

# MINUTES

OF THE  
FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION  
OF  
LIBERTY ASSOCIATION  
OF  
FREE WILL BAPTISTS  
OF  
TENNESSEE

September 28, 29, 1979

When convening with  
Albany Free Will Baptist Church  
Albany, Kentucky

LIBERTY ASSOCIATION  
OF  
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

GENERAL OFFICERS

|                     |                                                                                                              |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MODERATOR           | Rev. Raymond Riggs<br>646 Fairground Lane<br>Cookeville, TN 38501<br>Phone: 526-5831 Home<br>526-8418 Church |
| ASSISTANT MODERATOR | Rev. Jack Taylor<br>Route 2, Box 96<br>Cookeville, TN 38501<br>Phone: 526-7925 Home<br>839-3433 Church       |
| CLERK               | Winona Riggs<br>Same as Moderator                                                                            |
| ASSISTANT CLERK     | Rev. Bud Henry<br>Route 1, Box 334<br>Sparta, TN 38583<br>Phone: 738-8062                                    |
| TREASURER           | Harold Bilbrey<br>80 Wells Drive<br>Cookeville, TN 38501<br>Phone: 526-8889                                  |
| ASSISTANT TREASURER | J. B. Bilbrey<br>1540 East 10th<br>Cookeville, TN 38501<br>Phone: 537-9747                                   |

### PRESBYTERY BOARD MEMBERS

|                              |      |
|------------------------------|------|
| Rev. Raymond Riggs . . . . . | 1980 |
| Rev. Jack Taylor . . . . .   | 1981 |
| Rev. James Lee . . . . .     | 1982 |
| U. L. Smith. . . . .         | 1983 |
| Lester Beatty. . . . .       | 1984 |

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

|                          |            |
|--------------------------|------------|
| U. L. Smith. . . . .     | Cookeville |
| Archie Jeter . . . . .   | Cookeville |
| Dallas Stults. . . . .   | Monterey   |
| Don Winningham . . . . . | Monterey   |
| Harold Poynter . . . . . | Albany     |
| Lanny Bowlin . . . . .   | Albany     |
| J. B. Bilbrey. . . . .   | United     |
| Donny Williams . . . . . | United     |

### YOUTH CAMP BOARD

|                              |                |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| Rev. James Lee . . . . .     | 1980           |
| Rev. Jack Taylor . . . . .   | 1981           |
| Rev. Raymond Riggs . . . . . | 1982           |
| Gene Stänzer. . . . .        | 1983           |
| Bud T. Henry . . . . .       | 1984           |
| Jack Taylor. . . . .         | Director       |
| Bud T. Henry . . . . .       | Asst. Director |

MINUTES OF LIBERTY ASSOCIATION OF FWB  
convening with Albany Church on  
September 28, 29, 1979

FRIDAY EVENING SESSION

Opened by singing, "Have Faith in God," led by the Moderator. Also, "To God Be The Glory."

Devotional was given by Frank Owens, of North Carolina, using John 6:66, "To Whom Shall We Go?"

We were welcomed royally by the host pastor, Rev. James Lee.

Response was given by the Moderator.

Moderator appointed the following for the nominating committee:

Jack Taylor, Chairman, Monterey  
Dillard Anderson, Cookeville  
James Lee, Albany  
Bud Henry, United

Placement Committee:

Betty Wilson, Chairman  
Tom Apple  
Martha Poynter

Special music was presented by a girls' trio of the host church, "I Won't Have To Worry Anymore."

A total of 60 was present for the opening service.

"The Lily of The Valley" was sung, announcements made, and the offering was taken.

Moderator then introduced Tennessee's Promotional Secretary, Rev. Wallace Hayes, as the speaker of the hour. His subject was, "Stir Up Revival Fires."

We had a prayer of consecration and fellowship with a handshake.

We were then dismissed in prayer by Rev. Jack Taylor. Rev. Hayes then introduced his son, Kyle, who accompanied him.

#### SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Opened by singing, "To God Be The Glory," led by Harold Poynter.

Devotional was given by Rev. Bud Henry, using Matthew 24:36 and Titus 2:13, after which he led in prayer.

There were 12 standing delegates present. After reading the church letters, all the delegates were recognized.

There was an open discussion on which report forms to be used as our annual report. The chair declared that we use the form suggested by our National Association.

Rules of decorum were read and delegates charged with the duties and responsibilities during the conference.

Prayer of consecration was by Bro. J. B. Bilbrey of United Free Will Baptist Church.

Treasurer's Annual report was given with the four-month report on the reverse side. MSC to receive as read.

UCBI report was given by Jack Taylor who reported an enrollment of 31 for the first session on September 24th.

Finance report was given by Dallas Stults in the absence of the chairman, Elmer Lollar. Five members present. MSC to receive the report and vote on them item by item.

Recommendation #1:

Keep items on pages 17 and 18 same. MSC.

Recommendation #2:

Give \$25.00 to our Bible College students who are: Danny Holder and Connie Richardson. MSC.

Recommendation #3:

Treasurer be authorized to pay for the printing of 200 minutes. MSC.

Recommendation #4:

To send the Board of Retirement Office, the sum of \$100.00. MSC.

Youth camp report was given. MSC to receive.

Report of placement committee to meet on January 25, 26, 1980 at the United FWB Church in Cookeville.

Reading of the minutes and they were accepted as read.

Delegates to the State Association were elected: Tom Apple, Sallie Stout, Bonnie Jeter, and Winona Riggs. Moderator to appoint others as needed.

Report of the nominating committee was read and the following elected:

|                                |                                        |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Moderator. . . . .             | Rev. Raymond Riggs                     |
| Asst. Moderator. . . . .       | Rev. Jack Taylor                       |
| Clerk. . . . .                 | Winona Riggs                           |
| Asst. Clerk. . . . .           | Rev. Bud Henry                         |
| Treasurer. . . . .             | Harold Bilbrey                         |
| Asst. Treasurer. . . . .       | J. B. Bilbrey                          |
| Presbytery Board . . . . .     | Lester Beatty                          |
| Youth Camp Director. . . . .   | Rev. Jack Taylor                       |
| Asst. Director . . . . .       | Rev. Bud Henry                         |
| Finance Committee. . . . .     | J. B. Bilbrey<br>Donny Williams        |
| Youth Camp Board . . . . .     | Bud Henry, 1984<br>Lester Beatty, 1984 |
| Youth Camp Treasurer . . . . . | Winona Riggs                           |

Rising vote of thanks was given to the host church for the warm hospitality.

MSC to adjourn the business session and we were dismissed in prayer by Louise Bohannon.

## MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Bro. Jack Taylor presided and led in prayer and Harold Poynter led us in, "Praise Him," and "He Lives."

Offertory prayer and the offering was taken.

Special music was presented by Reverend and Mrs. Raymond Riggs who sang "Feeling At Home," (by request) and, "Come Holy Spirit."

Bro. Taylor then introduced Bro. Wallace Hayes as speaker for the hour. He challenged us about the Millington Mission and Jackson. Pray for Vernon Long as he labors there in Jackson. Pray for more churches to become involved in the State Office.

October 28, State Office Day, we need 100 churches to send a special offering of \$50.00 to meet the need.

His message was: "Perseverance" - I Cor. 15:58. Three things we should know:

1. Be sure of your conversion.
2. Be sure of your call.
3. Be sure of your character.

MSC to adjourn and we were dismissed in prayer by Harold Bilbrey. After which, we were treated to a delicious meal by the host church.

Respectfully submitted,

Winona Riggs, Clerk

ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT  
TO

LIBERTY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

9/15/78 to 9/8/79

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD:

\$1,454.33

RECEIPTS:

|                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Monterey Church   | \$1,496.47   |
| Cookeville Church | 3,074.24     |
| Albany Church     | 90.00        |
| United Church     | 130.00       |
| Assn. Offerings   | 176.63       |
| UCBI              | 898.07       |
| Youth Camp (hams) | <u>55.38</u> |

TOTAL:

\$5,920.79

TOTAL TO BE ACCOUNTED FOR:

\$7,375.12

DISBURSEMENTS:

|                        |           |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Childrens Home         | \$ 247.71 |
| State Home Missions    | 495.39    |
| Nat'l Home Missions    | 495.39    |
| Foreign Missions       | 495.39    |
| FWB Bible College      | 495.39    |
| St. Promotional Office | 247.71    |
| Board of Retirement    | 1,260.00  |
| Speakers (honorariums) | 213.60    |
| Moderator              | 50.00     |
| Clerk                  | 37.50     |
| Treasurer              | 37.50     |
| Stamps & Supplies      | 78.00     |
| St. Assn. Fee          | 25.00     |
| UCBI                   | 286.18    |

## (Treasurer's Report, continued)

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| UCBI (Teachers)     | 700.00 |
| Youth Camp Deposit  | 100.00 |
| Albuquerque Mission | 100.00 |
| Kroger (hams)       | 55.38  |
| Millington Mission  | 100.00 |
| Larry Inscoe        | 50.00  |
| Dr. J. D. O'Donnell | 25.00  |

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS | \$5,595.14 |
|---------------------|------------|

BALANCE IN TREASURY:

\$1,779.98

Respectfully Submitted,

Harold Bilbrey, Treasurer

TREASURER'S REPORT  
FOR

YOUTH CAMP--1979

RECEIPTS:

|                                 |               |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| 144 Campers at \$20.00. . . . . | \$2,880.00    |
| Plainview Church . . . . .      | 100.00        |
| Sarah McCoy. . . . .            | 25.00         |
| Offering at camp . . . . .      | 110.76        |
| Canteen. . . . .                | <u>749.11</u> |

TOTAL: \$3,864.87

|                    |               |
|--------------------|---------------|
| DEPOSITS . . . . . | \$ 120.00     |
|                    | 115.00        |
|                    | 75.00         |
|                    | 180.00        |
|                    | 105.00        |
|                    | 481.00        |
|                    | 1,805.00      |
|                    | 600.00        |
|                    | <u>383.87</u> |

TOTAL: \$3,864.87

(Monterey, Albany, and Cookeville churches supplied much of the staple food that was necessary to operate the camp, for this we are thankful.)

We had two free campers, and the king and queen, making a total of 148, plus 28 workers, a total of 176.

DISBURSEMENTS

|                            |           |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Kroger . . . . .           | \$ 292.99 |
| Mayfield Dairy . . . . .   | 162.73    |
| Rev. Bud Henry . . . . .   | 250.00    |
| Fall Creek Falls . . . . . | 653.44    |
| Rosa Nabors (ice). . . . . | 12.57     |

(Youth Camp Treasurer's Report, cont.)

|                           |               |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Wilmoth Insurance Co. . . | 132.00        |
| Jack Taylor . . . . .     | 91.61         |
| Frances Bryant (wash) . . | 7.00          |
| Shelton Wholesale . . .   | 389.72        |
| IWC . . . . .             | 422.50        |
| Gaw Bros. (produce) . .   | 59.60         |
| Haynes Office . . . . .   | 24.70         |
| Food Town . . . . .       | 167.76        |
| Cody (rubber stamp) . .   | 4.00          |
| Bunny Bread . . . . .     | 73.75         |
| Roses (flag, etc.) . . .  | 64.51         |
| Sunday School Dept. . .   | 44.04         |
| Pepsi Cola. . . . .       | 237.50        |
| Misc. . . . .             | 10.10         |
| Geneva Miller . . . . .   | 10.00         |
| Liberty Assn. . . . .     | <u>100.00</u> |

Total: \$3,200.52

BALANCE IN TREASURY: \$ 664.35

Respectfully submitted,

Winona Riggs, Treasurer

P. S. Since this report was given, there has been a \$13.05 deposit (rebate from IWC) and a disbursement of \$15.00 for stamps and long distance calls for \$3.78 which campers made and forgot to pay for.

|                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Leaving a balance of: | \$ 664.35        |
|                       | +13.05           |
|                       | -15.00           |
|                       | - 3.78           |
|                       | <u>\$ 658.62</u> |

## RULES OF DECORUM

1. The Association, when convened, shall be opened by singing and prayer.
2. Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet and address the Moderator.
3. Each person, thus speaking, shall not be interrupted in speech, except by the Moderator, until he gets through, nor shall the Moderator interrupt him unless he breaks order.
4. The person speaking shall adhere to the question and shall in no way cast reflections on any person who may have spoken before him.
5. No person shall speak more than three (3) times on the same subject, without leave of the Association.
6. No person shall laugh or whisper in time of public speech.
7. Members shall address each other by the appellation of Brother or Brethren or Sisters.
8. No member of said Association shall absent himself when the Association is sitting in conference without leave of the Moderator.

9. The names of the members of this Association shall be enrolled and called over as often as the Association thinks it necessary.
10. No member shall speak longer than 15 minutes at any time without leave of the Moderator.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF THE

LIBERTY ASSOCIATION

OF

FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF TENNESSEE

Adopted September 24, 1976

(Preamble)

The object and purpose of this organization shall be to unify and strengthen the work of various churches composing the Association and to devise and execute measures for the extension of the Kingdom of God in connection with the various churches in the Association or that may be hereafter represented therein.

ARTICLE I

NAME - This organization shall be known as the LIBERTY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF TENNESSEE.

ARTICLE II

CHURCH INDEPENDENCE - This Association recognizes the autonomy of the local church and by Scriptural right and authority, the local church is both free and independent, and as such is self-governing; therefore, any attempt to impose upon or invade the congregational privilege of any local assembly shall be unwarranted and illegal.

### ARTICLE III

COMPOSITION - The LIBERTY ASSOCIATION shall be composed of its general officers, the members of all boards and committees, and any duly appointed delegates, chosen by the churches belonging to said Association.

### ARTICLE IV

REPRESENTATION - Representation in the LIBERTY ASSOCIATION is to be by churches which are affiliated with this body.

1. STANDING DELEGATES:

All ordained ministers, deacons, licensed ministers, pastor's wife, church clerk, music director, general Sunday School superintendent, CTS director, and the president of the Woman's Auxiliary, provided they are members in good standing of the local church they represent.

2. ELECTED DELEGATES:

In addition, each church shall be entitled to six (6) delegates elected from the laity.

### ARTICLE V

Section 1. OFFICERS - The officers of this Association shall consist of a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, and Clerk-Treasurer, each of whom shall be elected at the close of each annual session.

Section 2. BOARDS - The boards of the LIBERTY ASSOCIATION shall be the following: Presbytery Board and Youth Camp

Board. The personnel of each of the aforementioned shall be elected as follows: The first named for a term of one year, the second for a term of two years, the third for a period of three years, and the fourth for a period of four years, and the fifth for a term of five years. Succession to office thereafter shall be for a period of five years. Other boards may be formed at the discretion of the Association.

## ARTICLE VI

EXECUTIVE BOARD - The Executive Board shall consist of the Moderator, Assistant Moderator, and Clerk-Treasurer of the LIBERTY ASSOCIATION, and the chairman of each of the boards of the Association.

## ARTICLE VII

FINANCE - We recommend that each church pay five percent (5%) of its regular, undesignated income into the treasury of the Association to be used in the various phases of the denominational work at the discretion of the Association. (Compliance with this recommendation is not compulsory for affiliation, but the plan has proven successful in other areas.)

## ARTICLE VIII

Section 1. DISCIPLINE - This Association shall have power to act ONLY as an advisory council to give churches advice in matters of difficulty; to inquire as to why churches neglect to represent in

this Association; to exclude from the body any member who does not conform to the Rules of Decorum and shall report their conduct to the church from which they were sent.

Section 2. DISCIPLINARY GUIDELINES - All matters involving disciplinary action shall be handled according to the Treatise of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

## ARTICLE IX

MEETINGS - The meetings of the LIBERTY ASSOCIATION shall be held every four months and shall begin Friday, September 24, 1976, at 7:30 P.M. and be held on the fourth Friday and Saturday in January, May, and September. The September session shall be the annual meeting.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY - The District Woman's Auxiliary shall be recognized as a subordinate organization to the LIBERTY ASSOCIATION. It shall organize at its own discretion and have power to create and adopt a Constitution and by-laws, and maintain complete management of the work for which it is constituted. An annual report shall be submitted to the Association.

## ARTICLE X

This Constitution may be amended or altered at any regular session of the Association, by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided the proposed amendment or alteration

be presented to the body in writing, one conference (four months) in advance.

### BY-LAWS

1. The Moderator shall receive an honorarium of \$50 annually. The Clerk-Treasurer shall receive an honorarium of \$25 per session.

2. The standing boards shall be composed of five members each and may be elected either from the ordained authority or other standing or elected delegates. The Presbytery Board shall consist of ordained pastors and/or deacons. The members of the standing boards shall be elected for a term of five years, with their term of office to expire alternately.

3. The duties of the various standing boards shall be to plan a program and supervise its operation in their respective fields. They shall organize themselves and regulate their work as may become necessary and as may be found in harmony with the principles and tenets of the LIBERTY ASSOCIATION. Each board shall draft by-laws to govern their work. These by-laws shall be subject to the approval of the Association.

4. Any duly ordained minister or deacon, who is in good standing with this body, has the privilege of setting in council with the

Presbytery at any time, but will not be permitted to vote unless he is appointed to serve by proxy by an absentee member, or selected by a majority present.

5. The purpose of the Presbytery Board shall be for the mutual improvement of the ministry, their protection against hostile influences, for the maintaining of a clean and pure character among those of the ordained authority. It shall also become the duty of the Presbytery to examine all candidates for license to preach the gospel or to ordain the same at the request of the local church. The Presbytery shall also serve as a screening committee to review petitionary letters from churches desiring to affiliate with this Association.

6. Before granting license or endorsing credentials of any minister from another denomination to preach the gospel, the candidate must have been a member of a church in this Association at least six (6) months. Any minister from another Free Will Baptist church or Free Will Baptist Association desiring his credentials ratified by this Association, must be a member of some local church in this Association, and have a letter of recommendation from his former Association.

7. The local church must first request by letter the licensing or ordination of all candidates before the Presbytery can act.

8. Before license or ordination, the candidate is examined as to his gifts, personal

piety, and doctrine, his call to the ministry, his adaptability and devotion to the work, his reputation, character, ability, and his present and prospective educational and professional qualifications. A list of questions should be prepared by the Presbytery Board, and the candidate should be required to make a grade of not less than 70% before license is granted.

The examination for ordination should include all that is required for license, and also satisfactory examination respecting the life and labors of the candidate and his attainments, at least in the departments of English education, doctrinal and pastoral theology, and homiletics.

9. No minister having more than one living wife, or his wife having more than one living husband, shall be considered for licensing or ordination in this body.

10. No minister shall be accepted, except that he teaches and practices tithing as God's financial plan for the church.

11. The examination of deacons should be according to I Timothy 3.

12. A minister shall be licensed for a period of one year, after which his local church may request another examination and the Presbytery shall decide whether or not the license be extended or the candidate be ordained. If an offense is made during the year, and the candidate repents, the license

will be forfeited and he will be forced to begin anew.

13. A minister from another denomination wishing to unite with this Association must first make application to a church which requests action of the Presbytery, the same as for a license or ordination.

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APPROVED FINANCIAL POLICY  
OF THE  
LIBERTY ASSOCIATION OF  
FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF TENNESSEE

Recognizing the great opportunity that our Association has of promoting unity and fellowship among our churches, training and challenging our young people, supporting the various phases of denominational work, both state and national, yet at the same time, realizing that much benevolent and missionary work needs to be done in our own local communities; and also being keenly aware that God loves and blesses a cheerful giver, and that in our stewardship we are required to be faithful; also, knowing the importance of a sound financial program in the very beginning of our Association that would command the respect and support of our churches and communities at large, therefore, we recommend the following:

1. That each church composing this Association give prayerful consideration to complying with the suggested financial method of giving to the Association as stated in Article VII of the Constitution.
2. That a free will offering be received at each of the worship services and

that the monies received go into the general fund of the Association to be allocated as per authorization of the body.

3. That 50% of the funds received from the various sources of the Association be retained to be used in the local Association for its various approved projects.
4. That beginning with February 1, 1977, ten dollars (\$10) per week be allocated to the retirement fund of each of our full time pastors whose church is affiliated with the LIBERTY ASSOCIATION, and is complying with the financial policy of the Association. This money to be sent to the Board of Retirement of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, credited to the account of each full time pastor.
5. We recommend that 50% of the funds that come into our Association be sent to outside causes as follows:

|                                        |     |
|----------------------------------------|-----|
| Tennessee State Promotional office . . | 5%  |
| Tennessee Children's Home. . . . .     | 5%  |
| Tennessee State Home Missions. . . . . | 10% |
| National Home Missions . . . . .       | 10% |
| National Foreign Missions. . . . .     | 10% |
| Free Will Baptist Bible College. . . . | 10% |
6. We recommend that the allocation of funds for outside causes be reviewed at each annual meeting of the Association for any recommended change.

