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MINUTES  
of the  
FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION  
of the  
*Little Brown Creek*  
*Association*  
OF THE  
FREEWILL BAPTIST

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HELD WITH  
NEW LEBANON CHURCH  
On Friday Before the First Lord's Day in  
SEPTEMBER, 1949

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D. W. JONES, Moderator  
MAUDIE MAE EPPERSON, Clerk

Next meeting will be held with Little Brown Church on Friday  
before the First Lord's Day in September, 1950.

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**MINUTES**  
of the  
**Little Brown Creek Association**  
**FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION**  
of the  
**FREEWILL BAPTIST**

We the ministers and messengers composing the Little Brown Creek Association of Freewill Baptist convened with New Lebanon Church on September 2-3, 1949, and transacted the following church matters:

**FRIDAY MORNING SESSION**

Opening song—Directed by Rev. D. W. Jones.

Prayer—Bro. Reefus Armstrong.

The Association was called to order by Rev. G. P. Mayo, who acted as chairman for the election of a Moderator to fill his place, as he was not physically able to serve. Rev. D. W. Jones was elected Moderator.

Adjournment was made until one o'clock to give time for the Introductory Sermon at 11 o'clock. Bro. Wesley Prince and Rev. Benton Moss conducted song service preceding the Introductory Sermon. Bro. Reefus Armstrong conducted Testimony Service; Bro. D. W. Jones led in prayer and Rev. M. L. Hollis delivered the inspiring message.

**FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION**

Opened with song service conducted by Rev. Benton Moss, Rev. D. W. Jones and Bro. Bert Smith. Prayer by Bro. L. M. Wigginton.

Reading clerks were appointed as follows: Lucille Phifer and Jewel Nixon.

In response to call for letters the following were received by letter and delegation:

1. **Martin Hill**—Tom McCoy, Walter Penna, Mrs. Walter Penna, Lee Dodds and Talmadge McCoy.
2. **Mt. Pisgah**—Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Murphy, Troy Murphy, and Albert Tolor.
3. **Macedonia**—Opal Nash, Audie Rowsey and Louise Whittemore.
4. **New Lebanon**—Erwin Searcy, Wesley Prince and Dewey Wright.
5. **Jones Chapel**—Mrs. Elzie Jones, Guy Jones and A. Z. Carpenter.
6. **Little Brown**—Mrs. Lula Strickland, W. J. Rhoads, Guindal Pierce, Mrs. Ada Pearce and Elizabeth Green.
7. **Antioch**—Ruby Blakney, Arlie Cummings, John Henry Lambert and Lonnie Powers.
8. **Burgess Creek**—Bro. Curtis Wright, Marie Wright and Arnell Nichols.

Letters were received and delegation seated.

Called for letters from Sister Associations and received none.

Invited visiting brethren and received Rev. M. L. Hollis from Northeast Miss. Association.

Moderator appointed the following committees:

- On Arrangements of Business**—Bro. J. J. Whittemore, Guy Jones and G. S. Murphy.
- On Devotion**—Tom McCoy, Walter Penna and Erwin Searcy.
- On Obituary**—Mrs. H. L. Byrom and Mrs. Lucille Phifer.



**On Finance**—Lee Dodds and Fate Lambert.

**On Resolutions**—Wesley Prince and Dewey Wright.

**On Sabbath Day Schools**—Mrs. Walter Penna, and Mrs. Opal Nash.

Following a brief recess, Bro. Reefus Armstrong and Bro. Calvin Bray delivered short inspirational messages.

Association adjourned to meet Saturday 9:00 o'clock a. m.

### **SATURDAY MORNING SESSION**

After a brief devotional exercise, the Union was perpetuated and found to be excellent.

Roll Call by Moderator.

The Association was declared ready for business.

Visiting brethren were invited. Received one, Rev. Whitfield Phillips from the Tennessee River Association.

Called for report from Devotional Committee.

The report: Rev. Whitfield Phillips was to fill the stand at the 11 o'clock service, followed by Rev. W. E. Armstrong.

Delegates were appointed to attend the Tennessee River Association. They were chosen as follows: Erwin Searcy, Bro. Wigginton and Bro. W. E. Armstrong. The delegates who actually attended were: Erwin Searcy, D. C. Lambert, Joe McCoy and Jack Hill.

Delegates were also chosen to attend The Northeast Mississippi Association. The following delegates were selected: Bro. Leamon Brown, Bro. J. J. Whittemore and Lonnie Powers.

The committee on Arrangements of Business assembled to draft resolutions, while the congregation listened to splendid Christian talks by Rev. L. M. Wigginton, Rev. G. P. Mayo and Rev. Pitt Reynolds.

Resolved that we hold Fifth Sunday meetings in the following order:

Burgess Creek—October 30, 1949

Macedonia—January 29, 1950

Jones Chapel—April 30, 1950

Martin Hill—July 30, 1950.

And that D. W. Jones shall be the Moderator.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT OF CHURCHES**

Martin Hill—Paid Pastor, \$252.44; Helper, Rev. G. C. Price \$70.08; Visiting Preacher, \$19.00; Gravel on yard \$25.00.

Mt. Pisgah—Paid Pastor, \$107.65; Helper \$25.00.

Macedonia—Paid Pastor \$80.40; Helper \$25.00.

New Lebanon—Paid Pastor about \$300.00; Evangelistic work \$100.00. Annexed two Sunday School Rooms at a cost of \$1250. Sunday School collection \$160.00 with \$35.00 in Sunday School Treasury at present. \$125.00 paid out for other improvements.

Jones Chapel—Paid Pastor \$60.00; Helper \$20.00. Value of church property \$2500.

Little Brown—Paid Pastor \$75.25; Helper \$22.50.

Antioch—Paid Pastor \$119.60; Helper and visiting Preachers \$79.50. Value of Church property \$2500.

Burgess Creek—Paid Pastor \$38.00; Visiting Preacher \$31.60; Improvement on Church \$49.50. Value of Church property \$3500.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

We, your committee on Devotion, beg leave to report as follows: Stand was filled Friday morning by Rev. M. L. Hollis; Friday afternoon by Bro. Reefus Armstrong and Rev. Calvin Bray; Friday night by Rev. M. L. Hollis; and Saturday morning by Bro. Whitfield Phillips, followed by Bro. W. E. Armstrong.

COMMITTEE: Erwin Searcy, Walter Penna, Tom McCoy.

We, your committee on Obituaries beg leave to report as follows: We find that death has visited our body and taken one of our beloved sisters in Christ—Betty Allen from Macedonia Church.

COMMITTEE: Mrs. L. D. Phifer, Mrs. H. L. Byrom.

We, your committee on Finance, beg leave to report as follows: We have on hand \$41.60 for Minute Funds.

COMMITTEE: Lee Dodd, Fate Lambert.

We, your committee on Sabbath Schools, beg leave to report as follows: We find that we have four Sabbath Schools in our association. They are as follows: Burgess Creek, New Lebanon, Antioch and Martin Hill. We pray that every church in the association will organize Sunday Schools in the very near future.

COMMITTEE: Mrs. Walter Penna, Mrs. G. S. Murphy.

We, your committee on Arrangements of Business, ask to report as follows: We have carefully drafted all business that came before us and ask to be discharged.

COMMITTEE: Guy Jones, J. J. Whittemore, G. S. Murphy.

We, your committee on Resolutions, beg leave to report as follows: Resolved that we now, and henceforth, pay the Clerk of our Association \$10.00 each year, for the writing of the minutes.

Resolved that we hold our next meeting of the Association with Little Brown Church, and that Rev. D. W. Jones preach the Introductory Sermon, and further be it resolved that we tender our thanks to the people of New Lebanon Church and community for their friendship, and the nice way in which they cared for everyone.

COMMITTEE: Wesley Prince, Dewey Wright.

The Association then entered into the election of its officers, which resulted in the election of Rev. D. W. Jones, Moderator; Retained, Maudie Mae Epperson, Clerk. The Association then took the parting hand to meet with Little Brown Church on Friday before the First Sunday in September, 1950.

### ADDRESSES OF CHURCH CLERKS

Antioch—Miss Ruby Blakney, Burnsville, Miss.  
Little Brown—Mrs. Myrtis Mayo, Marietta, Miss.  
Jones Chapel—Mrs. Guy Jones, Booneville, Miss.  
New Lebanon—Mrs. Jewel Nixon, Holcut, Miss.  
Macedonia—Mrs. Audie Rowsey, Rienzi, Miss.  
Mt. Pisgah—Mamie Livingston, Booneville, Miss.  
Martin Hill—Gordon Carpenter, Booneville, Miss.  
Burgess Creek—Mrs. Marie Wright, Holcut, Miss.

### ADDRESSES OF MINISTERS

1. G. P. Mayo, Booneville, Miss., Rt. 5.
2. J. B. Moss—Booneville, Miss., Rt. 6—Inactive.  
D. W. Jones—Corinth, Miss., Rt. 1.
3. L. M. Wigginton—Paden, Miss., Rt. 1.
4. Ernest Wood—Corinth, Miss., Rt. 3.
5. W. E. Armstrong—Booneville, Miss.
6. Calvin Bray—Russellville, Ala.
7. Pitt Reynolds, Burnsville, Miss., Rt. 1.

### FORM OF CHURCH LETTER

Member's Transfer Letter—We, the Freewill Baptist Church of Christ at \_\_\_\_\_ hereby certify that Bro. (or Sister) \_\_\_\_\_ is a member with us in full fellowship and good standing and is hereby dismissed from us.

Petitionary Letter — We, the Freewill Baptist Church of Christ at \_\_\_\_\_ send this, our Petitionary Letter, to the ministers and messengers composing the Little Brown Creek Association of Freewill Baptist, when convened with \_\_\_\_\_ Church, asking admittance into your honorable body. We were organized by Rev. Bro. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_, with \_\_\_\_\_ members. We send this Petitionary Letter by the hands of our beloved brethren, to-wit: \_\_\_\_\_, If received to sit with you in your deliberations and to help to transact any legal business that may come before your honorable body.

The statistics of our Church are as follows: Received by experience \_\_\_\_\_; by resolution \_\_\_\_\_ discontinued by letter \_\_\_\_\_; expelled \_\_\_\_\_; dead \_\_\_\_\_. Total membership \_\_\_\_\_. Contributions \$ \_\_\_\_\_. We have elected Elder \_\_\_\_\_ to the pastoral care of our Church for the ensuing year. No. of deacons \_\_\_\_\_. No. of ministers \_\_\_\_\_; Clerk's address \_\_\_\_\_; Moderator's address \_\_\_\_\_.

### PROGRAM FOR HOLDING CHURCH CONFERENCE

1. Call the church to order.
2. Reading of minutes of preceding meeting.
3. Is the church at peace?
4. Inviting visiting brethren.
5. Any unfinished business?
6. Any new business?
7. Reading of minutes.
8. Invitation for members.
9. Motion to adjourn.

### CHURCH LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION

We, the Freewill Baptist Church of Christ at \_\_\_\_\_ send greetings to the ministers and messengers composing the Little Brown Creek Association of Freewill Baptists when convened with \_\_\_\_\_ Church. We send our beloved brothers, to-wit: \_\_\_\_\_ to sit with you in your deliberations, and help transact any business that may come before your honorable body. The statistics of our church are as follows: Received by experience \_\_\_\_\_; by letter \_\_\_\_\_; by recommendation \_\_\_\_\_; dismissed by letter \_\_\_\_\_; expelled \_\_\_\_\_; death \_\_\_\_\_; total membership \_\_\_\_\_; contributions \$ \_\_\_\_\_. We have elected Elder \_\_\_\_\_ to the pastoral care of our church for the ensuing year. No. of deacons \_\_\_\_\_; No. of ministers \_\_\_\_\_; Clerk's address \_\_\_\_\_; Moderator's address \_\_\_\_\_.

### CONSTITUTION

Be it known that we, the Freewill Baptist Church of Christ, being in Alcorn, Tishomingo and Prentiss counties, in Mississippi, do believe in the doctrines of the General Atonement. We have been baptized upon a profession of faith in Christ, we are desirous of bringing about a reciprocal union. We propose, therefore, to maintain the order and rule of our Association according to the following plan:

We believe the Churches of Christ are mutually independent of each other; that congregational form of government should be invariably preserved; yet, we are being convinced of the utility of friendly intercourse



and pious council on the principle of union advantages and Christian love, we hold it a duty of the churches to pay respect to these principles with regard to the duty of the Association.

Article 1. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our union, who on producing letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to seats.

2. The letter so produced shall express the condition of these churches respectively; that is, the members in the fellowship, the members received, and dead, since the last Association.

3. The body shall have no conceived power to lord it over God's heritage, or infringe on any of the internal privileges or rights of the churches in our union, but shall be considered an advisory council in all things pertaining to the internal concern of the churches.

4. The Association is to give the best advice it can on all matters of difficulty. If the union should be broken between any of the churches, the Association shall inquire into the cause of the breach and use its endeavors to remove the difficulty; if the breach cannot be removed to withdraw from the church, which they look upon as unsound in principles, and disorderly conduct or practice, until they be reclaimed.

5. To take up no case of any kind in the union without the consent of the majority of the churches, and then only to give advice.

6. All newly constituted churches may be received into the union by their representatives presenting a letter from their respective churches if found orderly and orthodox; such a reception shall be manifested by the right hand of fellowship.

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## ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. THE BIBLE. The Scriptures of the Old and New Testament were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallable rule of faith and practice.

2. GOD. There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe; and in the Scripture as Father, Son and Holy Ghost, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore and obey.

3. CHRIST. Christ is God manifested in flesh; His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified. He is now risen and glorified, and is our ever present Savior and Lord.

4. THE HOLY SPIRIT. The Scripture assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God. He is the Reprover, Comforter, Guide and Sanctifier of men.

5. THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD. God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of man requires.

6. THE SINFULNESS OF MAN. Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherit a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability sin, and become guilty before God.

7. THE WORK OF CHRIST. The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection affected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

8. THE TERMS OF SALVATION. The conditions of salvation are: 1.

Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit free from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuence in faith and obedience until death.

9. ELECTION. God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

10. FREEDOM OF THE WILL. The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.

11. SALVATION FREE. God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water freely.

12. PERSEVERANCE. All believers in Christ, who through grace perseverance in holiness to the end of life have promise of eternal salvation.

13. GOSPEL ORDINANCES. **Baptism**, or the immersion of believers in water, and the **Lord's Supper**, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel; **Feet Washing**, an ordinance teaching humility of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.

14. THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH. The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works and activities, and for personal communications with God.

15. RESURRECTION JUDGEMENT AND FINAL RETRIBUTION. The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

## STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	NAMES OF DELEGATES	Deacons	Ordained Ministers	Days of Meeting	Rec'd by Recommendation	Rec'd by Letter	Rec'd by Exp. & Baptism	Expelled	Dismissed by Letter	Deceased	Total Membership	Contributions
Martin Hill .....	Tom McCoy, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Penna, Talmadge McCoy, Lee Dodds ....	2	1	1	0	0	5	0	4	0	277	\$9.35
Mt. Pisgah .....	Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Murphy, Troy Murphy and Albert Tolor .....	4	1	2	0	0	6	0	0	0	57	5.00
Macedonia .....	Opal Nash, Audie Rowsey, and Louise Whittemore .....	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	35	4.00
New Lebanon .....	Erwin Searcy, Wesley Prince and Dewey Wright .....	6	5	4	0	10	28	0	1	0	262	5.00
Jones Chapel .....	Mrs. Elzie Jones, Guy Jones and A. Z. Carpenter .....	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	4.00
Little Brown .....	Mrs. Lula Strickland, W. J. Rhoads, Guindal Pearce, Mrs. Ada Pierce and Elizabeth Green .....	3	1	3	0	0	2	0	2	0	85	5.00
Antioch .....	Ruby Blakney, Arlie Cummings, John H. Lambert and Lonnie Powers ....	3	1	2	0	2	10	0	0	0	205	6.03
Burgess Creek .....	Curtis Wright, Marie Wright and Arnell Nichols .....	3	1	1	0	0	4	0	1	0	20	3.00