

MINUTES
of
The Liberty Association
of
Free Will Baptists
1977

FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

Convened with Niangua Youth Camp

At Niangua, Missouri

BEGINNING JUNE 4, 1977

MINUTES of the 41st
LIBERTY ASSOCIATION
of
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

When Convened At The Niangua Youth Camp
June 4, 1977

OFFICERS

Moderator Rev. Jack Day
Assistant Moderator Rev. Dan Talbott
Clerk Mrs. Mickey Cummins

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. Bill Knapp 5 Years
Rev. Henry Long 4 Years
Rev. Murray Southwell 3 Years
Rev. Dan Talbott 2 Years
Rev. Wayne Wagner 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

Saturday Morning

Minutes of the 41st session of the Liberty Association of Free Will Baptists when convened at the Niangua Youth Camp, June 4, 1977.

The session was called to order by the X-Moderator, Rev. Jack Day asking for a congregation song. "At Calvary" was sung with Sis. Opal Hyde at the piano with Bro. Dwight Cunningham leading the singing. Hymn, "Old Rugged Cross"; prayer by Bro. John Andrews. Praying for Bro. George Tubner, who is very ill in Columbia, Mo.; praying for his recovery if it is the Lord's will, so he can continue in his waking for the Lord.

Bro. Jack Day asked the congregation to sing the hymn, "I'm In The Glory Land Way."

Bro. Day read for his scripture lesson St. Mark, chapter 13, verses 9 through 13, using for a good thought "and the gospel must first be published among all nations."

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

Bro. Day read the By-Laws. Bro. Jack Day was elected as Moderator for this session. Bro. Dan Talbott was elected Assistant Moderator.

Bro. Day appointed the following committees:

Pulpit Committee: Bro. James Crawford, Bro. Henry Long, Bro. J. W. O'Neal.

Obituary Committee: Sis. Dale Allsman, Sis. Maxine Wagner, Sis. Helen Chapman.

Business Committee: Bro. Murray Southwell, Bro. Ernie Holiday, Bro. Marion Allsman.

Ordaining Committee: Bro. Jim Mertz, Bro. Wayne Wagner, Bro. Bill Knapp.

Congregational singing, "Love Lifted Me" with Sis. Diana Crawford at the piano with Bro. Walter Iyman leading the singing. Another hymn, "Amazing Grace"; prayer by Bro. Ira Bennett, and then there was a short intermission for enrollment.

Saturday, 11:00 O'Clock

The 11:00 o'clock services were called to order by singing "Draw Me Nearer" with Bro. Walter Iyman leading the singing with Sis. Margaret Wantland at the piano. Prayer by Bro. Lester Lemons. Hymns, "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart" and "Dwelling in Beulah Land." Special song, "I Want To Stroll Over Heaven With You" was sung by Sis. Diana Crawford with Sis. Diana at the piano. Bro. Jim Mertz brought the message at this time, reading Revelation chapter 4, verse 1, then leading for a devotional thought "The Door Is Open". After delivering a wonderful message, he led in prayer. "Have Thine Own Way" was sung as an invitation song at the close of the message.

Bro. Jack Day asked Bro. James Mertz and Bro. Henry Long and Sis. Lola Long to come forward and a good old fashioned handshake was enjoyed by all present. Bro. Long, who helped organize the Liberty Association, is the only minister who is left. The other ministers who helped organize the Liberty Association have gone home to meet their great reward. The meeting closed for the noon hour. Rev. Henry Long led the prayer and asked the blessing on the food.

Our Moderator called the afternoon session together with the congregation singing "Take Time To Be Holy," with Bro. Walter

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Saturday Afternoon

Iyman leading the singing with Sis. Margaret Wantland at the piano. "Higher Ground" was sung.

Our Assistant Moderator, Bro. Dan Talbott, gave a good devotional at this time, reading II Peter, chapter 3, starting with verse 1, using for his devotional thought, "The Second Coming of the Lord."

Bro. Tony Butcher from South Fremont Church brought the message at this time, reading John 3:16 for his scripture lesson, using for his thoughts, "God Loves the World." Bro. Butcher brought us a wonderful message.

The Ordaining Committee recommended that Bro. Tony Butcher from South Fremont Church, be licensed to preach the gospel. Bro. Gordon Butler from Waynesville Church license be renewed. Bro. Mike Dinwiddie and Bro. Roy Hendrick from Calvary Church be ordained as deacons, and Bro. Jack Dinwiddie be ordained to preach the gospel. These three men came from Calvary Church. Bro. Jack Dinwiddie, Bro. Mike Dinwiddie and Bro. Roy Hendrick with their good wives, came forward.

Bro. Wayne Wagner gave the charge, reading Titus, chapter 1, II Timothy, chapter 4, and I Timothy, chapter 3. All of the ordaining council as called into the altar.

Bro. Bill Knapp prayed the prayer of the laying on the hands. A hymn was sung and a good old fashioned handshake was extended to all of them and may the Lord always bless them and their families.

The following delegates were elected to the state association at the Grant Avenue Church beginning June 6: Bro. Tony Butcher, Bro. Gene Cheek and Mrs. Cheek, Sis. Freeda Sell, Bro. Wayne Collier and Mrs. Collier and Granville Blackburn.

Bro. Wayne Wagner read the names of the following churches where Bro. Bob Francis, who is a missionary, will be bringing messages at the following churches: Northside, Marshfield, Liberty, Calvary, Richland, Gardner, Old Liberty and Waynesville.

The Business Committee recommended the following items:

Item 1 — The Business Committee recommends the Liberty Association Annual Meeting choose a theme and get the special music before the meeting just like we do the ministers to bring the introductory message at 11:00 o'clock. Motion made, seconded and carried we adopt this item of business. The executive board is to take care of this item of business.

Item 2 — It has been recommended that Bro. Bill Knapp serve on the executive board for a period of five years. Item 2 was adopted. Motion made, seconded and carried that Bro. Murray Southwell serve on the executive board for a term of 3 years.

Item 3 — There was a discussion concerning the forms or letters we use for the Liberty Association. It was discussed that the letters needed more information. It was decided to leave the forms or letters as they are now.

Item 4 — There was more discussion about building a new cabin at the Youth Camp, but it was suggested we think about this and wait and see how crowded we were this year during the Youth Camp session.

Bro. Ira Bennett was elected to bring the introductory message at the next Association; assistant, Bro. Ernie Holiday.

Motion made, seconded and carried to send \$125 to the State Association for Secretary and Treasurer expense.

Motion made, seconded and carried we give the Arnolds \$20.00 for the use of the camp.

Obituary Report was read and motion made, seconded and carried it be accepted as read.

This body stood in memory of those who have gone on the past year. Bro. Marion Allsman led the prayer.

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Motion made, seconded and carried for the clerk to have 200 minutes printed.

Motion made, seconded and carried to take a love offering to help out with the Liberty Association expense. Bro. Murray Southwell asked the blessing on this offering. The amount of the offering was \$86.94.

Our promotional secretary, Bro. Clarence Burton, talked concerning the State Association, then he also gave a very good informative report concerning the cooperative giving.

The congregation stood to show our appreciation to the Arnolds and the ladies from their church for the wonderful food. All the congregation stood to show their appreciation to the Moderator, Bro. Jack Day, and to the Clerk, Mrs. Mickey Cummins.

Minutes were read and approved. Treasurer's statement read and received. A motion carried to adjourn the meeting. Bro. Dan Talbott led in closing prayer.

Moderator — Bro. Jack Day

Clerk — Mrs. Mickey Cummins

ASSOCIATION ENROLLMENT

MINISTERS AND WIVES

Bro. Jack Day and Mrs. Day, Bro. Elva Jemes and Mrs. Jemes, Bro. James Crawford and Mrs. Crawford, Bro. Wayne Wagner and Mrs. Wagner, Bro. Earl Irish and Mrs. Irish, Bro. Ira Bennett and Mrs. Bennett, Bro. Walter Iyman and Mrs. Iyman, Bro. John Andrews and Mrs. Andrews, Bro. J. W. O'Neal and Mrs. O'Neal, Bro. Gerald Shumate and Mrs. Shumate, Bro. Jim Mertz and Mrs. Mertz, Bro. Clarence Burton and Mrs. Burton, Bro. Henry Gallion and Mrs. Gallion, Bro. Ernie Holiday and Mrs. Holiday, Bro. Marion Allsman and Mrs. Allsman, Bro. Larry Hyder and Mrs. Hyder, Bro. Jack Dinwiddie and Mrs. Dinwiddie, Bro. James Bench and Mrs. Bench, Bro. Robert Chapman and Mrs. Chapman, Bro. Henry Long and Mrs. Long, Bro. Ivan Parker and Mrs. Parker, Bro. Dan Talbott, Bro. Murray Southwell, Bro. Bill Knapp, Bro. Gordon Butler, Bro. John Hodges, Bro. Lester Lemons.

VISITING MINISTERS

Bro. Bill Eden and Mrs. Eden.

DEACONS AND WIVES

Bro. Calvin Price and Mrs. Price, Bro. Homer Moiser and Mrs. Moiser, Bro. Woodrow Montgomery and Mrs. Montgomery, Bro. David George and Mrs. George, Bro. Emmett Cummins and Mrs. Cummins, Sis. Mildred Layman, Sis. Stella Walton, Bro. Dwight Cunningham.

DELEGATES

Bro. Harold Ford and Sis. Kaye Anderson from Northside Church, Bro. Lonzo Covington from Niangua Church, Bro. Norman Thomas and Sis. Sue Thomas from Marshfield Church, Bro. Granville Blackburn and Sis. Wilma Blackburn from Liberty Church, Bro. Tony Butcher and Sis. Kay Butcher from South Fremont Church, Bro. Jimmie Boro and Sis. Debbie Skinner from Buffalo Church, Bro. Tommy Hyder from Macedonia Church, Sis. Gertie Rue and Sis. Sandra Tuebner from Mt. Zion (Cuba) Church, Sis. Pearl Smith and Sis. Vonna Coop from Old Liberty Church, Sis. Opal Hyde from Amity Church, Sis. Leatha Duren and Bro. John Detherow from Black Oak Church, Sis. Delilah Howerton and Sis. Lorene Keesling from Calvary Church, Bro. Arthur Shannon and Sis. Pansy Shannon from Lebanon First Church, Bro. Ellis Perryman and Sis. Ethel Perryman from Little Vine Church, Sis. Lois Ann Douglas and Sis. Jane Starnes from Gardner Church, Sis. Alyene Collier and Bro. Gene Cheek from Springfield First Church.

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CHURCH CLERKS

Sis. Mildred Layman, Sis. Juanita Irish, Sis. Margaret Wantland,
Sis. Louise Napier, Sis. Becky Kay, Sis. Diana Kinworthy.

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 spirit that they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

Rev. Selph Jones from Macedonia Church.

Rev. George A. Long from Springfield First Church.

Bro. Raymond Pearce from Gardner Church.

Bro. Herman Linder and Sis. Alta Garner from Niangua Church.

Bro. Arthur Dibben, Bro. Clyde Gower, Sis. Ellen Medley and
Sis. Mae Cheek from Buffalo Church.

Bro. Darrell Moore and Bro. John Patton from Liberty Church.

Committee:

Sis. Dale Allsman

Sis. Maxine Wagner

Sis. Helen Chapman

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 OF

	Old Liberty Church	Little Vine Church	Calvary Church	Black Oak Church	Northside Church	Liberty Church	Lebanon First Church	South Frenont Church	Fordland Church
State of Religion of Churches	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Members received this year	10	1	17	7	5	9	28	3	1
Number Baptized		2	5	4	1	15	13		1
Number Deceased						2			
Total Membership	81	61	81	152	61	140	419	106	3
Condition of Sunday School	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good
Average of S. S. Attendance			Qtr. 141 Yr. 116						
Condition of Prayer Meeting	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Real Good	Good	Good	Good
Amount Paid Pastors	\$2,100.00	\$1,203.30	\$4,895.00	\$3,360.90	\$2,425.00	\$3,900.00	\$10,650.00	\$ 6,120.00	\$5,350.00
Amount Paid Evangelists		\$ 100.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 136.66	\$ 180.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 843.00		\$ 200.00
Amount for Home Missions			\$ 120.00	\$ 69.50	\$ 120.00	\$ 982.00	\$ 2,793.00	\$ 5,660.00	\$ 110.20
Amount for Foreign Missions				\$ 431.17				\$ 2,769.00	
Amount for Cooperative Fund			\$1,560.00	\$ 120.00		\$ 555.50	\$ 3,673.00		
Amount to Youth Camp									
Amount for Special Offerings	\$ 50.00		\$2,904.96						
Amount for Building & Repairs	\$ 150.00	\$ 135.87	\$1,900.00	\$ 625.88		\$ 518.71	\$ 4,564.56	\$10,000.00	\$4,243.90
Amount to Bible College.....							\$ 292.00	\$ 800.00	
Amount for Incidentals				\$1,752.70					
Amount to Special Singers.....					\$ 210.00				
Paid Other Ministers.....				\$ 78.10					
Amount for Food and Minutes	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50

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Fordland Church	Gardner Church	Amity Church	Springfeld First Church	Buffalo Church	Mt. Zion (Cuba) Church	Niangua Church	Waynesville First Church	Macedonia Church	New Hope Church	Marshfield Church
Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
9	12	13	20	3		6	12	4	3	8
14		10	11	7	1	3	4		3	
	1		1	4		2		1		
36	116	65	598	144	177	163	166	10	17	59
Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Good		Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good		Good
350.00	\$2,300.00	\$ 810.00	\$6,400.00	\$6 500.00	\$1,226.40	\$3,420.00	\$2,280.00	\$1,050.00		\$2,200.00
200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 141.50	\$ 400.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 390.00	\$ 179.00		\$ 160.00		
110.29			\$1,606.09				\$ 304.00			
					\$ 50.00					
				\$1,163.12			\$1,157.00			\$1,182.29
								\$ 120.00		
					\$ 50.00					
243.96	\$ 900.00	\$3,015.00	\$4,926.53		\$ 494.54	\$3,600.00		\$1,080.88	\$ 61.00	\$4,732.68
							\$ 30.25			
								\$ 170.00		
29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 29.50	\$ 30.00	\$ 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	\$ 80.31
Money received from church for food and minutes this session	563.00
Love offering	86.94
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Leaving in treasury	\$730.25
Disbursements—	
To the Arnolds for preparing food	\$323.00
To the Arnolds for using camp	20.00
To Lebanon Bank store for long forms and certificates	8.75
Amount for postage, telephone calls, mailing firms to churches	35.00
Amount to State Association for minutes fund, secretary and treasurer expense	125.00
Amount for minutes printed	150.00
Amount for clerk fees	40.00
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Total Disbursements	\$704.98
Leaving in Treasury	\$ 25.27

MINISTERS' REPORTS

Rev. Bill Knapp—Churches pastored 1, professions witnessed 12, number baptized 2, funerals preached 3, revivals held 1, married 2 couples, miles traveled 7,000.

Rev. Jack Day—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 130, professions witnessed 3, additions to church 7, number baptized 4, money received \$3,480.90, miles traveled 10,000.

Rev. Wayne Wagner—Sermons preached 175, professions witnessed 6, number baptized 6, money received \$7,000.00, miles traveled 12,000.

Rev. Ernie Holiday—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 110, professions witnessed 4, number baptized 3, money received \$3,420.00, miles traveled 13,000.

Rev. Jack Dinwiddie—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 113, professions witnessed 11, number baptized 2, funerals preached 2, money received \$2,470.50.

Rev. Dan Talbott—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 140, professions witnessed 35, number baptized 15, funerals preached 7, married 2 couples, money received \$4,000.00, miles traveled 4,500.

Rev. James Mertz—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 110, professions witnessed 17, additions to church 29, number baptized 15, funerals preached 1, married 3 couples, money received \$10,400, miles traveled, 20,000.

Rev. James Crawford—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 170, professions witnessed 12, number baptized 3, revivals held 3, funerals held 3, married 2 couples, money received \$2,500.00, miles traveled 30,000.

Rev. Elva Jemes—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 96, revivals held 1, money received \$1,275.00, miles traveled 4,228.

Rev. Derald Shumate—Sermons preached 45, professions witnessed 3, money received \$185.00, miles traveled 1,000.

Rev. J. W. O'Neal—Churches pastored 1, professions witnessed 16, sermons preached 101, additions to church 13, number baptized 10, money received \$810.00, miles traveled 7,788.

Rev. John Hodges—Sermons preached 31, money received \$430.00, miles traveled 1,084.

Rev. Murray Southwell—Sermons preached 175, professions witnessed 4, number baptized 4.

Rev. Michael D. Hutsell—Churches pastored 1, professions witnessed or rededications 40, baptisms on my own 14, baptisms assisted

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13, revivals held 4, funerals held 1, married 1 couple, money received \$6,500.00, miles traveled 4,800.

Rev. Ken Humphrey—Sermons preached 6, professions witnessed 2, money received \$40.00, miles traveled 425.

Rev. Tom Booz, Sr.—Messages preached 12, professions witnessed 7, funerals preached 1, married 5 couples.

Rev. Ivan Parker—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 100, professions witnessed 10, number baptized 2, revivals held 1, money received \$1,218.30, miles traveled 5,000.

Rev. James Bench—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 52, professions witnessed 1, number baptized 3, married 1 couple.

Rev. Tom Booz, Jr.—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 94, professions witnessed 4, number baptized 7, funerals preached 1, money received \$1,200.00, miles traveled 3,500.

Rev. John Andrews—Sermons preached 200, professions witnessed 12, number baptized 11, miles traveled 15,000.

Rev. Eugene Brake—Made hospital visitations, funerals preached 2, married 3 couples.

Rev. Darrell Starnes—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 156, professions witnessed 8, revivals held 2, funerals preached 1, married 6 couples, money received \$2,300, miles traveled 11,650.

Rev. Charles Hyder—Sermons preached 45, money received \$464.00, miles traveled 952.

Rev. Henry Gallion—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 94, money received \$800.00, miles traveled 3,226.

Rev. Lyle Wright—Sermons preached 40, professions witnessed 2, number rededications 3, money received \$768.00, miles traveled 5,102.

Rev. Lester Lemons—Churches pastored 1, sermons preached 1, funerals preached 3, married 2 couples, I attended State Association in St. Louis, Mo., National in Tulsa, State in Kansas City, Kansas, and the quarterly meeting in Wichita, Kansas.

Rev. Howard Anderson—Churches pastored 1, married 6 couples, money received \$3,000.00, miles traveled 8,000.

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

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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.

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.

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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 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 re-

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pugnant 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 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.



