

Minutes of the Quarterly Conference of the
Liberty Association of Free Will Baptists
of Tennessee
Held on February 1 & 2, 2013
At Hilham Road Free Will Baptist Church

Friday night service on February 1, 2013 began at 7:00 P.M.

The Moderator welcomed everyone to the service and the host church led the congregation in singing.

Following the congregational singing the offering was received.

Special singing was provided by Brother Tony Wilson of the host church.

Avery Brown was introduced as the speaker and special prayer was offered on his behalf.

Brother Brown delivered a powerful sermon from John: 21; 15-19 entitled "Why".

At the close of the sermon an invitation was given.

Announcements were made and the service was closed.

The finance committee was asked to meet immediately after the service.

Saturday morning service on February 2, 2013 began at 9:30 A.M.

Moderator Brother Jerry Buckner welcomed everyone to the service.

Brother John David Wilson brought the morning devotion from Psalm 140.

Due to the weather certain officers were unable to attend the meeting. Brother Buckner appointed members of those present to take their place as needed for the service.

Brother Mike Gillock was appointed to serve as acting Treasurer to handle the monies turned in by churches and the collections taken during the services.

The Moderator called the meeting to order and read the rules of decorum.

Delegates, standing and elected were seated.

Brother Jack Taylor led in prayer.

The clerk read the minutes of the previous meeting. They were approved by the delegates as read.

Motion was made to add the church letters to the conference minute's book. Motion passed.

Finance Committee offered no recommendations at that time.

Youth Board report was given by Luke Judkins. After giving his report, he provided information concerning applications for youth camp (to be held in June 2013). He requested that all applications be returned by May 1, 2013. Report was received as information.

Brother Mike Gillock, chairman of the Presbytery Board reported the Board had examined two candidates for licensing to preach the gospel and the board recommended the two candidates be licensed. The delegates were introduced to the candidates Brother Caleb Mackie of the Sparta First FWB Church and Brother Mark Apple and his wife of the Cookeville FWB Church. Motion was made, seconded and approved for these two men to be licensed by the conference.

A special prayer was offered to God for the two candidates and Churches were encouraged to give the young men opportunities to speak in their pulpits. The conference delegates and visitors offered the right hand of fellowship to the candidates.

Luke Judkins reported that the youth board was sponsoring a fund raiser entitled "30 Hours of Famine" and encouraged churches to become involved.

Brother Jack Taylor presented a report on the Tennessee Family Ministry. He provided information on the activities of the ministry the past year including the opening of family assisted living homes in Wise, Va. and Greenville, Tn.

Brother Taylor ended his report by requesting pray for back surgery he was to undergo.

Brother Mike Gillock presented a report on International Missions. He was glad to report that all Missionaries have returned to the field. He also reported missions works around the world are seeing good results for their efforts for Christ.

Brother Gillock encouraged all Churches to become involved in raising funds for our missionaries. Packets with information to help churches with the fund raising is available.

Brother Gillock reported that two high school students from the conference had been accepted into the summer mission program (E-Team). Brother Connor Phillips of the Knights Chapel Church would be going to Chicago and Sister Emily Braswell of the Cookeville Church was going to Kazakhstan. Churches were encouraged to help Brother Conner raise his funds. The Cookeville Church would fund Emily's trip.

Brother Gillock had E-Team packets for anyone interested in registering for E-Team in 2014.

Financial report was presented by the Moderator in the absence of the Treasurer and Assistant Treasure. A discussion ensued concerning the financial condition of the conference due in part to increase in dues to both the State and National offices for each church in the conference.

The Moderator read a portion of the Conference by-laws requiring 50% of all monies collected by the conference be given to outside agencies. This left only 50% of the collection from churches as monies to fund the conference activities. Out of the money to fund activities the dues to the State and National Offices had to be paid, leaving the conference without enough funds to appropriately finance their other needs.

The conference had been given previous information concerning this matter and the Moderator asked for suggestions concerning how to correct the financial situation. He pointed out that any change to the by-laws would take two meetings to be passed. Brother Jack Taylor was recognized by the Moderator and Brother Taylor pointed out that funds had been paid on three churches the conference had decided not to pay due to their negligence in attending, sending reports to, or sending any funds to the conference in several years. These churches had been placed on the inactive list. Discussion followed and the Treasurer is to provide information concerning the dues paid on these three churches which are inactive.

The Moderator pointed out that any church sending in a report (sent in quarterly letter) to the conference were deemed to be active even if they sent no funds to the conference.

The Moderator will work with the clerk on which churches are sending in reports.

The conference by-laws required no church to send funds to the conference, only a recommendation they do so.

Luke Judkins was recognized by the Moderator and Brother Judkins spoke on the need for churches to begin sending extra money to the conference so the conference could carry on the various funding activities of the conference.

Brother Charles D. Cook was recognized by the Moderator and spoke on the need for the conference to meet its on needs before funding outside requests.

Brother Bernard Houk was recognized by the Moderator and he felt that the situation was not as bleak as it seemed. The conference would have several months before it was time once again to pay dues to the State and National Offices. He encouraged churches to increase the amounts they were giving to the conference.

The Moderator made a suggestion that a freeze be placed on all discretionary giving to outside causes and organizations at this time, with an understanding the conference had the right to override the freeze at each quarterly or yearly conference meeting. The conference must look at the 50% required in the by-laws of incoming funds to be given to outside FWB agencies.

Brother Mike Gillock was recognized by the Moderator and spoke on the need for a committee to research the financial matter and bring a recommendation back to the conference in May, 2013.

Brother Charles D Cook made a motion that the committee made up of the Executive Committee be appointed to do the research and bring a recommendation to the conference in May. Motion was seconded a vote of delegates taken and the motion was passed. The Moderator will contact the committee members to set up a meeting.

Brother Bernard Houk was recognized by the Moderator and he made a motion that a freeze be placed on all discretionary spending immediately. The motion was seconded and delegates voted to pass the motion.

Moderator asked if there was any other old business or new business.

Motion made, seconded for adjournment of the business session. Motion Passed.

A short break was taken.

The Saturday morning worship service began at 11:00 A. M.

The Moderator welcomed everyone to the service and the worship service began with congregational singing followed by the morning offering.

Prayer was given for the offering and offering was received.

Special singing was performed by Bro. Tony Wilson

The Moderator introduced the morning speaker Brother Gary Lewis.

Prayer was offered for Brother Lewis and for Jack Taylor who is having surgery.

Brother Lewis preached using Colossians 2:3-12 and Romans 2: 28 & 29 as his text.

His sermon was 'Surgeons, Circumcision of the Heart'. Brother Lewis spoke using a hospital (surgeons) to point out the work of preachers. It takes more than just cutting someone open – a good preacher will also pour ointment on the wound, sew the individual(s) up and then let God do the healing.

A song of invitation was sung by the congregation, announcements were made and a motion was entertained to adjourn. Motion made, seconded and carried. Hilham Road Church was given a rousing hand of thanks and the conference was adjourned. The conference attendees then proceeded to a feast provided by the host church.

Charles L Cook, Clerk

Jerry Buckner, Moderator

Minutes of the Quarterly Conference of the
Liberty Association of Free Will Baptists
of Tennessee
Held on May 17 & 18, 2013
At Knights Chapel Road Free Will Baptist Church

The Friday night service on May 17, 2013 began at 7:00 P.M.

Brother Mike Gillock welcomed everyone to the service and the host church led the congregation in singing.

Offering was received followed by special singing provided by the host church.

Craig Mahler was introduced as the speaker for the night service. Brother Johnny Reeves led in a special pray for Brother Mahler.

Brother Mahler's sermon text was James 2: 22-25

At the close of the sermon an invitation was given.

Announcements were made and the service was closed.

The Saturday morning service on May 18, 2013 began at 9:30 A.M. with Prayer.

Moderator Brother Jerry Buckner welcomed everyone to the service and thanked Knights Chapel for hosting the meeting on short notice. The meeting has been changed from Pikeville Free Will Baptist Church due to a conflict of another meeting scheduled at that Church.

The host church led the congregation in singing.

Following the singing Brother Ronnie Neal brought the lively devotion from Matthew 6:33. He does tend to get excited.

Following a short break the Business Session was called to order by the Moderator.

The rules of decorum were read; the delegates were seated and visitors were recognized. The Moderator followed with a roll call of Churches. A list of those present is included on an attendance sheet attached.

Following the roll call of churches the clerk read the minutes form the last business meeting held February 1 & 2, 2013 at the Hilham FWB Church. The minutes were accepted as read by a vote of the delegates present.

There was no recommendation from the finance committee.

Brother Luke Judkins reported he had resigned at Chairman of the Youth Board. Brother Kerry Higgins had been elected to replace Brother Judkins. The Youth Board report was given by Brother Higgins. Brother Higgins reported everything was in order for the coming summer youth camp. He gave another bit of good news, announcing the Youth Board would need no funding help with the summer camp. He gave an even better bit of news reporting that there were a record number of youths signed up for the camp.

The Moderator next addressed the Executive Committees report of recommendations concerning the Liberty Associations Financial Policy. The Moderator reported the committee was offering three (3) recommendations.

1. Recommendation #1: The Executive Committee recommends the section of the Constitution dealing with the financial policy of the Association be changed to reflect the following:

A. The Association will retain 50% of all income for use by the Association to fund approved Association projects.

B. The remaining 50% of all income will be used for outside causes. This income shall be distributed in the following manner.

(1) Church dues to the State and National Organizations shall be paid first.

(2) Any remaining funds shall be sent to the following outside agencies in the following manner.

10% -----Tennessee State Promotional Office
10% -----Tennessee Children's Home
20% -----Tennessee State Home Missions
20% -----National Home Missions
20% -----National Foreign Missions
20% -----Free Will Baptist Bible Colleges

The funds paid to these outside agencies will not be paid until the end of the fiscal year when the exact amount of funds available can be determined.

These amounts are simply recommendations and the distribution amounts may be changed by the Association at the end of any fiscal year.

For the purpose of income and distribution of income the Association's fiscal year is from the first day of a calendar year to the last day of a calendar year. (Jan 1 – Dec 31)

2. The Executive Committee recommends section 4 under the approved financial policy of the Constitution be deleted.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the recommendations as presented. The recommendation was explained by the Moderator. There was no further discussion. The motion was voted on by the delegates and passed unanimously.

Recommendation #2: Executive Committee recommends that section 4 of the Approved Financial Policy of the Association Constitution be deleted. The moderator reported to the delegates that there was/is insufficient funds to fund the section. The motion was tabled as prescribed by the Constitution until the next regularly scheduled Association Business Meeting.

Recommendation #3: Executive Committee recommends the following to the Associations By-laws.

- A. Churches who do not report by letter a minimum of once per fiscal year shall be moved to inactive status by the Association. Churches that are inactive lose all Association privileges, including the right to vote or take part in Association business.
- B. State and National dues will not be paid by the Association for churches on the inactive list. Therefore they are effectively no longer a member of those Associations and lose all privileges of being a member of said Associations. Once the Association moves a church to inactive status the Association clerk shall notify the church by letter of such action.

The recommendation was tabled until next regularly scheduled Business Meeting as prescribed by the constitution.

The Treasury report was given by Craig Mahler. He asked the records show he paid the correct amount of Church dues for State and National dues as required by the Clerk report to the Tennessee State Association for the year 2012. A copy of his statement has been included to the Association's records.

The treasury report was accepted by vote of the delegates as read.

The Treasurer reported the report at the next scheduled Association meeting would reflect the changes voted upon at today's meeting.

Mike Gillock gave the Presbytery Board report.

- 1. The Board had received a letter from the Smithville FWB Church recommending Brother Cody Hawkins by licensed to preach.
- 2. Knights Chapel recommended that Brother Ronnie Neal be ordained to preach. The Ordination service will be held today and the message will be delivered by Brother Mike Gillock.

Brother Jack Taylor gave a report on the Children's Home activities.

Brother Mike Gillock gave a report on International Missions of FWB.

State Promotional Director Glenn Poston gave a report on the State work.

Earl Langley gave a report on Welch College (formally Free Will Baptist Bible College).

The moderator named a nomination committee for nomination of officers and positions for the upcoming year. Those named to the committee are: Avery Brown, Johnny Reeves and Bernard Houk.

There was a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Meeting was adjourned.

The morning worship service and ordination service of Brother Ronnie Neal was convened at just past 11:00 with the congregation singing "How Great Thou Art".

The morning offering was received and the host church presented the special singing with a special flavor. The children of the church accompanied the singing in sign language. A special alter prayer was held, especially for Brother Ronnie Neal who was being ordained and for Brother Mike Gillock who was to bring the Ordination Sermon. Brother Gillock took his sermon passage from Ezekiel 22: 23-30, entitled "Stand in the Gap that God calls you to". Excellent sermon.

After the morning sermon a Certificate of Ordination was presented to Brother Neal and a certificate of license to preach the Gospel was presented to Brother Cody Hawkins. The right hand of fellowship was given by all present to the two men. The laying on of hands with prayer was offered for the men and their families.

Meeting was adjourned to the fellowship hall and the body was fed just as the spirit had been fed earlier.

Charles L Cook, Clerk

Jerry Buckner, Moderator

Minutes of the Quarterly Conference of the
Liberty Association of Free Will Baptists
of Tennessee

Held on September 27 & 28, 2013
At Brotherton Free Will Baptist Church

Brother James Phillips, Pastor of the host Church opened the meeting at 7:00 P.M., Friday September 27, 2013. Brother Phillips welcomed everyone to the Brotherton Church and turned the meeting over to the Moderator Brother Jerry Buckner. Brother Buckner thanked the Brotherton Church for hosting the meeting and led the congregation in prayer.

The host Church led the congregation in two songs. At the completion of the songs the Moderator received the evening offering.

An Alter of prayer was called by the Moderator to pray especially for Brother Mark Apple (newly licensed preacher) who would bring the evening message. Brother Randy Maynard led the prayer.

At the conclusion of the prayer, special music was provided by Brother Terry Savage.

Brother Mark Apple followed the special music with a message from Mark 8: 27-29 'Who do men say I am', or more specifically 'Who do you say I am'?

At the conclusion of the sermon an invitation was given.

The conference attendees gave Brother Buckner a round of applause for his work.

The meeting ended and the conference was adjourned until 9:30 A.M. the next day.

At 9:30 A.M. the host pastor welcomed everyone to the meeting. The host church led the congregation in singing and the morning offering was received. After another congregation song the host pastor brought the devotion around the theme 'The promises of Jesus'. Brother Jack Taylor was introduced to announce the resignation of Brother Jerry Buckner as Conference Moderator. He spoke of the need for the conference to support the next moderator and to remember to pray for him.

The morning Business Meeting was called to order and moderated by Brother Frank Bratcher (the Asst Moderator and Moderator elect). The meeting was opened with prayer.

*Rules of Decorum were read by the Moderator.

*Church delegates were seated.

*Visitors were recognized. Glen Poston, Earl Langley, and Henry Van Kluyve.

*The Clerk read the minutes of the last meeting. The minutes were accepted as read.

*Two motions were on the table from the meeting held in May 2013. These tabled motions were included in the clerk's minutes of the previous meeting and the Moderator asked permission of the delegates to take care of the two items before proceeding with other business. Permission was granted.

Recommendation: Executive Committee recommends that section 4 of the Approved Financial Policy of the Association Constitution be deleted.

The recommendation to the remove section 4 of the Approved Financial Policy of the Association Constitution was lifted from the table by a motion and second. No discussion. Vote to affirm the change was unanimous.

9-27/28-2013

Recommendation: Executive Committee recommends the following to the Associations By-laws.

- A. Churches who do not report by letter a minimum of once per fiscal year shall be moved to inactive status by the Association. Churches that are inactive lose all Association privileges, including the right to vote or take part in Association business.
- B. State and National dues will not be paid by the Association for churches on the inactive list. Therefore they are effectively no longer a member of those Associations and lose all privileges of being a member of said Associations. Once the Association moves a church to inactive status the Association clerk shall notify the church by letter of such action.

The recommendation was lifted from the table by motion and second. No discussion. Vote to affirm the addition to the Association Constitution was passed unanimously

*Clerk asked for church letters be accepted as information. Motion made and seconded. Delegates voted in the affirmative.

*The financial committee had nothing new to report.

*The Treasury report was given by the Treasurer, Craig Mahler. The report contained a new format to comply with the income distribution policy of Association as voted on earlier. The report was accepted by unanimous vote.

*The Youth Board report was given by Brother Terry Higgins. Youth Camp had 162 Campers, many sick campers, 10 saved. Brother Terry gave a financial report as well. He reported the Youth Board is working to be self sufficient. Reported on an upcoming event.

*The Presbytery Board report was given by Brother Bernard Houk. The board had met and questioned Brother Andy Maynord and recommended the conference accept him into the conference as an Ordained Minister. Delegates voted to receive Brother Maynord into the Association.

Brother Houk then requested the conference purchase 35 booklets to give new ministers. Motion made, seconded and voted affirmative to purchase the booklets.

*Brother Jack Taylor gave the report on Family Ministries. The Rally for Family Ministries is to be held Oct 3, 2013 at the Livingston First FWB Church. Brother Taylor then explained the bucket ministry method of raising money for the Family Ministries.

Report accepted as information.

*Brother Henry Van Kluyve gave the report on International Missions. WMO was going well. He asked Churches to consider monthly support of the Missions Department.

Report accepted as information.

*Brother Glen Poster passed out a report on the work of the State and National FWB works. Brother Glen gave a short talk on 'The foundations have been destroyed.'

Report accepted as information.

*Brother Earl Langley gave a report of Welch College. Reported an increase in the total fall attendance from a year ago. Reported the College has a potential buyer for the West End property. Reported online degrees now being offered by the College.³

Report accepted as information.

*The Nominating Committee gave their report of nominations for the coming year.

Brother Frank Bratcher nominated for and elected as the Moderator.
Brother Terry Higgins nominated for and elected as Asst Moderator.
Brother Jimmy Pleasant nominated for and elected as Treasurer.
Brother Tony Barnett nominated for & elected to Presbytery Board

Youth Board Changes:

Terry Higgins steps down as board member
Richard Phipps steps down as a board member
Brother Mark Apple and Caleb Mackie nominated and elected to replace them.
D.J. Stanley and Lauren Apple nominated and elected to remain on Board.

Recommend all other positions up for election remain as they were the preceding year.
Recommendation accepted without objection.

The business meeting ended.

The Moderator requested everyone attending give the Host Church a hand of applause.
The outgoing treasurer was thanked for his service.

Meeting adjourned until 11:00 A. M.

The 11:00 morning service began with a welcome from the Moderator Frank Bratcher.
The host church led the congregation in a song. Special music was provided by Brother Tony Wilson.
Brother Ronnie Neal (newly ordained minister) was introduced as the morning speaker. After of prayer was called by the Moderator to pray for Brother Neal. Brother Neal took his message from Hebrews Chapter 11 – “Faith is great – but Love is great”. Strong Sermon.
Following the Sermon an invitation was given.
Meeting was adjourned to the mess hall.

Charles Cook, Clerk

Frank Bratcher, Moderator

INFORMATION: Next Quarterly Meeting January 24 & 25, 2014
Smithville Free Will Baptist Church

Letters are being sent to United FWB Church and Union Grove FWB Church in accordance with the change to the Constitution concerning churches who fail to report to the Association during the year. Copy of letters will be attached to the Yearly Reports.

9-27/28-2013