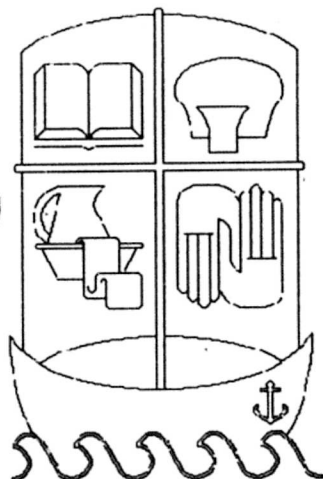


LITTLE RIVER ASSOCIATION *of* **FREE WILL BAPTISTS, INC.**



Minutes of the 101st Annual Session

When convened at the
Sunnyside Free Will Baptist Church
Pearson, Georgia
Saturday, January 17, 2009

In affiliation with the
Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc.
And the
National Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc.

This publication includes the following documents:

2008 Minutes and Reports;
2009 Officers, Board & Committee Members;
2009 Directory of Churches, Pastors & Clerks;
Constitution, By Laws & Statement of Beliefs.

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2008 District Association Minutes & Reports

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The Constitution, By Laws and Statement of Beliefs of the Little River Association of Free Will Baptists has it's own Table of Contents and can be found beginning on page 39, following the 2008 minutes.

2009 LITTLE RIVER ASSOCIATION Officers, Committee & Board Members

LRA Association Officers

Moderator: Dr. Wm. S. 'Bill' Lewis
Asst. Moderator: Rev. Phil Bozeman
Clerk/Treasurer: Rev. Keith Lloyd
Asst. Clerk: Rev. Johnny Ware
Camp Treasurer: Rev. Keith Lloyd

Term Expires

2011
 2011
 Indefinite
 Indefinite
 Indefinite

Term Expires:

Expires:

Executive Committee:

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Dr. Wm. S. 'Bill' Lewis | Ex-officio (2011) |
| Rev. Keith Lloyd | Ex-officio |
| Rev. Teddy Burch | 2010 |
| Bro. Timmy Barber | 2011 |
| Rev. Larry Johnson | 2012 |
| Rev. Billy Sumner | 2013 |
| Bro. David Taylor | 2014 |

Mission Board:

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| Sis. Wanda Cofield | 2010 |
| Sis. Faye Ogletree | 2011 |
| Sis. Melonie Brown | 2012 |
| Sis. Amy Fitzgerald | 2013 |
| Sis. Rebecca Brown | 2014 |

Finance Committee:

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| Sis. Maxine Franks | 2010 |
| Sis. Thelma Brunner | 2010 |
| Sis. Judy Tolle | 2010 |

Ordaining Council:

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Rev. Larry Johnson | 2010 |
| Rev. Aaron Clanton | 2011 |
| Dr. Wm. S. 'Bill' Lewis | 2012 |
| Rev. Teddy Burch | 2013 |
| Rev. Phil Bozeman | 2014 |

Camp Board:

| | |
|----------------------|------|
| Bro. Harvey Hamilton | 2010 |
| Bro. Shannon Tolle | 2011 |
| Bro. Dean Whitson | 2012 |
| Bro. Mike Jilcott | 2013 |
| Bro. Joey Fitzgerald | 2014 |

Nominating Committee

Moderator appoints in July.

Georgia State Association Boards:

Mission:

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| Sis. Melonie Brown | 2013 |
|--------------------|------|

Trustee:

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Bro. Timmy Barber | 2013 |
|-------------------|------|

Camp:

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Rev. Josh Bennett | 2011 |
|-------------------|------|

C.E.:

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Rev. Josh Bennett | 2011 |
|-------------------|------|

2009 Church Directory

Page 1 of 2

Church:

Cool Springs
 101 Cool Springs Ch. Rd.
 Norman Park, GA 31771
 (229) 769-3525

Corinth
 3216 Chula-Brookfield Rd.
 P.O. Box 117
 Brookfield, GA 31727
 (229) 382-0060

Forest Hill
 Hwy. 37
 Adel, GA 31620

Friendship
 Hwy 158
 Waycross, GA 31503

Hahira 1st
 402 Francis St.
 Hahira, GA 31632

Homerville
 North Church St. (US 441)
 P.O. Box 354
 Homerville, GA 31634
 (912) 487-5336

Open Door Fellowship
 3382 North Valdosta Rd.
 Valdosta, GA 31604
 (229) 242-8074
 info@odffwb.org

Ozias
 2477 U.S. Hwy. 441 N.
 Pearson, GA 31642
 (912) 422-3286

Solid Rock
 Hwy 82
 Tifton, GA 31794

Pastor:

Rev. Phil Bozeman
 2559 Ellenton-Norman Park Rd.
 Norman Park, GA 31771
 (229) 769-3828
 philbozeman@windstream.net

Rev. Aaron Clanton
 8170 North Coffee Rd.
 Alapaha, GA 31622
 (229) 532-5900
 revaaronclanton@minister.com

Rev. Carl Morrison
 P.O. Box 1
 Enigma, GA 31749
 (229) 533-5225

(*) Rev. Alvin Baldwin
 418 Amy's Place
 Waycross, GA 31501
 (912) 285-3073

(*) Rev. James Stringer
 402 Francis St.
 Hahira, GA 31632

Rev. Jeff Goodman
 104 Hunter St.
 Homerville, GA 31634
 (912) 487-3292
 revgman@hotmail.com

Dr. Wm. S. (Bill) Lewis
 4272 Sonoma Dr.
 Valdosta, GA 31602
 (229) 245-8411
 pastor@odffwb.org

Rev. Larry Johnson
 1254 Hwy. 64 East
 Pearson, GA 31642
 (912) 422-3650

Rev. William Sumner
 2275 Hwy. 82 East
 Tifton, GA 31794
 (229) 386-5976

Clerk:

Sis. Denise Robinson
 367 Crossland-Lenox Rd.
 Omega, GA 31775
 (229) 528-6994
 robinsonvilleusa@yahoo.com

Sis. Maxine Franks
 39 Sutton Rd.
 Tifton, GA 31794
 (229) 382-3580

Sis. Judy Crowley
 507 N. Cleveland Ave.
 Adel, GA 31620
 (229) 896-7243

Sis. Fredda Herndon
 P.O. Box 114
 Waresboro, GA 31564
 (912) 284-0410

Bro. Herbert Arden
 511 E. Stanfill St.
 Hahira, GA 31632
 (229) 794-2441

Sis. Judy Tolle
 1807 Jesse Booth Rd.
 Homerville, GA 31634
 (912) 487-5495

Sis. Kathryn Swann-Tart
 708 Georgia Ave.
 Valdosta, GA 31602
 (229) 244-0963

Sis. Wanda Taft
 2580 Old Douglas Hwy.
 Pearson, GA 31642
 (912) 422-7236

Sis. Peggy Busbin
 321 Bowen Rd.
 Tifton, GA 31794
 (229) 382-0622

(*) Credentials not yet recognized by the Little River Association.

2009 Church Directory

Page 2 of 2

Church:

Sunnyside
17 Crossroads Ch. Rd.
Pearson, GA 31642

White Hall
608 Homer St.
Waycross, GA 31501
(912) 285-1219

Zion Hill
3064 Zion Hill Rd.
Millwood, GA 31552
(912) 283-1225
www.zionhillchurch.com

Pastor:

Rev. Teddy Burch
7168 Old Douglas Hwy.
Pearson, GA 31642
(912) 422-7909

(*) Rev. Johnny Ware
P.O. Box 1768
Waycross, GA 31502
(912) 283-2840

Rev. Keith Lloyd
3063 Zion Hill Rd.
Millwood, GA 31552
(912) 285-5075
pastor@zionhillchurch.com

Clerk:

Sis. Gwyn Kirkland
892 Basswood Rd.
Douglas, GA 31535
(912) 383-8088

Sis. Liz Roberson
631 Aycock Rd.
Waycross, GA 31503
(912) 283-9657

Sis. Jeanie Monk
1356 Truman St.
Waycross, GA 31501
(912) 283-0532

(*) Credentials not yet recognized by the Little River Association.

Other Ordained Ministers:

Rev. Josh Bennett
100-B Shirley Rd.
Homerville, GA 31634
(912) 487-3032
bro.jbennett@hotmail.com
(Homerville, Youth Pastor)

Rev. Mitchell Deems
Rt. 1 Box 10-A
Pearson, GA 31642
(912) 422-7346

Rev. Dale Bishop
#4 Megurita-Cho
Higashi Murayama
Tokyo 189-0025 Japan
(Corinth, Missionary to Japan)

Rev. Terron Stonecypher
Rt. 1 Box 2700
Nashville, GA 31639
(229) 686-1755

Other Licensed Ministers:

Bro. Randall C. Browning
Rt. 2 Box 53-E
Pearson, GA 31642
(912) 422-3916
(Ozias)

Bro. Mark Anderson
Pearson, GA 31642
(Ozias, Youth Pastor)

(*) Credentials not yet recognized by the Little River Association.

2008 Statistical Report

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Number of Churches in Association | 12 |
| Number of Churches Reporting | 12 |
| Number of City Churches | 6 |
| Number of Rural Churches | 6 |
| Number of Churches with Full-time Pastors | 7 |
| Number of Churches with Part-time Pastors | 5 |
| Number of Churches with Parsonages | 5 |
| Combined Value of all Church Property | \$ 4.6 million |
| Number of Churches with Budgets | 7 |
| Total Combined Income of all Churches | \$ 807,687.00 |
| Number of Ordained Ministers | 13 |
| Number of Licensed Ministers | 3 |
| Number of Ordained Deacons | 26 |
| Total Combined Membership of all Churches | 810 |
| Total Number of Baptisms | 39 |
| Total Members Added | 47 |
| Total Members Lost | 30 |
| Number of Churches with Sunday Schools | 11 |
| Total Combined Sunday School Enrollment | 556 |
| Number of Churches with CTS | 2 |
| Total Combined CTS Enrollment | 68 |
| Number of Churches with WNAC / GWAC | 4 |
| Total Combined WNAC / GWAC Enrollment | 56 |
| Number of Churches with Master's Men | 3 |
| Total Combined Master's Men Enrollment | 46 |
| Number of Churches without a Pastor | 0 |

Please note that even though all of our churches reported, the reports were incomplete and inaccurate. We do not have an accurate reflection in the areas of Church Finances, Membership, and Sunday School Enrollment. It is impossible to make sense of the numbers from year to year without complete and accurate reports. --Clerk Keith Lloyd

Schedule of District Association Meetings:

| <u>2009</u> | <u>2010</u> | <u>2011</u> |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Sunnyside – 1/17 | Hahira – 1/16 | Camp Little River – 1/15 |
| Friendship – 4/18 | Open Door – 4/17 | Zion Hill – 4/16 |
| Forest Hill – 7/25 | Cool Springs – 7/24 | Homerville – 7/30 |
| Solid Rock – 10/17 | White Hall – 10/16 | Corinth – 10/15 |
| | <u>2012</u> | |
| | Ozias – 1/14 | |

Special Notes:

- Annual Sessions of the Little River Association will be held in January each year.
- Annual Sessions of the Little River Association will consist of reports and statistical information from the previous year, January 1st through December 31st.

2008 Obituary Report

Harvey Rice

Born October 20, 1924 — Died May 31, 2008
Member of the Forest Hill FWB Church in Adel, GA

Ms. Cherrie Harrell

Born May 16, 1937 — Died October 23, 2008
Member of the Friendship FWB Church in Waycross, GA

Dollie Mae Maine

Born January 5, 1920 — Died July 22, 2008
Member of the Homerville FWB Church in Homerville, GA

Rudene Davis Kidd

Born July 27, 1942 — Died December 12, 2008
Member of the Ozias FWB Church in Pearson, GA

Mrs. Willie Williams

Born July 11, 1919 — Died September 22, 2008
Member of the Sunnyside FWB Church in Pearson, GA

Louell Bowen

Died November 17, 2008
Member of the Sunnyside FWB Church in Pearson, GA

Willie McGovern

Died December 17, 2008
Member of the Sunnyside FWB Church in Pearson, GA

Faye Walden Booth

Born June 28, 1941 — Died July 3, 2008
Member of the Zion Hill FWB Church in Millwood, GA

Ronald Alan Monk

Born July 26, 1962 — Died September 23, 2008
Member of the Zion Hill FWB Church in Millwood, GA

Little River Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc.

Annual Session: Saturday, January 17th, 2009, 9:30 am
Host Church: Sunnyside FWB Church, Pearson, Georgia

Service Schedule:

9:30 – 9:40 am: Congregational Singing & Prayer
9:40 – 9:45 am: Welcome: *Rev. Teddy Burch, Pastor of the Sunnyside Church*
9:45 – 10:30 am: Business Session Begins

- ❖ Call to Order by the Moderator
- ❖ Open Door Fellowship Offering
- ❖ Credentials Report
- ❖ Reading of Previous Minutes & Treasurer's Report
- ❖ Reports of Boards & Committees
 - Executive Committee:
 - Ordaining Council:
 - LRA Camp Board:
 - Financial Report
 - Junior Camp Report
 - LRA Mission Board:
 - Nominating Committee:
 - Board and Committee members nominations and elections
 - Finance Committee Report
 - Annual Obituary Report
- ❖ GAFWB State Board Reports
 - GA State Camp Board:
 - GA State Mission Board:
 - GA State CE Board:
 - GA State Trustee Board:

10:30 – 10:45 am Recess

10:45 – 11:15 am Business Session Resumes

- ❖ Old Business
 -
- ❖ New Business
 - Consideration of having the two quarterly LRA worship sessions on Sunday evenings.
 -
- ❖ Announcements
- ❖ Resolutions
- ❖ Motion to Adjourn

11:15 – 12:00 Worship Service

- ❖ Congregational Singing & Prayer
- ❖ Special Music
- ❖ Morning Message: Pastor Keith Lloyd, Zion Hill FWB Church, Millwood
- ❖ Closing Prayer

Next Session:

Bi-Annual Worship Session:
Friendship FWB Church, Waycross, GA, Saturday, April 18th, 2009, 9:30 am

Little River Association of Free Will Baptists

Minutes of the 101st Annual Session

Convening at: Sunnyside FWB Church, Kirkland

Date: January 17, 2009, 9:30 am

PRELIMINARIES:

- The meeting began with the congregational song, "When We All Get to Heaven". The host pastor, Rev. Teddy Burch, welcomed the Association and led in an opening prayer. Moderator Jeff Goodman called the 101st Annual Session to order.
- Bro. Ronnie Lieupo prayed for God's blessing upon the Open Door Fellowship Offering. The offering was received and totaled \$224.93.
- The Credentials Committee Report was given as follows: 12 churches reported with 9 pastors, 2 other ministers, 8 deacons, and 34 delegates present. All elected delegates were seated by a vote from the standing delegates. The total voting delegation was 53.
- The minutes of the last meeting were read, and Clerk Keith Lloyd gave the Treasurer's Report. A motion was made, seconded and carried to receive each report as given.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

LRA Executive Committee:

- Clerk Keith Lloyd, reporting for the Executive Committee, asked member churches to consider having the two bi-annual worship sessions of the LRA on Sunday evening instead of Saturday morning. If the change is made, several questions also need to be answered, such as: Do we need to seat delegates? Will we conduct any business or receive any reports? Will we still receive quarterly district representation fees? The committee would like to receive feedback and suggestions from member churches before the proposed change is considered as "old business" at the quarterly session in April. The report was received as information.

LRA Camp Board:

- Rev. Josh Bennett reported that Camp Little River 2009 will be held on Sunday thru Thursday, May 31 thru June 4. This camp is for 1st through 5th graders. A cleanup and decorating day will be held on Saturday, May 30.
- Camp Board Chairman Shannon Tolle reported that a work-day would be held for the purpose of minor repairs and the installation of a new exhaust hood in the Camp Kitchen. The date and time will be announced later.
- Both of these reports were received as information.
- Camp Board Treasurer Keith Lloyd submitted a financial report. A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the report. This financial report becomes an integral part of the minutes.

LRA Mission Board:

- Sis. Melonie Brown reported that the annual LRA Mission Rally has been postponed until a decision is made on the bi-annual worship session. The board would like to receive input from churches and pastors on how to make the rally more successful with greater participation from member churches. The report was received as information.

Nominating Committee:

- The newly adopted Constitution and By-Laws specifies that a Nominating Committee shall be appointed in the semi-annual business session preceding the annual session. This was inadvertently overlooked in both the July and October quarterly sessions. The Moderator asked permission to forego the appointment of a Nominating Committee and proceed with nominations. A motion was made, seconded and carried to proceed.
- Nominations were made and, hearing no other nominations from the floor, a motion was made to receive them by a vote of acclamation. The motion was seconded and carried. The slate of elected officers, board and committee members for 2009 will appear in the 2008 LRA Annual Minutes.

Finance Committee:

- Sis. Maxine Franks gave a report from the Finance Committee. A motion was made, seconded and carried to receive the report. The report is as follows: *Balance Brought Forward:* \$1348.21; *Total Receipts:* \$2255.93; *Balance On Hand:* \$3604.14.

GAFWB Camp Board:

- Rev. Josh Bennett reported that the 2008 Winter Retreat had been cancelled to an account deficit and the lack of participation in previous retreats. The Winter Retreat will still be considered in the future. The 2009 State Teen Camp will be held on Sunday thru Friday, June 28 thru July 3 at Camp Echeconnee in Lizella. The report was received as information.

GAFWB Mission Board:

- Sis. Melonie Brown reported that the decision to close the Open Door Fellowship Valdosta mission work had been rescinded by the board with certain provisions. Namely, that the Open Door Fellowship will be responsible for incrementally assuming responsibility for the church-planter's salary by 10% per month beginning in March, with a goal for the church to be self-supporting by November 2009. The church-planter for this mission work, Dr. Bill Lewis, reported that they are beginning to move forward quickly with plans to build a new meeting facility on the recently acquired property on Perimeter Road. A local contractor has united with the church and volunteered free labor to complete the project. Sis. Melonie encouraged the association to support the work financially by receiving special offerings for the quarterly LRA Open Door Fellowship offering. The report was received as information.
- Sis. Melonie Brown also encouraged the ladies of the association to attend the GWAC retreat in April at Norman Park. Sis. Debbie Griffin, missionary to Japan, will be the featured speaker.

OLD BUSINESS:

- None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Rev. Fred Hersey, representing FWB International Missions, encouraged association churches to participate in the annual World Mission Offering by utilizing the coin banks. Last year's offering totaled approximately \$570,000. Coin banks were made available to anyone interested.
- Sis. Debbie Griffin, missionary to Japan, thanked the LRA for supporting her prayerfully and financially during her 22 years on the mission field. She informed the association of two new families who would soon be joining them as missionaries.
- Rev. Larry Johnson informed the association that the Ozias church will be hosting a "youth lock-in" at Camp Little River on Friday, January 23, and all LRA churches are invited to participate. The cost is \$10 per child.
- Several youth from the LRA have been chosen to participate in summer E-Team and FWBBC mission trips: Jacob Smith, Homerville FWB Church, Mexico; Noah Ellis, Homerville FWB Church, Chicago; Jonathan Tolle, Homerville FWB Church, France; and, Rebecca James, Zion Hill FWB Church, Japan. A motion was made to support each of these young people, (with the exception of Jonathan Tolle whose family will be taking care of his expense), with a \$500 gift from the LRA. The motion was seconded and carried. Sis. Debbie Griffin thanked the LRA for their support of the youth mission program.

CLOSING ITEMS:

- After announcements, the Annual Session stood as the Clerk read the 2008 Obituary Report. Following a moment of silence in their honor, Bro. Timmy Barber led the association in a prayer of thanksgiving for the lives and testimonies of those who had gone on to be with the Lord.
- A round of applause was given to the Sunnyside FWB Church for their hospitality in hosting the 101st Annual Session of the LRA.
- With no other business, a motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn from the business portion of the meeting.
- Out-going Moderator Jeff Goodman turned the meeting over to the newly elected Moderator, Dr. Wm. S. "Bill" Lewis, who dismissed the association from the business session with a word of prayer.

MORNING WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP:

- Following a brief recess, the morning worship began with the congregational hymn "*I Feel Like Traveling On*". Prayer requests were received and Bro. Bruce Martin led the association in praying for these requests.
- Sis. Stacie DeJaynes ministered in song with selections entitled, "*One Step at a Time*", "*Two More Hands*", and "*God Still Answers Prayer*", and then the congregation joined together in singing "*I'll Fly Away*".

- Pastor Keith Lloyd, of the Zion Hill Church in Millwood, brought the morning message from Amos 8:11-12 on the subject: "*A Famine of the Word*".
- After the message, the congregation sang "*Just As I Am*", as an invitation to respond to the Word was given.
- Rev. Fred Hersey closed the meeting in prayer and asked God's blessing upon the food. A delicious lunch was provided by the Sunnyside Church and the food and fellowship were enjoyed by all.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Lloyd, Clerk

Little River Association Treasurer's Report

Reporting Period: October 18, 2008 thru January 17, 2009

| | <u>Receipts</u> | <u>Disbursements</u> | <u>Balances</u> |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| General Fund: | | | |
| Beginning Balance: | | | \$ 174.36 |
| Income: | | | |
| LRA QUARTERLY DUES: | \$ 273.00 | | |
| Balance after Receipts: | | | \$ 447.36 |
| Outlay: | | | |
| MODERATOR HONORARIUM | | \$ 0.00 | |
| CLERK HONORARIUM | | 100.00 | |
| Postage | | 11.97 | |
| Balance on Hand: | | | \$ 335.39 |
| LRA Mission Board: | | | |
| Beginning Balance: | | | \$ 243.26 |
| Income: | | | |
| LRA QUARTERLY DUES: | \$ 273.00 | | |
| ASSOCIATION MISSIONS: | | | |
| Forest Hill | 10.00 | | |
| ODF OFFERINGS: | | | |
| From Individuals: | 218.00 | | |
| From Churches: | 0.00 | | |
| Balance after Receipts: | | | \$ 744.26 |
| Outlay: | | | |
| ODF DISBURSEMENT: | 218.00 | | |
| Balance on Hand: | | | \$ 526.26 |
| LRA Camp Board: | | | |
| Beginning Balance: | | | \$ 213.56 |
| Income: | | | |
| LRA QUARTERLY DUES: | \$ 273.00 | | |
| Balance after Receipts: | | | \$ 486.56 |
| Outlay: | | | |
| Balance on Hand | | | \$ 486.56 |
| Total Balance on Hand (1/17/09): | | | \$ 1,348.21 |

Camp Board Treasurer's Report

Reporting Period: October 18, 2008 thru January 17, 2009

| | <u>Receipts</u> | <u>Disbursements</u> | <u>Balances</u> |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| General Fund: | | | |
| Beginning Balance: | | | \$ 3,090.67 |
| Income: | | | |
| Gifts thru LRA: | | | |
| Gifts thru GAFWB: | | | |
| From churches: | | | |
| Corinth | 360.00 | | |
| Forest Hill | 750.00 | | |
| Hahira | 100.00 | | |
| Homerville | 501.00 | | |
| Open Door Fellowship | 400.00 | | |
| Ozias | 2,050.91 | | |
| Solid Rock | 150.00 | | |
| Sunnyside | 665.57 | | |
| Zion Hill | 506.00 | | |
| From individuals: | | | |
| (Receipts Total) | (5,483.48) | | |
| Balance after Receipts: | | | \$ 8,574.15 |
| Outlay: | | | |
| SREMC (Electric Utilities): | | | |
| November | | 151.66 | |
| December | | 89.16 | |
| January | | 78.93 | |
| CELF (Loan Payments): | | | |
| November | | 750.00 | |
| December | | 750.00 | |
| January | | 750.00 | |
| CHURCH MUTUAL (Insurance): | | | |
| 4 th Quarter (11/15/08) | | 704.25 | |
| BANK CHARGES | | | |
| November | | 10.75 | |
| December | | 10.50 | |
| (Disbursements Total) | | (3,295.25) | |
| Balance on Hand: | | | \$ 5,278.90 |
| Loan Balance Information: | | | |
| As of 12/10/2008: | \$ 16,885.84 | | |

Little River Association Finance Committee Report

Meeting at: Sunnyside FWB Church, Pearson
Date: January 17, 2009

| Church Name: | Association Fees: | Association Missions: | Other Gifts: |
|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Cool Springs | \$ 56.00 | | \$ 100.00 |
| Corinth | 76.00 | | 100.00 |
| Forest Hill | 49.00 | 10.00 | 100.00 |
| Friendship | 44.00 | | 100.00 |
| Hahira First | 50.00 | | 100.00 |
| Homerville | 170.00 | | 100.00 |
| Open Door Fellowship | 25.00 | | 100.00 |
| Ozias | 114.00 | | 100.00 |
| Solid Rock | 25.00 | | 100.00 |
| Sunnyside | 51.00 | | 100.00 |
| White Hall | 19.00 | | 100.00 |
| Zion Hill | 142.00 | | 100.00 |
| Totals | \$ 821.00 | \$ 10.00 | \$ 100.00 |

Open Door Fellowship Offering

Received from individuals **\$ 224.93**

TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM THIS SESSION:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Association Fees Total: | \$ 821.00 |
| Association Missions Total: | 10.00 |
| Open Door Fellowship Offering Total: | 224.93 |
| Other Offerings Total: | 1,200.00 (Nat'l. Rep. Fee) |
| Total Receipts: | 2,255.93 |
| Balance Brought Forward: | 1,348.21 |
| Balance On Hand to Date: | \$ 3,604.14 |

Finance Committee: Maxine Franks, Thelma Brunner

Little River Association Credentials Committee Report

Meeting at: Sunnyside FWB Church, Pearson
Date: January 17, 2009

| Church Name | Reporting (Yes/No) | Pastor Present | Other Ministers | Deacons Present | Delegates Present | Total Voting Delegation |
|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Cool Springs | Yes | Yes | | | 1 | 2 |
| Corinth | Yes | Yes | | | 5 | 6 |
| Forest Hill | Yes | Yes | | | | 1 |
| Friendship | Yes | | | | | |
| Hahira 1 st | Yes | | 1 | 2 | | 3 |
| Homerville | Yes | Yes | 1 | 1 | 10 | 13 |
| Open Door Fellowship | Yes | Yes | | | 4 | 5 |
| Ozias | Yes | Yes | | 2 | 4 | 7 |
| Solid Rock | Yes | Yes | | | 2 | 3 |
| Sunnyside | Yes | Yes | | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| White Hall | Yes | | | | 2 | 2 |
| Zion Hill | Yes | Yes | | 2 | 4 | 7 |
| Totals | 12 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 34 | 53 |

Credentials Committee Chairperson: Keith Lloyd

Little River Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc.

Worship Session: Saturday, October 18, 2008, 9:30 am
Host Church: Ozias FWB Church, Pearson, GA

Service Schedule:

9:30 – 10:00 am:

- Welcome & Opening Prayer
- Credentials Committee Delegate Count
- Reading & Approval Of Previous Minutes & Treasurer's Report
- Reports of Boards & Committees
- New & Old Business
- Mission Offering for Open Door Fellowship, Valdosta

10:00 – 10:45 am:

- Congregational & Special Singing
- First Preaching Session: **Bro. Mark Anderson, Ozias FWB Youth Pastor**
- Invitational Hymn & Altar Service
- Prayer of blessing on the refreshment.

10:45 am – 11:15 am:

- Recess with light refreshments by the host church.

11:15 – Noon:

- Congregational & Special Singing
- Second Preaching Session: **Bro. Billy Sumner, Solid Rock FWB Pastor**
- Invitational Hymn & Altar Service
- Announcements & Closing Prayer

Next Session:

Annual Meeting:

Friendship FWB Church
Waycross, GA
Saturday, January 17, 2009, 9:30 am

Little River Association of Free Will Baptists ***Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting***

Special Bi-Annual Worship Session

Convening at: Ozias FWB Church, Pearson
Date: October 18, 2008, 9:30 am

The bi-annual worship session opened with the Ozias Praise Team and congregation singing "Welcome Holy Spirit". Pastor Larry Johnson welcomed the Little River Association to the Ozias FWB Church and GAFWB Executive Secretary William Smith opened the meeting in prayer.

Business Session:

- In the absence of the Moderator and Assistant Moderator, Clerk Keith Lloyd presided over the meeting.
- The special offering for Open Door Fellowship was received and totaled \$218.00.
- Clerk Keith Lloyd asked those who were delegates, either standing or elected, to stand and be counted. The Credentials Committee Report was given as follows: 12 churches reported with 7 pastors, 1 other minister, 7 deacons, and 37 delegates present. All elected delegates were seated by a vote from the standing delegates. The total voting delegation was 52.
- The minutes of the last meeting were read, and Clerk Keith Lloyd gave the Treasurer's Report. A motion was made, seconded and carried to receive each report as given.
- Rev. Josh Bennett informed the association of the dates for Jr. Camp and State Teen Camp. Camp Little River will be held on May 31 thru June 4; and, Teen Camp will be held on June 28 thru July 3 at Camp Echeconnee in Lizella.
- Camp Board Treasurer Keith Lloyd gave a financial report for Camp Little River. A motion was made, seconded and carried to receive the report as given.
- Sis. Melonie Brown thanked the ladies for their support of the LRA WAC mission program and the gifts to Matt & Christina Price, missionaries to France. She also thanked the Ozias Church for hosting the event.
- Sis. Melonie Brown informed the association of the State Mission Board's decision to close the Open Door Fellowship church-plant in Valdosta, effective December 31, 2008. Members of the work have appealed the decision and are scheduled to meet with the Board on November 8. The church-planter, Dr. Bill Lewis, gave a glowing report about recent progress that had been made, including a 100% increase in attendance. A motion was made to send the Little River Association's representative to the November 8 Mission Board meeting with the association's full support of continuing the Valdosta work. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. Special prayer was made on behalf of the Open Door Fellowship and the Georgia State Mission Board.
- Clerk Keith Lloyd informed the association that the Cartersville church-plant is waiting on permits to build a new meeting facility on the recently acquired property; and, the Harris County church-plant is averaging 30 in attendance.

- The Friendship FWB Church requested that the Annual Session of the LRA be moved to another church. Sis. Margaret Williams volunteered to ask the Sunnyside Church, which is next on the schedule, if they would be willing to host the Annual Session. If so, Friendship and Sunnyside will simply switch places on the schedule of meetings.
- Sis. Maxine Franks gave the following Finance Committee report: Balance Forward - \$631.18; Total Receipts - \$1,047.00; Balance on Hand - \$1,678.18. A motion was made seconded and carried to receive the report as given.
- A motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn from the business session.

1st Worship Session:

- The Ozias Praise Team and congregation sang together "We Have Come Into His House" and "Feeling Fine". Bro. Bob Andrews blessed the association with his vocal and guitar picking talents by singing two specials entitled, "Still Hanging Out With Jesus" and "Beautiful Valley".
- Bro. Mark Anderson, youth pastor of the Ozias Church, brought the first message of the morning and took his text from 1st Samuel 14:1-15 on the subject "The Spirit of the Armor-bearer". "Just As I Am" was sung as an invitation to respond to the Word was offered.
- Rev. Phil Bozeman asked God's blessing on the refreshments and the association took a short recess to enjoy plentiful and delicious food prepared by the members of the Ozias Church.

2nd Worship Session:

- After reconvening for worship, the Ozias Praise Team and congregation sang together "I Can Feel the Holy Spirit". Sis. Diane Davis blessed the association with a special entitled "Coming Soon", and Bro. Bob Andrews ministered again by singing "Until Then".
- Rev. Billy Sumner, pastor of the Solid Rock Church, brought the second message of the morning and took his text from Acts 11:19-26 on the subject "The Hand of the Lord Was With Them." An invitation to respond to the Word was offered.
- After announcements, Rev. Johnny Ware dismissed the Association in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Lloyd, Clerk

Little River Association Treasurer's Report

Reporting Period: July 26, 2008 thru October 18, 2008

| | <u>Receipts</u> | <u>Disbursements</u> | <u>Balances</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| <u>General Fund:</u> | | | |
| Beginning Balance: | | | \$ 46.19 |
| Income: | | | |
| LRA QUARTERLY DUES: | \$ 148.17 | | |
| Individual gift | 50.00 | | |
| Balance after Receipts: | | | \$ 244.36 |
| Outlay: | | | |
| MODERATOR HONORARIUM | | \$ 30.00 | |
| CLERK HONORARIUM | | 40.00 | |
| Balance on Hand: | | | \$ 174.36 |
| <u>LRA Mission Board:</u> | | | |
| Beginning Balance: | | | \$ 35.09 |
| Income: | | | |
| LRA QUARTERLY DUES: | \$ 148.17 | | |
| ASSOCIATION MISSIONS: | | | |
| Forest Hill | 10.00 | | |
| Individual gift | 50.00 | | |
| ODF OFFERINGS: | | | |
| From Individuals: | 277.00 | | |
| From Churches: | 0.00 | | |
| WAC - Matt & Christina Price | 175.00 | | |
| Balance after Receipts: | | | \$ 695.26 |
| Outlay: | | | |
| ODF DISBURSEMENT: | 277.00 | | |
| Matt & Christina Price | 175.00 | | |
| Balance on Hand: | | | \$ 243.26 |
| <u>LRA Camp Board:</u> | | | |
| Beginning Balance: | | | \$ 65.40 |
| Income: | | | |
| LRA QUARTERLY DUES: | \$ 148.16 | | |
| Balance after Receipts: | | | \$ 213.56 |
| Outlay: | | | |
| Balance on Hand | | | \$ 213.56 |
| Total Balance on Hand (10/18/08): | | | \$ 631.18 |

Camp Board Treasurer's Report

Reporting Period: July 26, 2008 thru October 18, 2008

| | <u>Receipts</u> | <u>Disbursements</u> | <u>Balances</u> |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| General Fund: | | | |
| Beginning Balance: | | | \$ 12,939.45 |
| Income: | | | |
| Gifts thru LRA: | | | |
| Sunnyside | 679.22 | | |
| Gifts thru GAFWB: | | | |
| From churches: | | | |
| Forest Hill | 750.00 | | |
| Hahira | 300.00 | | |
| Homerville | 334.00 | | |
| Open Door Fellowship | 200.00 | | |
| Ozias | 600.00 | | |
| Solid Rock | 150.00 | | |
| Zion Hill | 560.00 | | |
| From individuals: | | | |
| Betty Anne Smith | 500.00 | | |
| (Receipts Total) | (4,073.22) | | |
| Balance after Receipts: | | | \$ 17,012.67 |
| Outlay: | | | |
| SREMC (Electric Utilities): | | | |
| August | | 123.88 | |
| September | | 182.43 | |
| October | | 124.44 | |
| CELFF (Loan Payments): | | | |
| August | | 750.00 | |
| September | | 750.00 | |
| October | | 750.00 | |
| Principal Payment - 7/28 | | 2,100.00 | |
| Principal Payment - 9/18 | | 4,000.00 | |
| CHURCH MUTUAL (Insurance): | | | |
| 3 rd Quarter (8/15/08) | | 671.25 | |
| Kitchen Equipment - Exhaust Hood | | 3,970.00 | |
| Jr. Camp Expenses (Cook Honorarium) | | 500.00 | |
| (Disbursements Total) | | (9,952.00) | |
| Balance on Hand: | | | \$ 3,090.67 |
| Loan Balance Information: | | | |
| As of 9/24/2008: | \$ 18,795.31 | | |

Little River Association Finance Committee Report

Meeting at: Ozias FWB Church, Pearson
Date: October 18, 2008

| <u>Church Name:</u> | <u>Association Fees:</u> | <u>Association Missions:</u> | <u>Other Gifts:</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Cool Springs | \$ 56.00 | | |
| Corinth | 82.00 | | |
| Forest Hill | 49.00 | 10.00 | |
| Friendship | 44.00 | | |
| Hahira First | 50.00 | | |
| Homerville | 165.00 | | |
| Open Door Fellowship | 25.00 | | |
| Ozias | 115.00 | | |
| Solid Rock | 21.00 | | |
| Sunnyside | 51.00 | | |
| White Hall | 19.00 | | |
| Zion Hill | 142.00 | | |
| Totals | \$ 819.00 | \$ 10.00 | |

Open Door Fellowship Offering
Received from individuals \$ 218.00

Other Offerings
From individual for General Fund \$ 50.00
From individual for LRA Mission Board \$ 50.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM THIS SESSION:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Association Fees Total: | \$ 819.00 |
| Association Missions Total: | 10.00 |
| Open Door Fellowship Offering Total: | 218.00 |
| Other Offerings Total: | 0.00 |
| Total Receipts: | 1,047.00 |
| Balance Brought Forward: | 631.18 |
| Balance On Hand to Date: | \$ 1,678.18 |

Finance Committee: Maxine Franks, Thelma Brunner

Little River Association Credentials Committee Report

Meeting at: Ozias FWB Church, Pearson
Date: October 18, 2008

| Church Name | Reporting (Yes/No) | Pastor Present | Other Ministers | Deacons Present | Delegates Present | Total Voting Delegation |
|------------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Cool Springs | Yes | Yes | | | 1 | 2 |
| Corinth | Yes | | | | 6 | 6 |
| Forest Hill | Yes | Yes | | | | 1 |
| Friendship | Yes | | | | | |
| Hahira 1 st | Yes | | | | 2 | 2 |
| Homerville | Yes | | 1 | 3 | 3 | 7 |
| Open Door Fellowship | Yes | Yes | | | 2 | 3 |
| Ozias | Yes | Yes | | 3 | 15 | 19 |
| Solid Rock | Yes | Yes | | | 2 | 3 |
| Sunnyside | Yes | | | | 1 | 1 |
| White Hall | Yes | Yes | | | 1 | 2 |
| Zion Hill | Yes | Yes | | 1 | 4 | 6 |
| Totals | 11 | 7 | 1 | 7 | 37 | 52 |

Credentials Committee Chairperson: Keith Lloyd

Little River Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc.

Quarterly Session: Saturday, July 26th, 2008, 9:30 am
Host Church: Corinth FWB Church, Brookfield, Georgia

Service Schedule:

9:30 – 9:40 am: Congregational Singing & Prayer
9:40 – 9:45 am: Welcome: *Rev. Aaron Clanton, Pastor of the Corinth Church*
9:45 – 10:30 am: Business Session Begins

- ❖ Call to Order by the Moderator
- ❖ Open Door Fellowship Offering
- ❖ Credentials Report
- ❖ Reading of Previous Minutes & Treasurer's Report
- ❖ Reports of Boards & Committees
 - Executive Committee:
 - Ordaining Council:
 - LRA Camp Board:
 - *Financial Report*
 - *Junior Camp Finances*
 - *Junior Camp Report*
 - LRA Mission Board:
 - Finance Committee Report
- ❖ GAFWB State Board Reports
 - GA State Camp Board:
 - GA State Mission Board:
 - GA State CE Board:
 - GA State Trustee Board:

10:30 – 10:45 am Recess

10:45 – 11:15 am Business Session Resumes

- ❖ Old Business
 - *Consideration of an updated and revised edition of the Constitution and By-Laws*
- ❖ New Business
 -
- ❖ Announcements
- ❖ Resolutions
- ❖ Motion to Adjourn

11:15 – 12:00 Worship Service

- ❖ Congregational Singing & Prayer
- ❖ Special Music
- ❖ Morning Message: *Rev. Phil Bozeman, Pastor of Cool Springs Church, Norman Park*
- ❖ Closing Prayer

Next Session:

BI-Annual Worship Session:
Ozias FWB Church, Pearson, GA, Saturday, October 18th, 2008, 9:30 am

Little River Association of Free Will Baptists

Minutes of the Quarterly Session

Convening at: Corinth FWB Church, Brookfield

Date: July 26, 2008, 9:30 am

PRELIMINARIES:

- The meeting began with the congregational songs, "Praise Him, Praise Him" and "Sunshine in My Soul". The host pastor, Rev. Aaron Clanton, welcomed the Association and Rev. Billy Summer led in prayer.
- Moderator Jeff Goodman called the meeting to order and testified of a mission trip that he and several members of his church had taken to New York. They had just returned from this trip in the hours before the Association meeting.
- The Open Door Fellowship Offering was received and totaled \$277.00.
- The Credentials Committee Report was given as follows: 11 churches reported with 10 pastors, 1 other minister, 10 deacons, and 40 delegates present. All elected delegates were seated by a vote from the standing delegates. The total voting delegation was 61.
- The minutes of the last meeting were read, and Clerk Keith Lloyd gave the Treasurer's Report. A motion was made, seconded and carried to receive each report as given.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

LRA Camp Board:

- Camp Board Treasurer Keith Lloyd submitted a financial report. A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the report. This financial report becomes an integral part of the minutes.
- Rev. Josh Bennett gave a report on Jr. Camp. This year's "Survivor" themed camp had 69 campers. Rev. Barry Long was the camp evangelist and many spiritual decisions were made. Bro. Josh thanked everyone for their help in making Jr. Camp 2008 a great success.

LRA Mission Board:

- Rev. Bill Lewis reported that the Open Door Fellowship in Valdosta has moved to a new location nearer to the recently purchased property. They are now meeting in a "stand alone" facility that provides more opportunity for Sunday School growth, youth activities and fellowship.

Finance Committee:

- Sis. Maxine Franks gave a partial report from the Finance Committee. A motion was made, seconded and carried to receive the report. The complete report is as follows: *Balance Brought Forward:* \$146.68; *Total Receipts:* \$831.50; *Balance On Hand:* \$978.18.

GAFWB Camp Board:

- Rev. Josh Bennett reported that the 2009 Teen Camp may be moved to a different location and be held on different dates than usual.

GAFWB Mission Board:

- Sis. Melonie Brown reported that a new mission work in Harris County, with Rev. Jay Hollis as the church-planter, has rented a building to begin meeting in and are planning a big launch date event.
- Sis. Melonie also reported that the Cartersville mission work, where Rev. Bill Crank is the church-planter, has secured an in-house loan from the GAFWB to begin construction on a new building.

(The moderator called upon Rev. Johnny Ware to ask God's blessings on the refreshments. After a brief recess, the business session resumed.)

OLD BUSINESS:

- The proposed Constitution, By-Laws and Belief Statement that had been presented and tabled at the Annual Session were removed from the table for consideration. A motion was made and seconded to adopt them as proposed. After discussion, the motion carried. Copies will be printed and made available to Association churches.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Rev. Bill Lewis gave a report on the NAFWB Annual Convention. The new funding program for international missions was approved.
- Bro. Shannon Tolle, on behalf of the LRA Camp Board, asked the Association for the approval of several items they had discussed:
 1. To make a debt reduction "lump sum" payment of \$6,100 on the Camp Little River dormitory. A motion was made seconded and carried to approve this request.
 2. To purchase a new exhaust hood for the camp kitchen at a cost not to exceed \$4,000. A motion was made seconded and carried to approve this request.
 3. To give authority to the Camp Board to establish a contract with a local pest control agency for regularly scheduled treatment of the Camp Little River property. A motion was made seconded and carried to approve this request.
 4. To compensate the Camp Cook with a gift equal to that of the Camp Director (\$500 in 2008) and to make the gift retroactive to the 2008 Jr. Camp session. A motion was made seconded and carried to approve this request.
- Sis. Michelle Pittman advised the Association of plans for a WAC brunch to be held at the Ozias FWB Church on September 13, 2008. Sis. Christina Price, wife of Bro. Matt Price and missionary to France, will be the guest speaker. An offering will be received for their ministry.

CLOSING ITEMS:

- A rising vote of thanks was given to the Corinth FWB Church for their hospitality in hosting the quarterly session of the LRA.
- A motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn from the business session. Moderator Jeff Goodman dismissed in prayer.

MORNING WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP:

- The morning worship session began with the congregational hymn "Sweetest Name I Know". A group from the Corinth Church ministered to the association with the song "What A Meeting in the Air" and Bro. Benny Bryant sang a solo entitled "Thanks to Calvary".
- Rev. Phil Bozeman, pastor of the Cool Springs Church in Norman Park, brought the morning message from Psalm 15 on the subject: "The Characteristics of the Godly."
- After the message, the congregation sang "Prepare to Meet Thy God", as an invitation to respond to the Word was given. Special prayer was held for Bro. Phil Bozeman concerning some health issues that he's currently facing.
- Sis. Maxine Franks closed the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Lloyd, Clerk

Little River Association Treasurer's Report

Reporting Period: April 19, 2008 thru July 26, 2008

| | <u>Receipts</u> | <u>Disbursements</u> | <u>Balances</u> |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| General Fund: | | | |
| Beginning Balance: | | | \$ (-287.86) |
| Income: | | | |
| LRA QUARTERLY DUES: | \$ 429.25 | | |
| Balance after Receipts: | | | \$ 141.39 |
| Outlay: | | | |
| MODERATOR HONORARIUM | | \$ 30.00 | |
| CLERK HONORARIUM | | 40.00 | |
| Postage | | 25.20 | |
| Balance on Hand: | | | \$ 46.19 |
| LRA Mission Board: | | | |
| Beginning Balance: | | | \$ 2,814.21 |
| Income: | | | |
| LRA QUARTERLY DUES: | \$ 0.00 | | |
| ASSOCIATION MISSIONS: | | | |
| Forest Hill | | 10.00 | |
| ODF OFFERINGS: | | | |
| From Individuals: | 602.00 | | |
| From Churches: | 0.00 | | |
| Balance after Receipts: | | | \$ 3,426.21 |
| Outlay: | | | |
| MISSION RALLY DISBURSEMENTS: | | | |
| Bill Lewis, Valdosta | 557.82 | | |
| Bill Crank, Cartersville | 557.82 | | |
| Jay Hollis, Harris County | 557.82 | | |
| Matt Price, France | 557.83 | | |
| Nathan Snow, Japan | 557.83 | | |
| ODF DISBURSEMENT: | 602.00 | | |
| Balance on Hand: | | | \$ 35.09 |
| LRA Camp Board: | | | |
| Beginning Balance: | | | \$ 65.40 |
| Income: | | | |
| LRA QUARTERLY DUES: | \$ 0.00 | | |
| Balance after Receipts: | | | \$ 65.40 |
| Outlay: | | | |
| Balance on Hand | | | \$ 65.40 |
| Total Balance on Hand (7/26/08): | | | \$ 146.68 |

Camp Board Treasurer's Report

Reporting Period: April 19, 2008 thru July 26, 2008

| | <u>Receipts</u> | <u>Disbursements</u> | <u>Balances</u> |
|--|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| General Fund: | | | |
| Beginning Balance: | | | \$ 13,146.20 |
| Income: | | | |
| Gifts thru LRA: | | | |
| <i>Sunnyside</i> | 609.56 | | |
| Gifts thru GAFWB: | | | |
| From churches: | | | |
| <i>Corinth</i> | 560.00 | | |
| <i>Forest Hill</i> | 750.00 | | |
| <i>Hahira</i> | 300.00 | | |
| <i>Homerville</i> | 521.00 | | |
| <i>Open Door Fellowship</i> | 300.00 | | |
| <i>Ozias</i> | 600.00 | | |
| <i>Solid Rock</i> | 125.00 | | |
| <i>Zion Hill</i> | 522.00 | | |
| From individuals: | | | |
| Designated as debt reduction: | | | |
| <i>Homerville</i> | 2,000.00 | | |
| Jr. Camp Receipts: | | | |
| GAFWB Camp Grant | 1,600.00 | | |
| Registration Fees | 6,725.00 | | |
| (Receipts Total) | (14,612.56) | | |
| Balance after Receipts: | | | \$ 27,758.76 |
| Outlay: | | | |
| SREMC (Electric Utilities): | | | |
| May | | 85.40 | |
| June | | 227.28 | |
| July | | 545.46 | |
| CELF (Loan Payments): | | | |
| May | | 750.00 | |
| June | | 750.00 | |
| July | | 750.00 | |
| CHURCH MUTUAL (Insurance): | | | |
| 2 nd Quarter (5/15/08) | | 704.25 | |
| New Kitchen Equipment (<i>Range & Fryer</i>) | | 2,206.94 | |
| Facility Repairs | | 131.64 | |
| Satilla Pest Control | | 110.00 | |
| Jr. Camp Expenses | | 8,558.34 | |
| (Disbursements Total) | | (14,819.31) | |
| Balance on Hand: | | | \$ 12,939.45 |
| Loan Balance Information: | | | |
| As of 7/10/2008: | \$ 26,086.03 | | |

Breakdown of Jr. Camp Finances

Reporting Period: Thru July 26, 2008

| | <u>Receipts</u> | <u>Disbursements</u> | <u>Balances</u> |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Beginning Balance: | | | \$ 0.00 |
| Income: | | | |
| Jr. Camp Receipts | | | |
| GAFWB Jr. Camp Grant | \$ 1,600.00 | | |
| Registration Fees | 6,725.00 | | |
| Balance after Receipts: | | | \$ 8,325.00 |
| Outlay: | | | |
| Jr. Camp Costs: | | | |
| Camp Director Honorarium | | 500.00 | |
| Camp Evangelist Honorarium | | 500.00 | |
| Camp Evangelist Mileage | | 256.04 | |
| Music Director Honorarium | | 100.00 | |
| Jr. Counselor Honorariums (9 @ \$50) | | 450.00 | |
| Food / Cooking Supplies | | 2,409.13 | |
| Paper Goods / Cleaning Supplies | | 282.28 | |
| Decorations & Giveaway Prizes | | 674.54 | |
| Curriculum & Craft Supplies | | 80.12 | |
| Registration Supplies | | 70.61 | |
| T-shirts & Banners | | 1,117.25 | |
| Inflatable Slides (And Bounce) | | 740.00 | |
| The Fun Park | | 1,026.00 | |
| Equipment & Maintenance Supplies | | 352.37 | |
| (Total Disbursements to Date) | | (8,558.34) | |
| Balance on Hand: | | | (\$ -233.34) |

Little River Association **Finance Committee Report**

Meeting at: Corinth FWB Church, Brookfield
Date: July 26, 2008

| Church Name: | Association Fees: | Association Missions: | Other Gifts: |
|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Cool Springs | \$ 28.00 | | |
| Corinth | 43.00 | | |
| Forest Hill | 28.00 | 10.00 | |
| Friendship | | | |
| Hahira First | 50.00 | | |
| Homerville | 96.00 | | |
| Open Door Fellowship | 20.00 | | |
| Ozias | 57.50 | | |
| Solid Rock | 10.50 | | |
| Sunnyside | 25.50 | | |
| White Hall | 15.00 | | |
| Zion Hill | 71.00 | | |
| Totals | \$ 444.50 | \$ 10.00 | |

Open Door Fellowship Offering

Received from individuals \$ 277.00

Other Offerings

From individual for General Fund \$ 50.00
From individual for LRA Mission Board \$ 50.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM THIS SESSION:

Association Fees Total: \$ 444.50
Association Missions Total: 10.00
Open Door Fellowship Offering Total: 277.00
Other Offerings Total: 100.00
Total Receipts: 831.50
Balance Brought Forward: 146.68
Balance On Hand to Date: \$ 978.18

Finance Committee: Maxine Franks, Judy Tolle, Thelma Brunner

Little River Association **Credentials Committee Report**

Meeting at: Corinth FWB Church, Brookfield
Date: July 26, 2008

| Church Name | Reporting (Yes/No) | Pastor Present | Other Ministers | Deacons Present | Delegates Present | Total Voting Delegation |
|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Cool Springs | Yes | Yes | | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Corinth | Yes | Yes | | 1 | 11 | 13 |
| Forest Hill | Yes | Yes | | 2 | | 3 |
| Friendship | No | | | | | |
| Hahira 1 st | Yes | Yes | | 2 | | 3 |
| Homerville | Yes | Yes | 1 | 2 | 11 | 15 |
| Open Door Fellowship | Yes | Yes | | | 1 | 2 |
| Ozias | Yes | Yes | | 1 | 5 | 7 |
| Solid Rock | Yes | Yes | | | 1 | 2 |
| Sunnyside | Yes | | | | 2 | 2 |
| White Hall | Yes | Yes | | | 2 | 3 |
| Zion Hill | Yes | Yes | | 1 | 6 | 8 |
| Totals | 11 | 10 | 1 | 10 | 40 | 61 |

Credentials Committee Chairperson: Keith Lloyd

Little River Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc.

Worship Session: Saturday, April 19th, 2008, 9:30 am
Host Church: Homerville FWB Church, Homerville, GA

Service Schedule:

9:30 – 10:00 am:

- Welcome & Opening Prayer
- Credentials Committee Delegate Count
- Reading & Approval Of Previous Minutes & Treasurer's Report
- Reports of Boards & Committees
- New & Old Business
- GA Mission Offering for Open Door Fellowship, Valdosta

10:00 - 10:45 am:

- Break time and fellowship, with light refreshments provided by the host church.
 - Women Active for Christ may also meet during this time.
 - Boards and Committees may also meet during this time.

10:45 - 11:15 am:

- Congregational & Special Singing

11:15 - Noon:

- Morning Message: *Rev. Larry Powell, Director of FWB Home Missions*
- Invitational Hymn & Altar Service
- Announcements & Closing Prayer

Next Session:

Quarterly Meeting:

Corinth FWB Church
Brookfield, GA
Saturday, July 26th, 2008, 9:30 am

Little River Association of Free Will Baptists ***Minutes of the Quarterly District Meeting***

Special Bi-Annual Worship Session

Convening at: Homerville FWB Church, Homerville
Date: April 19, 2008, 9:30 am

Business Session:

- Moderator Jeff Goodman welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Rev. Johnny Ware opened the session in prayer.
- Clerk Keith Lloyd asked those who were delegates, either standing or elected, to stand and be counted. The Credentials Committee Report was given as follows: 12 churches reported with 7 pastors, 1 other minister, 9 deacons, and 28 delegates present. All elected delegates were seated by a vote from the standing delegates. The total voting delegation was 45.
- The minutes of the last meeting were read, and Clerk Keith Lloyd gave the Treasurer's Report. A motion was made, seconded and carried to receive each report as given.
- Sis. Melonie Brown gave a report on the LRA & GAFWB Mission Board activities, encouraged people to give to the LRA Mission Board fund, and thanked everyone for their support of the Mission Rally.
- Rev. Josh Bennett gave a report on Jr. Camp plans. The dates for camp are June 8th thru June 12th. Applications for junior counselors were made available. A training session will be held on the Saturday preceding camp. Camp Board Chairman Shannon Tolle asked association churches to receive a special offering in an effort to retire the debt on the Camp Little River property.
- Rev. Larry Powell, Director of FWB Home Missions, gave a report on North American church-planting efforts and thanked the association for their support.
- Camp Treasurer Keith Lloyd gave a financial report for the LRA Camp Board. A motion was made, seconded and carried to receive the report as given.
- An offering for the Open Door Fellowship church-plant in Valdosta was received and totaled \$602.00.
- After business, the session took a short break and Rev. Phil Bozeman asked God's blessing on the delicious refreshments provided by the Homerville church.

Worship Session:

- After reconvening for worship, the congregation sang together "Isn't He Wonderful" and Rev. Bill Lewis led in prayer. A praise team from the Homerville church led us in singing "How Great is Our God" and "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me". Sis. Rebecca Brown sang a special selection entitled, "At the Cross".
- Rev. Jeff Goodman introduced the speaker, Rev. Larry Powell. Bro. Powell took his text from 1st Corinthians 1:26-29 on the subject "God's Hall of Fame".
- The congregation sang "Draw Me Nearer" as an invitation to respond to the Word was offered. After announcements, Rev. Billy Sumner dismissed the Association with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Lloyd, Clerk

Little River Association Treasurer's Report

Reporting Period: January 19, 2008 thru April 19, 2008

| | <u>Receipts</u> | <u>Disbursements</u> | <u>Balances</u> |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| General Fund: | | | |
| Beginning Balance: | | | \$ (-115.70) |
| Income: | | | |
| LRA QUARTERLY DUES: | \$ 433.75 | | |
| GAFWB MISSIONS: | 10.00 | | |
| GAFWB COOP OFFERING: | 161.46 | | |
| NAFWB REP. FEES | 1,200.00 | | |
| Balance after Receipts: | | | \$ 1,689.51 |
| Outlay: | | | |
| MODERATOR HONORARIUM | | \$ 30.00 | |
| CLERK HONORARIUM | | 40.00 | |
| GAFWB MISSIONS | | 10.00 | |
| GAFWB COOP | | 161.46 | |
| NAFWB REP. FEES | | 1,200.00 | |
| GAFWB REP. FEES | | 75.00 | |
| Chicken for Annual Session | | 90.00 | |
| Annual Office Expense Allocation | | 150.00 | |
| Minutes Printing | | 149.91 | |
| Annual Incorporation Fee | | 30.00 | |
| Postage Stamps (100) | | 41.00 | |
| Balance on Hand: | | | (\$ -287.86) |
| LRA Mission Board: | | | |
| Beginning Balance: | | | \$ 525.09 |
| Income: | | | |
| LRA QUARTERLY DUES: | \$ 0.00 | | |
| LRA MISSION RALLY | | | |
| Cool Springs | 325.00 | | |
| Corinth | 400.00 | | |
| Homerville | 825.00 | | |
| Zion Hill | 989.00 | | |
| Rally Offering - Cash | 250.12 | | |
| Balance after Receipts: | | | \$ 3,314.21 |
| Outlay: | | | |
| Ariel Rowe (E-Team Chicago) | | \$ 500.00 | |
| Balance on Hand: | | | \$ 2,814.21 |
| LRA Camp Board: | | | |
| Beginning Balance: | | | \$ 65.40 |
| Income: | | | |
| LRA QUARTERLY DUES: | \$ 0.00 | | |
| Balance after Receipts: | | | \$ 65.40 |
| Outlay: | | | |
| Balance on Hand | | | \$ 65.40 |
| Total Balance on Hand (4/19/08): | | | \$ 2,591.75 |

Camp Board Treasurer's Report

Reporting Period: January 19, 2008 thru April 19, 2008

| | <u>Receipts</u> | <u>Disbursements</u> | <u>Balances</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| General Fund: | | | |
| Beginning Balance: | | | \$ 11,552.59 |
| Income: | | | |
| Gifts thru LRA: | | | |
| Sunnyside | 645.94 | | |
| Gifts thru GAFWB: | | | |
| From churches: | | | |
| Corinth | 360.00 | | |
| Forest Hill | 750.00 | | |
| Hahira | 300.00 | | |
| Homerville | 549.00 | | |
| Open Door Fellowship | 300.00 | | |
| Ozias | 600.00 | | |
| Solid Rock | 160.00 | | |
| Zion Hill | 533.50 | | |
| From individuals: | | | |
| Betty Anne Smith | 600.00 | | |
| (Receipts Total) | (4,798.44) | | |
| Balance after Receipts: | | | \$ 16,351.03 |
| Outlay: | | | |
| SREMC (Electric Utilities): | | | |
| February | | 98.09 | |
| March | | 76.12 | |
| April | | 76.37 | |
| CELF (Loan Payments): | | | |
| February | | 750.00 | |
| March | | 750.00 | |
| April | | 750.00 | |
| CHURCH MUTUAL (Insurance): | | | |
| 1 st Quarter (3/15/08) | | 704.25 | |
| (Disbursements Total) | | (3,204.83) | |
| Balance on Hand: | | | \$ 13,146.20 |
| Loan Balance Information: | | | |
| As of 3/10/2008: | \$ 28,397.64 | | |

Little River Association Finance Committee Report

Meeting at: Homerville FWB Church
Date: April 19, 2008

| <u>Church Name:</u> | <u>Association Fees:</u> | <u>Association Missions:</u> | <u>Other Gifts:</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Cool Springs | \$ 28.00 | | |
| Corinth | 22.75 | | |
| Forest Hill | 27.50 | 10.00 | |
| Friendship | 22.00 | | |
| Hahira First | 50.00 | | |
| Homerville | 96.00 | | |
| Open Door Fellowship | 20.00 | | |
| Ozias | 56.00 | | |
| Solid Rock | 10.50 | | |
| Sunnyside | 25.50 | | |
| White Hall | | | |
| Zion Hill | 71.00 | | |
| Totals | \$ 429.25 | \$ 10.00 | |

Open Door Fellowship Offering
Received from individuals \$ 602.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM THIS SESSION:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Association Fees Total: | \$ 429.25 |
| Association Missions Total: | 10.00 |
| Open Door Fellowship Offering Total: | 602.00 |
| Total Receipts: | 1,041.25 |
| Balance Brought Forward: | 2,591.75 |
| Balance On Hand to Date: | \$ 3,633.00 |

Finance Committee: Jeff Goodman, Keith Lloyd

Little River Association **Credentials Committee Report**

Meeting at: Homerville FWB Church, Homerville
Date: April 19, 2008

| Church Name | Reporting (Yes/No) | Pastor Present | Other Ministers | Deacons Present | Delegates Present | Total Voting Delegation |
|------------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Cool Springs | Yes | Yes | | | 1 | 2 |
| Corinth | Yes | Yes | | | 7 | 8 |
| Forest Hill | Yes | | | | | |
| Friendship | Yes | | | | | |
| Hahira 1 st | Yes | | | 2 | | 2 |
| Homerville | Yes | Yes | 1 | 5 | 13 | 20 |
| Open Door Fellowship | Yes | Yes | | | 2 | 3 |
| Ozias | Yes | | | | | |
| Solid Rock | Yes | Yes | | | 1 | 2 |
| Sunnyside | Yes | | | | 2 | 2 |
| White Hall | Yes | Yes | | | 1 | 2 |
| Zion Hill | Yes | Yes | | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| Totals | 12 | 7 | 1 | 9 | 28 | 45 |

Credentials Committee Chairperson: Keith Lloyd

*Constitution
By-Laws
Statement of Beliefs
of the
Little River Association
of
Free Will Baptists*

**Passed in the Regular Session of the
Little River Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc.
Meeting at Corinth Free Will Baptist Church
Brookfield, Georgia
On July, 26th, 2008**

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CONSTITUTION
Of the
Little River Association of Free Will Baptists

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Little River Association of Free Will Baptists being each members of churches who hold to the faith and practices of Free Will Baptists as defined in *The Treatise of Faith and Practices of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc.* and as set forth in the *Statement of Beliefs of the Little River Association of Free Will Baptists* realizing a need to bond together to promote and carry out the causes of God and of Free Will Baptists, do therefore ordain this Constitution as the guiding document for the Association.

ARTICLE I: NAME

This association of churches shall be known as The Little River Association of Free Will Baptists and is known from this point forward in this document as The Association.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP AND AFFILIATIONS

Section A: Associational Membership. The Association shall be composed of organized, well-disciplined, like-minded churches that have voluntarily chosen to bond themselves together and submit to this constitution.

Paragraph 1: The Relationship Between the Association and Member Churches. The Association is an outreach of the local Church and exists to enhance the local Churches efforts to serve God. Local Churches are congregationally governed; therefore, in matters of grievance within a local church, the Association shall only provide council to the local church when requested by the local church.

Paragraph 2: Letter of Petition. A Church desiring to unite with the Association shall submit a letter of petition to the Association during any regular session containing the name of the church, the date and place of its organization, the name(s) of its pastor, the name(s) of its deacons, the name(s) of all elected officers, the number of members, the time and place of regular meetings, and a copy of the minutes where the Church voted on its desire to unite with the Association. The minutes shall reflect a motion approved by the body that includes a statement of the Church's adherence to *The Treatise of the Faith and Practices of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc.* and to the *Statement of Beliefs of the Little River Association of Free Will Baptists*.

Paragraph 3: Associational Action in Respect to the Local Church. The Association reserves the right to investigate any applicant for membership to determine if the local church meets the standards for membership in the Association. Churches must be organized, well-disciplined, like-minded churches that adhere to *The Treatise of the Faith and Practices of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc.* and to the *Statement of Beliefs of the Little River Association of Free Will Baptists*. The investigation shall be conducted by the Executive Committee of the Association.

Paragraph 4: Full Membership. Once a letter of petition is submitted, an investigation by the Executive Committee is performed, membership is recommended to the voting body of the Association by the executive committee, and the Association seats the delegates of the petitioning Church, the Church has full rights and privileges as a member of the Association.

Paragraph 5: Discipline of Member Churches. Should it be determined that a local Church that is a member of the Association no longer qualifies as an organized, well-disciplined, like-minded church that adheres to *The Treatise of the Faith and Practices of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc.* and to the *Statement of Beliefs of the Little River Association of Free Will Baptists*, the Association may by vote refuse to seat the Church's delegates (standing or appointed) thereby revoking any rights and privileges the Church has held as a member of the Association. The Executive Committee is charged with initiating such action as outlined in this paragraph.

Paragraph 6: Reinstatement of a Church's Rights and Privileges as a Member of the Association. Should the Association fail to seat a Church's delegates, the local Church can regain its full rights and privileges as a member of the Association by remedying any problems that resulted in the Association refusing to seat the local Church's delegates and by petitioning the Association for membership following the procedures outlined in Article II Section A Paragraphs 2, 3, and 4.

Section B: Affiliation With Other Associations. The Association shall be affiliated with the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc. and the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc.

ARTICLE III: VOTING DELEGATION

Section A: Standing Delegates. Standing delegates when the Association is in session shall be all ordained ministers in good standing with the Association as determined by the ordaining council and deacons who are members of local churches in good standing with the Association. Licensed ministers and full-time missionaries who are members of local churches in good standing with the Association are also standing delegates.

Paragraph 1: Attendance and Participation of Standing Delegates. All qualified standing delegates of The Association are expected to attend and participate when The Association is in session. The Clerk of the Association is charged with a roll call of Standing Delegates at the annual session and providing a listing in the annual minutes of qualified Standing Delegates as provided by each member church.

Paragraph 2: Discipline of Standing Delegates. The Association may choose to not seat a Standing Delegate who is determined not to be in compliance with the Associations guidelines for ordination or licensing of ministers and deacons or to be in conflict with *The Treatise of the Faith and Practices of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc.* and the *Statement of Beliefs of the Little River Association of Free Will Baptists*. The Ordaining Council is the associational board charged with making such a determination in the case of a Standing Delegate.

Paragraph 3: Restrictions on Voting of Standing Delegates. Standing delegates of local churches are restricted from voting in votes to determine not to seat themselves as delegates.

Paragraph 4: Reinstatement of Standing Delegates. If a Standing Delegate lost delegate status for action taken under Article III Section A Paragraph 2, the Standing Delegate shall remedy the problem and have the local Church requests the Standing Delegates reinstatement through the Ordaining Council who shall make a recommendation to the body of the Association in session.

Section B: Elected or Appointed Delegates. In addition to Standing Delegates, each local Church can send at least two delegates to each session of the Association. In addition to these two delegates, a local Church can send an additional delegate for each 10 active members above 20 active members (i.e., a local Church with 45 active members may send its Standing Delegates plus a total of 4 elected or appointed delegates).

Paragraph 1: Age and Affiliation of Elected/Appointed Delegates.
Elected/Appointed Delegates must be active members in good standing of the sending Church.

Paragraph 2: Seating of Elected/Appointed Delegates.
The Standing Delegates of the Association shall vote to seat Elected/Appointed Delegates at the beginning of each session. The Association may refuse to seat delegates who do not meet the standard outlined in Article III Section B Paragraph 1 or should the Association choose to discipline a local Church as outlined in Article II Section A Paragraph 5.

Section C: Delegates Voting Power. Each seated delegate whether a Standing Delegate or an Elected/Appointed Delegate is granted one vote on matters presented during the session in which the delegate has been seated.

ARTICLE IV: ASSOCIATIONAL SESSIONS

Section A: Frequency of Sessions. The Association shall meet quarterly on the Saturday following the second Sunday in January, April, and October and on the last Saturday of July. The annual business session shall be in January and the semi-annual business session shall be in July.

Section B: Location of Sessions. The location of the quarterly meetings shall be determined by a vote of the Association in session except in special situations when the session is hindered from meeting in the approved location, the executive committee can secure a place for the session to be held. Pastors and clerks of individual member churches are to be notified of any such change as quickly as is possible.

Section C: Time of Sessions. All regular sessions of the Association shall begin at 9:30 AM and shall not end until the voting delegation votes to close all business and adjourn.

ARTICLE V: ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS

Section A: Names of Officers. The officers of the Association shall be moderator, assistant moderator, clerk/treasurer, and assistant clerk/treasurer.

Section B: Election of Officers. The officers of the Association shall be elected in the annual session by a majority vote of all seated delegates.

ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

Section A: Standing Committee. The Executive Committee comprised of the moderator, assistant moderator, clerk/treasurer, assistant clerk/treasurer, the chair person of each standing board, and the chair of the ordaining council is a standing committee of the Association. The Executive Committee is charged with acting on behalf of the Association when the Association is not in session.

Section B: Functional Committees. Committees to handle various functions of the Association are to be appointed as needed by the moderator or individual standing in for the moderator during any session of the Association. Functional committees may be the Credentials Committee, Resolutions Committee, Nominating Committee, Finance Committee, or any other committee that the moderator or body of the Association deem necessary.

Section C: Standing Boards. Standing Boards of the Association shall be the Mission Board and the Camp Board.

Paragraph 1: Membership. Each Board shall have five members serving five year terms staggered so that one member is elected during the annual session each year. Members of the various boards must meet the criteria to be a delegate outlined in Article III Sections A and Article III Section B Paragraph 1.

Paragraph 2: Reports to the Association. Each Board is required to report to the body of the Association in the annual session, semi-annual session, and at any time the body of the Association deems it necessary.

Section D. Ordaining Council. The Ordaining Council shall have five members serving five year terms staggered so that one member is elected during the annual session each year.

Paragraph 1: Membership. Members on the Ordaining Council must be ordained ministers in good standing with their local Church and the Association.

Paragraph 2: Responsibilities to the Association. The Ordaining Council is responsible to the Association for:

- Providing guidelines for the ordaining of ministers and deacons.
- Providing procedures for the ordaining of ministers.
- Providing guidelines and procedures for the licensing of ministers.
- Providing a list at each session of ordained and licensed ministers who are in good standing with the Association.
- Providing a recommendation based on investigation should the need arise to discipline a Standing Delegate as outlined in Article III Section A Paragraph 2.

Section E. Elections and Appointments. Elections to fill expired seats on the standing boards, committees, or councils of the Association shall be held at the annual business session.

Paragraph 1: Nominations of Candidates. At the semiannual business session the moderator shall appoint a Nominating Committee of at least three (3) members who will then be charged with the responsibility of presenting at the annual session nominees to fill the expired seats. At the annual session nominations shall also be taken from the voting delegation. Following the opportunity for the

voting delegation to nominate a person to fill an expired seat, the moderator shall call for a vote. The nominating committee is automatically dissolved following the elections at the annual session.

Paragraph 2: Filling Unexpired Vacancies. When a vacancy occurs in any standing board, committee, or council and is not the result of a scheduled expiration of term, the Moderator at the earliest convenience in any session of the Association following the occurrence of the vacancy shall appoint a person to fill the vacancy. The appointed individual will serve the balance of the unexpired term.

ARTICLE VII: ASSOCIATIONAL FINANCES

Section A. Representation Fees. Each member church shall submit to the Association at each quarterly session a representation fee of one dollar (\$1.00) per member. The membership count shall include active and inactive roles.

Section B. Ministries Support. Churches are also encouraged to support Associational and Denominational ministries with regular gifts over and above their representation fees defined in Article VII Section A.

Section C. Offerings. At each regular quarterly session, an offering for the Georgia State Association Cooperative Program shall be received. The Association by a majority vote in a regular session can authorize special offerings for any worthy purpose.

ARTICLE VIII: QUORUMS AND AMENDMENTS

Section A. Quorum. One half (½) of the total churches holding membership in the Association shall present representatives at any session to constitute a quorum of members authorized to carry out business.

Section B. Amendments. This constitution may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of the seated voting delegation at the semiannual or annual business sessions provided a quorum of churches exists in the session.

Paragraph 1. Presentation of an Amendment. Any proposed amendment to this constitution shall be presented in writing to the Associational clerk prior to the convening of the semiannual or annual business sessions.

Paragraph 2. Application of an Amendment. Any amendment passed at the semiannual or annual business sessions shall become effective immediately when passed.

BY-LAWS
Of the
Little River Association of Free Will Baptists

Section 1. Rules of Order. The meetings of the Little River Association shall be governed by proper rules of parliamentary law as determined by the Association.

Section 2. Records of Sessions. Complete minutes for each session are to be kept and two copies provided annually to each member church. In addition to the minutes for each session, the annual copies should contain a complete listing, to include addresses and telephone numbers, of the associational officers, committees, boards, member churches with pastors and clerks, and state board representatives. The annual copies should also contain the dates and locations of the scheduled meetings for the new year, a list of all ordained and licensed ministers in good standing with the association, and copies of the associational financial records.

Section 3. Auxiliary Organizations. The Association recognizes as subsidiary organizations the Women Active for Christ (WAC) and Master's Men auxiliaries. The Women Active for Christ (WAC) and Master's Men organizations shall exist at their discretion and have power to adopt their own constitution and by-laws and maintain the oversight of the works for which they have been constituted.

Paragraph 1. Reports to the Association. Auxiliary organizations recognized by the Association are asked to report their achievements and finances at the annual session of the Association.

Paragraph 2. Continued Recognition of an Auxiliary Organization. The Association reserves the right to stop recognizing a subsidiary organization. Any such action requires a majority vote of the voting delegation at any regularly convened meeting of the Association.

Section 4. Honorariums. The moderator shall receive an honorarium of thirty dollars per regular session of the Association and the clerk shall receive an honorarium of one hundred dollars per regular session of the Association.

Section 5. Amendments or Additions. These By-laws may be added to, altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of the seated voting delegation at the semiannual or annual business sessions provided a quorum of churches exists in the session.

Paragraph 1. Presentation of an Amendment. Any proposed changes to these By-laws shall be presented in writing to the Associational clerk prior to the convening of the semiannual or annual business sessions.

Paragraph 2. Application of an Amendment. Any changes passed at the semiannual or annual business sessions shall become effective immediately when passed.

STATEMENT OF BELIEFS
of the
Little River Association of Free Will Baptists

Section 1: The Holy Scriptures

We believe both the Old and New Testaments to be the plenary, verbally inspired Word of God. By "plenary" we mean "full and complete." We hold that all parts of the Bible are inspired and that inspiration extends to all its subjects. By "verbal" we mean that inspiration extends to the very words of the Scriptures, not just to the thoughts and ideas expressed by human authors. The sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments are the complete and divine revelation of God to Mankind, written by holy men of God under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. The Scriptures are inerrant, infallible and God-breathed, and therefore they stand as the final authority for faith and practice. (II Timothy 3:16-17; II Peter 1:20-21)

Section 2: God

We believe that God is the Creator, Sustainer and Righteous Ruler of the universe. In addition to revealing Himself in nature, He has also revealed Himself in the Scriptures of the Holy Bible as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, yet being One God. Each member of the Trinity is co-eternal in being, co-identical in nature, and co-equal in power and glory; and has the same attributes and perfections. (Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; John 14:10, 26)

Section 3: Jesus Christ

- (1) We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man, without ceasing to be God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, in order that He might reveal God and redeem sinners. (Isaiah 7:14, 9:6; Luke 1:35; John 1:1-2, 14; II Corinthians 5:19-21; Philippians 2:5-8)
- (2) We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through His death on the Cross of Calvary as a vicarious, substitutionary sacrifice; and that our justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead. Jesus Christ is the ONE and ONLY WAY by which we can be saved from our sins. (Acts 2:18-36, 4:12; Romans 3:24-25; I Peter 1:3-5, 2:24; Ephesians 1:7; John 14:6)
- (3) We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ ascended to Heaven, and is now exalted at the right hand of God, where, as our High Priest, He fulfills the ministry of Mediator, Intercessor and Advocate. (Acts 1:9-10; Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25, 9:24; I John 2:1-2)

Section 4: The Holy Spirit

- (1) We Believe the Holy Spirit is a Person who convicts and convinces people of their sins, of what is right, and that a final day of judgment will come. He is the Supernatural Agent in regeneration, baptizing all believers into the body of Christ, and indwelling each believer at the time of conversion. (John 16:8-11; Romans 8:9; I Corinthians 12:12-14; Ephesians 1:13-14)
- (2) We believe that He is the Divine Teacher who assists believers in understanding the Scriptures and leads them into the truth of God's Word. It is the privilege and duty of every believer to be filled with the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 1:17-18, 5:18; I John 2:20, 27)
- (3) We believe that God is sovereign in the bestowal of spiritual gifts to every believer. God uniquely uses evangelists, pastors and teachers to equip believers in the church in order for them to do the work of the ministry. (Romans 12:3-8; I Corinthians 12:4-11, 28; Ephesians 4:7-12)

- (4) Although the gift of speaking in tongues was bestowed on some believers in the New Testament, not all believers spoke in tongues. We believe that the speaking in tongues as a visible sign of the baptism of the Holy Spirit is an erroneous doctrine. Any implication of a "second work of grace" will not be tolerated. Concerning the gift of healing, we believe that the ultimate deliverance of the body from sickness and death will come in our resurrection to eternal life, though God frequently chooses to answer the prayers of believers for physical healing. (Acts 2:1-11; I Corinthians 12:4-11, 13:8, 14:1-40)

Section 5: The Total Depravity of Mankind

We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God, but that in Adam's sin the human race fell from its perfect state, inherited a sinful nature, and became alienated from God. We believe that mankind is totally depraved, and is, of himself, utterly unable to remedy his lost condition. (Genesis 1:26-27; Romans 3:22-23, 5:12, 6:23; Ephesians 2:1-3, 4:17-19)

Section 6: Salvation

We believe that salvation is the gift of God to man by grace (undeserved, unmerited favor), and is made possible through the sacrificial death of Christ, who shed His precious blood on the Cross of Calvary for the forgiveness of our sins. The conditions for salvation are:

- (1) *Repentance of sin.* Repentance is absolutely necessary in order for us to be forgiven of our sins. (Luke 13:3, 5; Acts 2:38)
- (2) *Faith in Christ.* We must believe in the work of Christ on the Cross, and love and obey Him as our Lord and Savior. We are saved by *faith alone*, not by any works that we may do ourselves. (Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-10; I Peter 1:3-9, 18-19)
- (3) *Continuance in faith and obedience unto death.* After being saved by faith, we must *continue to live by faith* and be obedient to God until death, after which we will receive the goal of our faith – the salvation of our souls. (John 8:31; Acts 14:22; Colossians 1:23; I Peter 1:5, 9)

Section 7: Assurance of Salvation

We believe that the Holy Scriptures teach that everyone who has been saved can, and should, have full assurance of salvation. This assurance is based on the promise of God that He will save anyone who will call upon Him and ask Him for salvation. God wants us to know that, without a doubt, we are saved! (John 1:12, 3:16-18, 5:24; Romans 10:13; I John 5:12-13)

Section 8: Freedom of the Will

We believe that the human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Holy Spirit, or to resist them and perish. This free will continues to be in effect even after we have been saved; we still have the *choice* as to how we will live our lives. (Romans 10:13; Colossians 1:23; Hebrews 10:26-29)

Section 9: Perseverance of the Saints

We believe that all believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.

- (1) We believe that salvation is a present possession *by faith* in the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior and that a person's eternal destiny depends on whether he has this possession. This we hold in distinction from those who teach that salvation depends on human works or merit.
- (2) We believe that any individual living in the continual practice of sin (whether called a "backslider" or "sinner") must be judged by that evidence to be lost, should that person die in his sins. This we hold in distinction from those who suggest in any way that a person may live in sin as he pleases and still claim heaven as his eternal home.
- (3) We believe that any regenerate (saved) person who has sinned (again, whether called a "backslider" or "sinner"), and in whose heart a desire arises to repent, may do so, and be restored to favor and fellowship with God.
- (4) We believe that a saved individual may, in freedom of will, cease to trust in Christ for salvation and commit the sin of apostasy. This we hold in distinction from those who teach the doctrine of unconditional eternal security. (II Chronicles 15:2; Ezekiel 33:18; John 15:6; I Corinthians 10:12; I Timothy 1:18-19; Hebrews 6:4-6, 10:26-29; II Peter 1:10; 2:20-21)

Section 10: The Church

- (1) We believe that the local church, which is the body and espoused bride of Christ, is made up of born-again believers. (John 3:7; I Corinthians 12:12-14; II Corinthians 11:2; Ephesians 1:22-23, 5:25-27)
- (2) We believe that the establishment and continuance of local churches is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament Scriptures. (Acts 14:27, 20:17, 28-32; I Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-11)
- (3) We believe in the autonomy (self-governing) of the local church free from any external authority or control. (Acts 13:1-4, 15:19-31, 20:28; Romans 16:1, 4; I Corinthians 3:9, 16, 5:4-7, 13; I Peter 5:1-4)
- (4) We believe that the God's Church is made up of the whole body of *born-again believers* throughout the whole world, and all are members of the body of Christ. (Acts 2:41, 8:12, 14:27, 15:8-9; Romans 2:11)

Section 11: Separation

We believe that all the saved should live in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon their Savior and Lord. God commands His people to separate themselves from all religious apostasy, from all worldly and sinful pleasures, practices and associations, and to refrain from all immodest appearances. (Romans 12:1-2, 14:13; I Corinthians 6:19-20; II Corinthians 6:14-7:1; II Timothy 3:1-5; I John 2:15-17; II John 9-11)

Section 12: Gospel Ordinances

We believe the Bible teaches three ordinances for the church to practice: (1) *Baptism* in water by immersion, (2) the *Lord's Supper*, to be perpetuated until His return, and (3) the *Washing of the Saints' Feet*, an ordinance teaching humility. (Matthew 3:16, 26:26-28, 28:19-20; John 13:1-15; Acts 2:41, 8:36-39, 16:32-34; I Corinthians 10:16-17, 11:23-29; Colossians 2:12)

Section 13: The Second Coming of Christ

We believe the Bible teaches that Jesus Christ, who ascended on high after His bodily resurrection, who now sits at the right hand of God, will come again in bodily form to close the Gospel Age, glorify His saints, and judge the world. (Matthew 24:42-44, 25:31; Acts 1:11; I Corinthians 15:24-28; I Thessalonians 4:15-17; II Thessalonians 1:7-10; II Peter 3:3-13)

Section 14: The Eternal State

- (1) We believe that, as a result of sin, *all* humanity is subject to the death of the body. (Romans 5:12, 6:23; I Corinthians 15:22; Hebrews 9:27)
- (2) We believe in the bodily resurrection of all people, the saved to eternal life, and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment. (Matthew 25:46; John 5:28-29, 11:25; Acts 24:15; I Corinthians 15:22-23, 42-44; Philippians 3:21)
- (3) We believe that the souls of the redeemed are, at death, absent from the body and present with the Lord, where in conscious bliss they await the first resurrection, when they, with spirit, soul and body reunited, shall stand before the Lord in judgment, and receive their eternal reward in heaven. (Luke 23:43; II Corinthians 5:8, 10; Philippians 1:23; 3:21, I Thessalonians 4:14-17; I Corinthians 15:50-58)
- (4) We believe that the souls of unbelievers remain, after death, in conscious punishment and torment until the second resurrection, when they, with spirit, soul and body reunited, shall stand before God in judgment, and be cast into the Lake of Fire, *not* to be annihilated, but to suffer everlasting conscious punishment and torment. (Matthew 25:41, 46; Mark 9:43-48; Luke 16:19-26; II Thessalonians 1:7-9; Jude 6-7; Revelation 20:11-15)

Section 15: Creation

We believe that God created the universe in *six literal, 24-hour days*. We reject Evolution, the Gap Theory, the Day-Age Theory, Theistic Evolution, etc., as unscriptural theories of origin. (Genesis 1-2; Exodus 20:11)

Section 16: Missions

We believe that God has given the Church the Great Commission to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all nations. As ambassadors of Christ, we must use all available means, both at home and to the uttermost parts of the earth, to take the Gospel to the lost and dying of this world. (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:46-48; John 20:21; Acts 1:8)

Section 17: Giving

We believe that every Christian, as a steward of that portion of God's wealth entrusted to him, is obligated to support his local church financially. We believe that God has established the *tithe* (a tenth) as a basis for giving in support of the local church, but that every Christian should also give other offerings sacrificially and cheerfully to the relief of those in need, and to the spread of the Gospel, etc. Unless the offering is designated when given (to building fund, missions, a specific project, etc.), we believe that a Christian relinquishes all individual rights to the church body to direct the use of the offering. (Genesis 14:20; Proverbs 3:9-10; Malachi 3:8-10; Acts 4:34-37; I Corinthians 16:2; II Corinthians 9:6-7; Galatians 6:6; Ephesians 4:28; I Timothy 5:17-18; I John 3:17)

Section 18: Civil Government

- (1) We believe that God has ordained and created all authority consisting of three basic institutions: (1) the home; (2) the church; and (3) the state. Every person is subject to these authorities, but all (including the authorities themselves) are answerable to God and governed by His Word. God has given each institution specific Biblical responsibilities and balanced those responsibilities with the understanding that no institution has the right to infringe upon the other. The home, the church and the state are equal and sovereign in their respective Biblically assigned spheres of responsibility under God. (Romans 13:1-7; Ephesians 5:22-24; Hebrews 13:17; I Peter 2:13-14)
- (2) We believe that the Church should respect and uphold the laws of the land. Therefore, it is the policy of this Church to fully abide with the stated laws, *UNLESS* those laws are in direct conflict with Biblical commands and principles. (Romans 13:1-7)

Section 19: Love

We believe that we should demonstrate love for others, not only toward fellow believers, but also toward both those who are not believers and those who oppose us. We are to deal with those who oppose us graciously, gently, patiently and humbly. God forbids the stirring up of strife, the taking of revenge, or the threat or the use of violence as a means of resolving personal conflict or obtaining personal justice. Although God commands us to abhor sinful actions, we are to love and pray for any person who engages in such sinful actions. (Leviticus 19:18; Matthew 5:44-48; Luke 6:31; John 13:34-35; Romans 12:9-10, 17-21, 13:8-10; Philippians 2:2-4; II Timothy 2:24-26; Titus 3:2; I John 3:17-18)

Section 20: Lawsuits Between Believers

We believe that Christians are admonished by the Word of God not to bring civil lawsuits against other Christians, or the Church, in order to resolve personal disputes. We believe the Church possesses all the resources necessary to resolve personal disputes between members. We do believe, however, that a Christian may seek compensation for injuries from another Christian's insurance company as long as the claim is pursued without malice or slander.

(I Corinthians 6:1-8; Ephesians 4:31-32)

Section 21: Family Relationships

- (1) We believe that men and women are spiritually equal in position before God, but that God has ordained distinct and separate spiritual function for men and women in the home and in the church. The husband is to be the leader of the home, and men are to be the leaders (pastors and deacons) of the church. Accordingly, only men are eligible for licensure and ordination by the church. (Galatians 3:28; Colossians 3:18; I Timothy 2:8-15, 3:2-5, 12)
- (2) We believe that God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. The husband is to love his wife as Christ loves the Church. The wife is to submit herself to the Scriptural leadership of her husband as the Church submits to the headship of Christ. Children are a heritage from the Lord. Parents are responsible for teaching their children spiritual and moral values and leading them, through consistent lifestyle example and appropriate discipline, including Scriptural corporal correction. (Genesis 1:26-28; Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Psalm 127:3-5; Proverbs 19:18, 22:15, 23:13-14; Mark 10:6-12; I Corinthians 7:1-16; Ephesians 5:21-33, 6:1-4; Colossians 3:18-21; Hebrews 13:4; I Peter 3:1-7)
- (3) We believe that God hates divorce, and intends marriage to last until the death of a spouse. Divorce and remarriage is permitted only on the grounds of fornication, or the desertion of a believing spouse by an unbelieving spouse. Although divorced persons, and divorced and

remarried persons, may hold positions of service in the Church and be greatly used of God for Christian service, they may not be considered for the offices of pastor or deacon. (Malachi 2:14-17; Matthew 19:3-12; Romans 7:1-3; I Corinthians 7:10-15; I Timothy 3:2, 12; Titus 1:6)

Section 22: Human Sexuality

- (1) We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a *man* and a *woman*. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, pornography, etc., are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex. We believe that God disapproves of and forbids any attempt to alter one's gender by surgery or appearance. (Genesis 2:24; 19:5, 13, 32-36, 26:8-9; Exodus 22:19; Leviticus 18:1-30; Romans 1:26-29; I Corinthians 5:1, 6:9; Galatians 5:19-21; I Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4)
- (2) We believe that the *only* legitimate marriage is the joining of *one man* and *one woman*. (Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:4-6; Romans 7:2; I Corinthians 7:10, Ephesians 5:22-23)
- (3) We believe that each individual on church property, or attending any and all services on church property, should conduct themselves in a Biblically appropriate manner in regards to intimate physical contact (I Corinthians 6:9-10, 19-20; 7:1-5; Galatians 5:16-21). Moreover, if any individuals display inappropriate intimate physical contact on church property or in any services, those individuals shall be asked to immediately cease and/or leave the property. Upon refusal to cease and/or leave, and as a last resort, Law Enforcement could be called and/or reasonable force by Church Security could be used to remove dissidents ("dissident" – a person who opposes or who is in opposition to official church policy).

Section 23: Abortion

We believe that human life begins at conception and that the unborn child is a living human being. Abortion constitutes the unjustified, unexcused taking of unborn human life. Abortion is murder. We reject any teaching that abortions of pregnancies due to rape, incest, birth defects, gender selection, birth or population control, or the mental well-being of the mother are acceptable. (Job 3:16; Psalm 51:5, 139:14-16; Isaiah 44:24; 49:1, 5; Jeremiah 1:5; 20:15-18; Luke 1:44)

Section 24: Satan and the Occult

We believe that Satan is a person, a spirit being, who is referred to in Scripture as the Devil, Satan, and Lucifer, as well as other names and titles. He is the author of sin and the cause of the Fall of Man; he is the open and declared enemy of God and man; and he shall be eternally punished in the Lake of Fire. (Genesis 3:1-7; Job 1:6-7; Isaiah 14:12-17; Matthew 4:2-11; 25:41; John 12:31; II Corinthians 4:4; Ephesians 2:2; Revelation 12:10, 20:10)

We believe that *all* forms of the occult – witchcraft, sorcery, séances, voodoo, black magic, white magic, fortune-telling, psychics, astrology, charms, etc., and games that draw upon the powers of darkness (board games, video games, etc.) – all are of the Devil, and are condemned in God's Word. (Exodus 22:18; Leviticus 19:26; Deuteronomy 18:10-12; II Kings 17:17, 21:6; Micah 5:12; Acts 8:10-12, 19:19; Revelation 21:8, 22:15)

Section 25: Gambling

We believe that *all* forms of gambling – lotteries, bingo, casinos, betting on horses, dogs, ball games, cards, etc., – all are sinful forms of amusements, and should be avoided by Christians. Gambling is immoral in that it exploits people and their desire and/or need for money. It is fueled by greed, and seeks to take advantage of others. Gambling is destructive, deceptive, addictive, and a door to other vices. These "games of chance" are not in accord with God's established plan of order, and they are poor stewardship of God's blessings. (Exodus 20:3; Proverbs 1:19, 15:27, 21:25-26; Matthew 6:24; Romans 8:28, 13:8; I Corinthians 4:2; Galatians 5:19-21; Colossians 1:16-17, 3:17-19; I Thessalonians 4:11-12; I Timothy 6:9)

Section 26: Alcohol

- (1) We believe that the Bible *always* condemns the sin of drunkenness! (Deuteronomy 21:20-21; Proverbs 20:1, 23:31-32; I Corinthians 6:9-10; Galatians 5:19-21)
- (2) We believe that *although* the Bible does make allowance for the use of wine/alcohol (Deuteronomy 14:26; I Timothy 3:3, 8, 5:23; Ephesians 5:18), and that *although* Jesus spoke of wine, and turned water into wine (Luke 5:37-38, 7:33-34; John 2; Acts 2:13, 15), that in light of the addictive properties of alcohol today, and the problems resulting in homes and in society from the use of alcohol, we believe in and teach *abstinence* from alcohol for the following reasons:
 - (a) We believe that *we ourselves* are to be controlled by the Holy Spirit, *not* by alcohol. If we are under the influence of alcohol, the Holy Spirit cannot be in control of our lives. Therefore, we believe in abstinence from alcohol. (Ephesians 5:18)
 - (b) We believe that we are to have a positive Christian influence on the lives of *others*, and that we are to do *nothing* to hurt others or lead them astray. Therefore, out of love for others, and for the sake of our Christian testimony, we believe in abstinence from alcohol. (Romans 14:21)

Section 27: Drugs

We believe that the use of illegal drugs and/or the abuse of prescription drugs are sins before God. We believe that we are to be controlled by the Holy Spirit and His influence, *not* controlled by drugs and their influence. We believe that we are to have a positive Christian testimony before others, and that we are to do *nothing* to hurt others or cause them to stumble. We also believe that drug abuse/addiction has detrimental effects in our homes and in our society today, and is to be avoided by God's people. (Ephesians 5:18; Romans 14:21)

Section 28: Authority of Statement of Faith

The statement of faith does not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. The Bible itself is the sole and final source of all that we believe. We do believe, however, that the statement of faith accurately represents the teaching of the Bible, and therefore, is binding upon all members.

FREE WILL BAPTIST 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 the 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 reference to the study of the scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and special worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior 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 the 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 approved 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.