

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**Sixteenth Session of Liberty**  
**Association No. 2**  
of the  
**United Freewill Baptist**  
**Church of Christ**

HELD WITH  
**Range Church,**  
CONECUH COUNTY, ALABAMA,  
OCTOBER 8-9, 1925.



**OFFICERS**

W. H. Bailey, Moderator

R. J. Monie, Assistant Moderator

R. T. Shipp, Clerk and Treasurer

R. Z. Jerkins, S. J. Lewis, Associational Deacons.



The next session of the Association will be held with Cold Water  
Church, 7 miles S. E. of Jay, Fla., to begin on Thursday  
before the second Sunday in October, 1926,  
at 10 o'clock a. m.

The Courant Print, Evergreen, Alabama

The body was called to order at 2 p. m., on October 8th, 1925, at Range, Alabama, by the Assistant Moderator, W. H. Bailey, and the former clerk enrolled the names of the ministers and delegates present, as follows:

### MINISTERS PRESENT

W. H. Bailey, Jones Mill, Alabama  
 R. J. Monie, Castleberry, Alabama  
 N. G. Baggett, Brewton, Alabama  
 W. R. Thompson, Repton, Alabama  
 W. M. Odom, Repton, Alabama  
 T. D. Johnson, Monroeville, Alabama  
 D. N. Rowland, Range, Alabama

### LICENSED MINISTERS

R. D. Boatwright

### MINISTERS ABSENT

A. B. Lawson, L. T. Lawson, B. R. Harroldson, F. E. Ward.

### VISITING MINISTERS FROM LIBERTY, No. 1

R. P. Watts, Bluff Springs, Fla.  
 Warren Renfroe, Bluff Springs, Fla., Rt. 1  
 C. C. Hanks, Atmore, Alabama, Rt. A.  
 J. A. Slay, Freemanville, Alabama,  
 Bro. Rigsby, Atmore, Alabama.

### THE CHURCHES AND THEIR DELEGATES

Canaan: B. M. Grissett, J. F. Ridgway.  
 Range: W. H. Lewis, A. J. Crutchfield.  
 Oak Grove: D. S. Cane, W. J. Godwin.  
 Union Grove: W. B. Moore, T. E. Shipp.  
 Midway: J. L. Burch, C. L. Baggett.  
 Cold Water: T. J. Bunting, Will Nowling.  
 Hickory Grove: Not Represented.  
 Shady Hill: J. O. Posey, Miss Florence Bass.  
 New Bethany: W. B. Bass, J. A. Bass.  
 Poley Creek: J. J. Morrall, D. M. Short, A. B. Short

We were permanently organized by electing Bro. W. H. Bailey, Moderator; Bro. R. J. Monie, Assistant Moderator; Bro. R. T. Shipp, Clerk and Treasurer; and Bro. R. Z. Jerkins and Bro. S. J. Lewis, Associational Deacons.

The Moderator declared the body ready for business, and appointed Bro. J. F. Ridgway, Reading Clerk and called for letters from the different churches. The letters were handed in and the state of the same were noted. The right hand of fellowship was extended to all ministers and delegates present and the following committees were then appointed:



Divine Service—B. M. Grissett, D. S. Cane.  
 Standing of Churches—L. J. Langford, W. B. Moore, A. J. Crutchfield.

Sabbath Schools—J. F. Ridgway, W. J. Godwin.

Finance—T. E. Shipp, J. A. Bass, W. H. Lewis.

Obituaries—T. D. Johnson, T. H. Perry, W. R. Thompson.

Suggestions—W. B. Bass, J. L. Burch, D. M. Short.

Recess was then taken until 8 o'clock Friday Morning.

#### FRIDAY MORNING

The body was called to order by the Moderator reading a portion of Scripture and prayer was offered by the Moderator, after which the body was declared ready for business. Upon call for letters, one was handed in and the state of same noted. Preachers' reports were called for and several made verbal reports which were received. A recess for 30 minutes was then taken, and upon reassembling several committees made their reports and the same were noted. There being no other business ready for dispatch, recess was taken until 1:30 p. m.

#### FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The body met and was called to order by the Moderator reading the 12th chapter of Romans. After prayer, led by Bro. B. M. Grissett, the body was declared ready for business.

The committee on Suggestions made its report and, after discussion, the same was adopted. R. T. Shipp, B. M. Grissett, S. J. Lewis, C. L. Baggett and W. B. Bass were elected to compose the Executive Committee; N. G. Baggett, T. D. Johnson, A. J. Crutchfield, W. B. Moore and R. T. Shipp were elected delegates to confer with Liberty No. 1; R. J. Monie to preach the introductory sermon at next session; and Bro. J. F. Ridgway to write the Curkler Letter to be read at next session.

The following vote of thanks were adopted.

"We, the ministers and delegates, hereby offer our heart-felt appreciation for the kind hospitality of the good people of Range church and community at large for their kind care to us during our stay with them. May the good Lord bless them to the fullest extent is our prayer."

After taking the parting hand, and prayer, we adjourned to meet with Cold Water church on Thursday before the Second Sunday in October, 1926, at 10 o'clock, a. m.

W. H. Bailey, Moderator,

R. T. Shipp, Clerk.

#### MINISTERS' REPORT

N. G. Baggett—Miles traveled, 1140; sermons preached, 66; members received, 37; baptised, 2; money received, \$17.42; traveling expenses, \$33.65.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

We, your committee on Sabbath Schools and Temperance beg leave to report that we find only 3 Sunday Schools in our Association. We suggest that every one of us do more in the Sabbath School work in the future. As to Temperance, abstain from the appearance of evil, and we will be temperate.

J. F. Ridgeway, Chairman.

The report was received and the committee discharged.

The committee on the Standing of the Churches beg leave to report that we find all the churches in fairly good condition in our Association according to the letters brought in at this session.

L. J. Langford, Chairman.

The report was received and the committee was discharged.

The committee on Finance beg leave to report that we find brought in with the letters \$40.25. We recommend that our clerk be paid \$15.00 for his services and that he be instructed to have a sufficient number of minutes printed for the Association.

T. E. Shipp, Chairman.

The report was received and the committee was discharged.

Committee on Suggestions, beg leave to report that we hold our fifth Sunday meeting with Union Grove church to begin on Friday before the fifth Sunday in August, 1926, at 10 a. m.; that we hold the next session of the Association with Cold Water church, 7 miles southeast of Jay, Fla., to begin on Thursday before the second Sunday in October, 1926, at 10 a. m.; that we strike out Section 7 of Article 2 in our Church Covenant.

W. B. Bass, Chairman.

The report was received and the committee was discharged.

We your committee on Obituaries, beg to report that we find from the letters there has been 8 deaths in our Association; one at Union Grove, Bro. B. W. Baggett, age 62; one at Oak Grove, Sister Mamie Young, age 20; one at Shady Hill, Bro. Billie Franklin, age 82; two at Range, Bro. Bob Trawick, age 103, and Sister Lizzie Faulk, age 27; one at Cold Water, Sister Mary Cobb, age 90; two at Canaan, Sister Jenkins Ridgway, age 36; and Sister Mattie Bell, age 36. We regret their departure but hope our loss is their eternal gain.

T. D. Johnson, Chairman.

The report was received and the committee was discharged.



## ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. As to God—One God and Father of all. Eph. 4:6.
2. As to the Scripture—All Scripture is given by inspiration of God. 2 Tim., 3:16.
3. As to the 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 to Baptism—If thou believest with all thine heart thou mayest. Acts 8:39. So then anyone 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 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 Judgement, Reward and Punishment—For we shall stand before the judgement 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 no 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.

## 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.

## 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 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 a treasurer, and not less than three trustees.

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

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 he 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 he 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 churches once a year.

Section 2. The deacons shall be elected by the church and shall hold offices 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 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.

Section 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 church may demand, and shall turn all books and papers to his successor in office.

Section 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 the same only on an order from the church, in conference, and shall turn over all money and papers to his successor.

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 scripturally baptized, by an ordained baptizer.

Section 7. Members must pay all 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 seats with us.
2. Opportunity for members.
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.



# STATISTICAL TABLE

*For the Year, 1925*

OF LIBERTY ASSOCIATION, NO. 2

				Time of Meeting	Paid Pastor	Present Membership	Amount for Associational Purposes.	Home Missions.
CHURCHES	PASTOR	CLERKS	POSTOFFICES					
Canaan	G. W. Murphy,	W. B. Grissett,	Wallace, Ala.	3S	\$25.90	60	\$5.00	\$6.00
Union Grove	R. P. Watts,	R. T. Shipp,	Castleberry, Ala., Rt. 3.	4S	40.00	89	5.25	3.60
Range	T. D. Johnson	A. J. Crutchfield,	Range, Ala.	2S	14.70	48	4.50	6.00
Cold Water	L. T. Lawson,	T. J. Bunting,	Milton, Fla., Rt. 1.	1S	34.35	28	4.50	
Oak Grove	W. R. Thompson,	R. W. Young,	Castleberry, Ala., Rt. 2.	3S	10.50	93	4.00	
Poley Creek	F. E. Ward,	I. D. Beck,	Andalusia, Ala., Rt. B.	3S	25.00	20	5.00	
Mid Way	R. P. Watts,	C. L. Baggett,	Brewton, Ala., Rt. B.	1S	43.24	18	4.00	
New Bethany	K. Raynor,	W. B. Bass,	Holt, Fla.	4S	54.00	29	4.00	
Shady Hill	J. H. Ward,	Florence Bass,	Andalusia, Ala., Rt. A.	2S	70.15	49	4.00	
Hickory Grove								