

Miss.
ERNEST R. BOWEN
3606 WEST END AVENUE
NASHVILLE, TENN. 37205



MINUTES
OF THE
LITTLE BROWN CREEK
ASSOCIATION

SIXTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

FREE WILL BAPTIST

HELD WITH MARTIN HILL CHURCH

On Thursday and Friday before the First Lord's Day
In September, 1956

REV. D. W. JONES, Moderator
MRS. ALEENE SHARP, Clerk

Next meeting will be held with New Lebanon Church on
Thursday and Friday, before the First Lord's Day
In September, 1957

ERNEST R. BOWEN
3606 WEST END AVENUE
NASHVILLE, TENN. 37205

**MINUTES OF THE LITTLE BROWN CREEK ASSOCIATION
SIXTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE FREE WILL
BAPTIST**

PROCEEDINGS

The 66th Annual Session of the Little Brown Creek Association convened with Martin Hill Church on August 30 and 31, 1956, transacted the following church matters.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

The association was opened by the choir singing "I Live On," directed by Bro. D. W. Jones; pianist, Miss June Walden: "Where Soul May Never Die." Prayer by Bro. R. C. McCoy. "I Live In Glory" directed by Bro. J. J. Whittemore.

The introductory sermon was preached at 11 o'clock. Rev. H. C. Killen of Red Bay, Ala., read Psalms 133 chapter, 1st verse, "Free Will Baptist came together in unity." Song: "Camping In Cannonland" directed by Bro. Joe Moss. Dismissal prayer for lunch hour by Brother Fate Lambert.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The association reassembled by singing "When I Read My Title Clear." Prayer by Bro. H. C. Killen. Moderator declared association ready for business. First called letters from each church and asked for letters from other associations. Bro. H. C. Killen from Muscle Shoals State Line Association, Florence, Ala., Bro. Keaton onf Red Bay, Ala., were recognized.

Reading clerks were appointed as follows: Bro. Joe Moss, Sister Olene Whitehead. Next the response to a call for letters, the following were received by letter and delegation: 1. Mt. Pisgah: Bro. Jeff Walker, Sister Viola Walker, Sister Lonie Greer. 2. Little Brown—Sister Myrtis Mayo, Sister Lula Strickland, Sister Mary White. 3. Jones Chapel — Bro. Jim Thompson, Bro. Guy Jones, Bro. Ought Carpenter. 4. Macedonia—Sister Kate McCoy, Sister Cordie Whittemore, Sister Gladys Searcy. 5. New Lebanon —Bro. Homer Lambert, Bro. Horace Wright, Sister Olene Whitehead, Sister Eunice Searcy. 6. Antioch—Bro. Lonnie Powers, Bro. Dave Woods, Bro. J. C. Lambert. 7. Burgess Creek—Bro. P. T. Woodruff, Bro. Curtis Wright, Bro. Jessie Gentles, Sister Hazel Gentles, Sister Barbara Sue Strickland. 8. Martin Hill—Bro. Roland McCoy, Bro. Robert Dodds, Bro. Lee Dodds, Sister Artie Martin.

Next the Moderator appointed the following committees: 1. On Arrangement of Business—Bros. D. C. Lambert, Lonnie Powers, G. W. Martin. 2. On Devotion—Bros. J. J. Whittemore, Fate Lambert, Roland McCoy. 3. Obituary—Sister Olene Whitehead, Mary White. 4. Finance—Bros. J. W. Prince, Jeff Walker, H. C. Stacy. 5. Resolution—Bros. P. T. Woodruff, Lee Dodds. 6. On Sunday School—Sisters Grace McCoy, Kate McCoy.

Homes were declared available to any delegate or minister who were nat returning to their home for the night.

Bro. H. C. Killen, Red Bay, Ala., invited the association to attend the association at Florence, Alabama on the 4th Sunday in

September. Reported that Jasper, Ala., Association meet at Popular Log in October.

Song: "Just Over In Glory Land" Bro. Lonnie Powers. Christian handshake. Adjourned to reassemble at 9:00 o'clock Friday morning. Dismissed by Bro. Stacy.

No services were held Thursday night on account of a death in the community.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Opening song, "The Heavenly Home" directed by Bro. D. W. Jones, pianist Bro. Joe Moss. Union handshake, prayer by Bro. R. C. McCoy. Association declared opened, ready for business. Roll called by Moderator, Bro. D. W. Jones. All churches were represented by delegates. Song, "It Won't Be Very Long," directed by Bro. Grady Johnson. Devotional by Bro. H. C. Stacy, reading II Chronicles 7th chapter, 14th through 19th verses. Text: "Prayer." Song: "Anywhere Is Home" directed by Bro. Jeff Walker. Bro. Grady Johnson preached, read 1 Peter 4th chapter 14th verse, text, "Let not be suffer murder, theft, evildoer or busybody." Song, "If I Could Hear My Mother Prayer Again" directed by Bro. Jones. Dismissed by Bro. R. C. McCoy. In order for all to go to funeral at 11 o'clock.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Singing, "Sweet Bye and Bye" directed by Bro. Grady Johnson. 1. Resolution read to the association and passed. A move was made as follows: I make a move the clerk of the churches inquire of members being received by letter, of their former church and that the clerk write for a letter or recommendation from the church they are leaving. This is in order to keep our church record straight. I also recommend that they not be received in full fellowship until their letter or recommendation be received.

Song: "Give Me Your Hand" directed by Bro. Grady Johnson.

2nd Resolution—Read association by moderator D. W. Jones, adopted by association. Resolved that each church in the association help support a radio program to be presided over by Bro. R. C. McCoy and that we appoint a committee to furnish him with names of preachers who shall have time and preach on the program. Committee: D. C. Lambert, G. W. Martin, Lonnie Powers. Dismissed 5 minutes for recess.

Moderator then called for reports from the various committees, one from each committee read reports: 1. Devotions—We your committee on Devotions beg leave to report as follows: The stand was filled Thursday morning by Rev. H. C. Killen. Friday morning, Rev. H. C. Stacy and then Rev. Grady Johnson. Committee: J. J. Whitemore, B. F. Lambert, Roland McCoy.

2. Obituary—We your committee on Obituary beg leave to report as follows: We find that death has visited our body of Christian believers and has taken seven of our beloved members.

New Lebanon—Bro. D. C. Allred, Sister Martha Moss.

Martin Hill—Bro. Walter Penna, Bro. George Cole.

Macedonia—Bro. Buddy Howell.

Mt. Pisgah—Bro. John Johnson.

Antioch—Bro. Charlie Blakney.
We count our loss as Heaven's gain. Committee: Sis. Olene Whitehead, Sister Mary White. Stood one minute for silent prayer on behalf of the ones passed on.

3. Finance—We your committee on Finance beg leave to report as follows: We have on hand \$47.00 for minutes fund and clerk expenses. We ask to be released. Committee Bro. Jeff Walker, Bro. J. W. Prince, Bro. H. C. Stacy.

4. On Sunday Schools—We your committee on Sunday Schools rejoice to report we still have active Sunday schools in all eight churches of our association. We thank the Lord for an excellent report and trust that it will be His will for continued 100 per cent report. Committee: Sister Grace McCoy, Sister Kate McCoy.

5. On Arrangement of Business: We your committee on Arrangement of Business have drafted all business that came before your body and ask to be discharged. Committee, D. C. Lambert, G. W. Martin, Lonie Powers.

Dismissed all committees: \$12.69 left over from Minute Fund last year in treasury, Bro. Whitehead returned \$5.00 left over from trip to Tulsa, Okla., last year, National Association. This money will go on radio program at Corinth, Miss., and all money left over after minutes are printed go on radio program. Give to Bro. R. C. McCoy. Committee appointed by Moderator to help radio program: D. C. Lambert, G. W. Martin, Lonie Powers.

The association discusses to continue the 5th Sunday meeting. Association then entered into election of its officers for another year. Moderator 5th Sunday meeting, Bro. R. C. McCoy retained for another year. Meeting will be held as follows: (1) Jones Chapel, September 30, 1956 (2) Macedonia, December 30, 1956 (3) Martin Hill, March 31, 1957 (4) Burgess Creek, June 30, 1957.

Moderator for Association: Bro. J. W. Prince; Assistant Moderator: Bro. D. W. Jones; retain Aileene Sharp for Clerk.

The introductory sermon, Rev. R. C. McCoy.

It was asked for request delegates to attend National Association at Birmingham, Alabama, sometime in July, 1957. Delegates, Bro. Joe Moss, Sister Kate McCoy, Bro. Sidney Whitehead.

Write letters to association and send fee \$5.00 for minutes.

After announcements the choir sang, "God Be With You." All took the parting handshake and dismissed by Bro. Sidney Whitehead.

If it the Lord's will, we hope to meet with New Lebanon Church on Thursday and Friday, before the first Sunday in September, 1957.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF CHURCHES

MARTIN HILL: Amount given pastor \$817.24, amount given visiting ministers \$15.00, amount given evangelists \$123.78, amount given charity \$40.00, amount given retired pastor \$71.47, amount given Free Will Baptist Bible College \$68.00, for flowers \$88.62, value of church property \$6000.00, church expense \$793.40, amount in treasury \$191.56. Clerk's address, Mrs. William Walden, Route 5, Booneville, Miss. Moderator's address, Rev. J. W. Prince, Route

1, Paden, Miss.

MT. PISGAH: Amount given pastor \$193.10, amount assistant visiting ministers, none, amount given evangelist, none, amount given charity \$43.00, church expenses \$48.17, amount in treasury \$77.47, value of church property \$3000.00, amount given radio broadcast \$42.00.

MACEDONIA: Amount given pastor \$142.50, amount given assistant pastor or visiting ministers, none, amount given evangelist \$27.60, amount given charity \$8.50, church expenses \$28.80, amount in treasury \$16.70, value of church property \$2500.00.

NEW LEBANON: Amount given pastor \$252.42, assistant pastor \$50.00, amount given for flowers \$41.80, amount given charity \$36.80, church expenses \$989.56, amount in treasury \$23.53, value of church property \$5000.00.

JONES CHAPEL: Amount given pastor \$122.00, amount given assistant pastor \$40.50; amount given charity, none, amount in treasury \$35.00, church expenses \$162.50, value of church property \$3000.00.

LITTLE BROWN: Amount given pastor \$66.35, amount given visiting ministers \$75.00, amount given evangelist \$64.12, church expenses, none, amount in treasury \$2.61, value of church property \$4000.00.

ANTIOCH: Amount given pastor \$287.33, amount given assistant pastor or visiting ministers \$76.26, amount for evangelist \$124.89, amount given chairty \$40.00, amount given foreign mission \$32.93, church expenses \$201.44, amount in church treasury \$149.63, Sunday School expense \$45.60, amount in Sunday School treasury \$79.46, value of church property \$3000.00.

BURGESS CREEK: Amount given pastor \$254.45, amount given visiting ministers \$10.00, amount given evangelist \$55.11, church expenses \$130.10, amount in treasury \$20.00, value of church property \$3500.00.

ADDRESSES OF CHURCH CLERKS

Antioch—Mrs. Reba Woods, Route 4, Iuka, Miss.
Little Brown—Miss Lula Denson, New Site, Miss.
Jones Chapel—Mrs. Earl Jones, Route 6, Booneville, Miss.
New Lebanon—Mrs. Artie Lambert, Route 3, Iuka, Miss.
Macedonia—Mrs. Cerez Allen, Glen, Miss.
Mt. Pisgah—Mrs. Grace Ashbley, Route 5, Booneville, Miss.
Martin Hill—Mrs. William Walden, Route 5, Booneville, Miss.
Burgess Creek—Mrs. Marie Wright, Route 3, Iuka, Miss.

ADDRESS OF MINISTERS

1. Rev. G. P. Mayo, Route 5, Booneville, Miss.
2. Rev. L. M. Wiggington, Route 1, Paden, Miss.
3. Rev. Calvin Bray
4. Rev. Pitt Reynolds, Route 1, Burnsville, Miss.
5. Rev. D. W. Jones, Route 1, Corinth, Miss.
6. Rev. R. C. McCoy, Route 6, Corinth, Miss.
7. Rev. J. W. Prince, Route 1, Paden, Miss.
8. Rev. Sidney Whitehead, Paden, Miss.
9. Rev. H. C. Stacy, Booneville, Miss.
10. Rev. Gorden Carpenter, Route 5, Booneville, Miss.

FORM OF CHURCH LETTER

Member's Transfer Letter—We, the Freewill Baptist Church of Christ at _____ hereby certify that Brother (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 God 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 _____; died _____. Total membership _____. Contributions \$ _____. We have elected Elder _____, to the pastoral care of our Church the ensuing year. Number of Deacons _____; Number of Ministers _____; Clerk's Address _____; Moderator's address _____.

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 Baptist 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 _____; Active _____; Inactive _____; death _____; total membership _____; contribution \$ _____.

We have elected Elder _____ to the pastoral care of our church for the ensuing year. Number of Deacons _____;

Number of Ministers _____; Value of Church property \$ _____;

Amount given pastor \$ _____; Amount given assistant pastor or visiting ministers \$ _____; Amount given evangelist \$ _____;

Amount given to charity \$ _____; Amount in treasury \$ _____.

We petition for the Association to meet with us at _____ Church.

This, done by order of the Church in conference (Date) _____.

Clerk's address _____ Moderator's address _____.

PROGRAM FOR HOLDING CHURCH CONFERENCE

1. Call the church to order.
2. Reading of minutes of preceeding 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.
-

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **THE BIBLE.** The Scripture 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 glorified. 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 law 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 effected 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 soul dominion of sin and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance 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 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. **PRESERVANCE.** All believers in Christ, who, through grace persevere 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 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, JUDGMENT AND FINAL RETRIBUTION. The Scripture teaches 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."

CHURCH COVENANT

Having been brought, as we humbly trust, by Divine Grace to embrace the Lord Jesus as our Savior and having obtained justification by faith in His Name, as members of the Free Will Baptist Church at _____ agree:

1. To watch over each other in love, and to pray for each other as members of a common faith ever striving to keep the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace.

2. We will not speak evil of another, nor will we prosecute or expose the faults of the weak members of our church, but we will endeavor to be governed by Paul's instructions to Timothy: "That we will reprove, rebuke and exhort each other as members of a common brotherhood."

3. We are commanded to do good unto all men, especially to those who are of the household of faith. But we should remember that our relations to each other are closer and the obligations more binding that we become as a family and assume in a Christian sense the care and responsibility that members of a family should feel for each other.

4. We will attend that stated meetings of our church unless we are providentially hindered or uncontrollable circumstances prevent us. And we will contribute of our means as the Lord has prospered us for the support of our pastor and other necessary expenses of our church. And we will prefer the services of our church to that of any other, and will pray for our pastor while he is preaching the Word to us.

5. We will not injure our influence in the house of our Lord by accepting seats among the ungodly and sinners, but will occupy seats near the pulpit and use the natural powers which the Lord has given us to praise His Holy Name. We will sing with those who sing and pray with those who pray.

6. We will not be guilty of the sin of Sabbath breaking by making Sunday visits to our neighbors which is double sin against the law of God, for in so doing we fail to attend the house of the Lord and hinder others who might wish to do so. Let us remember the laws of Moses which condemns Sabbath breaking and the

words of the inspired Apostle which says, "Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together as the manner of some is."

7. We will not neglect secret and public prayer, and those of us who are heads of families will strive to dedicate our household to the service of God by teaching our children the great necessity of the Christian religion as the only hope of happiness after death. We will adopt the Covenant of Joshua, the servant of the Lord, and say: "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

CONSTITUTION

Be it known that we, the Freewill Baptist Church, being in Alcorn, Tishomingo, and Prentiss Counties, in Mississippi, do believe in the doctrines of the General Atonement. We have been baptized upon 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 unity of friendly intercourse and pious council on the principal 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 died 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.

STATISTICAL TABLE—LITTLE BROWN CREEK ASSOCIATION

CHURCHES	NAME OF DELEGATES	Deacons	Ordained Ministers	Days of Meeting	Rec. by Rec'm	Rec. by Letter	Rev. by Exp. & Bapt.	Expelled	Dismissed by Letter	Deceased	Active Members	Inactive	Total Membership	Contributions
Martin Hill -----	Bro. Roland McCoy, Bro. Robt. Dodds, Sis. Artie Martin -----	8	1	4	0	0	3	0	4	2	106	153	259	\$5.00
Macedonia -----	Sis. Kate McCoy, Sis. Cordie Whittemore, Sis. Gladys Searcy -----	3	1	2	0	2	5	0	0	1	26	20	46	6.50
New Lebanon -----	Bro. Homer Lambert, Bro. Horace Wright, Sis. Ocene Whitehead, Sis. Eunice Searcy -----	5	5	1	0	0	4	0	2	2	201	82	283	8.00
Jones Chnapel -----	Bro. Jim Thompson, Bro. Guy Jones, Bro. Ought Carpenters, .. Sister Myrtis Mayo, Sis. Lula Strickland, Sis. Mary White -----	3	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	18	24	42	5.00
Little Brown -----	Bro. Lonie Powers, Bro. Dave Woods, Bro. J. C. Lambert -----	4	1	2	0	0	0	0	4	0			85	5.43
Antioch -----	Bro. Curtis Wright, Bor. P. T. Woodruff, Bro. Jessie Gentles, Sis. Hazel Gentles, Sis. Barbara Sue Strickland -----	4	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	1			244	8.11
Burgess Creek -----	Bro. Jeff Walker, Sis. Viola Walker, Sis. Lonie Greer -----	4	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	20	15	35	3.00
Mt. Pisgah -----		4	1	1	0	1	2	0	4	1	15	71	86	5.85
		36	13	16	0	3	16	0	14	7	386	365	1080	\$46.99 1c
		TOTAL -----												\$47.00