

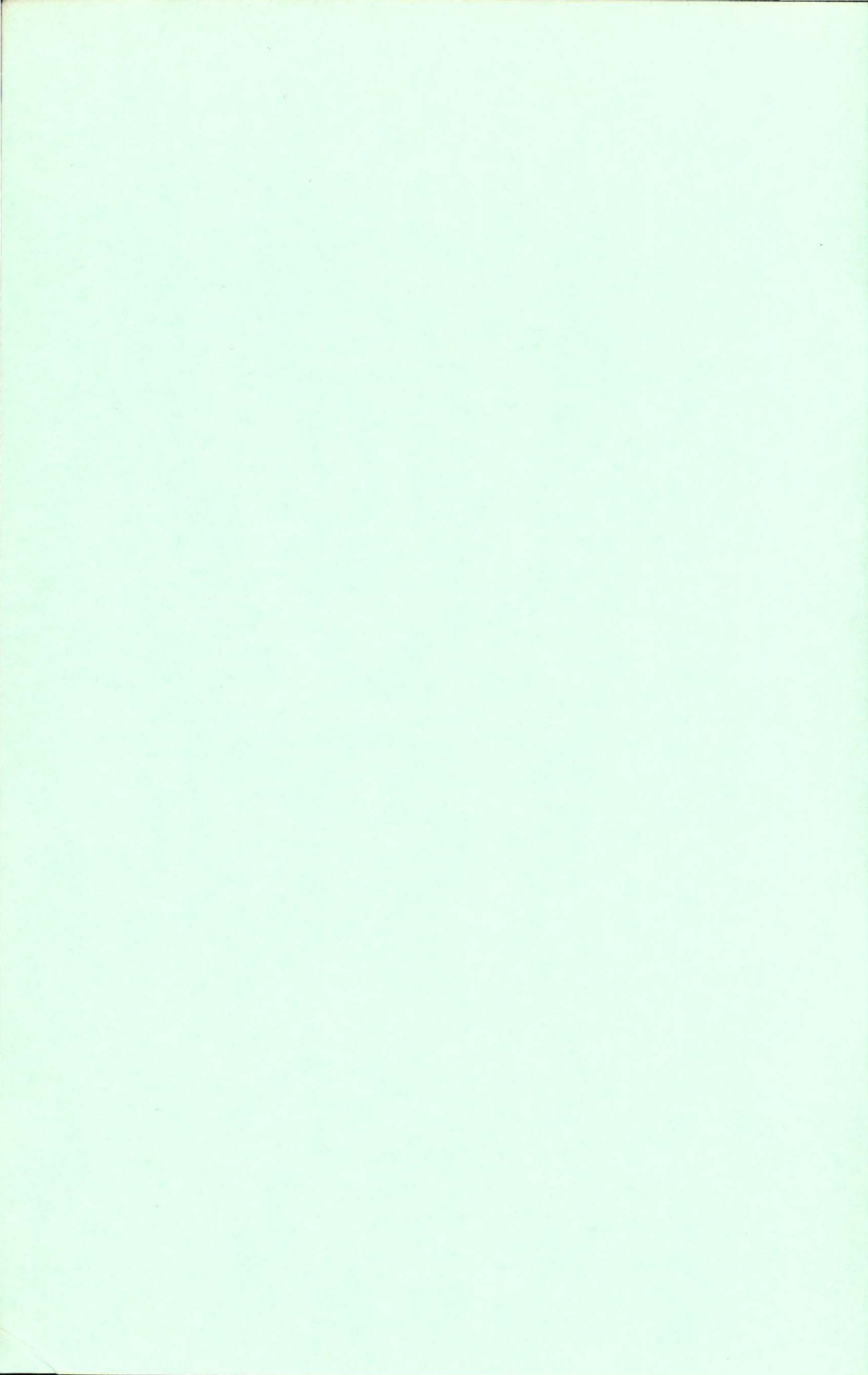
MINUTES
of
The Liberty Association
of
Free Will Baptists
1976

FORTIETH ANNUAL SESSION

Convened with Niangua Youth Camp

At Niangua, Missouri

BEGINNING JUNE 5, 1976



MINUTES of the 40th
LIBERTY ASSOCIATION
of
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

When Convened At The Niangua Youth Camp
June 5, 1976

OFFICERS

Moderator Rev. Nathan Ruble
Assistant Moderator Rev. Jack Day
Clerk Mrs. Mickey Cummins

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. Henry Long	5 Years
Rev. Nathan Ruble	4 Years
Rev. Danny Talbott	3 Years
Rev. Wayne Wagner	2 Years
Rev. Willie Bennett	1 Year

The next annual session of this Association will be with the Free Will Baptist Youth Camp at Niangua, Mo., beginning the Saturday before the first Sunday in June.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. The clerk calls the session to order.
2. 9:00 a. m.—Devotional Exercises.
3. Calling for letters and enrolling delegates.
4. Call for corresponding letters.
5. Inviting visiting brethren and sisters to seat in council.
6. Election of Officers.
7. Appointment of Committees.
8. Preaching Services — 11:00 a. m.
9. Reports of Ministers.
10. Reports of Treasurer, Committees, Board, etc.
11. Appointing delegates to State and other Associations.
12. Unfinished business.
13. New business.
14. Adjournment.

PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings of the Liberty Association of Free Will Baptists when convened at 9:00 a. m. with the Youth Camp at Niangua, Mo., June 5, 1976.

MINUTES OF LIBERTY FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Saturday Morning

Minutes of the 40th session of the Liberty Association of Free Will Baptist when convened at the Niangua Youth Camp, June 5, 1976.

Our X-Moderator, Rev. Nathon Ruble called the session together with the congregation singing "Near the Cross", led by Bro. J. W. O'Neal leading the singing with Bro. Dwight Cunningham at the piano.

Prayer by Bro. Jack Day.

Congregational singing "What A Friend." Rev. Ruble read St. John, Chapter 5 for his devotional thought, "This Hour and That Hour." Rev. Ruble led the congregation in prayer.

Letters were read, approved and delegates seated from the following churches: Liberty, Waynesville, Buffalo, Calvary, Black Oak, Northside, Little Vine, Old Liberty, Springfield First Church, Amity, Fordland, Macedonia, Lebanon First Church, Niangua, Mt. Zion, South Fremont, Gardner, New Hope and Marshfield.

Bro. Ruble read the Association by-laws.

Bro. Nathon Ruble was elected as Moderator for this session.

Assistant Moderator, Rev. Jack Day.

Bro. Nathon Ruble and Bro. Jack Day appointed the following committees:

Pulpit Committee: Bro. Murray Southwell, Bro. Denzil Dalton, Bro. Lyle Wright.

Obituary Committee: Sis. Bevely McFarland, Sis. Oleta Climer, Sis. Sue Blubaugh.

Business Committee: Bro. John Andrews, Bro. Homer Moiser, Bro. Gary McFarland.

Ordaining Committee: Bro. James Mertz, Bro. Marion Allsman, Bro. Wayne Wagner.

Motion made, seconded and carried that we have a 10 minute recess and during this time have an enrollment prayer by Bro. Murray Southwell.

Saturday, 11:00 O'Clock

Saturday 11:00 o'clock was called to order by congregation singing "At Calvary," led by Bro. Willie Bennett with Sis. Margaret Wantland at the piano. Another hymn, "Dwelling in Beulah Land." Prayer by Rev. Henry Long.

Special singing "Deliverance Will Come," "I Won't Have To Worry Any More," and "Hallelujah Square" by the Liberty boys. Another hymn, "There's Power In The Blood."

Bro. Wayne Wagner brought the message at this time, leading in prayer, reading St. Luke, Chapter 1 for his scripture lesson, using for his thoughts "Building Up Our Faith." At the close of a wonderful message, Bro. Wagner offered prayer.

The meeting was closed for the noon hour. Bro. John Andrews led the prayer and asked the blessing on the food.

Saturday Afternoon

Saturday afternoon session was called to order by singing "I Am Thine O Lord," led by Bro. Denzil Dalton, with Sis. Opal Hyde at the piano. Rev. Henry Long gave the devotional. Bro. Long has retired from the Springfield First Church. Bro. Long has worked so faithfully and enjoyed so much working in the Liberty Quarterly Meeting and Liberty Association for so many years. As we all heard Bro. Long say, there were six ministers that organized this Liberty Association and he is the only minister left. All of the rest have gone to a better place. To Heaven to be with their Blessed Lord Jesus Christ. The congregation gave a big amen to Bro. Henry Long (and Mrs. Long) to show our appreciation for what he has done and meant to us during all these past years. Hymn, "More About Jesus."

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At this time these young men filled the pulpit: Bro. Gordon Butler from Waynesville Church read I Corinthians, Chapter 1, using for his thoughts "Christ Called Me To preach." Bro. Jack Dinwiddie from Calvary Church came forward and read II Corinthians, Chapter 9, using "Underprivileged Christians" for his thoughts. Bro. Jack closed with a prayer. Both fine young men delivered good messages.

The Ordaining Committee recommended that Bro. Gordon Butler and Bro. Jack Dinwiddie be licensed to preach the gospel for one year.

Bro. Tom Bluebaugh from South Fremont Church and Bro. Henry Gallion from Old Liberty Church be ordained to preach the gospel. These fine young men and families came forward.

Prayer by Bro. James Mertz.

For the charge, Bro. Wayne Wagner read II Timothy, Chapter 4.

All of the Ordaining Council was called into the altar.

Bro. Marion Allsman prayed the prayer of the laying on the hands.

Good testimonies were given by these two fine couples.

Bro. Gordon Butler and wife and Bro. Jack Dinwiddie and wife came to the altar. A hymn was sung and a good old fashioned hand shake was extended to all of them, and may the Lord always bless them.

Motion made, seconded and carried the Obituary Report be accepted as read. This body stood in memory of those who have gone on the past year. Bro. Tom Bluebaugh leading the prayer.

The discussion from last Association meeting of changing our meeting time be moved from the table and the Association convene the Saturday before the first Sunday in June will be the date for the Liberty Association.

The Business Committee recommended to use the short form and long form. The short one to be read by the clerk at the Association and the long form to be filled out to be sent to the State Association and National Association.

Rev. Henry Long is to serve on the executive board for a term of 5 years.

Rev. James Mertz is to serve on the state general board at the State Association.

The following delegates were elected to the State Association at Trinity Church: Sis. Gladys Montgomery and Sis. Dorothy Moiser.

Motion made, seconded and carried to pay the Askrens \$20.00 for the use of the camp.

Motion made, seconded and carried to send \$95.00 to the State Association for Secretary, Treasurer Expense and Minute Fund.

Motion made, seconded and carried for the Clerk (Mickey Cummins) to see about the minutes. She is also to decide how many minutes to get printed.

In the minutes there will be a correction in item 7 in the constitution to read like this: The session of the Association shall convene annually at 9:00 o'clock a. m. beginning the Saturday before the first Sunday in June, instead of reading Tuesday and Tuesday evening before the first Sunday in August.

The Pulpit Committee recommends that Bro. James Mertz preach at the Liberty Association in 1977. Bro. Jack Day, alternate. The recommendation was accepted.

Bro. Clarence Burton, our Promotional Secretary, gave a very informative report on the Cooperative Fund.

The congregation stood to show our appreciation to the wonderful ladies of the Fordland Church for their wonderful food.

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Also the congregation stood to show their appreciation to the Moderator, Rev. Nathan Ruble, and the Clerk, Mickey Cummins, for their work during this Association meeting.

Minutes were read and approved.

Treasurer's report read and received.

Meeting adjourned with Bro. Jack Day giving the dismissal prayer.

Moderator — Rev. Nathan Ruble

Clerk — Mrs. Mickey Cummins

ASSOCIATION ENROLLMENT

MINISTERS AND WIVES

Rev. Willie Bennett and Mrs. Bennett, Rev. Elva Jemes and Mrs. Jemes, Rev. Jack Day and Mrs. Day, Rev. Lyle Wright and Mrs. Wright, Rev. Henry Long and Mrs. Long, Rev. Marion Allsman and Mrs. Allsman, Rev. Edward Climer and Mrs. Climer, Rev. Wayne Wagner and Mrs. Wagner, Rev. Gary McFarland and Mrs. McFarland, Rev. Earnie Holiday and Mrs. Holiday, Rev. J. W. O'Neal and Mrs. O'Neal, Rev. James Bench and Mrs. Bench, Rev. R. C. Brown and Mrs. Brown, Rev. John Hodges and Mrs. Hodges, Rev. Nathan Ruble and Mrs. Ruble, Rev. James Mertz and Mrs. Mertz, Rev. Denzil Dalton and Mrs. Dalton, Rev. Henry Gallion and Mrs. Gallion, Rev. Alfred Ford and Mrs. Ford, Rev. Pinkney Askren and Mrs. Askren, Rev. Ivan Parker and Mrs. Parker, Rev. Walter Iyman and Mrs. Iyman, Rev. Derald Shumate and Mrs. Shumate, Rev. Tom Blubaugh and Mrs. Blubaugh, Rev. Charles L. Hyder and Mrs. Hyder, Rev. Jack Dinwiddie and Mrs. Dinwiddie, Rev. Gordon Butler and Mrs. Butler, Rev. Michael Hutsell and Mrs. Hutsell, Rev. Murray Southwell and Mrs. Southwell, Rev. Raymond Askren, Rev. John Andrews, Rev. Dan Talbott, Rev. I. L. Florence.

DEACONS AND WIVES

Homer Moiser and Mrs. Moiser, Woodrow Montgomery and Mrs. Montgomery, William Letterman and Mrs. Letterman, Emmett Cummins and Mrs. Cummins, Mildred Layman, Georgia McNabb, Stella Walton, Ernest Cantrell, Dwight Cunningham.

VISITING DEACON

Mr. and Mrs. Don Rainy.

DELEGATES

Bro. Charlie Ballard and Sis. Dorothy Ballard from Waynesville Church; Bro. Jon Detherow and Sis. Cindy Detherow from Black Oak Church; Sis. Joann Lowery and Sis. Linda Perryman from Little Vine Church; Sis. Opal Hyde and Sis. Maggie Buttram from Amity Church; Sis. Kay Anderson and Bro. Vester Napper from Northside Church; Sis. Sharon Brungard and Sis. Carlee Jones from Calvary Church; Bro. Jackie Murphy and Sis. Mary Brown from New Hope Church; Bro. Jimmie Boro and Bro. Dean McDaniel from Buffalo Church; Sis. Helen Hightower and Sis. Gertie Rue from Mt. Zion (Cuba) Church; Sis. Becky Kay and Sis. Martha Sanders from Niangua Church; Bro. Ray Cook and Sis. Vonda Cook from Old Liberty Church; Bro. Gene Cheek and Sis. Dorothy Johnson from Springfield First Church; Sis. Lois Douglas and Sis. Ruth Ann Douglas from Gardner Church; Sis. Lois Hightower and Jacquelin Terry from Macedonia Church; Bro. Denzil Dalton and Nancy Dalton from Fordland Church; Sis. Dorothy Moiser and Edna Rabe from Lebanon First Church; Bro. Tom Blubaugh and Sis. Sue Blubaugh from South Fremont Church; Bro. Raymond Appleby and Sis. Lois Appleby from Liberty Church; Bro. Norman Thomas and Sis. Sue Thomas from Marshfield Church.

CHURCH CLERKS

Sis. Kay Gann, Sis. Margaret Wantland, Sis. Julia Johns, Sis. Doreen Rue, Sis. Mildred Layman, Sis. Mickey Cummins.

REPORTS

OBITUARY REPORT

We, the Obituary Committee, find as the scripture teaches in Revelations 14:13, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth. Yea, saith the spirit that they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

Buffalo Church: Sis. Elva Chastain, Sis. Bessie Mead, Bro. Willard Webster.

Springfield First Church: Rev. Wess Crain, Sis. Myrtle Bagwell, Bro. Glenn Lemons.

Liberty Church: Sis. Alberta Massey.

Black Oak Church: Bro. George McNabb (Deacon).

Lebanon First Church: Sis. Altha Admire, Bro. Buren Jones, Bro. Jerry Cornett, Bro. Howard Uder.

Marshfield Church: Bro. Olin Brown, Bro. Jasper McCormack.

Old Liberty Church: Sis. Ethel Cantrell.

Mt. Zion (Cuba) Church: Bro. Orville Jones.

Committee:

Sis. Beverly McFarland

Sis. Oleta Climer

Sis. Sue Blubaugh

TEMPERANCE REPORT

We, the Temperance Committee, recommend:

That all Free Will Baptists endeavor to be obedient to the teachings of the Apostle Paul, when he admonishes us in I Corinthians 3:16-17, "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God and that the spirit of God dwelleth in you. If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy, for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are;" and again in I Corinthians 6:19-20, "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost, which is in you, ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit which are God's."

Therefore, we recommend that all Free Will Baptists set the example before other denominations, our young people, and our fellow men to abstain from all use in any form that would defile the temple of God and or cause our brother to stumble.

Committee:

Sis. Lettie Moore

Sis. Oleta Climer

Sis. Lola Long.

At the Association there was another Temperance Report.

We recommend:

We accept the Temperance Report as worded in the minutes.

Also, we recommend the following additions:

1. That the word Temperance does not mean restrictive in use, but rather it does mean being able to refrain from sinful practices such as:

A. Nudity.

B. Drinking.

C. Drug abuse.

D. Vulgarity.

E. Obscene Literature.

F. Immodest dress.

2. We also recommend that the church covenant be taken as a serious matter.

Committee,

Rev. Murray Z. Southwell

Rev. Wayne Wagner

Rev. Herbert Boggs.

STATISTICAL REPORT C

	Little Vine Church	Springfield First Church	Liberty Church	South Fremont Church	Gardner Church	Black Oak Church	Calvary Church	Northside Church	Lebanon First Church
State of Religion of Churches	Good	Good	Real Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Members received this year	4	7	7	12		7	20	9	
Number Baptized	4	4	7	5	12	7	10	2	
Number Deceased		3	1			1			
Total Membership	66	592	153	115	105	145	72	76	5
Condition of Sunday School	Good	Good	Real Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Average of S. S. Attendance		177					98		
Condition of Prayer Meeting	Good	Good	Very Good	Good		Good	Good	Fair	Good
Amount Paid Pastors	\$ 829.81	\$6,630.00	\$3,375.00	\$8,310.00	\$2,513.85	\$2,280.02	\$2,805.00	\$2,413.36	\$7,735.00
Amount Paid Evangelists	\$ 143.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 425.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 146.25	\$ 100.00	\$ 336.91	\$1,375.00
Amount for Home Missions	\$ 11.15	\$ 862.69	\$ 535.00	\$10,108.58		\$ 96.83	\$ 120.00	\$ 134.76	\$ 522.00
Amount for Foreign Missions						\$ 299.49			
Amount for Cooperative Fund			\$ 508.00			\$ 90.00	\$1,015.00		\$3,742.00
Amount to Youth Camp									
Amount for Special Offerings	\$ 350.00				\$ 150.00	\$ 61.52	\$ 404.00	\$ 277.53	
Amount for Building & Repairs	\$ 47.50	\$2,083.66	\$ 190.00	\$7,000.00	\$ 48.29	\$2,159.24	\$2,000.00	\$1,665.67	\$2,875.00
Amount for Incidentals						\$ 798.81			
Youth Sunday Preachers								\$ 80.00	
Other Expenses								\$1,760.05	
Call-A-Thon									
Amount for Food and Minutes	\$ 29.50	\$ 30.00	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50

ET OF LIBERTY ASSOCIATION

Lebanon First Church	Fordland Church	New Hope Church	Buffalo Church	Amity Church	Waynesville Church	Niangua Church	Macedonia Church	Mt. Zion (Cuba) Church	Old Liberty Church	Marshfield Church
Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
32	24	14	5		18	11		1	5	4
12	13	2	8		5	3	2		3	2
4			2					1	1	
511	61	14	141	56	169	224	3	177	73	53
Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Good	Good		Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
\$7,735.00	\$6,970.00		\$5,200.00	\$ 870.00	\$5,021.65	\$1,190.30	\$ 710.00	\$1,378.72	\$1,960.00	\$2,640.00
\$1,375.59	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 240.00	\$ 182.47	\$ 300.00	\$ 160.00	\$ 260.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 182.00
\$ 522.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 168.00			\$ 515.39	\$ 163.94	\$ 32.56		\$ 57.87	
								\$ 95.40		
\$3,742.00	\$ 225.00		\$1,170.00		\$1,084.14	\$ 299.64	\$ 177.30			\$ 379.00
							\$ 90.00			
			\$ 159.89		\$ 51.45	\$ 134.10		\$ 100.00	\$ 50.00	
\$2,875.07	\$32,500.00		\$10,000.00		\$1,650.00	\$ 971.41	\$ 100.00	\$ 357.62	\$3,802.79	
							\$ 32.56			
\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50

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Treasurer's Report

Balance in treasury from last session	\$ 193.51
Money received from churches for food and minutes	561.00
Leaving in treasury	\$ 754.51
Disbursements—	
The Fordland ladies for preparing food	\$ 323.00
Amount for minister's cards printed	9.75
To the Askrens for using camp	20.00
Amount for postage and telephone calls	37.50
Amount to State Association for minute fund, secretary and treasurer's expense	95.00
Amount for clerk fees	40.00
Amount for having forms printed	6.00
Amount for printing 200 minutes	143.00
Total Disbursements	\$ 674.20
Leaving in Treasury	\$ 80.31

MINISTERS' REPORTS

Rev. Eugene Brake—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 101, professions witnessed 6, number baptized 2, funerals preached 1, married 2 couples, money received \$3,294.00, miles traveled 9,750.

Rev. John Andrews—Sermons preached 167, professions witnessed 23, number baptized 12, funerals preached 3, revivals held 1, special service 2, money received \$5,000.00, miles traveled 18,000.

Rev. Murray Southwell—Sermons preached 175, professions witnessed 5, number baptized 5, funerals preached 1, married 3 couples, money received \$5,100.

Rev. Dan Talbott—Churches pastored 1, professions witnessed 32, number baptized 7, sermons preached 140, revivals held 4, funerals preached 5, money received \$4,700.00, miles traveled 4,000.

Rev. Jack Day—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 156, professions witnessed 7, revivals held 1, funerals preached 5, married 3 couples, money received \$2,706.54, miles traveled 12,000.

Rev. Elva James—Sermons preached 43, professions witnessed 2, number baptized 1, money received \$35.00, miles traveled 1,350.

Rev. Wayne Wagner—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 165, professions witnessed 50, additions to church 22, number baptized 9, revivals held 2, preached one youth camp, married 1 couple, money received \$9,500.00, miles traveled 20,000.

Rev. Derald Shumate—Sermons preached 13, professions witnessed 1, money received \$45.07, miles driven 700.

Rev. John Hodges—Sermons preached 77, professions witnessed 2, money received \$691.00, miles traveled 4,132.

Rev. Nathan Ruble—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 160, professions witnessed 12, number baptized 12, revivals held 2, married one couple, money received \$7,310, miles traveled 11,500.

Rev. J. W. O'Neal—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 105, professions witnessed 4, number baptized 2, funerals preached 1, money received \$870.00, miles traveled 6,825.

Rev. Gary McFarland—Number of sermons 160, professions witnessed 8, number baptized 5, funerals preached 2, married 1 couple, money received \$2,640, miles traveled 8,000.

Rev. James Bench—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 104, professions witnessed 4, additions to church 4, married 2 couples, miles traveled 2,000.

Rev. Ernie Holiday—Churches pastored 2, sermons preached 80, professions witnessed 6, number baptized 3, money received \$1,081.00, miles traveled 12,000.

Rev. Ivan Parker—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 100,

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professions witnessed 7, number baptized 3, additions to church 4, funerals preached 2, money received \$829.00, miles traveled 12,000.

Rev. Mickael Hutsell—Sermons preached 28, professions witnessed 22, assisted in baptizing 2, money received \$340.00, miles traveled 1,315.

Rev. Edward Climer—Funerals preached 1, married 4 couples.

Rev. Howard Anderson—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 204, professions witnessed 10, number baptized 3, funerals preached 3, married 5 couples, money received \$1,970.00, miles traveled 15,000.

Rev. Lyle Wright—Sermons preached 30, money received \$175.00, miles traveled 7,000.

Rev. Raymond Bennett—Sermons preached 90, professions witnessed 6, number baptized 3, funerals preached 2, married 1 couple, money received \$1,960.00, miles traveled 10,000.

Rev. James Mertz—Churches pastored 2, sermons preached 130, professions witnessed 35, number baptized 34, revivals held 2, funerals preached 2, married 3 couples, miles traveled 20,000.

Rev. Raymond Askren—Sermons preached 195, professions witnessed 25, number baptized 1, funerals preached 2, married 1 couple, miles traveled 1,500.

BY-LAWS

1. All business meetings shall be opened by singing, reading a portion of God's word and prayer, and shall be closed with prayer.

2. The Clerk or Assistant Clerk, or in their absence, the senior minister in years, shall call the Association into conference. And in the absence of the Moderator or assistant, the senior minister shall act as Moderator.

3. Any ruling of the Moderator may be overruled by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present.

4. This Association may correspond by Messenger or otherwise with other religious bodies.

5. This Association shall sit with open doors except when it shall go into committee as a whole.

6. Any member of this body may appeal from the decision of the Moderator to the Association, and by a two-thirds vote.

7. The Moderator shall stop all discussions when not carried on in a Christian spirit.

8. No member of this Association shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes nor twice on the same subject without permission of the Moderator.

9. Anyone desiring to speak shall rise to his feet and address the Moderator by the appellation, "Brother Moderator," but shall not speak further until recognized by the Moderator.

10. All business, except routine, shall be brought before the body by committees, but should any committee refuse or fail to present to this body any business given to it by any member of this Association, then such business may be presented to the body by any member, but cannot be discussed unless by a vote of this body.

11. No one shall leave the Association without consent of the Moderator.

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12. All officers of this Association shall be nominated from the floor and elected by majority vote.

13. All committees shall be appointed by the Moderator, but any appointment may be changed by a two-thirds vote of this body.

14. A majority of all votes cast shall be final upon all subjects except to amend the Constitution or By-Laws, then it shall require a two-thirds majority.

15. Licensed ministers shall carry their licenses for one year.

16. Each ordained minister in good standing shall be given a yearly certificate.

17. These By-Laws may be amended or changed at any regular session of this Association.

18. The Temperance Report to be added to the By-Laws and Minutes of the Liberty Association.

19. A minister who is already a member of the Liberty Quarterly Meeting is a member of the Liberty Association.

20. The evening services of the Liberty Association will be discontinued.

CONSTITUTION

From long experience we, the Free Will Baptist Quarterly Meetings and Churches, are convinced of the necessity of a combination of Quarterly Meetings and Churches, to perpetuate our union and communion among us and preserve and maintain a correspondence among each other in our union; therefore, we propose to maintain and keep the orders and rules of our Association according to the following plan and form of government.

1. This Association shall be called the Liberty Association of Free Will Baptists and shall be composed of such well regulated Free Will Baptist Quarterly Meetings and churches, as may embody themselves under this Constitution.

2. The acting members of the conference of this Association shall be two (2) delegates from each church, chosen by the members of their respective churches while in conference, together with all ordained ministers and their companions, deacons and their companions, and church clerks belonging to any church composing this body; also three (3) members from each quarterly meeting under the Association, two (2) to be chosen by the quarterly meeting with the clerk of the said quarterly meeting.

3. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator and an Assistant Moderator who shall be elected; a permanent Clerk and Treasurer, who shall superintend the printing of the minutes; an Executive Board of five members whose duty it shall be to transact all business of this Association when this body is not in session, and whose term of office shall be as follows: One for one year, one for two years, one for three years, one for four years, and one for five years, and at the expiration of each of these terms, one is to be elected for a term

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of five years, and who shall hold their office until their successors are elected. And further, if any vacancies occur between sessions of the Association, the board shall fill such vacancy or vacancies until the next session of the Association; all of whom shall perform such duties as usually devolve upon such officers.

4. Any regularly organized Free Will Baptist Quarterly Meeting or church maintaining Gospel order, agreeing with this denomination in doctrine and practices, in favor of the benevolent enterprises, as Sabbath Schools, missions, temperance and education, may be received into this Association by presenting a petition asking to be received; and ministers and deacons desiring to become members, must be recommended by the church to which they belong, appear in person, and then by a vote of this Association, when such vote shall be decided by a majority of all votes cast.

5. This Association shall have power to discipline its churches while in session, exclude them for disorderly walk, if labor proves unsuccessful; to ordain deacons, to license and ordain ministers, such as give evidence of being qualified and called by God, by request of the church to which such persons belong; to settle such questions of discipline and doctrine as the Quarterly Meetings or churches may refer to it; to make any rules or By-Laws necessary to its regulation and not inconsistent with its Constitution; but in no case shall this Association reverse a decision of its Quarterly Meetings or in any way interfere with its internal regulations, nor hold any ecclesiastical power over the Quarterly Meetings or churches composing this Association.

6. The sessions of this Association shall be held with the Youth Camp. The Youth Camp will be a permanent place for the Association session.

7. The sessions of the Liberty Association shall convene annually at 9:00 o'clock a. m. beginning the Saturday before the first Sunday in June, at which time it shall be the duty of the Quarterly Meetings and churches composing this Association to represent themselves by delegates, and send written reports. The Quarterly Meetings are to report their spiritual standing, benevolent work, ministers licensed or ordained, and appeals if any have been taken. The churches are to report their spiritual standing, benevolent work, names and addresses of their ministers and clerks, the names of their deacons, meeting days and statistics; at which time the Association shall act upon such questions and topics as may be referred to them through their committees; and transact such other business, not repugnant to this Constitution nor to the denomination, as in their judgment may promote the cause of Christ and the interest of the Quarterly Meetings and churches within the limits of this Association.

8. It is the duty of this Association to provide for the general union of the churches, to point out their interests and aid them in securing pastors, to put out evangelists and other ministers in places where the Gospel is most needed, and require

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a written annual report of each minister belonging to this body.

9. This Constitution may be altered or amended by a two-thirds majority of all members voting at any regular session of this Association, when written notice setting forth the exact intended alterations or amendments shall have been given at the previous regular session.

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 all 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 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 Saviour Jesus Christ."

We will not forsake 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.

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 our society; constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

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 the World. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

