

Minutes of the Quarterly Conference of the
Liberty Association of Free Will Baptists
of Tennessee
Held on January 24 & 25, 2014
At Smithville First Free Will Baptist Church

The Friday night service on January 24, 2014 began at 7:00 P.M.

Brother Bernard Houk welcomed everyone to the service and the host church led the congregation in singing.

Offering was received followed by special singing provided by Royal City.

Brother Tony Barnett was introduced as the speaker for the night service. Brother Barnett's sermon text was Genesis 13:1-4 and 12:9,10. Message title "Abraham's Journeys". Very good sermon.

At the close of the sermon an invitation was given.

Announcements were made and the service was adjourned until Saturday at 9:30 A.M.

The Saturday morning service on January 25th began at 9:30 A.M. Delegates and visitors were welcomed and the host church led the congregation in a song and prayer.

Host Church Pastor Bernard Houk brought the morning devotion from 1 Kings Chapter 17.

Moderator Brother Frank Bratcher opened the business session of the meeting with prayer and reading of the rules of decorum.

Delegates were seated and visitors welcomed.

The Moderator requested all reports be given as he called for them.

*** Reading of Minutes/Church Letters:** The Clerk read the minutes of the yearly meeting held Sept 27 and 28, 2014. Motion made and seconded to accept the minutes as read. Motion was accepted by vote of the delegates. A motion was made to accept Church Letters as information. Motion was seconded and passed by vote of delegates.

*** Treasure's Report:** The Treasurer gave the treasures report. A copy of the report was available for all delegates. The report showed a tremendous improvement in the financial situation of the association. A motion was made and seconded to accept the report. Delegates voted to affirm the motion.

*** State Office Report:** The Moderator gave the State report in the absence of Brother Glen Poston who was attending another Association's meeting. Brother Glen was at the Friday night meeting.

*** Financial Committee:** The Financial Committee had no report.

*** Youth Board Report:** Brother Kerry Higgins gave the Youth Board Report. The camp for 2014 will be held June 8-15. He encouraged churches to encourage their young people to attend the camp. He requested each church to provide contact information to the board.

*** Presbytery Board Report:** Brother Mike Gillock gave the Presbytery Board report.

1. Recommended Brother Caleb Mackie for Ordination. Motion made, seconded and passed by vote of delegates.

2. Taylor's Seminary Church requested Brother Terry Savage be licensed to Preach. Motion made, seconded and passed by vote of delegates.

3. Brother Mark Apple requested his ordination be delayed until the Yearly Meeting so he could be ordained at his home church. His home church requested his license be extended until that time. Motion made, seconded and passed by vote of delegates.

4. The Smokey Mountain Association of FWB in Tennessee requested by letter that the credentials of Randy Hawk be transferred to their association. Brother Hawk is no long a member of the Liberty Association, therefore the request was denied and a letter was to be sent to the Smokey Mountain Association denying the request.

*** International Missions Report:** Brother Mike Gillock gave the International Missions report. He encouraged all churches to support the World Mission offering in April. He spoke about the need for every church to become involved in World Missions. Giving to International Missions had declined and the need is great.

E-team – two young men from Knights Chapel FWB Church will be going on mission trips this summer. They were introduced. One will be going to Brazil and one to the nation of Panama. Brother Paul Robinson (former Missionary to South America) asked to speak. He encouraged the young men going on the E-team trip and encouraged all association churches in their mission efforts.

*** Family Ministries Report:** Brother Jack Taylor gave the Family Ministries report. Everything is going well with the agency at this time. Young people are being helped and introduced to Jesus; babies are being born at the Hope Center; and the school is being renovated. The agency is looking into ways to expand into other geographical territory.

*** Miscellaneous Business:** The Clerk asked for and was granted permission to print copies of the updated Association Constitution. A motion was made to print 500 copies. The motion was seconded and passed by a vote of the delegates.

Brother Frank Bratcher reported he could no longer serve as Association Moderator due to conflicts with being on two state boards. He can only serve on one. Brother Kerry Higgins the Assistant Moderator will assume the responsibilities of Moderator.

Motion made to adjourn. Motion seconded and passed by vote of delegates.

Meeting was adjourned for a short break.

The Saturday Morning Worship service began at 11:00 A.M.

Those attending were lead in singing by the host church.

The offering was taken by the Moderator and the host church provided the special music.

The outgoing Moderator gave a brief statement concerning those who had filled the pulpit for him as he was organizing and building the mission church in Carthage. He was thankful for their help. He then introduced Brother Gary Farris as the speaker for the morning service (the ordination service for Caleb Mackie). An altar of prayer was called to ask God's favor upon the meeting.

Brother Farris took his text from Matthew 10: 1-4. His sermon was entitled "Opinions and Facts". After the sermon an invitation was given.

After the sermon was closed Brother Caleb Mackie was presented with his Ordination Certificate and Brother Terry Savage was presented with his license to preach. A special prayer was offered for the two men, followed by the right-hand of fellowship from all those present.

Meeting was adjourned and all were invited to stay for a fellowship meal.

Charles Cook, Clerk

Frank Bratcher, Moderator

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

Held on May 16 and 17, 2014
At Love Free Will Baptist Church

The Friday night worship service on May 16, 2014 began at 7:00 P.M.

Brother Johnny Reeves welcomed everyone to the service and the host church led the congregation in singing.

The offering was received followed by special singing provided by Brother Gary Lewis.

Brother Randy Maynard was introduced as the speaker for the night service. Brother Maynard's sermon text was 2 Samuel 6:12-16. Message title "The Church has lost its shout".

At the close of the sermon an invitation was given. Following the invitation, announcements were made concerning International Missions info on the table at the church entrance and the worsening of Pastor Tim Osborne's cancer. Service was adjourned by Moderator Kerry Higgins and closed in prayer by Brother Jack Taylor.

The Saturday morning service on May 17th began at 9:30 A.M. Delegates and visitors were welcomed and the host church led the congregation in a song and prayer. Attendance was down due to High School graduation services at several local High Schools. Host Church Pastor Johnny Reeves brought the morning devotion from Psalm 34:4.

The Business Meeting was opened by Moderator Brother Kerry Higgins with prayer and reading of the rules of decorum.

Delegates were seated and visitors welcomed.

The Moderator requested church letters be turned into the Clerk

*** Reading of Minutes/Church Letters:** The Clerk read the minutes of the quarterly meeting held January 24 and 25, 2014. Motion made and seconded to accept the minutes as read. Motion passed by vote of the delegates. A motion was made to accept Church Letters as information. Motion was seconded and passed by vote of delegates.

*** Finance committee report and recommendations:** (1) Request the association provide Bibles to all new converts at the upcoming youth camp. (2) Request the association provide financial help to any youth who is unable to pay their expense to the youth camp.

Motions were made to accept the recommendations. The financial help for youth to attend youth camp is to come through the youth board. Motions were seconded and passed by vote of delegates.

*** Treasure's Report:** The Treasurer gave the treasures report. A copy of the report was available for all delegates. The report reflected the association finances are currently in a strong position. A motion was made and seconded to accept the report. Delegates voted to affirm the motion.

*** Youth Board Report:** Brother Kerry Higgins gave the Youth Board Report. The camp for 2014 will be held June 8-15. Applications are still being accepted.

*** Presbytery Board Report:** Brother Cody Hawkins requested his license be extended for one year. Motion made to accept the request. Motion was seconded and passed by vote of delegates.

*** International Missions Report:** No oral report. Brother Mike Gillock is attending High School graduation of Church Members. Mission information is on the table at the church entrance. All attendees encouraged to pick up a copy.

*** Family Ministries Report:** Brother Jack Taylor gave the Family Ministries report.

(1) The school building project is progressing on schedule.

(2) The Foster Care program is expanding into Middle Tennessee.

5/16,17, 2014

- (3) All Church offerings to Family Ministries go directly to the work of Family Ministries.
- (4) The Stone Association had made a food offering to Family Ministries.
- (5) He thanked the Liberty Association for their financial support and other help they provide.

The next rally will be held at the Crossville First FWB Church on October 3, 2014.

*** State Office Report:** Brother Glen Poston was not in attendance but sent information which is on the table near the front door.

*** Welch College Report:** Brother Earl Langley gave the report on Welch College. He had prepared a written report the past years events. He asked everyone to take a copy. He reported the college has expanded its degree programs to include an internet on-line degree programs. The college is still trying to find a buyer for its current campus.

Motion made to adjourn. Motion seconded and passed by vote of delegates.

Meeting was adjourned for a short break.

The Saturday Morning Worship service began at 11:00 A.M.

Brother Johnny Reeves welcomed everyone to the service and the host church lead the congregation in singing.

The morning offering was received. The offertory song was provided by the congregation.

Special music was provided, followed by prayer and Brother Frank Bratcher was introduced as the morning speaker. Brother Caleb Mackie had been scheduled to preach but was ill.

The morning message text was Acts 3:1-10 and the title of the message was "Where God's Power Flows". Brother Bratcher preached on the unfaithfulness of many church members. While many members are unfaithful – God and His power has not changed. At the conclusion of the message a prayer was offered.

The Moderator thanked the host church and the meeting was adjourned. Everyone was invited to stay for a fellowship meal.

Charles Cook, Clerk

Kerry Higgins, Moderator

Minutes of the Yearly Conference of the
Liberty Association of Free Will Baptists of Tennessee
Held on September 26 & 27, 2014
At Cookeville Free Will Baptist Church

The Friday night worship service on September 26th began at 7:00 P.M.

Brother Charles Cook, host church pastor, welcomed everyone to the service and the host church song leader, Brother Cecil Essex led the congregation in singing.

The offering was received followed by special singing provided by Sister Juonna Thompson and Sister Melba Gore.

Brother Caleb Mackie was introduced as the speaker for the service by Moderator Kerry Higgins.

Special prayer offered for Brother Mackie. Brother Mackie's sermon text was Matthew 5:13-16. He spoke on 'As salt have we lost our savor'. At the close of the sermon an invitation was given.

Moderator Kerry Higgins thanked Caleb and asked the Finance Committee to meet.

Service was dismissed until Saturday morning.

The Saturday morning service on September 27th began at 9:30 A.M. Delegates and visitors were welcomed and the host church led the congregation in a song and prayer. The morning devotion was brought by Brother Derrick Bollinger.

Moderator Kerry Higgins introduced Brother Ronnie Lee who presented to the Association an opportunity the Youth Camp Band received to go to Washington DC and lead worship at an area next to the nation's capital. He encouraged churches to support the opportunity.

The Business Meeting was opened by Brother Higgins with prayer and reading of the rules of decorum. Delegates were seated and visitors welcomed. The Moderator requested church letters be turned into the Clerk

*** Reading of Minutes/Church Letters:** The Clerk read the minutes of the quarterly meeting held May 16 and 17, 2014. The minutes were accepted as presented by vote of delegates. Delegates voted to accept Church Letters as information.

*** Finance committee report and recommendations:** (1) Request the association provide a \$1000.00 scholarship to Welch College for Caleb Mackie for the spring semester 2015. (2) Request the association provide financial help to Scott Bee in the amount of \$1000.00 to help his relocation to Memphis mission work. Delegates voted to affirm both recommendations.

*** Treasure's Report:** The Treasurer presented the treasures report. A copy of the quarterly financial report was available for all delegates. The report reflected the association's finances are currently in a strong position. The treasurer's report was received as information by the Moderator.

*** Youth Board Report:** Brother Ronnie Lee gave the Youth Board Report. The camp for 2014 was a success. There were 9 salvation decisions and numerous other decisions. The camp fee per person in 2015 is \$75.00 per attendee.

*** Presbytery Board Report:** Brother Mike Gillock presented the report.

(1) Announced 'ministers in good standing' cards were on hand to be given to each ordained minister in the association who are currently in good standing. (2) Reported receipt of letter from Cookeville FWB Church requesting the ordination of Brother Mark Apple – Presbytery Board recommends ordination – motion passed by delegates. (3) Reported receipt of letter from the Sparta First FWB Church that Brother Tyler Gamble be granted his license to preach – Presbytery Board so recommends – motion passed by delegates. (4) Reported a receipt of letter requesting the transfer of Darvin Oakes to Liberty Association from the Smokey Mountain Association. Presbytery Board recommends acceptance of transfer – motion passed by delegates. (5) The Presbytery Board has put together 'guidelines on licensing new ministers in the association'. The guide should be used by Association churches who request the licensing or ordaining of a church member.

*** Family Ministries Report:** Brother Jack Taylor gave the Family Ministries report. A written report detailing the Family Ministries activities was handed out to all present. He announced homecoming will October 18th and the Family Ministries rally is at Crossville 1st FWB Church October 3rd.

*** Welch College Report:** Brother Earl Langley gave the report on Welch College. He presented a video explaining the new on-line degree program. The video is available for all churches.

*** International Missions Report:** Report presented by Brother Mike Gillock.

(1) Requested help for Scott Bee (Association had voted to help in the amount of \$1000.00).

(2) Applications for E-teams (high school and college teams) are on the table. Encouraged churches to encourage their teens to consider e-team. (3) Encouraged churches to become involved in and support the 'Sexton Project' in Tennessee. Giving to missions is down and churches are encouraged to find ways to support missions. Brother Henry Van Kluyve spoke on missions.

*** State Office Report:** Brother Glen Poston gave the state report. Encouraged association delegates to be encouraged in the work of God. He reported: (1) The Tim Osborne Fund had topped over \$85,000 in giving. The monies will be used to pay off the mortgage of the home of widow of Brother Osborne. (2) The state youth retreat upcoming. (3) The home missions has a church revitalization project coming in the near future.

*** Nominating Committee Report:** Brother Caleb Mackie gave the report.

(1) Frank Brather to replace Brother Bernard Houk on the Presbytery Board (yr. 2018).

(2) Ronnie Neal and Luke Judkins to remain on the Youth Board (yr. 2018).

(3) Jason Alred to replace Ronnie Neal on the Youth Board (yr. 2016).

(4) All other Officers and Board Members to remain.

Motion made to accept, seconded and affirmed by vote of delegates.

Motion made to adjourn. Motion seconded and passed by vote of delegates.

Meeting was adjourned for a short break.

The Saturday Morning Worship service (Ordination of Mark Apple) began at 11:20 A.M.

Brother Charles Cook, pastor of host church, welcomed everyone to the service and Brother Cecil Essex lead the congregation in singing. An alter of prayer was held for the ordination service of Brother Mark Apple. Special music was presented by Cookeville FWBC quartet.

The morning offering was received and special music presented by Lauren Apple, wife of Mark Apple who was to being ordained during the morning service.

Brother Jimmy Arms, long time pastor and friend of Bro. Mark Apple gave opening remarks. On the day of Pentecost the disciples spoke boldly and with authority. Those present recognized these backward people had walked with Jesus while he was on the earth. He encouraged Mark to walk with Jesus.

Brother Charles Cook, pastor of Cookeville FWB Church preached the ordination service. He took his text from 2 Timothy 4:1-5, Paul's instruction to a young minister named Timothy. Brother Cook charged Mark in preaching the Gospel as Paul had charged Timothy.

Ordination Board Chairman, Brother Jack Taylor, requested Brother Tony Barnett to lead in a prayer of ordination. Certificate of Ordination was presented by Ordination Board Secretary to Brother Mark Apple and a Certificate of License to Preach was present to Brother Tyler Campbell. A right hand of fellowship was given to Brothers Mark Apple, Tyler Campbell & Brother Darvin Oakes.

The Moderator thanked the host church and the meeting was adjourned to the fellowship meal.