L. M. Boone, Lee Brown, S. J. Lewis, W. E. Franklin and A. O. Allen

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**ORDAINING COUNSEL**

Bro. W. H. Bailey, Brien Pursell, W. S. Thomley and L. M. Thomley

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The next session of the Association will be held with Pine Grove Church at Perdido, Ala., to begin on Thursday before the Second Sunday in October, 1943, at 10:00 o'clock A. M.



## PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 8, 1942  
UNION GROVE CHURCH, CASTLEBERRY, ALA.

The body was called to order by Rev. W. S. Thomley, the former Moderator who was re-elected moderator. Bro. E. E. Brooks was elected Assistant Moderator. F. R. Shipp was re-elected Clerk and Treasurer. Bro. Arthur Worrell and O. B. Hobbs, Associational Deacons. We then took the right hand of fellowship and then declared the body ready for business. We invited visiting brethren to seats with us. We then offerer an opportunity for membership. There was no applicant.

### MINISTERS PRESENT

W. S. Thomley	Robertsdale, Ala.
L. M. Thomley	Uriah, Alabama
E. E. Brooks	McCullough, Ala.
W. R. Thompson	Bay Springs, Fla.
A. V. Mitchell, 121 Home St.,	Prichard, Ala.
Riley Eddins	Range, Ala
C. C. Hanks	McDavid, Fla.
J. S. McDuffie	Route 2, Brewton, Ala.
Brien Pursell, 4 South Denilar St.,	Pensacola, Fla.
E. M. Gainey	Nokomas, Ala.
R. J. Monie	Castleberry, Ala.
R. T. Coleman	Perdido, Ala
Z. T. Long	Bay Minette, Ala.
Alex McDowell	Rabun, Ala.
N. G. Baggett	Brewton, Ala.
A. J. Hollingsworth,	Nokomas, Ala.
W. H. Bailey	Frisco City, Ala.

### MINISTERS ABSENT

Sam Patrick	Route 1, Cantonment, Fla.
J. A. Slay	Atmore, Ala
R. P. Watts	Bluff Springs, Fla
Grady Hollingsworth	Nokomas, Ala.
G. W. Murphy	Uriah, Ala.

We then adjourned until 2:00 o'clock P. M.

### THURSDAY EVENING SESSION

The body was called to order by the moderator, by reading a portion of scripture and prayer led by Bro. E. E. Brooks. The body was declared ready for business.

Bro. Allen Reed and Sister Juanita Shipp was appointed reading clerks.

### CHURCHES AND THEIR DELEGATES

Union Grove Church, Bro. M. M. Burkell, Allen Reed and R. J. Monie.  
Range Church, Bro. S. J. Lewis, Sister Minnie Lee.  
Oak Grove Church, Bro. Presley Dyess and Lawrence Cain.  
Canaan Church, Bro. J. C. Hall.  
Christian Home Church, Sister O. L. Parham and Sister John W. Lee.  
Shilo Church, Bro. K. L. Rigby, W. E. Franklin and C. C. Hanks.  
Antioch Church, Bro. J. C. Hollingsworth and Rosie Hadley.  
Free-Will Baptist Church, No. 1, Sister Inez Morris.  
Pilgrims Rest Church, J. W. Hinnant, and Lena Mae Ward.  
Pine Grove Church, Bro. T. S. Coleman and L. M. Boone.  
Semira Springs Church, Bro. A. O. Allen and Carlton Woods.



Midway Church, Bro. J. L. Burch and C. L. Baggett.  
Mitchell's Chapel Church, Bro. Abe Paul and Sister Carry Hadley.  
Dean's Church, Sister Rosie McDowell.

We adjourned until 9:00 o'clock Friday morning.

#### FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

The body was called to order by the Moderator, by reading a portion of the 3rd chapter of Hebrews and prayer led by Bro. J. W. Hinnant. Then the body was declared ready for business.

#### CALL FOR CHURCH LETTERS

Range Church—Letter read and adopted. Paid	\$2.50
Canaan Church—Letter read and adopted. Paid	5.00
Shilo Church—Letter read and adopted. Paid	9.70
Union Grove Church—Letter read and adopted. Paid	6.00
Oak Grove Church—Letter read and adopted. Paid	3.00
Free-Will Baptist Church, No. 1—Letter read and adopted. Paid	2.00
Semira Springs Church—Letter read and adopted. Paid	3.00
Midway Church—Letter read and adopted. Paid	2.00
Pilgrims Rest Church—Letter read and adopted. Paid	8.70
Pine Grove Church—Letter read and adopted. Paid	5.15
Mitchell's Chapel Church—Letter read and adopted. Paid	6.25
Christian Home Church—Letter read and adopted. Paid	5.15
Antioch Church—Letter read and adopted. Paid	5.00
Dean's Church—Letter read and adopted. Paid	2.00

We adjourned until 2:00 P. M.

#### FRIDAY EVENING SESSION

The body was called to order by the Moderator, by reading a portion of scripture and prayer. The body was then declared ready for business. There was a call for reports.

#### PREACH COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Bro. A. V. Mitchell was appointed to preach the Introductory sermon Thursday at 11:00 o'clock.

Bro. J. S. McDuffie and E. E. Brooks, Thursday night.

Bro. Riley Eddins and R. T. Coleman Friday at 11:00 o'clock.

Bro. Brien Pursell Friday night.

Bro. N. G. Baggett Saturday at 11:00 o'clock.

Bro. W. E. Franklin, Chairman.

#### PREACHERS REPORTS

Br. W. H. Bailey, Bro. N. G. Baggett, and Bro. A. V. Mitchell all made verbal reports, which was adopted.

To the Honorable body of the United Free-Will Baptist Church of Christ:

I beg to report my years work as follows: No. of sermons preached 135; No. of members received 32; Received by baptism 6; By letter and confession of faith 26; Miles traveled 4,420; Money received \$241.59; Funerals preached 4; Couples married 4; Churches organized 1.

L. M. Thomley.

To the Honorable body of the United Free-Will Baptist Church of Christ:

I beg to report my years work as follows: No. of sermons preached, as many as possible; No. of members received, none; Received by baptism, none; By letter and confession of faith, none; Miles traveled, unknown; Money re-

ceived 75c; Funerals preached, none; Couples married, none; Churches organized, none.

J. S. McDuffie.

To the Honorable body of the United Free-Will Baptist Church of Christ:

I beg to report my years work as follows: No. of sermons preached, 67; No. of members received, 2; Received by baptism, none; By letter and confession, 2; Miles traveled, 1,479; Money received, \$20.88; Funerals, none; Couples married, none; Churches organized, none.

E. E. Brooks.

To the Honorable body of the United Free-Will Baptist Church of Christ:

I beg to report my years work as follows: No. of sermons preached, 175; No. of members received, 17; Received by baptism, 13; By letter and confession of faith, 4; Miles traveled, 3, 728; Money received, \$481.30; Funerals preached, none; Couples married, 2; Churches organized, 1; Traveling expenses, \$132.82.

Rev. W. S. Thomley.

To the Honorable body of the United Free-Will Baptist Church of Christ:

I beg to report my years work as follows: No. of sermons preached, 112; No. members received, 16; Received by baptism, 5; By letter and confession of faith, 11; Miles traveled, 1,200; Money received, \$104.32; Funerals preached, 4; Couples married, 6; Churches organized, 1.

R. T. Coleman.

To the Honorable body of the United Free-Will Baptist Church of Christ:

I beg to report my years work as follows: No. sermons preached, 118; No. of members received, 35; Received by baptism, 25; By letter and confession of faith, 10; Miles traveled, 4,852; Money received, \$91.70; Funerals preached, none; Couples married, 2; Churches organized, 1.

Brien Pursell.

To the Honorable body of the United Free-Will Baptist Church of Christ:

I beg to report my years work as follows: No. of sermons preached, 125; No. of members received, 14; Received by baptism, 9; By letter and confession of faith, 5; Miles traveled, 1,500; Money received, \$65.85; Funerals preached, none; Couples married, 1; Churches organized, none.

Rev. Riley Eddins.

#### COMMITTEE ON STANDING OF THE MINISTRY

We, your committee on standing of the ministry, beg leave to report. We find all ministers in good standing as far as we are able to ascertain.

C. L. Baggett, Chairman.

#### COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOL

We, your committee on Sabbath School, beg leave to report, that we find most of our churches have Sabbath Schools. We urge that all of our churches organize and have Sabbath School. For we believe that the Sunday School is one of the greatest upbuild to our churches.

Sister O. L. Parham, Chairman.

#### COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSION

We, your committee on Home Mission. We find \$1,115.48 have been paid in as Home Mission funds this year.

T. S. Coleman, Chairman.

#### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

We, your committee on Finance, beg leave to report. We find \$65.45 in the Treasury.

A. V. Mitchell, Chairman



## AS TO THE 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 and 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.

Section 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.

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

Section 4. The church shall call their pastor at the next conference 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.

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

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

Section 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.

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

Section 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 shall be ordained only by the recommendation or order of the church.

Section 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.

Section 11. Deacons shall not be ordained until they are tried.

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

Section 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.

Section 14. No member shall give or attend card parties, or attend other places of worldly amusement, or allow such things to be held 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 may appoint some suitable brother to sit in his stead when he thinks proper for the cause. He shall also hold a protracted meeting with his church once a year.

Section 2. The deacons shall be elected by the church and shall hold office at the direction 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 communion; 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.

Section 4. 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 minutes of the business transactions of the church, and shall read the same at the conference as often as the church may demand, and shall turn all books

and papers over to his successor in office.

Section 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.

Section 6. No one shall be received in the church unless spiritually baptised, by an ordained baptiser.

Section 7. Members must pay their debts contracted by them, or make satisfactory arrangements with their creditors, and they shall help pay their pastors.

Section 8. We recommend that each church elect a Home Mission Treasurer and all money collected for Home Missions be retained in the church and paid out only by order of the church.

## ORDER OF CONFERENCE

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



# STATISTICAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1942

## OF THE LIBERTY ASSOCIATION

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS	POST OFFICES	Time of Meeting	Paid Pastors	Present Membership	Amt. for Asso'n. Purposes
Union Grove	Brien Pursell	Esther Shipp	Castleberry, Ala.	2- S	\$104.28	75	6.00
Pine Grove	Alex McDowell	L. R. Coleman	Perdido, Ala.,	2- S	10.00	49	5.15
Mitchell's Chapel	R. T. Coleman and A. V. Mitchell	Carry Hadley	Rabun, Ala.,	3-4S	27.82	35	6.25
Antioch	Alex McDowell and E. M. Gainey	J. C. Hollingsworth	Nokomas, Ala.,	1-2S	15.00	54	5.00
Range	Riley Eddins	W. T. Lewis	Range, Ala.,	2- S	6.10	50	2.50
Midway	L. M. Thomley	Lonie Burch	Brewton, Ala.,	4- S	67.06	36	2.00
Oak Grove	A. V. Mitchell	Ralph E. Bracken	Castleberry, Ala.,	3- S	86.82	112	3.00
Canaan	E. E. Brooks	Marvin Lisenby	Brewton, Ala.,	3- S	16.93	46	5.00
Christian Home	W. S. Thomley	Emma Lee	McDavid, Fla.,	3- S	129.28	36	5.15
Shilo	W. S. Thomley	R. P. Amerson	Atmore, Ala.,	1- S	232.85	80	9.70
Pilgrims Rest	Brien Pursell and Sam Patrick	Lena Mae Williams	Molino, Fla.,	3-4S	91.70	35	8.70
Dean's	R. T. Coleman	Lucile Blackmon	Molino, Fla.,	1-2S			
Free-Will No. 1	L. M. Thomley	Inez Morris	Bay Minette, Ala.,	4- S	26.20	8	2.00
Semira Springs	W. H. Bailey	A. O. Allen	Foley, Ala.,	1- S	55.90	14	2.00
			Uriah, Ala.,	4- S		125	3.00