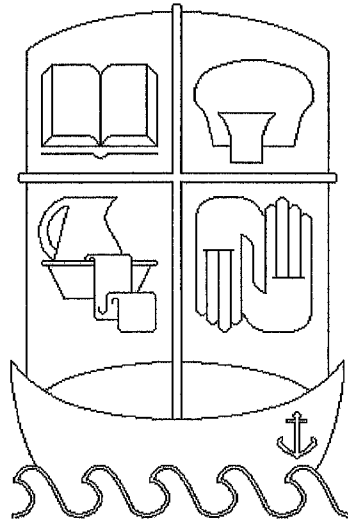


LITTLE RIVER ASSOCIATION of FREE WILL BAPTISTS, INC.



Minutes of the 116th Annual Session

When convened at
Corinth FWB Church
Brookfield, Georgia
Saturday, January 20, 2024

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:
2023 Minutes, Statistical Report, & Obituary Report;
2024 Officers, Board & Committee Members;
2024 Directory of Churches, Pastors & Clerks.

Little River Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc.

Bi-Annual Session: Saturday, July 29, 2023, 9:30 am

Host Church: Homerville FWB Church
North Church St. (US 441)
Homerville, GA 31634

Service Schedule:

9:30 – 9:40 am: Congregational Singing & Prayer

9:40 – 9:45 am: Welcome

9:45 – 10:30 am: **Business Session Begins**

- ❖ **Call to Order by the Moderator**
- ❖ **Camp & Mission Board Offering**
- ❖ **Credentials Report**
- ❖ **Reading of Previous Minutes & Treasurer's Report**
- ❖ **Reports of Boards & Committees**
 - **Executive Committee:**
 - **Ordaining Council:**
 - **LRA Camp Board:**
 - **LRA Mission Board:**
 - **Nominating Committee:**
 - **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**
 -
 -
- ❖ **New Business**
 - *Discussion of Camp Little River proceeds: disbursements and investments.*
 -
- ❖ **Announcements**
- ❖ **Resolutions**
- ❖ **Motion to Adjourn**

11:15 – 12:00 **Worship Service**

- ❖ **Congregational Singing & Prayer**
- ❖ **Special Music**
- ❖ **Morning Message:**
- ❖ **Closing Prayer**

Next Session:

Annual Session:

Corinth FWB Church, Brookfield, GA, Saturday, January 20, 2024, 9:30 am

Little River Association of Free Will Baptists

Minutes of the Bi-Annual Session

Convening at: Homerville FWB Church, Homerville

Date: July 29, 2023, 9:30 am

PRELIMINARIES:

- Host Pastor Nick Johnson welcomed the Association, opened in prayer, and led in a medley of hymns.
- Moderator Josh Bennett called the meeting to order and read a Scripture selection from Hebrews 1:1-14.
- The LRA Mission Board and Camp Board was received and totaled \$50.
- The Clerk gave the Credentials Report as follows: 11 churches reported with 5 pastors, 1 other minister, 6 deacons, and 13 delegates present. All elected delegates were seated by a vote from the standing delegates. The total voting delegation was 25.
- 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:

- Nick Johnson reported that the 2023 Junior Camp Session at Camp Tygart was attended by 98 kids, with around 130 campers total. There were 13 salvation decisions and a number of rededications.
- Several associations also joined together for a teen camp with 54 campers at CopperHill Lodge (Tennessee) in 2023. There are hopes that a state-wide teen camp may be hosted at the same location in 2024.

NAFWB Convention:

- Josh Bennett reported on the denominational unity of the National Convention. Nick Johnson updated on the National Youth Competition participants and winners from the Little River Association.

GAFWB Mission Board:

- Josh Bennett reported that the Awaken Church is doing well and will be going back to two services to accommodate the attendance growth. They have also brought a new staff member on board, Caleb Franks, who will also be an intern "church-planter-in-training."

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to receive all of the previous Board & Committee reports as information.

OLD & NEW BUSINESS:

- Regarding investment of the proceeds from the sale of Camp Little River:
 - A motion was made and seconded to transfer \$4500 from the General Fund into the Camp Fund for investment purposes. After questions and discussion, the motion carried.
 - A motion was made and seconded to invest \$85,000 in the North American Missions Church Extension Loan Fund. After questions and discussion, the motion carried.
 - A committee was formed to develop a system of disbursing "camp grants" from the investment interest earned to qualifying churches within the LRA. The committee members are Jeremy Buhro, Michael Chafin, Nick Johnson, Keith Lloyd, and Josh Bennett.
- In response to their sporadic sending of reports and representation fees, a motion was made, seconded, and carried that the Clerk send a letter of inquiry to the Friendship Church regarding their operational status.
- A motion was made, seconded, and carried to discontinue receiving the Camp & Mission Board Offering at Associational meetings.

LRA Finance Committee:

- A partial report from the Finance Committee was given. The complete report is as follows: *Balance Brought Forward* - \$88,683.83; *Total Receipts* - \$1,400.00; *Balance on Hand* - \$90,083.00. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to receive this report.

After announcements, a rising vote of thanks was given to the Homerville Church for hosting the Association and a motion was made, seconded, and carried to adjourn the business session. The Association then recessed briefly to enjoy refreshments provided by our hosts.

MORNING WORSHIP SESSION:

- The congregation sang, "O, I Want to See Him", which was followed by a message from Rev. Jeremy Buhro, pastor of the Open Door Fellowship Church, from Acts 11:21-26 and the example of Barnabas as relational encouragers, evangelists, and disciple makers.

Respectfully submitted,
Keith Lloyd, Clerk

Little River Association Treasurer's Report

Reporting Period: January 14, 2023 thru July 29, 2023

	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Balances</u>
<u>General Fund:</u>			
Beginning Balance:			\$ 4,585.03
Income:			
LRA BI-ANNUAL DUES	458.00		
For NAFWB	1,750.00		
Expenditures:			
MODERATOR HONORARIUM		(30.00)	
CLERK HONORARIUM		(100.00)	
NAFWB Representation Fee		(1,925.00)	
GAFWB Representation Fee		(75.00)	
Georgia Incorporation Fee (3 years)		(90.00)	
Postage		(78.48)	
Balance on Hand:			\$ 4,494.55
<u>LRA Mission Board:</u>			
Beginning Balance:			\$ 3,776.84
Income:			
LRA BI-ANNUAL DUES	458.00		
OFFERING (from individuals)	65.00		
Expenditures:			
		(0.00)	
Balance on Hand:			\$ 4,299.84
<u>LRA Camp Board:</u>			
Beginning Balance:			\$ 93,902.80
Income:			
LRA BI-ANNUAL DUES	458.00		
OFFERING (from individuals)	65.00		
Expenditures:			
Ozias Church (1/11 th of Camp Sale Proceeds)		(7,268.18)	
Sunnyside Church (1/11 th of Camp Sale Proceeds)		(7,268.18)	
Balance on Hand			\$ 79,889.44
Total Balance on Hand (7/29/23):			\$ 88,683.83

Little River Association

Finance Committee Report

Meeting at: Homerville FWB Church, Homerville
Date: July 29, 2023

Church Name:	Association Fees:	Association Ministries:	NAFWB Rep Fees:
Awaken	\$ 150.00		
Cool Springs	40.00		
Corinth	54.00		
Forest Hill	50.00		
Friendship	12.00		
Hahira First	40.00		
Homerville	172.00		
Open Door Fellowship	44.00		
Ozias	72.00		
Sunnyside	76.00		
Zion Hill	640.00		
Totals	\$ 1,350.00		

Camp & Mission Board Offering

Received from individuals \$ 50.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM THIS SESSION:

Association Fees Total:	\$ 1,350.00
Association Ministries Total:	0.00
Camp & Mission Board Offering Total:	50.00
NAFWB Rep Fees Total:	0.00
Total Receipts:	\$ 1,400.00
Balance Brought Forward:	88,683.83
Balance On Hand to Date:	\$ 90,083.83

Finance Committee: Keith Lloyd, Clerk

Little River Association

Credentials Report

Meeting at: Homerville FWB Church, Homerville
Date: July 29, 2023

Church Name	Reporting (Yes/No)	Pastor Present	Other Ministers	Deacons Present	Delegates Present	Total Voting Delegation
Awaken	Yes	Yes				1
Cool Springs	Yes			1	1	2
Corinth	Yes				1	1
Forest Hill	Yes					
Friendship	Yes					
Hahira 1 st	Yes				1	1
Homerville	Yes	Yes	1	2	6	10
Open Door Fellowship	Yes	Yes		2	3	6
Ozias	Yes	Yes		1		2
Sunnyside	Yes				1	1
Zion Hill	Yes	Yes				1
Totals	11	5	1	6	13	25

Credentials Chairperson: Keith Lloyd, Clerk