

*Little River Hall*

**MINUTES**  
**OF THE**  
**FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION**  
**OF THE**  
**LITTLE RIVER ASSOCIATION**

**OF**  
**THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST**  
**CONVENED WITH**  
**OZIAS CHURCH**  
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1965**  
**AND**  
**COOL SPRINGS CHURCH**  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1965**

Rev. J.B. Mercer, Moderator, Phone 985-6862---- Norman Park, Ga.  
Rev. Everett Williams Assistant Moderator ----- Pearson, Ga.  
Mrs. Tim Mizell, Clerk, Phone 422-3650----- Pearson, Ga.  
Bro. J.W. Franks, Assistant Clerk ----- Tifton, Ga.

Next session to convene with Friendship Church on Friday and White  
Hall Church on Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1966.

## 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 acknowledgments.
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 of each session shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. Call for church letters and have read, and names of ministers and delegates enrolled.
3. Invite visiting brethren to seat with us.
4. Call for petitionary letters.
5. Call for corresponding messengers.
6. Appointed Committees; (a) Preaching; (b) Resolution; (c) Finance; (d) Card of Thanks; For the Session; Appoint Churches to Bring Report on (a) Auxiliaries and Literature; (b) Temperance; (c) Christian Education; (d) Missions.
7. Unfinished business.
8. Report on Committees.
9. Miscellaneous business.
10. Elect a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer by ballot.
11. Adjournment.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

M.M.Franks, Ashburn, Ga. -----	Exp. 1969
J.B. Rice, Valdosta, Ga. -----	Exp. 1966
J.C. Arnold, Waycross, Ga., Rt. 2 -----	Exp. 1967
C.M. Chafin Jr., Norman Park, Ga. -----	Exp. 1968
J.M. Hartsfield -----	Exp. 1970

## ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. Damon C. Dodd -----	1968
Rev. Riley Giddens -----	1970
Rev. M.T. Goff -----	1966
Rev. Everett Williams -----	1969
Rev. Donald Franks -----	1967

## PROCEEDINGS

The fifty-ninth session of the Little River Association of the Original Free Will Baptist convened with Ozias Church in Atkinson County, Georgia on October 15 and Cool Springs Church in Colquette Co. on October 16, 1965.

Meeting called to order by Moderator. Prayer by Rev. Arnold Woodlief. Congregational song. The Moderator welcomed each one to the association. An inspiring devotional was brought by Rev. Damon C. Dodd. Using Association Theme, Exalting Christ. Moderator called for ministers to stand and be recognized. Called for church letters. Mrs. J.W. Franks and Mrs. C.M. Chafin Jr. were appointed to read letters. Moved and carried to receive letters as read and seat delegates present and those who come in late.

Called for petitionary letters. Received petitionary letter from Homerville Church. Moved and carried that we receive the Homerville Free Will Baptist Church into full fellowship with our association. Called for corresponding messengers. None present. The Moderator welcomed our visitors, Rev. and Mrs. L.E. Sheffield and Rev. Arnold Woodlief.

Appointed committees: State of Churches and Character of Ministers, Bro. Hugh Porten, Bro. Jessie Hartsfield and Bro. Gene Crews. Resolution, Bro. W.M. Wilson Sr., Bro. Johnnie Taft and Sister A.D. Greene. Finance, Bro. J.C. Weeks, Bro. J.W. Franks and Sister Geneva Parker. Cards of Thanks, Rev. Everett Williams. Nominating, Sister Eva Cowart, Bro. J.B. Rice and Sister Myrtice Giddens.

Churches appointed to bring reports to the 1966 session were:

First Tifton—Auxiliary and Literature

Pine Level—Temperance

Homerville—Christian Education

Corinth—Mission

Song service led by Bro. J.W. Franks. Prayer by Rev. L.E. Sheffield. The morning message was brought by Rev. W.L. Purvis, Scripture Psalms 34:3. Welcome by Rev. W.H. Daughtry, all were invited to stay for lunch. Dismissed by Rev. Riley Giddens.

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Meeting called to order by Moderator. Congregational song. Special song by Bro. Charles Chafin and Sister Margurite Mercer. Prayer by Rev. Donald Franks. Devotional was brought by Rev. Riley Giddens, Scripture Rom. 12:1-2 and Psalms 34:3. Called for reports from churches. Moved and carried to receive reports from churches and release them. (see reports) Appointed committee on Christian Education: Sister Isbom Mercer, Sister Annie Douglas and Bro. J.W. Franks were appointed. Rev. M.T. Goff gave his and Oak Grove Church's appreciation to Ozias Church for taking care of the association on Friday, and ask each to pray for them at Oak Grove. Moved and carried for the Moderator appoint delegates to State Association. Bro. C.M. Chafin Jr. and Bro. Jessie Hartsfield were appointed.

The Moderator appointed one from each church to get supplies for Camp Mt. Bethel.

Moved and carried to have 400 minutes printed.

Moved and carried to appoint a committee to study the standing rules of the association and see if any changes need to be made. Rev. M.T. Goff, Rev. Damon C. Dodd and Rev. J.B. Rice were appointed.

Moved and carried we adjourn until 9 o'clock Saturday morning to meet with Cool Springs Church near Norman Park, Ga.

Dismissed by Bro. Charles Chafin.

## SATURDAY MORNING

The meeting called to order by Moderator, congregational song, Prayer by Rev. Mance Cason. Devotional was brought by Rev. Donald Franks, Scripture Psalms 107:32.

Valdosta First Free Will Baptist Church presented letter asking ordination of Bro. J.B. Rice at this session of association.

Moved and carried to ordian Rev. J.B. Rice at this session.

Called for reports from committees.

Moved and carried to receive the reports and release committee (see reports).

Moved and carried that the Moderator appoint committee to correct scripture reference in minutes pretaining to Articles of Faith. Bro. N.C. Brannan as chairman and Cool Springs were appointed.

Moved and carried that we recommend Bro. M.M. Franks to Super Annuation Borard. Bro. J.W. Franks to Camp Board, Rev. W.H. Daughtry to Mission Board, Rev. Riley Giddens to Trustee.

Moved and carried we have just 3 quarterly meetings each year.

The Moderator then welcomed Rev. Mance Cason our Promotional Secretary to give a report on what our churches have done this year.

Churches receiving grand honor roll certificates, which was awarded to church on the mertis of have given the per-capito quota in support to a world wide ministry through the unified program were: Corinth Church, Ozias Church and Homerville Church. Churches receiving honor roll certificates, which was awarded for giving regular monthly offering in some amount were: Cool Springs, Zion Hill, First Hahira, Pine Level and White Hall. Churches receiving junior honor roll certificates which was the award for having given more this year than last year were: First Valdosta.

Congregational song. Prayer by Bro. M.M. Franks, Morning message was brought by Rev. Odell Harris, Scripture Luke 6:46.

Welcomed by Bro. C.M. Chafin all were invited to stay for lunch.

Dismissed by Rev. Everett Williams.

## SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Moderator called meeting to order, song and prayer. At this time the session was turned over to the Woman's Auxiliary and a very interesting program was brought by them.

Moved and carried to omit reading of minutes.

Moved and carried that we give the churches a rising vote of thanks for their very fine hospitality during this session of Little River Association.



Moved and carried that the association give the officers a rising vote of appreciation for their service.

Rev. J.B. Rice was ordained.

Rev. M.T. Goff gave the ordainzation charge.

Moved and carried to adjourn this session of Little River Association.

## CHURCHES AND DELEGATES

FIRST TIFTON—Sister Dorothy Greene, Sister Mildred Harris, and Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Flippo.

SUNNY SIDE—Sister Annie Douglas, Bro. Johnnie Taft, and Bro. Audie Williams.

OZIAS—Sister Eva Cowart and Sister Elua Baker.

PINE LEVEL—Mr. Jessie Hartsfield and Mr. and Mrs. Tom Carlton.

COOL SPRINGS—Mr. J.C. Weeks, Mr. and Mrs. C.M. Chafin Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Parten.

OAK GROVE—M.T. Golf.

ZION HILL—Mrs. Dollie Harrell, Mrs. Isbom Mercer and Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Arnold.

FIRST VALDOSTA—Bro. Bill Brown, Sister Myrtice Giddens, Sister Judy Meadows and Sister H.C. Jones.

CORINTH—Mr. L.F. Ogletree, Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Franks, and Mrs. W.J. Barksdale.

FRIENDSHIP—Sister Jewel Ross, Sister Fannie Davis and Sister Levo Steedley.

HOMERVILLE—Mr. W.M. Wilson Sr., Mrs. W.N. Wilson, Mrs. Martin Wilson, Mrs. Damon C. Dodd and Mr. Franks Dean.

WHITE HALL—Mrs. Geneva Parker, Mrs. Mamie Bunch and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Guy.

FIRST HAHIRA—Mrs. Grace Boatwell, Mrs. Grady Flippo, Mrs. Donald Franks, Bro. Carson Parrish and Sister Jewel Parrish.

## LICENSED MINISTERS

Rev. James Stringer ----- Valdosta, Ga.

Rev. E.W. Patillo ----- Twin Lakes, Ga.

Rev. Ralph Chafin ----- Norman Park, Ga.

## MISSION

The church has a glorious mission to do. You and I as members of the Church of Christ have a mission to fulfill. In Acts 1:8 we have a direct command to be witnesses for Christ. "And ye shall be witnesses unto me, both in Jerusalem, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth." We must fill this obligation.

Our missionaries with their faith in God, and faith in we, Free Will Baptist back home are making a sacrifice that the heathern will come to know our God, who loves them also.

Let us purpose in our hearts that we will be faithful to God, to the

commission he has given to us.

When we know, we care, and when we care, we share.

Let us know, Let us go, Let us grow.

## OZIAS CHURCH

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We, your committee on Christian Education wish to submit the following report.

We recomend that we start first in our homes teaching our children the way of Christ. If we educate them in our homes while they are young they will grow up to want to further their Christian Education.

We also recommend that our churches and pastors in our association do all they can to persuade the leaders and teachers of our churches to prepare themselves for the work assigned to them.

Now is the day of salvation, nearer than when we believed. Realizing that now is the excepted time: behold now is the day of salvation. (II Cor. 6:2) We need to prepare even more in order to help others find their salvation.

We further recommend that all of us do all we can to encourage our young people to seek college training and to select a Christain Institution, namely our Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tenn. Where students are taught to live seperate lives, prayer-filled lives and to be real students of the word.

Mrs. J.W. Franks

Mrs. J.C. Arnold

Mrs. H.R. Douglas

### TEMPERANCE

In the teaching of Paul, I Cor. 9th chapter, we find that he praised the Greek Olympics for being temperate in every part of their life, in order to win the prize of corruptible, but we should be temperate in our lives in order to obtain the reward that is Eternal, an incorruptible. If we believe in Jesus Christ, and the Gospel we must be temperate in every thing that we do.

## COOL SPRINGS CHURCH

### AUXILIARY AND LITERATURE

We recomend that all our churches use our Free Will Baptist Literature in our C.T.S. and Sunday School and auxiliary in the various organizations. Strive to acheive them, including a weekly Prayer Service and in doing this that we can build up the Spiritual Condition of our churches and Christians Pray that the word of God may be taught to our children. That Christ may be Exalted.

## SUNNY SIDE CHURCH

## COMMITTEE ON CHURCHES AND MINISTERS

We your committee on churches and ministers, find all churches supplied with pastors and all pastors in good standing as far as we know.

Eugene Crews  
Hugh Parten  
J.M. Hartsfield

## RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

We your resolution committee offer the following report. We recommend part 1-2-3 stand as is. Also recommend a committee be appointed to check, The Articles of Faith and see that all references be in keeping with the Scripture Named.

We also recommend the Clerk just report the business in both the association and quarterly meetings.

We recommend 3 quarterly meetings each year.

Johnnie Taft  
W.M. Wilson Sr.  
Sister A.D. Greene

## PARTIAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF ASSOCIATION

The committee appointed Friday, Oct. 15, 1965, at the session of Little River Association for the purpose of studying the regulations, rules by-laws, decorum, and government of the association, hereby submits this partial report. It is requested by this committee that this report be so dealt with that it shall be considered as unfinished business to be resumed in the opening session of the 1966 meeting of said association, and that any change in any rule, regulation, by-laws, decorum or government of this association. Which requires a laying on the table from one business session to another, be, and hereby is considered as having met that requirement and shall be acted on at the next coming annual session of this association.

Recommendation Number 1, Articles 13 under Decorum deals with the matter of ministers coming from another Denomination.

The language is vague and leaves room for conflicting interpretations. This is not a criticism of those who framed this provision, but it is the feeling of the committee that this matter needs to be stated more clearly and accurately. We have also been asked by the ordaining council of the association to clarify all the regulations regarding licensing, ordaining, and transferring ministers.

We recommend that Article 13 be rewritten as follows:

13-A. In the matter of licensing ministers, the local church of which the individual is a member and before, whom he relates his experience of a div-ing call to the ministry. Shall be, and hereby is authorized to grant a license to said individual to preach the Gospel for one year. Each church shall report to the association on the letter to the annual session the names

of all licensed ministers holding membership in said church

13-B. The licensee shall be answerable to the church granting him his authority and shall be subject to the discipline and actions of said body in relation to his standing as a licensed minister. It is understood that the church shall in no wise interfere with the licensee unless he has good and sound reason for so doing. In case of disciplinary action, the procedure shall be the same as that used dealing with an individual in the church who is found walking in a disorderly manner.

13-C. Churches desiring the ordination of a minister shall request of the ordaining council of the association that the individual be examined by the council according to the procedure of the council. If found qualified, his ordination shall be authorized. It is understood in this connection that the wishes of the individual regarding the time and place of his actual ordination service be honored and where feasible and possible, be granted.

13-D. Ordained ministers coming from another Denomination to the Little River Association of Free Will Baptist shall appear before the ordaining council for examination concerning the doctrines and practices of Free Will Baptist. If found qualified, they shall be granted a license to preach under the watch-care of the association for one year. At the end of a year, if the ordaining council feels that they proved themselves, then they shall be issued ordination credentials by the Little River Association and shall have all the rights and privileges which pertains to any regularly ordained Free Will Baptist Ministers. Licensed ministers coming from another denomination to this association shall come under the same requirements for license as any other minister and shall request their licenses from the local Free Will Baptist Church of which they are a member.

13-E. Ordained Free Will Baptist Ministers who are in good standing with another Free Will Baptist Association affiliated with the National Association of Free Will Baptist, desiring to become a member of the Little River Association, shall first affiliate with a church in good standing with the Little River Association. They then, by virtue of membership in said church shall be enrolled the association roster of ministers at the next annual session of the Little River Association.

13-F. We finally recommend in this connection that each and every former action taken by the Little River Association bearing on the matter of ministers as stated in the foregoing paragraphs, be, and hereby is abrogated and rescinded and that the foregoing regulations comprise the rulings and practices of the Little River Association in these regards.

The rulings and practices shall appear annually in the minutes of the association so that the membership of the various churches shall be aware of the association's procedure in such matters.

Damon C. Dodd

James B. Rice Jr.

M.T. Goff

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We the Nominating Committee have nominated the following:

Moderator ..... Rev. J.B. Mercer



Assistant Moderator .....	Rev. Everett Williams
Clerk .....	Mrs. Tim Mizell
Assistant Clerk .....	J.W. Franks
Executive committee .....	Bro. J.M. Hartsfield
Parliamentarian .....	Rev. Damon C. Dodd
Ordaining Council .....	
Time to expire 1968 .....	Rev. Damon C. Dodd
Time to expire 1970 .....	Rev. Riley Giddens

We recommend Bro. M.M. Franks to serve on the State Superannuation Board.

Rev. J.B. Rice  
Mrs. Riley Giddens  
Mrs. Riley Cowart

### CARDS OF THANKS

I, the committee on report of appreciation, recommend that we express by rising vote our appreciation to Ozias and Cool Springs Churches for their hospitality and the fine way they have provided for this session of the association.

Rev. Everett Williams

### APPOINTED TO GET CAMP SUPPLIES

Pine Level .....	Sister Tom Carlton
Corinth .....	Sister C.K. Causey
Zion Hill .....	Sister J.C. Arnold
Sunny Side .....	Sister Annie Douglas
Cool Springs .....	Sister J.C. Weeks
Ozias .....	Sister Louise Hamilton
Friendship .....	Sister W.H. Daughtry
First Valdosta .....	Sister Latrell Crews
Homerville .....	Sister Frank Dean
First Hahira .....	Sister Grady Flippo
Oak Grove .....	Sister Evelyn Simons
First Tifton .....	Sister A.D. Greene
White Hall .....	Sister Annie Davis

### ASSOCIATION

Ozias .....	1965
Cool Spring .....	1965
Friendship .....	1966
White Hall .....	1966
Valdosta .....	1967
Tifton .....	1967
Hahira .....	1968
Shady Grove .....	1968

Ozias .....	1969
Pine Level .....	1969
Corinth .....	1970
Zion Hill .....	1970
Sunny Side .....	1971
Homerville .....	1971
Oak Grove .....	1972
Cool Springs .....	1972

## QUARTERLY MEETINGS QUARTERLY MEETINGS ON SATURDAY BEFORE FIFTH SUNDAY

Corinth .....	1st in 1966
Zion Hill .....	2nd in 1966
Pine Level .....	3rd in 1966
Ozias .....	1st in 1967
Hahira .....	2nd in 1967
White Hall .....	3rd in 1967
Valdosta .....	1st in 1968
Sunny Side .....	2nd in 1968
Cool Springs .....	3rd in 1968
Friendship .....	1st in 1969
Tifton .....	2nd in 1969
Homerville .....	3rd in 1969
Oak Grove .....	1st in 1970

## MINISTERS PRESENT

Rev. Donald Franks, Rev. J.W. Barksdale, Rev. Riley Giddens, Rev. W.H. Daughtry, Rev. J.B. Rice, Rev. W.L. Purvis, Rev. M.T. Goff, Rev. J.B. Mercer, Rev. M.C. Nails, Rev. Damon C. Dodd, Rev. L.E. Sheffield, Rev. Everett Williams, Rev. Odell Harris, Rev. Mance Cason, Rev. Arnold Woodlief.

## TREASURE REPORT

Balance in Treasure .....	\$ 25.70
Received from churches .....	201.50
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Total .....	\$227.20

## DISBURSEMENTS

Fee for State and National Association .....	\$ 38.75
Clerk .....	25.00
Moderator .....	15.00
Minutes .....	100.00
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Total .....	\$178.75
Balance .....	\$ 48.45

## DECEASED MINISTERS

Rev Tharpe Bailey .....	1911	Rev. M.F. Cason .....	1929
Rev. J.J. Davis .....	1913	Rev. H.J. Griffis .....	1939
Rev. C. Leon Starling .....	1919	Rev. W.R. Cato .....	1941
Rev. J.B. Griffin .....	1926	Rev. J.C. Arnold .....	1942

Rev. H. J. Cowart .....	Rev. J.R. Weeks .....	1947
Rev. Morgan Cannon .....	Rev. Louican Cowart .....	1917
Rev. A. Eunice .....	Rev. J.D. Little .....	1958
Rev. B.O. Brown .....	Rev. W.A. Pope .....	1959
Rev. Seborn Bowen .....		1969

### MINISTERS

Rev. J.B. Mercer, Phone 985-6862, Rt. 1 .....	Norman Park, Ga.
Rev. Donald Franks, Phone 794-2154, 427 East Maint St. ....	Hahira, Ga.
Rev. Damon C. Dodd, Phone HU 7-5840, 111 Tonilinson St. --	Homerville, Ga.
Rev. M.C. Nail, Phone HU 7-5845 .....	Homerville, Ga.
Rev. Thomas G. Hamilton, Phone HU 7-2217 .....	Homerville, Ga.
Rev. A.D. Greene, Phone 382-5264, 2205 Prince Avenue .....	Tifton, Ga.
Rev. Everett Williams, Phone 422-3690 .....	Pearson, Ga.
Rev. Dewey Quinn, Phone FR 5-2982 .....	Hazlehurst, Ga.
Rev. W.L. Purvis, Phone 985-5269, Rt. 6 .....	Moultrie, Ga.
Rev. Eyerett Kelly .....	Sycamore, Ga.
Rev. Jessie Castleberry Rt. 1 .....	Lenox, Ga.
Rev. Riley Giddens, Phone 242-1330, 407 Floyd St. ....	Valdosta, Ga.
Rev. J.B. Rice, Phone 242-1639, 1506 Iola Drive .....	Valdosta, Ga.
Rev. W.H. Daughtry, Phone 285-1400, Rt. 4 .....	Waycross, Ga.
Rev. John B. Wheeler .....	Metter, Ga.

### CHURCHES AND AUXILIARIES

Churches	Sunday School	C.T.S.	Women's Auxiliary
Pine Level .....	57	0	0
First Hahira .....	58	58	14
White Hall .....	74	0	15
Homerville .....	49	26	Newly Organized
First Tifton .....	23	0	0
Sunny Side .....	53	18	0
Ozias .....	36	28	7
Cool Springs .....	60	35	0
Oak Grove .....	25	0	0
Zion Hill .....	50	0	0
First Valdosta .....	65	53	12
Friendship .....	18	0	0
Corinth .....	50	54	10

### OBITUARIES

**BESSIE MONCRIEF**—With sorry we report the death of Sister Bessie Moncrief, one of our oldest members, we trust that our loss is heaven gain, and her eternal peace.

Wilene Hunter, Clerk  
Oak Grove Church

**MRS. ED STONE**—We regret to report the death of Mrs. Ed. Stone. We trust that our loss shall be for her gain in heaven, and that we shall join her when our time has come.

Cool Springs Church

**HUEY COWART**—With sorrow we report the death of Brother Huey Cowart. We trust that our loss is for heaven's gain and his eternal peace.

Riley Cowart, Clerk  
Ozias Church

**LEONA IUY**—Its with much sorry that we report the death of our beloved Sister Leona Iuy who departed this life Nov. 1, 1964. We trust that our loss is heaven's gain.

**MAGGIE STRICKLAND**—Its with much sorry that we report the death of our beloved Sister Maggie Strickland who departed this life Dec. 1, 1964. We trust that our loss is heaven's gain.

**FRANK STEEL**—Its with much sorry that we report the death of Bro. Frank Steel who departed this life Dec. 17, 1964. We hope to meet him again some day.

**ANNIE STEEL**—Its with deep sorrow that we report the death of our beloved Sister Annie Steel who departed this life. We trust that our loss is heaven's gain.

**EMMA LEGGITT**—Its with deep sorrow that we have to report the death and loss of our Dear beloved Sister Emma Leggitt who departed this life Jan. 21, 1965. She loved the Lord very dearly, and we are very sure that our loss is heaven's gain, and we hope to meet her again some day.

**ELLA POPELL**—Its with deep sorrow that we report the death of our beloved Sister Ella Popell who departed this life Sept. 13, 1965. We feel our loss is heaven's gain.

**ALFONSO MOORE**—Its with much sorrow that we report the death of our beloved Brother Alfonso Moore who departed this life June 27, 1965. We miss his similes when we meet at the Little Church, but we are sure, we who run the race as he did, will be able to see his simile again.

Annie Davis, Clerk  
White Hall Church

**NONNIE McCARTY**—Its with sorrow that we report the death of Sister Nonnie McCarty who departed this life Feb. 14, 1965. We trust that our loss will be heaven's gain and her eternal peace.

J.P. Perry, Clerk  
Pine Level Church



## QUARTERLY MEETING

The first session of the quarterly meeting of the Little River Association convened with Sunny Side Church Nov. 28, 1964.

Service were opened by congregational song, prayer by Bro. J.C. Arnold. Devotional was brought by Rev. Riley Giddens, Scripture I Cor. 39, using theme, A Spiritual Church, Unified in its Functioning.

The Moderator called the meeting to order and ask each one's co-operation this year in the Lord's work.

Recognized ministers: Rev. M.T. Goff, Rev. W.H. Daughtry, Rev. Donald Franks, Rev. Charles Williams, Rev. J.C.H. Carter, Rev. Riley Giddens, Rev. Everett Williams, Rev. J.B. Mercer.

Recognized visitors: Mrs. J.D. Littles from Thomasville, Ga.

Called for church letters. Sister W.H. Daughtry and Sister J.W. Franks were appointed to read letters.

Moved and carried that we receive the letters that were read and those that might come in late.

Moved and carried we have three committees. Appointed committee, Resolution—Rev. Everett Williams, Sister J.W. Franks, Sister J.C. Arnold. Finance—Bro. C.M. Chafin Jr., Bro. Carson Parrish, Bro. J.W. Franks. Cards of Thanks—Rev. W.H. Daughtry.

Congregational song, prayer by Rev. Everett Williams. Special song by Bro. J.W. Franks and daughters. The morning message was brought by Rev. J.C.H. Carter. Scripture I Cor. 12:27 and I Cor. 3:9.

Offering was taken for unified program, received \$34.30. Dismissed for lunch by Rev. J.B. Mercer.

## SATURDAY EVENING

Congregational song, prayer by Sister J.C. H. Carter. Devotional by Rev. Donald Franks. Scripture Eph. 4:1-14.

Call for reports of the committees. Moved and carried that we receive the reports and release committees. (see report)

Moved and carried to give Sunny Side Church rising vote of appreciation for their hospitality.

Moved and carried that Clerk send each pastor a ltteer reminding him of the quarterly meetings at least one week before each meeting.

Moved and carried to receive Bro. Audie Williams report on establishing a church in Douglas, Ga. and release him from committee and forward it on to the newly appointed mission board.

Home Mission Board: Rev. W.H. Daughtry, Bro. J.W. Franks, Rev. Everett Williams, Bro. C.M. Chafin Jr. (Treasure), Rev. Riley Giddens.

## RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

1. That we as a quarterly meeting of the Little River Association, have a Home Mission Fund and that each church designate on the letter what they want to send for home mission and also general fund and that the home mission fund be used in Little River Association.

2. That the ordaining council be responsible for securing Bibles for every minister who is ordained and let them be paid for from this quarterly conference treasure and that these Bibles be presented during ordanization.

3. That the officers of Quarterly Conference serve as program committee.

4. That more of the programs be made up of good gospel singing and preaching instead of so much discussion.

Rev. Everett Williams, Chairman

The second session of Little River quarterly meeting met with Cool Springs Church Saturday Jan. 30., 1965. Congregational song, prayer by Bro J.C. Weeks.

The Moderator, Rev. J.B. Mercer welcomed all to Cool Springs Church and gave a very inspiring message to the body. Devotional by Rev. W.H. Daughtry, Scripture Joshua 24:14-18, using theme, Decision, Determine, Destiny.

Called for church letters. Sister J.W. Franks and Sister W.H. Daughtry were appointed to read letters.

Moved and carried to receive letters as read and seat delegates.

Recognized ministers present: Rev. Mance Cason, Rev. J.B. Mercer, Rev. J.C. Carter, Rev. J.B. Rice, Rev. Dewey Quinn, Rev. W.H. Daughtry, Rev. W.L. Purvis, Rev. Everett Williams and Rev. M.T. Goff.

Called for corresponding messengers. Sister J.B. Rice Sr. from Union Association were welcomed.

Rev. Mance Cason gave report on Promotional Work, and challenged each to be greater witnesses for our Lord in all the world.

Appointed committees: Finance—Rev. Dewey Quinn, Sister Diana Franks, Sister W.H. Daughtry. Resolution—Bro. Buddy Hartsfield, Bro. J.W. Selph, Bro. M.M. Franks, Cards of Thanks—Rev. J.C. Carter.

Song service led by Bro. N.C. Branton. Prayer by Rev. Everett Williams. The morning message was brought by Rev. J.B. Rice. Scripture Deut. 30:15-20.

Dismissed for lunch.

## AFTERNOON SESSION

Congregational song, prayer by Bro. Curtis Gay. Devotional by Rev. J.C. Carter, using Scripture in St. John.

Moved and carried to receive and adopt the minutes of last meeting.

Call for reports of committees. Moved and carried to receive the reports from committees and release committees. (see report).

Moved and carried we give Cool Springs Church a rising vote of appreciation for their hospitality.

Moved and carried that a notice of any important meeting be sent to pastor and Clerk of churches.

An offering were taken for Rev. J.C. Castleberry who is sick. Forty-two dollars were given.

Moved and carried we adjourn this session. Dismissed by Bro. Carson Parrish.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Balance in Treasure .....	\$ 41.50
Received from churches .....	41.25
For mission .....	49.25
Total .....	<u>\$131.90</u>

**DISBURSEMENTS**

For State Association Expense .....	\$ 10.00
Unified Program .....	15.00
Bible College .....	25.00
Clerk .....	5.00
Moderator .....	5.00
Mission Treasure .....	49.25
Total .....	<u>\$109.25</u>
Balance .....	22.65

**RESOLUTION COMMITTEE**

We your resolution committee recomend that the Clerk and Moderator each receive \$5.00 for their service.

We recomend that each church send in their dues for the State Association expenses by the last quarterly meeting before the Little River Association.

Bro. Buddy Hartsfield, Chairman

The third session of The Little River Association met with Friendship Church May 29, 1965. Congregational song, prayer by Rev. Dewey Quinn.

The Moderator welcomed each to the service and challenged each to let the Holy Spirit dwell in our hearts. Devotional by Rev. Donald Franks, Scripture Act 1:1-8, using theme: The Holy Ghost and his Purpose in a Christain's Life.

Called for church letters. Rev. J.B. Rice and Rev. Donald Franks were appointed to read letters.

Moved and carried we receive letters and seat delegates. Appointed committees: Finance—Rev. J.B. Rice, Sister J.W. Franks, Bro. Tom Carlton. Resolution—Rev. J.C. Carter, Sister Tressa Moore and Sister Annie Douglas. Cards of Thanks—M.M. Franks.

Ministers present were: Rev. Everett Williams, Rev. Donald Franks, Rev. J.B. Rice, Rev. M.T. Goff, Rev. Charles Williams, Rev. Dewey Quinn, Rev. J.C. Carter, Rev. W.H. Daughtry, and Rev. J.B. Mercer.

Rev. J.B. Mercer in the absent of our State Promotional Secretary read report on Look at our State Ministry. The Need is Urgent.

Special song by Rev. Everett Williams. Congregational song, prayer

by Rev. J.C. Carter. Morning message was brought by Rev. Everett Williams. Scripture Acts 1:1-8.

Everyone was invited to stay for lunch.

### AFTERNOON SESSION

Song service led by Bro. N.C. Branton, prayer by Rev. J.B. Rice. Devotional was brought by Rev. Charles Williams. Scripture Acts 2:41.

Bro. M.M. Franks invited each one to visit Camp Mt. Bethel and urged each to support the unified program.

Called for reports of committees. Moved and carried to receive reports and release committees. (see report)

Offering were taken for unified program, \$19.60 were given.

Moved and carried we adjourn the business session.

Message by Rev. J.C.H. Carter. Scripture I Ch. 12:32 and II Tim. 3:1.

Dismissed by Rev. Carter.

### TREASURE REPORT

Balance .....	\$ 22.75
Received from churches .....	43.00
Mission .....	35.00
Received from last year's Clerk .....	53.00
Total .....	<u>\$153.75</u>

### SPENT

Mission Treasure .....	\$35.00
Clerk .....	5.00
Moderator .....	5.00
State Association Expenses .....	10.00
Unified Program .....	15.00
Camp Mt. Bethel .....	25.00
Total .....	<u>\$95.00</u>
Balance .....	\$58.75

J.B. Rice, Chairman

### RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

1. We recomend that Holy living be stressed in our churches.
2. We urge that prayer life in each believer's life be extended.
3. That Bible study be extended in the Christian's home.
4. We recomend that only one long message be preached at the quarterly meetings. That is one devotional in the morning and the morning message to follow that, and a devotional at the beginning of the afternoon session.

Tressa Moore, Chairman



The fourth session of quarterly meeting of Little River Association met with First Tifton Church in Tifton, Ga. Aug. 29, 1965.

The meeting was called to order by singing, Bringing in the Sheaves, Prayer by Rev. W.L. Purvis.

The Moderator welcomed each one to the quarterly meeting. Theme for the day. "The Need of Love." Devotional by Rev. Ralph Chafin, Scripture was taken from I John, Subject, The Need of Love.

Called for church letters. Sandra Ogletree and Thelma Jane Collens were appointed to read letters. Moved and carried that we except letters as read and seat delegates.

Appointed committees: Resolution—Bro. M.M. Franks, Bro. J.C. Weeks and Bro. Len Powell. Finance—Bro. L.D. Winn, Bro. J.C. Arnold and Bro. Audie Williams. Cards of Thanks—Rev. Everett Williams.

Moved and carried we receive the minutes and treasure report from last meeting as read.

Ministers present were: Rev. A.D. Greene, Rev. Richard Cole, Rev. Mance Cason, Rev. J.C.H. Carter, Rev. Everett Williams, Rev. James Stringer, Rev. Donald Franks, Rev. Ralph Chafin, Rev. W.L. Purvis, Rev. J.B. Rice, Rev. Riley Giddens, Rev. Elsie Franks, Rev. M.T. Goff and Rev. J.B. Mercer.

Brother M.M. Franks led the congregation in the song service. Special singing from Catherine Sharion, Barbara Gill and Rev. Everett Williams from White Hall Church in Waycross, Prayer by Rev. Riley Giddens. The morning message was brought by Rev. Mance Cason. Scripture Prov. 10:12 and John 21:14-17, Subject, "The Need of Love."

Rev. Cason gave report on our State Work. He expressed his gratitude in the way we had helped in the work and encouraged each to continue in the work for our Lord.

Prayer by Rev. Cason.

Rev. A.D. Greene, pastor of the host church welcomed each to stay for lunch. Which was at the park.

Dismissed by Rev. Elsie Franks.

### AFTERNOON SESSION

Congregational singing, prayer by Rev. J.C.H. Carter. Devotional by Rev. James Stringer. Scripture in St. Matt. 10.

Called for unfinished business.

Called for reports from committees. Moved and carried we except the reports and release committees. (see report)

Moved and carried to give First Tifton Church a rising vote of appreciation for the fine way they entertained the quarterly meeting.

Rev. J.B. Rice encouraged each minister and deacon to go to the ministers and deacons meeting at Hahira Church.

Moved and carried we send a Love Offering to Homerville Church and invite them to come and join our association.

Moved and carried that \$50.00 from mission treasure and \$50.00 from quarterly meeting treasure be sent to Homerville Church as a love gift.

Moved and carried to adjourn business session.

Special singing: from Ozias Church. Bro. Riley Cowart, Bro. H.M. Hamilton and Sister Fannie Mizell.

From White Hall Church, Sister Catherine Sharon.

The Moderator announced special meeting of the committees for State Association intertainment Sept. 20, at First Tifton.

Dismissed by Rev. A.D. Greene.

### RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

We your Committee on Resolution recommend that all churches send in the money State Association.

We recommend that our churches send more money for missions.

Respectfully submitted,

M.M. Franks

J.C. Weeks

Len Powell

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

In Treasure .....	\$ 58.75
Received for quarterly meeting .....	39.00
Received for mission .....	36.00
	<hr/>
Total .....	\$133.75

### SPENT

Mission Treasure .....	\$ 36.00
Homerville Church .....	50.00
Clerk .....	5.00
Moderator .....	5.00
State Association Expenses .....	10.00
Postage .....	2.05
	<hr/>
Total .....	\$108.05
Balance in Treasure .....	\$ 25.70

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

The Little River Sunday School Convention met at Zion Hill Church May 1, 1965.

Congregational song, Prayer by Rev. Everett Williams.

President opened session and welcomed everyone.

Devotion by Rev. J.C.H. Carter on our Sunday School and its devotion to God.

The key to a successful Sunday School is the teacher. Make known what Christ layed down for us to teach.

The work of the teacher is:

1. Work of the Brain—Study
2. Work of the Eyes—Look Around
3. Work of the Mouth—Speak out for Christ
4. Work of the Feet—Visitation
5. Work of the Heart—Love

Called for reports from Sunday Schools. Sister Catherine Sharon and Bro. Carson Parrish were appointed to read reports. Moved and carried to receive reports as read and seat delegates.

The ministers were recognized. Rev. Marvin Hartsfield—Midway, Rev. Hubert Henderson—Homerville, Rev. Mance Cason—Promotional Secretary, Rev. J.C.H. Carter—Corinth, Rev. Riley Giddens—Valdosta, Rev. J.B. Rice—Zion Hill, Rev. Donald Franks—Hahira, and Rev. W.H. Daughtry—Friendship.

Appointed committees, Finance—Bro. A.C. Brannan, Bro. Eddie Williams and Bro. Donald Gay. Nominating—Bro. Carson Parrish, Sister Mary Jo Hartsfield, Sister Wanda Franks and Sister Fannie Mizell.

A talk, ways to increase attendance in Sunday School by Rev. Riley Giddens.

Special song by Catherine Sharon, Prayer by Rev. W.H. Daughtry. Message by Rev. Hubert Henderson. Theme: For the Perfecting of the Saints, For the Work of the Ministry, For the Edifying of the Body of Christ. Scripture Eph. 4:11-16, Mat. 28:18-20.

Dismissed for lunch by Bro. Carson Parrish.

## AFTERNOON SESSION

Congregational singing, Prayer by Rev. Donald Franks.

President's message by Rev. J.B. Rice, a very enjoyable talk on the value of having a Sunday School. I Tim. 4:13.

Rev. Donald Franks led a question and answer period on the Sunday School lessons. Teachers and young people took part.

Rev. Mance Cason spoke to us concerning the material and books now available through his office. He urged everyone to call on him for help in any way. He also spoke of the new service of the education board available to us.

## BUSINESS

Minutes of past session read and approved. And report of committees.

**FINANCE**

Old Balance .....	\$20.00
Received from churches .....	50.00
Total .....	<u>\$70.00</u>

**SPENT**

State Convention .....	\$10.00
Field Worker .....	5.00
Unified Program .....	10.00
Rev. Hubert Henderson .....	5.00
Secretary .....	5.00
Total Spent .....	<u>\$35.00</u>
Balance in Treasure .....	\$41.00

Nominating Committee: President—J.B. Rice, Vice-President—W.H. Daughtry, Secretary and Treasure—Ann Daughtry, Assistant Secretary and Treasure—Wanda Franks, Field Worker—W.E. Brown.

Moved and carried the reports be accepted and the committees released.

The Secretary was appointed to draw up a schedule for the Field Worker. He was to make 12 trips a year. Each Sunday School that he visits suppose to pay his expenses.

Ozias invited the Convention to meet with them next year.

Moved and carried to accept the invitation.

Delegation to State Convention were appointed. Sister J.W. Franks, Bro. Bill Brown, Sister Annie Davis, Bro. and Sister Donald Gay, Sister Fannie Mizell, Sister W.H. Daughtry, Sister Sarah Arnold, Bro. Eddie Williams and Bro. J.B. Rice.

The President appointed the following committees:

Program—Bro. J.M. Hartsfield and Bro. Carson Parrish.

Committee to Youth Rally—Sister J.W. Franks and Rev. Riley Giddens. Rev. Mance Cason installed the new officers and led in prayer.

Moved and carried to give the Host Church a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality.

Moved and carried to adjourn.

Donald Franks, Secretary

**C.T.S. CONVENTION**

The Church Training Service Convention of the Little River Association met Sept. 18th at Corinth Church. Congregational song, Prayer by Rev. Donald Franks. Welcomed by Bro. L.J. Chambless. Devotional by Bro. Bill Brown, Subject, "Wake Up and Train our People in the Way of Christ"



and turn them from the Way of the World. Rom. 13:11-14.

The reports from the churches were received and delegation seated churches represented, Ozias, Hahira, Valdosta and Corinth.

Ministers present: Rev. Mance Cason, Rev. Wendal Long, Rev. J.B. Rice and Rev. Donald Franks.

Committees appointed: Finance—Bro. Carson Parrish, Bro. L.J. Chambliss and Bro. Phillips Selph. Resoulution—Rev. Donald Franks, Bro. M.M. Franks and Bro. J.W. Selph. Nominating—Sister Fannie Mizell, Bro. J.W. Franks and Sister Joan Arnold.

Bro. Carson gave talk, "Training gives your strength for the Lord."

Bible Bowl - by Sister L.F. Ogletree. The young people were the participants. The winners received a pen.

Special singing by Bro. J.W. Franks and children. Prayer by Bro. M.M. Franks. Morning message by Rev. Wendal Long, Scripture Ephesians 6:10.

Dismissed for lunch by Rev. Mance Cason.

## AFTERNOON SESSION

Congregational singing, Prayer.

Rev. J.B. Rice gave a short inspiring message.

Rev. Mance Cason gave report on the Promotional Work.

Minutes were read from last session. These were approved as read.

Hahira Church gave report on the training course held for teachers.

Called for reports from committees.

## FINANCE

In Treasure -----	\$30.00
Received from churches -----	20.00
Total -----	<u>\$50.00</u>

## SPENT

Promotional Work -----	\$ 5.00
Bible Bowl Winners -----	1.00
Bible Drill Winners -----	1.00
Rev. Wendal Long -----	10.00
Total -----	<u>\$17.00</u>
Balance in Treasure -----	\$33.00

## RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

We The Resolution Committee recommends the following:

1. That this C.T.S. Convention meet on the 1st Saturday in November.
2. That all Leagues change and use C.T.S. Literature.
3. That this Convention help the State League Treasure all they can.

and we urge our churches to help as they are in debt from last session.

4. That this session go and help any church desiring to start C.T.S.

We further urge all churches who do not have a C.T.S. to start one this year.

Nominating Committee: President—Rev. J.B. Rice, Vice-President—Bro. J.W. Selph, Secretary and Treasure—Sandra Ogletree, Assistant Secretary and Treasure—Judy Hamilton.

Moved and carried we receive the reports from committees and release committees.

Moved and carried to send \$13.00 to State C.T.S. Treasure.

Moved and carried to elect all officers nominated.

Delegate appointed to State Convention were: Bro. M.M. Franks.

The meeting is to meet with Ozias next year, 1st Saturday in November.

Bible Drill by Mrs. J.W. Franks. Winners, Joan Arnold—Junior and Sandra Ogletree—Intermediate.

Moved and carried we adjourn.

**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 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 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 in 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 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 the 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 acknowledgments. (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 acknowledgment shall be recorded in the church book.

19. Members dismissed from the church by letter who becomes 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 without 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 to 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 its poor, and all its 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 preceding session shall preside until the successors shall be known.

2. At each session and previous to proceeding 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 for 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 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 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 association.

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 infallible true and that they are the only rules of faith and practice.—1 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. 2:11-12; Jer. 22:29.

10. We believe that man, 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; 11 Peter 2:1; 11 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 the 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 Testa-

ment.—Mark 16:15-16; Acts 8:17; Acts 19:6; Luke 22 19 20, John 13 5, 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; 11 Cor. 5:10.

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



## FORMS

## FORMS FOR LICENSE

This is to certify that the bearer, Brother \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ of the County \_\_\_\_\_

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 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 grant-  
ed, we are your brethren in Christ.

..... Moderator

..... Church Clerk

### 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.

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS AND POST OFFICES	Sunday of Meetings	Received by Letter	Rec'd by Con. of Faith	Dismissed by Letter	Received by Baptism	Paid Pastor	Paid for Minutes	Value of Church Property	Improvements	Paid for Evangelistic	Members	Paid to Unified Program
Pine Level	J.B. Mercer	J.P. Perry Route 2, Norman Park	Full	6	4	0	6	\$1050.63	\$15.00	\$12,000	\$211.00	\$115.00	93	\$ 7.50
Corinth	W.J. Barksdale	Mrs. J.W. Franks Route 4, Box 137, Tifton	Full	4	0	4	4	1135.80	17.50	5,000	332.18	165.00	71	202.30
Zion Hill	J.B. Rice	Mrs. W.A. Sowell Box 436, Manor, Ga.	1-3	0	0	2	0	720.00	12.00	15,000	685.00	132.00	50	94.16
Sunny Side	Arnold Woodlief	Betty M. Bazemore Pearson, Ga.	2-4	0	0	2	0	608.07	20.00	5,000	0	173.00	51	118.50
Cool Springs	Everett Kelly	C.M. Chafin, Jr. Route 1, Norman Park	Full	0	0	3	0	1858.05	25.00	18,000	721.00	204.25	105	\$183.05
Friendship	W.H. Daughtry	Mrs. Mary Dyson Route 1, Millwood	2-4	0	0	1	0	728.00	6.50	3,000	0	50.00	44	0
Ozias	W.H. Daughtry	Riley Cowart Pearson, Ga.	Full	0	0	0	6	2480.00	20.00	5,000	187.60	75.00	80	315.67
Valdosta	Riley Giddens	Eugene Crews 700 Randolph St., Va.	Full	7	0	0	17	2400.00	20.00	26,000	2312.71	100.00	87	120.00
Hahira	Donald Franks	A.T. Boutwell Hahira, Ga.	Full	10	0	2	13	796.74	22.00	25,000	787.35	150.00	88	40.00
Oak Grove	Jessie Castleberry	Mrs. Wylene Hunter Stockton, Ga.	Full	0	0	0	1	141.00	8.00	5,000	30.00	109.00	22	0
Tifton	A.D. Green	Raymond Greene 2224 Tyson Ave. Tifton	Full	3	0	0	0	183.90	5.00	7,500	0	75.00	39	3.25
White Hall	Everett Williams	Annie Davis 1033 Albany Ave., Waycross	Full	3	1	0	10	1170.00	15.00	5,000	15.00	180.00	124	60.00
Homerville	D.C. Dodd	Lucians Wilson Homerville, Ga.	Full	Newly Organized					10.00					