

MINUTES
OF THE
Forty-Seventh Annual Session
OF THE
Little River Association
OF THE
UNITED FREE WILL BAPTISTS

CONVENED WITH

O Z I A S

ATKINSON COUNTY, GEORGIA

October 15 and 16, 1953

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REV. RILEY GIDDENS, Moderator Ray City, Ga.
REV. M. T. GOFF, Assistant Moderator Lenox, Ga.
W. N. WILSON, Clerk Pearson, Ga.
C. M. CHAFIN, JR., Assistant Clerk Norman Park, Ga.

Next Session to convene with Pine Level Church, Worth
County, Georgia, Thursday and Friday before
Third Sunday in October, 1954

CHURCH CONFERENCE

1. Prayer (unless divine service has been concluded and generally then).
2. Invite visiting brethren to seats.
3. Open the doors for reception of members, and read over minutes of last conference.
4. Call for absentees.
5. For acknowledgements.
6. For reference of deferred business.
7. For matters of dealing which are in order to come before the church.
8. For miscellaneous business.

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. The body at each session shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. Call for church letters and have them read, and names of ministers and delegates enrolled.
3. Elect a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer by ballot.
4. Call for Petitionary Letters.
5. Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.
6. Call for corresponding Messengers.
7. Appoint Committees: (a) Preaching; (b) Denominational Literature; (c) Temperance; (d) Churches and Destitution; (e) Education; (f) Ministers; (g) Sunday School and Literature; (h) Resolution; (i) Finance; (j) Cards of Thanks.
8. Unfinished business.
9. Report of Committees.
10. Miscellaneous business.
11. Adjournment.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

M. M. FRANKS, Tifton, Ga.	Exp. 1954
W. N. WILSON, Pearson, Ga.	Exp. 1955
MACON PAULK, Tifton, Ga.	Exp. 1956
H. R. DOUGLAS, Kirkland, Ga.	Exp. 1957
C. M. CHAFIN, Norman Park, Ga.	Exp. 1958

ORDALNING COUNCIL

J. D. Little, Riley Giddens, M. T. Goff, and Everett Williams

PROCEEDINGS

The Forty-Seventh Annual Session of the Little River Association of Free Will Baptists convened with Ozias Church in Atkinson County, Georgia, Thursday and Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1953.

Before the Introductory sermon, Rev. H. W. Giddens had charge of the Devotional period.

The session was called to order by singing "There Is A Fountain", prayer by Mrs. Riley Giddens, Introductory sermon by Rev. H. L. Catrett. His text was from St. Mark 14:63.

The body was welcomed and dismissed for lunch by Rev. E. C. Morris.

After a very nice spread the meeting was called to order by singing "Stepping in the Light".

Prayer by A. L. Sellars. Scripture by Moderator, Rev. Riley Giddens, Psalms 122.

Called for Corresponding Letters. Appointed Rev. H. L. Knighton and Rev. E. C. Morris to read the Letters.

Moved that we receive the letters and seat the delegation.

Moved that we elect a moderator and clerk by ballot.

Rev. Riley Giddens, Moderator; Rev. M. T. Goff, Assistant Moderator, W. N. Wilson, Clerk; C. M. Chafin, Assistant Clerk.

Called for Petitionary Letters. Invited visiting Brethren to seats with us.

Called for corresponding Messengers, and received them by the right hand of the Moderator.

South Georgia—J. B. Harris, E. B. Joiner, Frank Bennett, Rev. I. J. Blackwelder and wife.

State—E. C. Morris.

Chattahoochee—Rev. H. L. Knighton, G. C. King.

Union—Rev. H. L. Giddens, Rev. A. L. Sellars.

Martin—Rev. H. L. Catrett, W. R. Barber.

Each one asked for a messenger to their association.

Moved to adjourn until Friday morning.

FRIDAY MORNING

Business called to order. Song, "Blessed Assurance", prayer by Rev. M. T. Goff and scripture by Rev. Riley Giddens—23rd Psalm.

Moved that we take up miscellaneous business.

Called for letters that come in late. Orange Grove and Forrest Hill brought theirs in. These were read and accepted.

Forrest Hill asked for a letter of dismission from the Little River Association, moved and seconded that we table this for 12 months with their permission.

Appointed delegates to Sister Associations.

CHATTAHOOCHEE—meets at Mt. Olive, Friday and Saturday before the first Sunday in October, Bro. Riley Giddens, Bro. J. D. Little.

GEORGIA UNION—meets at Pine Level Thursday and Friday before the second Sunday in October, Bro. M. T. Goff.

UNION—meets at St. Paul, Wednesday and Thursday before the fourth Sunday in October. Bro. Ray McInvale, Bro. W. R. Hullet.

SOUTH GEORGIA—meets at Glennville, Friday and Saturday before the fourth Sunday in October. Bro. W. N. Wilson.

MARTIN—Mt. Gilead—Bro. J. J. Grey and wife.

MIDWAY—Travelers Rest, Bro. H. R. Douglas, Bro. J. D. Little. STATE—meet in Thomaston, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday before the third Sunday in November. Rev. J. D. Little and wife, Rev. Riley Giddens and wife.

Moved that we send \$10.00 to the State Association.

We, the District Auxiliary met and organized October 16, 1953 with 28 members present. The first District meeting will be held on Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1954 with Pine Level Church.

Moved that we print 400 Minutes.

Moved that we pay the Clerk \$20.00 and the Moderator \$10.00.

Cool Springs reports it has a good League.

Pine Level has a League and plans to organize a Woman's Auxiliary.

Moved that we reelect Bro. C. M. Chafin to the Executive Committee until 1958.

Moved that we appoint Rev. M. T. Goff to help Rev. E. C. Morris in his cabinet.

Moved that we accept the new letter, read by Bro. E. C. Morris.

Morning Service by Rev. I. J. Blackwelder.

Took an offering for White Hall Church. Amount \$50.57.

Dismissed for lunch by Rev. E. B. Joiner.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Business was called to order by singing "More About Jesus". Prayer by Rev. Hullet. Bro. E. C. Morris gave a report about the State work.

Moved that we give the Women's Auxiliary time on the program.

Took an offering for Bro. J. B. Harris. The amount was \$8.00.

Took an offering for Unified Program. The amount was \$21.67.

Moved that we adjourn and sing, "God Be With You."

PREACHING COMMITTEE

We, your Preaching Committee, recommend that Bro. H. L. Knighton preach the evening sermon followed by Bro. Harris.

We further recommend that Rev. I. J. Blackwelder preach Friday at eleven o'clock.

MRS. J. H. IVEY, Chairman

DENOMINATIONAL LITERATURE

We, your Committee on Denominational Literature, recommend that all our churches use Free Will Baptist Literature in their Sunday Schools, Leagues, and Auxiliaries.

We recommend that Mance Cason preach the Introductory sermon at the next session, with Everett Williams as alternate.

WILLIE COWARD, Chairman

TEMPERANCE

We, your Committee on Temperance, recommend that the members of our churches attend all Church services held in their Churches, and to help in every way possible to promote the Kingdom of God in their Church and community in which they live, and to be temperate in all their undertakings.

H. R. DOUGLAS, Chairman

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND LITERATURE

We, your Committee, recommend that all Free Will Baptist Churches have a good Sunday School. The Sunday School and League is one of the best ways to get unchurched workers in the Church. Jesus said: "Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of God."

We also recommend that Free Will Baptist Literature be used.

MRS. JAMES WHISWANT, Chairman

RESOLUTIONS

We, your Committee on Resolutions, recommend that the name of our Association be changed back to Little River Association of the United Free Will Baptist.

We recommend that every church use Ministers of our Faith and order during revivals.

We recommend that each church contribute generously to the Superannuation fund.

We also recommend that each church encourage their young folks in church work.

MRS. RILEY GIDDENS, Chairman

CHURCHES AND DESTITUTION

We, your Committee, find all churches in good standing and supplied with Pastors and able to get one as far as we know.

AUDIE WILLIAMS, Chairman

EDUCATION

We, your Committee, recommend that more stress be placed on our young peoples' activities, including Sunday School, League, and Youth camp to more ably train our young people in Christian education to fill places in later life as Ministers, Deacons, Teachers and builders of Christian homes.

E. W. PATILLO, Chairman

MINISTERS

We, your Committee, find all Ministers in good standing as far as we know.

E. C. FAUCHER, Chairman

FINANCE

Pine Level	\$ 13.00
Corinth	10.50
Zion Hill	5.00
Sunny Side	14.00
Oak Grove	8.00
Forrest Hill	5.00
Cool Springs	20.00
Friendship	6.00

Ozias	15.00
First Valdosta	15.00
Whitehall	5.00
New Jerusalem	5.00
Orange Grove	15.00
Shady Grove	00.00

TOTAL FROM CHURCHES	\$136.50
Balance in Treasury	15.04

TOTAL	\$151.54
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CARD OF THANKS

We, the members of the Little River Association desire to express to Ozias Church and community by a rising vote our appreciation for the courtesy we have enjoyed and the hospitality shown us while in their midst. May the Lord add his many blessings to them.

M. T. GOFF, Chairman

LIST OF MINISTERS PRESENT

J. D. Little, Riley Giddens, Everett Williams, W. R. Hullet, Seaborn Boeing, R. S. Hayes and J. C. Weathers.

LIST OF CHURCHES AND DELEGATES

WHITEHALL—J. W. Miles, J. J. Mizell, Sister S. C. Youmans.

FRIENDSHIP—Sister Jewel Ross, Sister Fannie Davis.

OAK GROVE—Sister Olif Durrance, Sister Odessa Bradford.

SHADY GROVE—A. D. Goff

FORREST HILL—Perry Rice, Ira Pittman

OZIAS—W. N. Wilson and wife, Wellie Cowart and wife, Fred Baker and wife.

SUNNY SIDE—Sister J. D. Little, H. R. Douglas, Eddie Williams, Audie Williams, E. C. Fancher, Sister Everett Williams

CORINTH—L. E. Wynn and wife, Julafay Ogletree, Mrs. V. R. Franks Mrs. M. M. Franks, Ross Speer and wife, Ruth Franks, Elzie D. Franks

COOL SPRINGS—J. H. Ivey, Mrs. J. H. Ivey, Margaret Mercer, Ed Stone, J. B. Mercer, Mrs. J. B. Mercer, M. L. Bowen, Mrs. M. L. Bowen, Temuel Roberts, Mrs. Temuel Roberts, James Whisanant, Mrs. James Whisanant, J. B. Pope, Ralph Chafin.

FIRST VALDOSTA—Mr. E. W. Pattillo, J. J. Grey and wife, Sister H. W. Selph, Sister G. L. Selph, John Selph.

ZION HILL—J. C. Arnold.

NEW JERUSALEM—J. T. Wirad.

PINE LEVEL—J. M. Hartsfield and wife, Sister Tom Carlton, Sister Bessie Carlton.

ORANGE GROVE—Carson E. Parrish.

UNION MEETINGS**Liberty**

New Jerusalem	1st	5th Sun.	1955
Corinth	4th	5th Sun.	1953
Forrest Hill	1st	5th Sun.	1954
Pine Level	2nd	5th Sun.	1954

Shady Grove	3rd	5th Sun.	1954
Cool Springs	4th	5th Sun.	1954
Ruth Kinnon			
Valdosta Church	4th	5th Sun.	1953
Sunny Side	1st	5th Sun.	1954
Friendship	2nd	5th Sun.	1954
Cakgrove	3rd	5th Sun.	1954
Ozias	4th	5th Sun.	1954
Zion Hill	1st	5th Sun.	1955
Whitehall	2nd	5th Sun.	1955

ASSOCIATIONS

Pine Level	1954	Friendship	1961
Corinth	1955	Valdosta	1962
Zion Hill	1956	Whitehall	1963
Sunny Side	1957	New Jerusalem	1964
Oak Grove	1958	Orange Grove	1965
Forrest Hill	1959	Shady Grove	1966
Cool Springs	1960	Ozias	1967

TREASURER'S REPORT

Received from Churches	\$136.50
In Treasury	15.04
Total	\$151.54
Paid Clerk	\$ 20.00
Paid Moderator	10.00
State Association	10.00
Postage	4.00
Printer	61.80
Balance in Treasury	\$ 45.74

DECEASED MINISTERS

Rev. Tharp Bailey	1911	Rev. B. O. Brown	1928
Rev. J. J. Davis	1913	Rev. M. F. Cason	1929
Rev. C. Leon Starling	1919	Rev. H. J. Griffis	1939
Rev. J. B. Griffin	1926	Rev. W. R. Cato	1941
Rev. H. J. Cowart		Rev. J. C. Arnold	1942
Rev. Morgan Cannon	1926	Rev. J. R. Weeks	1947
Rev. A. Eunice	1928		

MINISTERS AND POSTOFFICES

Rev. Riley Giddens	Ray City, Georgia
Rev. J. F. Smith	Atlanta, Georgia
Rev. T. Al Pannell	Moultrie, Georgia
Rev. F. S. Jones	Waycross, Georgia
Rev. E. W. Patillo	Valdosta, Georgia
Rev. W. A. Pope	Bainbridge, Georgia
Rev. R. S. Hayes	Adel, Georgia
Rev. J. D. Little	Kirkland, Georgia
Rev. Seaborn Bowen	Kirkland, Georgia
Rev. W. R. Hullet	Ty-Ty, Georgia
Rev. J. C. Weathers	Cordele, Georgia
Rev. M. T. Goff	Lehox, Georgia

OBITUARIES

It is with deep sorrow that we report the death of Bro. E. G. Wright, on September 6, 1953. We trust our loss is Heaven's gain.

C. M. CHAFFIN, JR.
Cool Springs Church.

GOVERNMENT AND ORDINANCES

1. We believe that a gospel church or Church of Christ, is a congregation of Christians constituted and governed according to the rules laid down in the New Testament.

2. That these rules require churches to preserve the form of government and ordinances of the first Christian churches and to be composed of baptized believers in Christ.

3. That the visible church is the aggregate or whole number of gospel churches, and that the invisible church is composed of the redeemed now in heaven and such Christians on earth as are not attached to the visible church according to gospel rules.

4. That the establishment of a central catholic government over the visible church, or any part thereof, is a device of earthly ambition, repugnant to the Word of God, subservient to the churches and dangerous to the liberty of man.

5. That gospel churches are the only ecclesiastical bodies or tribunals authorized by the Scriptures; and that each church has the unrestricted right to administer its own government without supervision or interference, being under Christ essentially, independent and absolute, and if this right be surrendered to superintending jurisdiction by delegates or otherwise, the assembly ceases to be a Gospel church.

6. That churches may, nevertheless, we suppose, meet by delegates, form an association and declare the terms upon which they will keep up the correspondence; but that the right and authority of churches being inalienable, or in no way compromised or hindered by entering into an association, and therefore an association has no authority over churches or individuals, their only power being to transact business which does not pertain to churches in their ecclesiastical capacity, to promote natural intercourses, and a concentration of voluntary effort; and to give that advice to churches which might equal authority given by an individual.

7. That the authority of the churches is designated for the perpetuation of the true religion of the Gospel, and for preservation of true and orderly bodies of Christians on earth, that is fully sufficient for the purpose intended, but that does not extend to persons, properly or the conscience of men in any manner whatsoever.

8. That the only requisites to church membership are faith in Christ and obedience to the Gospel, that faith in Christ necessarily exists in connection with the belief in the fundamental truths of Christianity, and that to prescribe any other requisite of such membership is an assumption of authority on the part of the church and a departure from the Gospel plan.

9. That the officers of a church are elders and deacons; that the elders are called bishops or pastors and all of the elders are equal in

rank though they may perform different functions—since some may be bishops or pastors of particular churches, while others may be simple elders, having no pastoral charge.

10. That the authority of a minister of the Gospel extends to teaching, exhortation and rebuke, but no further, that he cannot perform any acts that belong to the authority of the Church such as the reception of members into the church compact, or the expulsion of offenders, that as a member of the church, he is not more than any other member, and if he is guilty of transgression he is to be brought to trial before his brethren and convicted or acquitted in the same manner as if he were a private person, yet we think it prudent to call in advisory help especially if the minister is to be tried upon a charge of heresy.

11. That Christian Baptism is the immersion of the believer in water in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

12. That the Lord's Supper, and washing of the Saint's feet are ordinances to be observed in the church until the Lord comes.

13. That Elders and Deacons must be set apart to their office or ordination, by the imposition of the hands of the presbytery and prayer, without which they are not authorized to administer the ordinances pertaining to their respective offices.

14. No licentiate shall be ordained until called in care of one or more churches.

CHURCH DECORUM

1. The church may choose a pastor annually two conferences before the end of the Association year; or if they prefer it, may choose a pastor for an indefinite length of time to continue from year to year, as long as he may deem it proper to keep up the connection.

2. When it becomes necessary, a pastor may be chosen at any other time; but if the choice be made at a special conference the time must be appointed at monthly meeting of the church.

3. The pastor shall be Moderator of the church, but when he is absent or does not sit as moderator being present, some suitable brother shall be appointed to sit in his place.

4. There shall be two or more deacons in the church, whose duty it shall be to superintend the collection and disbursement of all contributions made by the church for the pastor, etc., and to distribute the bread and wine in the administration of the Lord's Supper.

5. The Deacons shall take notice of such members as refuse or neglect to partake of the Lord's Supper and endeavor to ascertain the cause that the same may be laid before the church conference if necessary.

6. Some suitable member shall be appointed Clerk and it shall be his duty to do all the recording and writing pertaining to the business of the church, and to preserve a file of the minutes of the Association.

7. When a Clerk is appointed, all books, minutes, etc., belonging to the Clerk, shall be immediately delivered to him by his predecessor. Also, it shall be the duty of the church clerk to revise the church roll at least once a year. It shall be the duty of the pastor to instruct the

deacons and clerks of their churches in regard to money for minutes.

8. The church shall hold a two-day's monthly meeting embracing Saturday and the Lord's Day following, the first of which shall be the regular time of the conference.

9. It shall be the duty of every member, male or female, to attend each conference meeting, if they can, for on that day the pastor is expected to instruct the church in a certain manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on doctrine, discipline and the rules of holy living.

10. Any male member who shall fail to attend three successive conferences, and any member whatever of the church according to the Covenant (Article 5) shall be cited to appear in conference and answer for his neglect. But the church may exempt members from this rule if necessary.

11. Conferences shall be opened and conducted as follows: (1) Prayer unless divine services has just been concluded, and generally then. (2) Invite visiting brethren to seats. (3) Open the door for reception of members. (4) Call for absentees. (5) For acknowledgements. (6) Reference of deferred business. (7) For matters of dealing which are in order to come before the church. (8) For miscellaneous business.

12. Visiting brethren, as helpers called in from sister churches, shall speak and make motions or seconds, but not allowed to vote.

13. An orderly member of the Baptist church who does not hold this church in fellowship may be received into the church without a letter when it is made apparent that his Christian character is unimpeachable and that he has applied for a letter and could not obtain it because he desired to join this or some sister church. All other persons must join by letter or baptism.

14. No member shall be received without the unanimous consent of the members present, but unreasonable objections shall not be valid, unless withdrawn, the members who made them shall be liable to be taken under dealings with the church.

15. When the Moderator calls for absentees the Clerk shall inform the church what male members have been absent from three successive conferences and the Moderator shall appoint some brother or brethren to cite each of them to the next conference.

16. No member shall be expelled unless he has been cited verbally or in writing to attend the trial, provided his residence be known to the church.

17. When a witness, not a member of the church, is introduced, he shall be examined until the question has been put to the church, Will you hear the testimony of the witness?

18. The evidence in every case or dealing and acknowledgement shall be recorded in the church book.

19. Members dismissed from the church by letter who become disorderly or continue to hold their letter without good reason shall be cited to conference to answer for their misconduct.

20. Expelled members shall be restored to fellowship on their petition if their walk since expulsion has convinced the church that they have sincerely repented for their former evil.

21. A vote shall not be taken upon questions without a move and a second and on all important questions the vote shall be taken by rising to the feet.

22. No motion shall be made while a move and second is before the conference.

23. It shall be considered disorderly for any member to absent himself from conference when an important question is to be decided; but a member, upon receipt, may be exempted by the church from voting on either side in peculiar cases.

24. No member shall leave the house during conference without a sufficient cause, nor engage in conversation or whispering without being subject to be called by the Moderator.

25. All discussions in conference must be conducted with calmness and good feeling; those who speak must rise to their feet and address the Moderator, and keep the point in the debate.

26. No one shall speak more than three times on the same question without permission from the Moderator nor shall the remarks of any one be unreasonably long.

27. When the Moderator speaks he must designate some brother to act in his stead.

28. No one shall be interrupted while speaking unless it can be to call the speaker to order.

29. It shall be the duty of each church to attend to the administration of the Lord's Supper and washing of the Saint's feet at least once a year.

30. Members not in good standing should not commune, but the administration should not be deferred on account of any ordinary matter of dealing.

31. Public fasting, humiliation any prayer shall be observed on proper occasions.

32. No Licentiate shall be ordained until called in care of one or more churches.

33. This Decorum may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at any two consecutive monthly conferences.

CHURCH COVENANT

1. Having been brought, as we humbly trust, by Divine Grace into the knowledge of our Divine Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and to devote our time and talents to the interest of pure and undefiled religion, we do solemnly covenant with each other to walk together in love and brotherly kindness and to glorify God through life as the only hope in death.

2. We agree to exercise to Christian love and affection for each other as members of the household of faith, that the knowledge of truth may be glorified in us and by us, to the end that we may be perfect in the will of God through Christ Jesus concerning us.

3. We endeavor to uphold the public worship of Almighty God and ordinances of His church, not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together; that we will cheerfully contribute of the means with

which we are blessed for the ministry among us and other necessary expenses of the church.

4. We will not neglect the devotional exercises of secret prayer and the duties of family worship, and the training up of our children, and those under our care with a view to the service of Christ and the employment of Heaven.

5. We agree to neglect our secular or worldly avocation to attend the stated meetings of the church and to labor for its prosperity in the most holy faith, believing that if we do this we let our light shine; if we fail to attend to the sacred duties we prove to be a stumbling block to the world and a reproach to the church.

6. We believe that all Christians are endowed with certain talents and influences, for the improvements of which they will be accountable to the great head of the church; that if there are unruly members in the church, it is our duty to approach them in the spirit of love and to admonish them to forsake their evil doings, if they will not hear thee, take one or two more that in the mouth of these witnesses they will hear thee. Then if they will not hear thee take them before the church, if they will not hear the church, then let them be unto thee as a heathen man and a publican.

7. We believe the worldly dance and drinking ardent spirits with the co-mingling with drunkards are sins which should be condemned by the church.

8. It shall be the duty of all pastors to read or have read this Covenant and to explain every part and clause thereof to the church quarterly.

DECORUM

1. At the meeting of each session of the Association the officers of the preceeding session shall preside until the successors shall be known.

2. At each session and previous to proceedings to business the names of the ministers and delegates shall be called.

3. At the close of each session the entire proceedings shall be read for correction and approval.

4. Any person wishing to speak shall rise and address the Moderator. He shall confine himself to the question under consideration and avoid personalities.

5. No person shall speak more than twice on any subject without permission from the body.

6. No motion shall be withdrawn after its discussion.

7. When a question is under discussion no motion or proposition shall be received except to adjourn to lay on the table, to amend or postpone indefinitely, which several motions shall be preferred in the order in which they are stated.

8. Nominations shall be made by the Moderator of the Association or whoever he may appoint.

9. After a motion has been decided any member having voted in the affirmative may move a reconsideration.

10. No member shall absent himself during the session without permission from the presiding officer, and none shall take final leave

of absence without permission from the body.

11. The Association has a right to decide what matter shall be admitted to its consideration.

12. This Decorum may be amended at any session of the Association by a majority vote.

13. No church shall license any minister coming from any other denomination until he has been examined by the Ordaining Council and received credentials bearing their approval.

14. Any church that shall tolerate Unknown Tongues in their church shall be regarded as encouraging heresy, and shall be dealt with for such. Also any church, or pastor allowing preaching of such that is, sinless perfection, as a second work of grace, to occupy their pulpit, shall be dealt with for encouraging heresy.

CONSTITUTION

1. This Association shall hereafter be known as the Little River Free Will Baptist Association.

2. It shall be composed of: (1) The ministers, both ordained and licensed, belonging thereto; (2) Legal delegates from the churches composing the same.

3. Requirement of churches. Each church shall be required to send up an annual report to the Association in which they shall make a brief statement of the pastor, report the character and usefulness of the minister whose membership is with them, give name and post-office of the Church Clerk, give the number baptized, received by letter, dismissed by letter, restored, excluded, and died, the number of members, and the amount paid for Associational purposes.

4. Each church in the Association shall be considered an advisory body and shall control its own internal affairs having the unrestricted right to administer its own government without suspension or interference, being under Christ essentially independent and absolute.

5. This body shall be considered an advisory council whose duty is to meet annually at such places as may be agreed upon at the previous session and not to adjourn formally until all business is settled and while there it shall be his duty to examine all questions of general interest to the Association and to use their best influence to promote a moral and benevolent means and institution such as education, Sabbath, Schools, Missionary work, etc.

6. The officers of this Association shall be Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer to be chosen by ballot.

7. Churches wishing to become members of this Association must adopt our articles of faith and conform to its usages.

8. Churches sending delegates to this Association shall be allowed one delegate for each ten members or fraction thereof.

9. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any session of this Association by a majority of votes.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

First, we believe that there is but one living, true and eternal God, the Father, of whom are all things from everlasting to everlasting, glorious and immutable in all His attributes.—I Cor. 8:6, Isa. 40:28.

2. We believe that there is one Lord Jesus Christ by whom are all things, the only begotten Son of God, born of the Virgin Mary, whom God freely sent into the world, because of the great love wherewith He Loved the world; and Christ as freely gave Himself a ransom for all, tasting death for every man, who was buried and rose again the third day, and ascended into Heaven, from whence we look for Him the second time in the clouds of Heaven at the last day to judge both quick and dead.—I Tim. 2:5, 6; Heb. 2:9; St. John 8; Acts 2:4; Eph. 3:1; Eph. 4:4-6.

3. We believe that there is one Holy Ghost, the precious gift of the Father through His dear Son, unto the world, who quickeneth and draweth sinners home to God.—St. John 16:7-8; Acts 2:4; Eph. 3:1; Eph. 4:4, 6.

4. We believe in the Beginning God made man upright; and placed him in a state of glory without the least mixture of misery, from which he voluntarily by transgression, fell and by that means, brought on himself a miserable and mortal state subject to death.—Gen. 2:17; 3:19.

5. We believe that God is not willing that any should perish; but that all should come to repentance and the knowledge of truth, that they might be saved; for which in Christ hath commanded the gospel to be preached among all nations and to every creature.—Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47; John 3:15, 17; I Tim. 2:4.

6. We believe that no man shall suffer in hell for want of Christ, who died for him, but as the Scripture has said, for denying the Lord that brought them, because they believed not in the name of the only begotten Son of God. Unbelief, therefore, being the cause why the just and righteous God of Heaven will condemn the children of men; it follows against all argument that all men, at one time or other, are found in such capacity as that through the grace of God they may be eternally saved.—Acts 17:30; Mark 6:6; Heb. 3:10; I John 5:10.

7. We believe the whole Scriptures are infallibly true, and that they are the only rules of faith and practice.—II Tim. 3:16, 17.

8. We believe in the doctrine of General Provision made of God in the gospel.—Luke 14:16, 20; Mat 28:19, 20; Luke 13:3, 5; Luke 24:47; Acts 3:19; Mark 1:15.

9. We believe that sinners are drawn to God, the Father, by the Holy Ghost, through Christ His Son, and that the Holy Ghost offers His divine aid to all the human family; so as they all might be happy, would they give place to His divine teachings; whereas, such who do not receive the divine impressions of His Holy Spirit, shall at a future day, own their condemnation just, and charge themselves with their own damnation, for willfully rejecting the offers of sovereign grace.—Matt. 11:27; St. John 6:45, 65; Ps. 1:1; Tit. 2:11, 2; Jer. 22:29.

10. We believe that men, not considered, simply as men, but ungodly men, were of old ordained to condemnation, considered such who turn the grace of God into lasciviousness, denying the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ, who brought them, and therefore, shall bring upon themselves swift destruction; but we observe that they, and such the Apostle saith because they receive not the love of the truth, that they might be saved, therefore the indignation and wrath of God is upon every soul of man that doeth evil, living and dying therein; for there is no respect of persons with God.—Jude 1:4; II Peter 2:1; I Thes. 2:11, 12; Rom. 2:9, 11.

11. We believe that all children dying in infancy, having not actually transgressed against the law of God, in their own person, are only subject to the first death, which was brought on them by the fall of the first Adam, and not that any of them dying in that state, shall suffer punishment in hell by the guilt of Adam's sin, for "of such is the kingdom of God."—I Cor. 15:22; Matt. 18:25; Mark 3:36, 37; Matt. 18:25; Matt. 19:13.

12. We believe that good works are the fruits of a saving faith, and that in the use of the means of grace, and not out of the use of those means, eternal life is promised to men.—Rom. 22:14,15; Isa. 1:19, 20; Matt. 7:8; Jer. 6:16; Luke 13:34, 35.

13. We believe that none has any warrant in the Holy Scriptures for jurisdiction before God through his own works, power of ability which he has in and of himself, only as he by grace is made able to come to God through Jesus Christ; believing the righteousness of Jesus Christ to be imputed to all believers for their eternal acceptance with God.—Rom. 4:24; Acts 8:20, 21.

14. We believe that all things are foreseen in the wisdom of God, so that God knoweth whatsoever can or cannot come to pass upon all supposed conditions; yet not as having decreed any person to everlasting death or everlasting life, out of respect or mere choice, further than He hath appointed the godly unto life and the ungodly, who die in sin unto death.—Heb. 4:13; Prov. 8:22, 31; Matt. 25:31, 46.

15. We believe as touching gospel ordinances, to believers, baptism, laying on of hands, receiving of the sacrament in bread and wine, washing the saint's feet, anointing the sick with oil in the name of the Lord, fasting, prayer, singing praise to God, and the public ministry of the Word, with every institution of the Lord we shall find in the New Testament.—Mark 16:15, 16; Acts 8:17; Acts 19:6; Luke 22:19, 20; John 13:5, 17; Jas. 5:14.

16. We believe the Gospel mode of Baptism is by immersion, and that the believers are the only subjects for baptism.—Matt. 3:16; Mark 1:9, 10; Acts 3:19, 21; Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12.

17. We believe in a general resurrection of the dead and a final judgment at the last day.—John 5:28, 29; II Cor. 5:10.

18. We believe the happiness of the righteous is eternal and the torments of the wicked are endless.—Matt. 25:46.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERK AND POSTOFFICE	Sunday of Meeting	Received by Letter	Rec'd by Conf. of Faith	Restored	Excluded	Received by Baptism	Dismissed by letter	Paid for Minutes	Gave Pastor	Value of Church Building	Improvements	Gospel Mission	Total Members	No in Sunday School	No. Teachers
Pine Level.....	W. R. Hullett.....	J. P. Perry, Norman Park, Ga.....	2-4	2	1	1	1	3	11	\$ 13.00	\$ 364.21	\$ 83,000	\$ 146.71	\$ 34.58	71	110	4
Corinth.....	Manse Casen.....	K. C. Franks, Tifton, Ga.....	2-4	6	1	1	1	1	1	10.50	339.84	4,000	236.84	63.00	96	85	5
Zion Hill.....	M. T. Goff.....	Mammie Mercer, Millwood, Ga.....	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	5.00	184.18	2,000	150.00	46.41	34	35	3
Sunny Side.....	R. S. Hayes.....	Johannie Taft, Kirkland, Ga.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	140.00	472.14	2,500	150.00	89.62	86	54	4
Oak Grove.....	Everett Williams.....	Chester Hunter-Stockton, Ga.....	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	80.00	141.92	2,000	264.66	89.75	26	...	...
Forrest Hill.....	R. S. Hayes.....	C. W. Shaw, Adel, Ga.....	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	5.00	207.00	1,500	13.00	75.00	44	...	...
Cool Spring.....	R. S. Hayes.....	C. M. Chaffin Jr., Norman Park, Ga.....	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	20.00	282.99	4,000	50.00	182.49	166	60	4
Friend Ship.....	Manse Casen.....	Jewel Ross, Waycross, Ga.....	2-4	1	1	1	1	1	1	6.00	243.10	1,000	600.00	6.00	26	24	4
Orisas.....	K. V. Shutes.....	W. M. Wilson, Pearson, Ga.....	2-4	1	1	1	1	1	1	15.00	1,095.73	3,000	800.00	375.00	83	80	4
Valdosta.....	Riley Giddens.....	John Selph, Valdosta, Ga.....	Full	4	8	1	1	8	4	15.00	1,200.00	3,500	477.00	477.00	64	81	5
Whitehall.....	F. S. Jones.....	Annie Davis, Waycross, Ga.....	Full	7	3	1	1	2	2	5.00	551.06	4,000	4,000.00	53.00	83	80	4
New Jerusalem.....	H. W. Giddens.....	Minnie Ward, Moultrie, Ga.....	Full	6	1	1	1	1	1	5.00	381.48	1,000	49.18	87.31	93	100	5
Orange Grove.....	Not Called.....	Carson Parrish, Valdosta, Ga.....	2-4	6	1	1	1	1	1	15.00	164.55	2,000	90.82	57.02	...	...	...
Shady Grove.....	M. T. Goff.....	A. D. Goff, Lenox, Ga.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	16.50	16.50	...	...	...	...	...	...

FORMS

FORMS FOR LICENSE

This is to certify that the bearer, Brother.....

..... of the County of

State of is a regular member of the Free Will

Baptist Church, in the said county of State

of is hereby licensed to preach the gospel
for one year. Done by order of the church in conference.

This day of, A. D., 19.....

Signed Moderator

.....
Ordaining Council

HOW TO ORGANIZE A CHURCH

When any number of converts, not less than five, desire to constitute a church, the following order should be observed: (A) The officiating minister shall inquire into the Christian character and ability of the members to sustain the church. This being satisfactory. (B) The minister shall then read Articles of Faith, and finding they have obeyed and adopted the same, (C) He shall then read the Church Covenant, while the congregation joins in singing a suitable hymn. (D) He shall have the members to extend to each other the right hand of fellowship. (E) He shall then offer a prayer of consecration. (F) He shall then declare the body organized.

.....
ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business shall be as follows: (1) The election of a Clerk. (2) The election of Deacons. (3) The election of a Treasurer. (4) The election of a Pastor. (5) The selection of a name. (6) The selection of a day of worship. (7) Adjournment.

**PETITIONARY LETTER FROM A CHURCH
TO AN ASSOCIATION**

..... Free Will Baptist Church of Christ.

This the day of, A. D., 19.....

To the Free Will Baptist Association
sendeth greetings: We constitute a Free Will Baptist Church by Elder

..... with Members.

We have adopted the Articles of Faith, Covenant and Decorum of the
Free Will Baptist Church. We are at peace. We have called as pastor,

Elder We

send as our delegates, Brethren

We do humbly petition Free Will
Baptist Association for membership in the same. We send for minutes

\$. Hoping our humble petition will be granted,
we are your brethren in Christ.

..... Moderator

..... Church Clerk

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