

MINUTES
OF THE
FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
LITTLE RIVER ASSOCIATION
OF
THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS
CONVENED WITH
SUNNY SIDE
ATKINSON COUNTY, GEORGIA
OCTOBER 18-19, 1957

REV. J. B. LOVERING, Moderator Valdosta, Ga.
REV. RILEY GIDDENS, Assistant Moderator Ray City, Ga.
REV. MANCE R. CASON, Clerk Tifton, Ga.
REV. EMORY CORBITT, Assistant Clerk, Waycross, Ga.

Next Session to convene with Oak Grove Church, Lanier
County, Georgia, Friday and Saturday before the
Third Sunday in October, 1958.

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.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. The body at each session shall be opened & closed with prayer.
2. Call for church letters and have them read, and names of ministers and delegates enrolled.
3. Call for petitionary letters.
4. Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.
5. Call for corresponding messengers.
6. Appoint Committees; (a) Preaching; (b) Resolution; (c) Finance; (d) Card of Thanks; For this Session; Appoint Church to bring report on (a) Auxiliaries and literature; (b) Temperance; (c) Christian Education; (d) Missions; For next session.
7. Unfinished business.
8. Report of committees.
9. Miscellaneous business.
10. Elect a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer by ballot.
11. Adjournment.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

C. M. CHAFIN, SR., Norman Park, Ga.	Exp. 1958
M. M. FRANKS, Tifton, Ga.	Exp. 1959
W. N. WILSON, Pearson, Ga.	Exp. 1960
CARSON E. PARRISH, Valdosta, Ga.	Exp. 1961
H. R. DOUGLAS, Pearson, Ga.	Exp. 1962

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. Riley Giddens, Rev. M. T. Goff and Rev. Everett Williams

PROCEEDINGS

The Fifty-first Annual Session of the Little River Association of Free Will Baptist convened with Sunny Side Free Will Baptist Church in Atkinson County, near Kirkland, Georgia, October 18 and 19, 1957.

The services were opened by Bro. C. M. Chaffin, Sr. leading the congregation in singing "The Unseen Hand" and other selected songs. Rev. Lamar Parrish led the opening prayer, asking God's blessings upon each delegate and upon the entire business session. The Morning Devotion was given by Rev. Riley Giddens. He read from John 3:1-11 and then challenged us to do our best to promote every phrase of the cause of Christ for the fields are white already to harvest. Rev. Everett Williams, welcomed the Little River Association to Sunny Side Church. The Association was then called to order by the moderator, he gave some timely remarks urging harmony and Christlikeness in all the deliberations of the Association. The business session was opened by calling for letters from the different churches, the Moderator appointed Mrs. Annie Davis and Mrs. Tim Mizzell to read the Church letters. Moved, seconded and carried to receive reports as given by letter and seat the delegation. Petitionary letters were called for by the moderator. One new Church petitioned for membership to this Association, namely the First Free Will Baptist Church of Tifton. Moved, seconded and carried to receive the church as a member of this association. Motion carried to read and receive their church letter and seat their delegation in this body. Moved, seconded and carried that the moderator extend to them the right hand of Christian fellowship, assuring them that we welcome them to our association. Moderator then recognized corresponding messengers and visitors from other associations, and extended to them the right hand of Christian fellowship. (See report of corresponding messengers and visitors.) Moved, seconded and carried to accept the program arranged for this association giving the moderator the right to make any necessary changes. The following committees were appointed by the moderator. Resolutions Committee Bro. W. N. Wilson, Rev. Riley Giddens and Bro. J. W. Franks. Finance Committee Bro. Carson Parrish, Rev. J. E. Wood and Rev. Everett Williams. Motion carried to adjourn the business session for the Morning Message and lunch. The associational message was preached by Rev. J. B. Lovering, scripture reading was 1 Kings 22:1-3, using verse 3 as a text. His message was very heart touching to all present as he spoke of God's love for lost souls, also pointing out how careless we as Christians are about winning the lost. At the close of the message a consecration service was conducted, and most everyone present rededicated their lives to the Lord. We were dismissed for lunch by Rev. E. C. Morris.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

After lunch the body was called to order by moderator. Bro. C. M. Chaffin, Sr. led the congregation in singing, after which he and Sister Riley Giddens sang as a duet "Precious Memories." Bro. G. C. King offered prayer asking God's blessings upon the afternoon session. The Devotion was given by Rev. L. G. Baldwin reading from John 4:32-38. Moderator called for report of the committee appointed at the last association to make some constitutional changes. The committee reported and the constitution was read and placed on the table. Other committee reports were called for. Those reporting were: Cool Springs Church, AUXILIARY AND LITERATURE, motion carried that report be accepted. TEMPERANCE, White Hall Church, motion carried that report be accepted. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, Corinth Church, motion carried that report be accepted. (See reports.) Moved and seconded that we take off table resolution number five which was made at the last association. After being discussed, moderator called for voting on same, there were twenty who voted in favor of the resolution and seven who voted against it, the motion was declared carried.

The State Promotional Secretary spoke on the work of the promotional department of the State and awarded certificates for systematic regular giving to the Unified Program. Churches awarded on the grand honor roll were: Ozias, Valdosta and Oak Grove. Churches awarded on junior honor roll were: White Hall, Friendship and Zion Hill. Moderator appointed the following committees to report at the next session of this association. AUXILIARY AND LITERATURE, Sunny Side Church, TEMPERANCE, Pine Level Church, CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, Ozias Church, MISSIONS, Valdosta Church. Different churches were then assigned time to feed the people attending the State Association which will convene with Cool Springs Church. Tuesday dinner, Ozias; Tuesday supper, Valdosta; Wednesday dinner, Corinth, First Tifton and Oak Grove; Wednesday supper, Friendship and White Hall; Thursday dinner, Pine Level, Zion Hill, Sunny Side, Orange Grove and Shady Grove. A report was received from the Liberty Union Meeting. Moved, seconded and carried to accept report and seat the delegates from same. Motion carried to adjourn business until 9:00 o'clock Saturday morning. The congregation sang "Rock of Ages" and we were dismissed with prayer by Rev. E. D. Franks.

SATURDAY MORNING

The session was opened with singing of "I Need Thee Every Hour" led by Rev. E. C. Morris. Prayer was offered by Bro. Jones. The morning devotion was given by Mrs. Maxine Franks, she emphasized that every Christian should be a soul winner. After her timely devotion remarks the moderator called for a season of prayer. The prayer was led by Rev. J. E. Wood, several others partici-

pated and the prayer was closed by Rev. J. B. Lovering. The minutes of yesterday's session was read. Moved, seconded and carried to adopt the minutes giving the clerk the right to make any necessary changes. The new constitution was taken off the table and read by the moderator. Moved, seconded and carried to receive the constitution after which we will vote one article at a time. Moved, seconded and carried to adopt article number one. Moved, seconded and carried to adopt article number two. Moved, and seconded to adopt article number three. Moved, seconded and carried to amend the article to read that this association will be held at such time as will be convenient and voted upon by this body. The original motion was then voted upon and carried. Moved, seconded and carried to adopt article number four. Moved and seconded to adopt article number five, after much discussion this article was voted upon with twenty favoring adoption and nine voting against it, the motion was declared carried. Moved, seconded and carried to adopt article number six. Moved, seconded and carried to adopt article number seven. Moved, seconded and carried to adopt article number eight. Moved, seconded and carried to adopt article number nine. There was an addition to this constitution offered to this body by the moderator. Moved, seconded and carried to receive the same and vote upon it one section at a time. Moved and seconded to adopt section one. Moved, seconded and carried to amend the motion and have this section added to by writing in this section concerning the willingness of the candidate to co-operate with this association. The original motion was then voted upon and carried. Moved, seconded and carried that section number two be tabled until the next session of this association. Moved, seconded and carried that section number three also be tabled until the next session of this association. Moved, seconded and carried that this additional change to the constitution offered by the moderator will become article number ten. Number ten in the constitution will become article number eleven. Motion carried that moderator recognize the visitors and extend to them the right hand of Christian fellowship. Moderator called for report from the resolutions committee. Motion carried to accept the report for consideration and vote on the resolutions one at a time. Motion carried to adopt resolution number one. Motion carried to adopt resolution number two. Moved, seconded and carried that this body give to Sunny Side Church a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality and cooperation to us during this association. Moved, seconded and carried that we elect officers by nominations from the floor, then we will proceed to elect nominees by ballot. Moved, seconded and carried that the one receiving the most votes for moderator will be elected as moderator, the next one receiving the most votes will be assistant moderator. The clerk and the assistant clerk was also included in the same motion. The ones nominated for moderator were Rev. Riley

Giddens and Rev. J. B. Lovering. Nominees for clerk were Rev. Mance R. Cason and Rev. Emory Corbitt. Moderator appointed Rev. H. L. Knighton, Rev. B. W. Clenny and Bro. G. C. King to count the ballots. Moved, seconded and carried by the moderator to appoint delegates to the different associations, State Association, Bro. M. T. Brooks, Bro. Ottie Williams, Mrs. E. D. Franks and Mrs. E. C. Morris. Rev. E. C. Morris was appointed by the moderator to represent this association in all of the other associations giving him the right to appoint anyone who may be present from this association at any of the other associations to serve in his place.

By motion Bro. H. R. Douglas was re-elected to the Executive Board. By motion that the Little River Association convene with Oak Grove Church, October 17 and 18, 1958. By motion Bro. L. E. Wynn was recommended to the nominating committee of the State Association for a member of the State Superannuation Board. By motion Rev. Mance R. Cason was recommended to the nominating committee of the State Association for a member of the State Mission Board. Rev. J. B. Lovering offered his resignation as a member of the ordaining council, stating that the council now has four members, and they should have only three or five members. Moved, seconded and carried that his resignation be accepted and that we retain the other three members on the said council. Report from the Finance Committee was called for, the committee stated that we like \$30.41 having enough money to meet our current needs. It was suggested that we go back to our churches and take up an offering and send it in to the clerk so he would have the needed money for the printing of the minutes. Moved, seconded and carried that the finance report be accepted.

Moderator called for report from the committee that counted the ballots, the committee reported that Rev. J. B. Lovering was elected moderator, Rev. Riley Giddens assistant moderator, Rev. Mance R. Cason clerk and Rev. Emory Corbitt assistant clerk. Rev. C. J. Harvey was given a few minutes on program to represent Camp Mt. Bethel and to present their needs to this association. We received a worshipful offering for the Unified Program which amounted to \$34.90. Moved, seconded and carried that we adjourn the regular order of business of this association for the year of 1957 and go into the Morning Worship service. Rev. J. E. Wood brought a very inspiring message on sowing good seed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

RESOLUTIONS: 1. That each church of this association support the Unified Program by sending the tithes of its income to the Promotional Secretary.

2. That the newly elected officers of this association be held

responsible for drawing up a program for the 1957 session of this association.

3. That we elect the officers of this association at the close of each session to serve the following session.

4. It has been recommended to have our association convening on Friday and Saturday instead of Thursday and Friday.

5. We recommend that the association and the churches adopt the National Treatist.

6. We recommend that our Union Meeting have their business session on Saturday.

Rev. E. D. Franks, Chairman

RESOLUTIONS: 1. We your Committee recommend that the Ordaining Council issue to Ministers of the Little River Association each year, cards stating their standing, in fellowship or out of fellowship with the association.

We your Committee recommend that each resolution that is adopted be printed in the minutes for two years.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We, your committee on Christian Education, beg to submit the following report: In view of the growing realization of the need of trained leadership in our churches, and being aware that our leaders can serve more efficiently when blessed with the privilege of attaining knowledge through the source of Christian Education. We recommend that church and pastor do their utmost in persuading the leaders of our churches to prepare themselves for the work assigned to them.

Your committee feels that not only ministers should seek higher Christian learning, but that all desiring to live for and serve Christ and their Church should further their learning. Therefore, we recommend that teachers training courses, league training courses, and soul-winning classes be made available for our people.

We also recommend that each Church do its utmost in persuading ministerial candidates to prepare themselves for the ministry in our own Bible College, or some preferable Christian Institution.

CORINTH CHURCH

AUXILIARY AND LITERATURE

We your Committee on Auxiliary and Literature recommend that Free Will Baptist Literature be studied at home, and used in Sunday Schools, Leagues, and all Auxiliaries of the Church. We also recommend that all parents and children attend Sunday School and League and other Auxiliaries of the Church. We recommend that parents read their daily Bible readings as an example to the younger people.

The previous committee recommended that those who would conduct the introductory Sermon at this session. We refer this duty to the preaching committee.

COOL SPRINGS CHURCH

TEMPERANCE

We your committee on Temperance wish to submit this report. Let us abstain from the use of all forms of intoxication beverages, for the Bible teaches us who is overcome thereby is not wise. Also let us bridle our tongues that our conversations be as becometh Saints. For Paul tells us in Romans 12:1 "To present our bodies a living sacrifice wholly, acceptable unto God which is our reasonable service. That our life will be a living witness for Christ to those that we come in contact with.

WHITE HALL CHURCH

MISSIONS

The Little River Association has in the past year helped in supporting the new church in Tifton, which we pray that it will soon be finished and that it will be a sacred place where Christian people will work and pray together for lost souls that they may come into the fold. We are happy to say that the Ruth Kinnon Union Home Mission Fund has donated two hundred and fifty dollars on the new Tifton Church and also the Ruth Kinnon Union Home Mission Fund has donated twenty five dollars to the Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church. We thank God for the Free Will Baptist people who are willing to help support this fund. So let's all work and pray and let the Lord use us for his Glory. FRIENDSHIP CHURCH

FINANCE REPORT

We your Finance Committee find that we have a deficiency of \$4.47 from last session. The amount of cash received at this session \$153.06. Leaves a balance of \$148.59 on hand. We recommend that each pastor take an offering from his home church and send it to the clerk of the association. There will be a deficiency of \$30.41 from this session after disbursements are made.

Carson E. Parrish, Chairman

Monies received for associational purposes since the association adjourned \$49.00

Mance R. Cason, Clerk

Total amount of monies received for associational purposes \$202.06.

DISBURSEMENTS

Clerk	\$20.00
Moderator	\$10.00
State and National Association	\$25.00
Postage	\$ 4.00
Indebtedness from last session	\$ 4.47
Printer	\$132.00
Sales Tax to Printer	\$ 3.96

TOTAL	\$199.43
Balance on Hand	\$ 2.63

CHURCHES AND DELEGATES

PINE LEVEL— Mr. and Mrs. M. T. Brooks and Mr. J. P. Perry.
 CORINTH— Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Franks, Mrs. L. F. Ogletree, Mrs. C. K. Causey, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Wynn, Mrs. Zella Wheeler and Mrs. Janice Cason.
 ZION HILL— Mrs. Ruby A. Bennett, Mrs. Annie Arnold, Mrs. Viola Walden and Mrs. Lois Arnold.
 SUNNY SIDE— Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Francher, Mrs. Annie Douglas, Mr. Audie Williams, Mrs. Martha Long, Mrs. Mildred Smith, Mrs. Lula McGovern and Mrs. Betty Merel McGovern.
 COOL SPRINGS— Mr. Tom Chafin, N. C. Brannan, O. L. Roberts, Wendell Roberts, Ralph Chafin, M. L. Brown, Walter Weeks, J. H. Ivey, J. B. Mercer, R. L. Ferguson and Ed Stone.
 FRIENDSHIP— Mr. and Mrs. Clem Giddens and Mrs. Jewel Ross.
 OZIAS— Mrs. Eva Cowart, Mrs. Mary Wilson, Mrs. Fannie Mizzell and Mrs. J. E. Wood.
 VALDOSTA— Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Jones, Mrs. J. W. Long and Mrs. J. B. Lovering.
 WHITE HALL— Mr. P. J. Jarroed, Mrs. Rosa Moore, Mr. Carlton Simpson, Mrs. Jenell A. Parker and Mrs. Edwin Achor.
 OAK GROVE— Mrs. Ollie Mae Love, Mrs. Willene Hunter, Mrs. Odessa Bradford and Mr. Olife Darnee.
 TIFTON— Mr. A. J. Franks and Mrs. E. C. Morris.
 LIBERTY UNION MEETING— Mr. Kembrue Causey and Mr. Eason.

MINISTERS PRESENT

Rev. E. D. Franks, Rev. Everett Williams, Rev. Riley Giddens, Rev. Mance Cason, Rev. Seborn Bowen, Rev. E. C. Morris, Rev. J. E. Wood, Rev. J. B. Lovering and Rev. J. B. Wheeler.

VISITORS PRESENT

Rev. L. G. Baldwin Union Association
 Rev. H. L. Knighton Midway Association
 Rev. B. W. Clenny and Wife Martin Association
 Rev. Charles Clark Georgia Union Association
 Rev. and Mrs. C. J. Harvey Union Association

CORRESPONDING MESSENGERS

Mr. G. C. King Chattahoochee Association
 Rev. Lamar Parrish Union Association
 Rev. E. C. Morris State Association

UNION MEETINGS**Liberty**

Corinth 1st 5th Sunday 1958
 Pine Level 2nd 5th Sunday 1958
 Shady Grove 3rd 5th Sunday 1958
 Cool Springs 4th 5th Sunday 1958
 Tifton 1st 5th Sunday 1959

Ruth Kinnon

Friendship 1st 5th Sunday 1958
 Oak Grove 2nd 5th Sunday 1958
 Ozias 3rd 5th Sunday 1958
 Zion Hill 4th 5th Sunday 1958
 White Hall 1st 5th Sunday 1959
 Orange Grove 2nd 5th Sunday 1959
 First Valdosta 3rd 5th Sunday 1959
 Sunny Side 4th 5th Sunday 1959

Churches	In Sunday School	In League	Ladies Auxiliary
Pine Level	0	0	0
Corinth	50	50	6
Zion Hill	40	0	0
Sunny Side	64	0	0
Cool Springs	65	40	0
Friendship	20	0	0
Ozias	45	29	13
Valdosta	39	0	9
White Hall	80	42	23
Orange Grove			
Shady Grove			
Oak Grove	45	0	0
First Tifton	32	18	0

MINISTERS AND POST OFFICES

Rev. J. B. Wheeler Box 143 — Metter, Ga.
 Rev. Riley Giddens Ray City, Ga.
 Rev. M. T. Goff Sparks, Ga.
 Rev. J. B. Lovering 407 Floyd St. — Valdosta, Ga.
 Rev. J. D. Little Pearson, Ga.
 Rev. Everett Williams Pearson, Ga.
 Rev. Seborn Bowen Willacoochee, Ga.
 Rev. W. A. Pope Bainbridge, Ga.
 Rev. F. S. Jones Route 2 — Waycross, Ga.
 Rev. W. R. Hullett Route 2 — Sumner, Ga.
 Rev. Mance R. Cason Box 175 — Brookfield, Ga.
 Rev. E. D. Franks Box 35 — Waresboro, Ga.
 Rev. E. C. Morris Box 553 — Tifton, Ga.
 Rev. J. E. Wood Pearson, Ga.
 Rev. Paul Long Tupelo, Miss.
 Rev. Emory Corbett 1110 Plant Ave. — Waycross, Ga.

LICENSED MINISTERS

Rev. Harvey Balance Homerville, Ga.
 Rev. E. W. Pattillo 1610 Boone Drive — Valdosta, Ga.

ASSOCIATIONS

Oak Grove	1958	Shady Grove	1964
Cool Springs	1959	Ozias	1965
Friendship	1960	Pine Level	1966
Valdosta	1961	Corinth	1967
White Hall	1962	Zion Hill	1968
Orange Grove	1963	Sunny Side	1969

DECEASED MINISTERS

Rev. Tharpe 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	1926	Rev. J. C. Arnold	1942
Rev. Morgan Cannon	1926	Rev. J. R. Weeks	1947
Rev. A. Eunice	1928	Rev. Loucien Cowart	1911

OBITUARIES

It is with deep regret that we report the death of our dear brother Elton Murcer who departed this life in July of 1957.

WHITE HALL CHURCH

It is with deep sorrow that we report the death of Brother Charlie Culpepper on February 28, 1957. He was one of the oldest and most faithful members of our Church. We believe our loss is Heaven's gain.

VALDOSTA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

It was with the deepest of sorrow that Sister T. G. Hamilton, Sr. departed this life in September 1957. We do trust and pray that our loss is Heaven's gain.

OZIAS CHURCH

We regret very much to report the death of Brother Chester Delk. He was a member of Ozias Church. We trust our loss is Heaven's gain.

OZIAS CHURCH

It is with deep sorrow that we report the death of our beloved Sister Amanda Clement who departed this life September 12, 1957. We trust our loss will be Heaven's gain.

SUNNY SIDE

We regret very much to report the death of Sister Ruthie Davis. She was a member of Pine Level Church, and loved by all that knew her. We trust that our loss will be Heaven's gain.

PINE LEVEL CHURCH

It is with deep regret that we report the death of our beloved Brother Richard Wynn. He made a profession of faith when he was just a young man and he lived and walked very faithfully to God and the Church. He was greatly loved and appreciated by all who knew him. We feel sure that his leaving us is not a final separation but is only for a season and then we will see him in that beautiful city of God.

CORINTH 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 baptised 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 the 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, property 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 pastor 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 members of the church, he is not more than any other members, 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 lisentiate 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 Associational 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 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 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 by 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, not 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 with permission from the Moderator nor shall the remarks of anyone 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 and 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

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant.

We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reverence to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of it's poor, and all it's benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and, as far as we are able, promote the success of the Church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme, counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society, constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday schools and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

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

Article 1. This Association shall be called the Little River Association of Original Free Will Baptist and shall be composed of such regularly organized and well-disciplined Free Will Baptist quarterly meetings and churches as may embody themselves under this constitution.

Article 2. Section 1. This yearly meeting or association shall be composed of: (1) the general officers of this association; (2) delegates from each quarterly meeting; (3) the ministers, both ordained and licensed, belonging thereto; (4) legal delegates from the churches composing the same.

Section 2. Churches sending delegates to this association shall be allowed one delegate for each ten members or fraction thereof and each quarterly meeting shall be allowed one delegate for each 300 members or fraction thereof.

Article 3. The sessions of this association shall be held on the stated date agreed and voted upon by the association, at which time it shall be the duty of the quarterly meeting and churches of which this association is composed to represent themselves by letter and delegates, and report their standing and statistics using the uniform report blank as required by this association.

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

Article 5. This body shall be considered and 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 its duty to examine all questions of general interest to the association and to use their best influence to promote a christian and benevolent means and institutions such as education, Sabbath Schools, Leagues, Missionary Work, etc.

Article 6. The officers of this association shall be Moderator, an Assistant Moderator, a Clerk-Treasurer, and an Assistant Clerk-Treasurer, each of whom shall be elected at the close of each regular session.

Article 7. Churches wishing to become members of this association must conform to the practices and adopt the doctrines of the Free Will Baptist denomination, as published in the Treatise of their faith.

Article 8. This association shall have power to adopt any regulations or by-laws, not inconsistent with this constitution, which may be deemed essential to the further regulation of its sessions.

Article 9. Each church composing this association should send 25c per capita member and each quarterly meeting 5c per capita member for associational expenses.

Article 10. This association shall maintain an ordaining council whose functions shall be governed as follows: (1) It shall be the duty of this council to examine each person for whom ordination is requested as to his moral, spiritual, educational qualifications, and his willingness to cooperate with the functions of this assoc.

Article 11. This constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of the association at any regular session; notice of such intended alteration having been given in writing, and recorded at a previous business session.

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.—1 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—1 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; 1 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; 1 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 Christ, for the benefit of all mankind, who repent and believe in the gospel.—Luke 14:16, 20; Matt. 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; II 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."—1 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	SUNDAYS OF MEETING	RECEIVED BY LETTER	Rec'd by Con. of Faith	RESTORED	REC'D BY BAPTISM	DISMISSED BY LETTER	PAID PASTOR	PAID FOR MINUTES	VALUE OF CHURCH BUILDING	IMPROVEMENTS	PAID FOR EVANGELISTIC	TOTAL MEMBERS
PINE LEVEL	EVERETT WILLIAMS	J. P. PERRY, NORMAN PARK, GA.	2-4						\$ 380.04	\$10.00	\$3,000	\$ 12.00	\$41.32	62
CORINTH	MANCE R. CASON	J. W. FRANKS, TIFTON, GA.	FULL	6	1	1	1	18	1,414.94	10.00	8,000	201.79	120.58	72
ZION HILL	EVERETT WILLIAMS	MRS. MAMIE MERCER, MILWOOD, GA.	3					2	275.00	10.00	1,000		132.00	36
SUNNY SIDE	COY WATSON	JOHNNIE TAFT, PEARSON, GA.	4					11	490.04	14.00	5,000	344.25	153.63	83
COOL SPRINGS	B. W. CLENNY	C. M. CHAFFIN, JR., NORMAN, PARK, GA.	2-4					10	876.00	19.31	5,000	840.00	122.75	148
FRIENDSHIP	E. D. FRANKS	MRS. LEILA LYNCH, ALMA, GA.	1-3					1	334.79	6.00	5,000	10.70	62.11	28
OZIAS	J. E. WOOD	W. N. WILSON, SR., PEARSON, GA.	FULL	4				1	2,309.74	15.00	4,000	2,395.20	205.00	84
VALDOSTA	J. B. LOVERING	JOHN W. SELPH, VALDOSTA, GA.	FULL	3	2			9	1,771.53	12.50	5,000	900.00		50
WHITE HALL	EMORY CORBITT	MRS. ANNIE DAVIS, WAYCROSS, GA.	FULL	10				24	234.26	10.00	3,000	250.11	120.00	46
ORANGE GROVE	J. D. BARFIELD	R. T. EUNICE, VALDOSTA, GA.	2-4							18.00	3,500			
SHADY GROVE	M. T. GOFF	MRS. RALPH PURVIS, LENOX, GA.	1								1,000			
OAK GROVE	RILEY GIDDENS	MRS. WILLENE HUNTER, STOCKTON, GA.	2-4					1	250.00	0.00	5,000	1,205.27	74.10	25
FIRST TIFTON	A. C. TRULUCK	KELLY FRANKS, TIFTON, GA.	FULL	17						5.00	2,000			17

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

CHURCH LETTER

_____ Free Will Baptist Church of Christ

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

This is to certify that _____
_____ is a member of the above named church in good standing and is
hereby at his or her request dismissed from us. Done by order of
the church in conference. This letter will be void after six months.

_____ Moderator

_____ Church Clerk

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 El-
der _____ 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 min-
utes \$ _____. Hoping our humble petition will be grant-
ed, we are your brethren in Christ.

_____ Moderator

_____ Church Clerk

HOW TO ORGANIZE A CHURCH

When any number on 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 satis-
factory. (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.