

-.: STANDING BOARDS AND COMMITTEES :-

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. H. L. Catrett, Chairman (1 year) - - - Rev. W. H. Horn (2 years)
Rev. A. B. Ard (Emeritus) - - - - - Rev. L. D. Scott (3 years)

MISSION BOARD

O. F. Everson, Chairman (1 year) - - - - - Bronnie Brunson (3 years)
Mrs. C. A. Lane, Sec'y. and Treas. (1 year)

SUPERANNUATION BOARD :-

Edgar Smith, Chairman (1 year) - - - - - C. T. Turner (3 years)
Mrs. T. I. Crawford, Sec'y. and Treas. (2 years)

INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

1 year each: I. M. Ard - - - - - A. R. Smith - - - - - Z. T. Calhoun

PROMOTIONAL BOARD

Counce Sheffield, Jr., Chairman (1 year) - - - - W. R. Barber (3 years)
Mrs. Mary Brown, Sec'y. and Treas. (2 years)

DISBURSEMENT COMMITTEE

O. F. Everson - - - - - W. R. Barber - - - - - Rev. L. D. Scott

STATE PROMOTIONAL SECRETARY and TREASURER:

Rev. E. C. Morris
P. O. Box 553
Tifton, Georgia

OFFICERS

W. J. Hilburn - - - - - Colquitt, Ga.
Willis L. Heard, Secretary-Treasurer - - - - - Bainbridge, Ga.

-: ORDAINED MINISTERS :-

D. Floyd, Colquitt, Ga. ✓	L. D. Scott, Brinson, Ga. ✓
Tom Henry, Colquitt, Ga. ✓	A. B. Ard, Bainbridge, Ga. ✓
H. L. Catrett, Colquitt, Ga. ✓	C. A. Gilbert, Colquitt, Ga. ✓
J. E. Wisham, Jr. Camilla, Ga. ✓	J. B. Ledlow, Fayette, Ala. ✓
Lewis Batchelor, Rt. 2, Camilla, Ga. ✓	B. W. Clenney, Rt. 3, Colquitt, Ga. ✓
W. H. Horn, Rt. 2, Donalsonville, Ga. ✓	F. W. Sellers, Rt. 3, Bainbridge, Ga. ✓
R. W. Holmes, 2601 4th Ave., Columbus, Ga. ✓	
Edward Sheffield, P. O. Box 301, Donalsonville, Ga. ✓	

-: LICENSED MINISTERS :-

C. P. Rump, Camilla, Ga.	Bill Daniels, Iron City, Ga.
Mrs. Jessie Wisham, Camilla, Ga.	J. A. Ivey, Donalsonville, Ga.
John Sheffield, Tallahassee, Fla.	

-: EXECUTIVE BOARD :-

Bellview – Rev. B. W. Clenney, Colquitt, Ga.
Colquitt –
Coolsprings –
Corinth – T. A. Drake, Iron City, Ga.
Evergreen –
Father's Home –
Hebrew – Ed Hill,
Highway – C. T. Turner, Brinson, Ga.
Mother's Home – John Bailey, Colquitt, Ga.
Mt. Gilead – Leroy Kirkland,
Mt. Glory – A. W. Wade, Rt. 2, Quincy, Fla.
New Home No. 1 – Cecil Roberts,
New Home No. 2 – Ed Avery, Climax, Ga.
New Lite –
New Salem – Oscar Newberry, Colquitt, Ga.
Pilgrim's Home –
Polar Branch –
Riverturn – W. M. Barber, Colquitt, Ga.
Springfield – Jesse Reagan,
Thompson – Edgar Smith, Colquitt, Ga.

PROCEEDINGS

The 69th Annual Session of the Martin Freewill Baptist Association convened with Hebrew Church, Donalsonville, Georgia at ten o'clock on Friday morning, October 21st, 1955.

The session was opened with a song service led by Brother C. A. Williams. Brother O. F. Everson led in prayer.

Brother Leroy Johnston gave the welcome address and Sister Inez Brunson made the response.

At 10:30 A.M. the Moderator gave his message taken from Matthew 28th Chapter, 18-20 Verses. Rev. Roy Roberts offered prayer.

The Nomination and Arrangement Committee was appointed. The Credential Committee composed of Brother O. F. Everson, Brother Bill Wells and Brother Leroy Johnston was appointed.

The 11:00 o'clock sermon was given by Rev. L. D. Scott, using Nehemiah 4:6 as his text.

Brother Rhidlehoover dismissed the Association for the noon hour.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION, Oct. 21st, 1955

The Friday Afternoon Session opened at 1:00 o'clock with Brother C. A. Williams leading the song service. Rev. H. L. Catrett led in prayer. Rev. B. W. Clenney gave the devotional and talked from the Associational Covenant. Rev. C. B. Dowdney closed the devotional with prayer.

The Credential Committee made a partial report and reported 16 churches represented with a total of \$302.35. The report was received.

Rev. H. L. Catrett and Mrs. Sarah Player were appointed to read the Church Letters and Delegates which were read as listed below:
Highway: Sister Jewel Barber, Brother C. T. Turner, Brother Perry Mills.

Corinth: Mr. & Mrs. C. C. Bell, Mrs. Lettie Lane, Mrs. C. A. Lane, Mr. & Mrs. L. A. Drake, Mr. J. J. Lovering.

Mother's Home: Mr. & Mrs. Dock Gibson, Mr. & Mrs. T. I. Crawford, Mr. & Mrs. John Bailey.

River Turn: Mrs. Myrtel Howard, Mrs. Jewel Cunningham.

New Home No. 2: Mr. E. D. Avery, Mrs. Eddie Mae Avery, Mr. Clarence Saddler, Mr. Gilbert Avery.

Colquitt: Mr. Gary Phillips, Mr. Emory Tully, Mrs. Alma McDonald, Mrs. Ella Lovering.

Thompson: Mr. Johnnie Wilson, Mr. Edgar Smith, Mr. Z. T. Calhoun, Mr. G. R. Grimes.

Hebrew: Mr & Mrs. J. C. Rhidlehoover, Mr. Leroy Johnson, Mrs. A. R. Jones, Mr. & Mrs. Walter Atkinson.

New Home No. 1: Mr. & Mrs. Tom Cox, Mr. & Mrs. Ed Roberts,
Mrs. & Mrs. Ike Ard.

Evergreen: Mrs. J. B. Holt, Mrs. Howard Corley, Mrs. J. M. Addison.

Polar Branch: Mr. & Mrs. H. K. Worthington, Lottie Morris.

New Salem: Mr. & Mrs. W. R. Barber, Mr. & Mrs. B. D. Wells,
Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Nix.

Mt. Gilead: Mrs. Willie Vickers, Minnie Boyd, Mary Heard.

Pilgrim's Home: Mr. & Mrs. Walter Player, Mrs. Guy Louchtone,
Essie Vines.

Mt. Glory: Mr. & Mrs. J. C. Henderson, Mrs. S. D. Newberry.

Bellview: Effie Kimbrel, Counce Sheffield, Charles Brown, Inez
Brunson, Donald Brown.

Springfield: Jessie Regans, Mr. & Mrs. C. B. Reese.

It was moved and seconded and the delegates were seated with the
body.

The call was made for Petitionary Letters. Polar Branch Church
was received into the Association in full fellowship.

Rev. C. J. Harvey made a report on Mt. Bethel Youth Camp. He
reported on the work of the Camp and urged all churches to support
the Unified Program and in so doing will help with the Camp work
which is doing a great work for the Freewill Baptist Denomination. An
offering was taken for the Camp and \$30.02 was donated.

Correspondence from other Associations was called for and given
as follows:

Midway Association: Brother Alvin Day, C. B. Dowdney, Mr. & Mrs.
C. J. Harvey, Rev. Evens Williams Rev. J. L.
Tedder, Rev. Roy Roberts, Brother Driggers,
Mr. & Mrs. Sanders.

It was moved that the Moderator extend these visitors the right
hand of Christian Fellowship.

Reports of Boards and Committees were called for and given; see
reports.

FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION, Oct. 21st, 1955

On Friday night at 7:30 o'clock, Rev. C. B. Dowdney conducted a
very inspiring service, using Romans 1:10 as his text. The meeting
was dismissed with song and Rev. D. Floyd offered a prayer. Satur-
days Session to meet with New Home No. 1, Iron City, Ga. at 9:30 A.M.

SATURDAY SESSION, Oct. 22nd, 1955

The Saturday Morning Session of the Martin Freewill Baptist As-
sociation met at New Home No. 1, Iron City, Georgia and was opened

at 10:00 o'clock in a song service led by Brother I. M. Ard. Rev. I. O. Cook led in prayer. Mrs. W. E. Lane gave the welcome address and Sister W. R. Barber made the response. Rev. H. L. Catrett gave the devotional from Acts 20: 7-12 and followed with prayer.

The call for church letters was renewed and one was received.

The call for correspondence was renewed and given as follows: Rev. I. O. Cook from Salem of Florida Association. A move was made and carried that the Moderator give Brother Cook the right hand of Christian Fellowship.

Request for reports was renewed and same were given. See reports.

Churches on Committees were given as follows:

Obituaries: Colquitt

Temperance: New Home No. 2

Resolutions: Thompson

Suggestions: New Home No. 1

Sabbath Observance: Mt. Gilead

Sunday School: Pilgrim's Home

A move was made and carried that the Ladies Auxiliary be given a page in the Association minutes. Sister B. W. Clenney gave a report on the Women's Auxiliary.

Called for a report of the State and National Associations: Brother O. F. Everson, Sister Effie Kimbrel, Brother Idus Goocher, and Sister B. W. Clenney reported. Brother Edgar Smith reported for the State.

Rev. Tom Henry took his text from 1st Samuel 16: 7 and gave the 11:00 o'clock message. Rev. L. D. Scott dismissed for the noon hour.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION, Oct. 22nd, 1955

The Saturday Afternoon Session opened with a song service led by Brother I. M. Ard at 1:30 o'clock. Brother Alvin Day offered prayer. Rev. Drew Floyd gave the devotional taken from the 19th Psalm. Rev. J. E. Nichols led in prayer.

Renewed call for Credential Committee; no report. A move was made and carried that the Credential Committee be relieved.

The call for correspondence was renewed and given as follows: Salem Association of Florida: Rev. and Mrs. J. E. Nichols, Rev. J. B. Lumkin, Rev. Tom Driver. The Moderator gave the right hand of Christian Fellowship.

Brother O. F. Everson, Brother W. R. Barber and Rev. L. D. Scott were appointed to serve as the Disbursement Committee.

The Executive Committee was appointed and is to consist of one representative from each church in the Association as listed

Bellview - Rev. B. W. Clenney, Colquitt, Ga.
 Colquitt -
 Coolsprings -
 Corinth - T. A. Drake, Iron City, Ga.
 Evergreen -
 Father's Home -
 Hebrew - Ed Hill,
 Highway - C. T. Turner, Brinson, Ga.
 Mother's Home - John Bailey, Colquitt, Ga.
 Mt. Gilead - Leroy Kirkland,
 Mt. Glory - A. W. Wade, Rt. 2, Quincy, Fla.
 New Home No. 1 - Cecil Roberts,
 New Home No. 2 - Ed Avery, Climax, Ga.
 New Lite -
 New Salem - Oscar Newberry, Colquitt, Ga.
 Pilgrim's Home -
 Polar Branch -
 Riverturn - W. M. Barber, Colquitt, Ga.
 Springfield - Jesse Reagan,
 Thompson - Edgar Smith, Colquitt

A move was made and carried that the clerk have some Association Report forms printed and have the word Unified Program inserted in it.

A move was made and carried that the Resolutions passed at the last Association be repeated.

Brother W. E. Lane was reappointed as key-man to collect food and money for the Youth Camp, Unified Program and a member from each church was appointed as key-man to cooperate with him.

Brother W. R. Barber gave the Nominating Committee report, and the Disbursement Committee report.

Delegates listed below were appointed to attend the Associations as noted:

Midway Association: Mrs. Tanella Cleveland, Brother O. F. Everson.

Chattahoochee Association: R. W. Holmes.

Union Association: Rev. D. Floyd, Rev. B. W. Clenney.

Georgia Association: Rev. & Mrs. B. W. Clenney.

Little River Association: Rev. H. L. Catrett, Brother Willie Hilburn.

Salem Association: Rev. Edward Sheffield, Rev. H. L. Catrett.

State Line Association: Brother W. R. Barber, Brother Willie Hilburn.

State Association: Brother I. M. Ard, Brother Zack Calhoun.

National Association: Brother Ira Crawford, Brother Willie Hilburn.

Rev. J. E. Nichols made a talk.

A rising vote of thanks was extended New Home Church No. 1 and

Community for their hospitality during this session.

The Association adjourned to meet with Thompson Church on Friday, October 26th, 1956 and at Mother's Home on Saturday, October 27th, 1956.

W. J. Hilburn, Moderator
W. E. Lane, Clerk protem

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

-: DISBURSEMENT COMMITTEE :-

We recommend the following Disbursements:

Clerk - - - - -	\$25.00
Moderator - - - - -	15.00
State Association - - - - -	10.00
National Association - - - - -	5.00
Retain in treasury - - - - -	50.00

Minutes to be paid for and remainder to be allocated as follows:

State Secretary - - - - -	20%
Local Superannuation Board - - - - -	35%
Local Promotional Board - - - - -	17½%
Mission Board - - - - -	17½%
F.W.B. Orphanage, Eldridge, Alabama - - - - -	10%

W. R. Barber, Chairman
O. F. Everson
L. D. Scott

-: SABBATH OBSERVANCE COMMITTEE :-

We, the Sabbath Observance Committee, make the following recommendations:

- I. Every member of the family should go to Church and Sunday School.
- II. All places of business should be closed on Sunday. (They would if church people would not buy on Sunday.)
- III. All worldly things should be put aside on Sundays.
- IV. The Sunday paper was not printed to take the place of the Sunday School Quarterly.
- V. We should not stay out so late on Saturday night that we do not feel like going to church on the Sabbath day.
- VI. The children will enjoy Sunday dinner better if they don't have to listen to their parents talk about the preacher during the meal.
- VII. The Sabbath was given for worship; anything that is not worship should be put aside.

Bellview Church and Pastor

-: RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE :-

Be it resolved: That the Executive Committee of the Martin Free-will Baptist Association be composed of a representative from each church constituting the Association. This representative to be elected by the home church; and the name of such committeeman be furnished to the Clerk of the Association, immediately, so his name could be published in the minutes of this Association as a member of the Executive Committee.

Mother's Home Church and Pastor

-: SUGGESTION COMMITTEE :-

We, the committee on Suggestions, suggest the following rules or by-laws be placed before the Association for adoption.

1. That any member who is elected by the church as a deacon, serve a waiting period of at least six months before he is ordained; this will give the church and the applicant sufficient time for considering the case.

2. That the rule concerning the deacons and preachers in the Preachers and Deacons Conference be amended and changed before being passed in the Association.

3. We suggest that the Executive Board be composed of one from each church; he to be elected by the delegates present from the various churches. In this way, every church would be recognized — that would give more Christ-like Spirit in the Association.

4. We suggest that the Ladies Auxiliary be granted space in the minutes for recording their activities.

*M. R. Davis, G. M. Chambers,
Oscar Newberry, B. A. Middleton.*

-: TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE :-

Temperance, moderation and reason all go hand in hand. When we think of temperance we should think of being reasonable and moderate in all things. If we are unreasonable or immoderate, we are letting our temper get away with us.

The word 'temperance' is derived from the word temper. We should learn to control our tempers and be reasonable in all matters — concerning others as well as our own lives, and by so doing we will make others happy and live a happier life ourselves.

Corinth Church and Pastor

-: NOMINATING COMMITTEE :-

We beg to submit the following nominations:

W. J. Hilburn for Moderator;

Willis L. Heard for Clerk.

W. R. Barber, Chairman; J. C. Ridleboover; Mary Brown.

-: OBITUARIES COMMITTEE :-

So far as we are able to ascertain, our Association has lost by death 11 members from the following churches:

Corinth Church: Brother Bob Howard.

Mother's Home Church: Sister Essie Harrell.

Bellview Church: Sister Ella Kimbrel,

Sister Annie Griffin.

New Home No. 1; Sister Sallie Williams,

Sister Vesta Roberts,

Sister Martha Roberts.

Mt. Gilead: Mrs. Leroy Kirkland.

New Salem: Mrs. Nancy Grubbs,

S. H. Sheffield,

Harry Grubbs.

We share with the families the deepest sorrow of their loved ones passing from us; but most humbly bow to the Will of God in their Home Going.

Highway Church and Pastor

-: INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE :-

We find that confusion exists in several of our churches because of a lack of cooperation. We believe this could easily be eliminated by the pastors and churches cooperating with the Association.

We further recommend, that the names of all ministers and deacons that register in the Ministers and Deacons Conference be placed in the minutes.

I. M. Ard, Chairman

A. R. Smith

-: SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE :-

We urge every church in the Association that doesn't have a Sunday School to organize one. We know our young people of today will be the church of tomorrow.

The world has many things to offer young people. We must teach our children about Christ and the Sunday School will prepare the young people to take interest in the church and its duties.

Hebrew Church and Pastor

-: MINISTERS AND DEACONS REPORT :-

It was moved and carried that the Ministers and Deacons Conference meet quarterly at 7 o'clock every Friday night before each Union Meeting.

The following are officers for 1956; T. I. Crawford, Moderator; W. E. Lane, Assistant Moderator; Edgar Smith, Secretary; Leroy Johnson, Assistant Secretary; Program Committee: R. G. Phillips, B. O. Brunson, L. D. Scott; Refreshment Committee: B. W. Clenny, C. A. Gilbert, R. B. Hilburn.

-: SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION :-

On the 5th Sunday in April, 1956 (April 29th, 1956) the Sunday School Convention will convene with Mother's Home Church. The program planned below will be given:

Morning devotional, Mrs. T. I. Crawford.

Welcome address, Mrs. John Bailey.

Response, Mrs. Alma Houston.

Business session.

Program.

Noon hour.

Afternoon devotional, Mrs. Linda Floyd.

On the 5th Sunday in September, 1956 (September 30, 1956) the Sunday School Convention will convene with New Salem Church. The program planned below will be given:

Morning devotional, Mrs. Inez Brunson.

Welcome address, Mrs. Bill Wells.

Response, Mrs. Buck Grimes.

Business session.

Program.

Noon hour.

Afternoon devotional, Rev. Edward Sheffield.

- ARRANGING COMMITTEE -

T. I. Crawford - - - - - Mrs. Eugene Middleton
John Bailey - - - - - Mrs. Bill Wells
Shirley Clenney

- NOMINATING COMMITTEE -

Phillip Hines - - - - - Mrs. D. R. McMickle
Odis McVey - - - - - Mrs. W. E. Lane
Mrs. T. I. Crawford

Sadie Mae Holt, Secretary

-: LEAGUE RALLY :-

The Free Will Baptist League Rally met at New Evergreen Church July 31, 1955 and the meeting was opened with songs and prayer. Christine Lane read the devotional and Mr. Holt gave the welcome address. Mrs. John Bailey gave the response.

The following officers were elected: President, Louie Grimes; Vice-President, Larry Powell; Secretary, Carolyn Bailey; Assistant Secretary, Christine Lane. The Three Field Workers appointed were Mr. T. I. Crawford, Mr. Emmett Houston and Mr. John Bailey. The following were elected as the program committee; Pauline Hays, Martha Bailey and Mrs. Clifton Powell. The nominating committee were Sarah Goocher, Sadie Mae Holt and Mrs. Emmett Houston. Miss Shirley Clenney was named as pianist and Nadine Clenney as song leader with Patricia Middleton as assistant song leader. The same quiz leader, Mrs. Emory Tully, was retained.

Rev. Drew Floyd gave a talk and also a prize. Rudy Clenney was the winner and he received a cedar chest. The group was dismissed for lunch.

After lunch, the meeting was opened with song and prayer.

Bellview, Mother's Home, New Salem, Thompson and Evergreen Churches gave programs.

A rising vote of thanks was given Evergreen for the hospitality shown during the day. The meeting was dismissed with prayer.

The nominating committee decided to carry the League Rally to 1st - New Salem Church and 2nd - Mother's Home Church.

Program for New Salem Church, January 29, 1956:

Morning Devotional, W. C. Calhoun.

Welcome address, Sarah Goocher.

Response, Patricia Middleton.

Business Period.

Talk, Brother Richard McNease.

Noon hour.

Afternoon devotional, Jimmy Davis.

Business Period.

Programs.

Program for Mother's Home Church, July 29, 1956:

Morning devotional, Shirley Clenney.

Welcome address, Mildred Adams.

Response, Mrs. May Grimes.

Business period.

Talk, Mr. Idus Goocher.

Noon hour.

Afternoon devotional, Carolyn Bailey.

Business Period.

Programs.

-: CONSTITUTION OF MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE :-

Seeing the need of greater love, fellowship and understanding among our ministers, also the unifying of our visions and working for greater cooperation, we do hereby ordain and establish this constitution.

1. NAME: This shall be known as the "*Ministerial Conference of Martin Association of Original Free Will Baptist.*"
2. We adopt the Treatise of faith and practice of the National Association of Free Will Baptist as our standard to look to and pray for the day when we may be more united.
3. The officers of the Minister's Conference shall consist of a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Assistant Clerk and other officers as may be deemed necessary.
4. The officers shall be elected on nomination by acclamation at each annual session.
5. This Conference shall be composed of all ordained and licensed ministers and deacons in good standing of Martin Association.
6. The Clerk shall be paid \$5.00 per annum for preserving and editing the minutes of the Conference.
7. The Minister's Conference is not a court to try nor to air out the faults of the ministers and deacons. If they are in good standing with the Martin Association — they are in good standing with the Minister's Conference. This is to be a meeting of fellowship, inspiration and brotherly love.
8. Any other ministers and deacons who are in good standing with the Free Will Baptist Church will be accepted as honorary members when visiting with the Conference.
9. This constitution may be amended or altered at any meeting by two-thirds majority voting.

H. L. Catrett, Moderator
Edgar Smith, Clerk

-: SUPERANNUATION BOARD FUNDS REPORT :-

ASSETS:

Union Meetings - - - - -	\$123.93
Martin Association - - - - -	50.79

Total Received - - - - - \$174.72

DISBURSEMENTS:

Brother A. B. Pyle, State Treasurer - - - - -	\$ 25.00
Superannuated Ministers - - - - -	146.00

Total Paid - - - - - \$171.00

Mrs. T. I. Crawford, Treasurer
Mr. Edgar Smith
Mr. C. T. Turner

BALANCE in Treasury - - - - - \$3.72

-: PROMOTIONAL BOARD FUNDS REPORT FOR 1955 :-

ASSETS:

Cash on hand	- - - - -	\$209.73
Association	- - - - -	21.16
Union Meeting, October	- - - - -	7.88
Union Meeting, January	- - - - -	10.58
Union Meeting, May	- - - - -	11.10
Union Meeting, July	- - - - -	9.90
Rev. E. C. Morris	- - - - -	5.00
Total Received		\$275.35

DISBURSEMENTS:

Rev. L. D. Scott	- - - - -	\$ 10.00
Rev. L. D. Scott	- - - - -	10.00
Rev. L. D. Scott	- - - - -	10.00
Rev. L. D. Scott	- - - - -	10.00
Cool Spring Church	- - - - -	100.00
Total Paid		\$140.00

BALANCE in Treasury - - \$135.35

Mary Brown, Treasurer

-: HOME MISSION BOARD TREASURY REPORT FOR 1954-55 :-

ASSETS:

Cash on hand from 1954	- - - - -	\$188.04
Union Meeting Funds, Oct. 30, 1954	- - -	7.88
Martin Association Funds, Nov. 25, 1954	-	21.16
Union Meeting Funds, Jan. 29, 1954	- - -	10.58
Union Meeting Funds, May 29, 1954	- - -	11.10
Union Meeting Funds, July 30, 1954	- - -	9.90
Total Received		\$248.66

DISBURSEMENTS:

Bellview, VBS Literature, July 7, 1955	- -	\$ 6.69
Thompson, VBS Literature, July 13, 1954	- -	15.70
Hebrew, VBS Literature, July 13, 1954	- -	11.64
Cool Springs Building Fund, July 29, 1954	-	50.00
Total Paid		\$ 84.03

BALANCE in Treasury - - - \$164.63

Brother O. F. Everson, Chairman
 Brother Lavonne Lovering
 Sister C. A. Lane, Sec'y & Treas.

-: WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION :-

The District Woman's Auxiliary Convention of the Martin Association met with Bellview Church on September 27, 1955.

Devotion and prayer, Mrs. D. Floyd (Matt. 13:24).

Welcome address, Mrs. Effie Kimbrel.

Response, Mrs. Alma Houston.

Mrs. B. W. Clenney, president, made a report of the program. Minutes of previous meeting were read and approved. It was also approved that all registered members of auxiliaries compose the body and all delegates be seated.

A welcome was extended to Rev. C. B. Dowdney, Midway Association, Rev. B. W. Clenney, Rev. Edward Sheffield and Rev. D. Floyd.

Committees appointed:

Finance — Mrs. Herbert Riddlehoover, Mrs. Ed Hill, Mrs. B. D. Wells, Mrs. George Grimes, Mrs. Inez Brunson.

Nominations — Mrs. Effie Kimbrel, Mrs. W. C. Atkinson, Mrs. Alma Houston, Mrs. Clifton Powell.

Resolutions — Mrs. B. D. Wells, Mrs. Gordon P. Alday, Mrs. Effie Kimbrel, Mrs. Clifton Powell.

Credentials — Mrs. W. C. Atkinson, Mrs. Tenella Cleveland, and Mrs. Alma Houston.

Program and song.

Message (Matt. 28:5-8-18) God Challenges His People, Rev. B. W. Clenney. Song, "Have Thine Own Way" by the congregation.

Rev. Edward Sheffield dismissed the group.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Mrs. T. I. Crawford gave the devotional (Mark 14:3). Rev. D. Floyd led in prayer. Song, "What a Friend we have in Jesus" by the congregation.

Programs were given by Bellview, New Salem and Thompson. Mrs. Tanella Cleveland, Youth Chairman, gave a talk on "Youth".

Delegates to State Auxiliary Convention: Mrs. Leroy Johnson, Mrs. Alma Houston, Mrs. J. C. Chapman, Mrs. John Bailey, Mrs. George Grimes.

Mrs. B. W. Clenney talked on Workshops which will be held each quarter: First session, Hebrew (1st Saturday in October); Second session, Bellview (First Tuesday in January); 3rd session, Salem (1st Tuesday in April); 4th session, Mother's Home (1st Tuesday in August).

The Finance Committee submitted the following report: We, your Finance Committee report \$4.67 in treasury. Received from dues \$3.40. Sent State Convention \$13.80; Unified Program \$7.50. Gave Sec'y. & Treasurer \$2.50. Received offering of \$9.87. Balance in treasury \$7.94.

Mrs. H. Riddlehoover, Mrs. G. Grimes, Mrs. B. O. Brunson, Mrs. Ed Hill, Mrs. B. D. Wells.

The Nominations Committee submitted the following report: President, Mrs. B. W. Clenney; Vice President, Mrs. D. Floyd; Recording Secretary & Treasurer, Mrs. Herbert Riddlehoover; Assistant Secretary & Treasurer, Mrs. Ed Hill; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. B. O. Brunson; Field Secretary, Mrs. Effie Kimbrel; Youth Chairman, Mrs. Tenella Cleveland; Study Course Chairman, Mrs. B. D. Wells; Stewardship - Prayer, Mrs. George Grimes. We recommend that the next convention go to New Salem. *Respectfully submitted,*

Mrs. W. C. Atkinson, Mrs. Clifton Powell, Mrs. Effie Kimbrel, Mrs. Tenella Cleveland.

The Resolutions Committee submitted the following report: We, the Resolutions Committee, request that the Martin Association recognize our work as part of church service and print our minutes in the Association minutes. We recommend the workshop be held annually in October to acquaint new officers with their duties.

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. B. D. Wells, Mrs. Gordon P. Alday, Mrs. Effie Kimbrel, Mrs. Clifton Powell.

We, the Credential Committee, submit the following report: We find auxiliaries acceptable to this Convention with four representing New Salem, Hebrew, Thompson, Bellview. *Respectfully submitted,*
Mrs. Tenella Cleveland, Mrs. W. C. Atkinson, Mrs. Alma Houston.

A motion was made and carried these reports be accepted. Rising vote of thanks was extended to host church for splendid hospitality. The next meeting will be at Hebrew, Oct. 8, 1955, for installation of officers (workshop).

Dismissed by Mrs. Effie Kimbrel.

Finances: Dues to Convention, \$13.80; Missions, \$18.55; Children's Home, \$34.03; Other, \$47.00; Personal gifts, \$26.74; Personal service and miscellaneous, subscribers to Auxiliary manual, 25; spent for literature \$25.00; members making soul winning effort, 30; articles published in religious papers, 5; Tracts, 25; engaged in community personal service, 30; distributing baskets and garments to needy, 175.

Mrs. B. W. Clenney, President
Mrs. Herbert Riddlehoover, Sec'y. & Treas.

ASSETS:		-: TREASURER'S REPORT :-	
Balance on hand	- - - - -		\$ 51.51
Received from Association	- - - - -		312.35
Union Meeting	- - - - -		10.00
Deacon's Conference	- - - - -		5.00
League	- - - - -		5.00
Sunday School	- - - - -		5.00
Total Received - - - - -			\$388.86

-: TREASURER'S REPORT, Continued :-

DISBURSEMENTS:

Moderator	- - - - -	\$15.00
Clerk	- - - - -	25.00
National and State Association	- - - - -	15.00
State Secretary	- - - - -	24.77
Local Superannuation Board	- - - - -	43.35
Local Promotional Board	- - - - -	21.67
Mission Board	- - - - -	21.68
F.W.B. Orphanage, Eldridge, Ala.	- - - - -	12.39
Minutes	- - - - -	178.64
		<hr/>
Total Paid		\$357.50
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Retain		BALANCE in Treasury \$31.36

ASSETS: -: UNION MEETING TREASURY REPORT :-

Union Meeting at Bellview	- - - - -	\$ 62.50
Union Meeting at Highway	- - - - -	87.16
Union Meeting at Mt. Gilead	- - - - -	93.72
Union Meeting at New Home No. 1	- - - - -	126.17

DISBURSEMENTS: Total Received - - - - - \$369.55

Oct. 30, 1954, E. C. Morris	- - - - -	\$18.37
Mrs. T. I. Crawford	- - - - -	18.37
Mrs. C. A. Lane	- - - - -	7.88
Mrs. Mary Brown	- - - - -	7.88
State Association	- - - - -	10.00
Jan. 29, 1955, E. C. Morris	- - - - -	\$24.67
Mrs. T. I. Crawford	- - - - -	24.67
Mrs. C. A. Lane	- - - - -	10.58
Mrs. Mary Brown	- - - - -	10.58
E. C. Morris, Promotional	- - - - -	16.16
Postage	- - - - -	.50
May 29, 1955, E. C. Morris	- - - - -	\$25.90
E. C. Morris Nat'l. Hosp. Bld'g. Debt	- - - - -	19.72
Mrs. T. I. Crawford	- - - - -	25.90
Mrs. C. A. Lane	- - - - -	11.10
Mrs. Mary Brown	- - - - -	11.10
July 30, 1955, E. C. Morris	- - - - -	\$23.10
Mrs. T. I. Crawford	- - - - -	23.10
Mrs. C. A. Lane	- - - - -	9.90
Mrs. Mary Brown	- - - - -	9.90
Association Treasury Minutes	- - - - -	10.00
Help rebuild Coolsprings Church	- - - - -	50.17

Total Paid - - - - - \$369.55

BALANCE in Treasury - - - - \$0.00

-: UNION MEETING PROGRAMS FOR 1956 :-

We, the Nominating Committee, recommend that the Union Meeting convene with the following: 1st Session at Mt. Glory; 2nd Session at Pilgrim's Home; 3rd Session at New Home No. 2; and 4th Session at Colquitt.

We further recommend that Brother Carey Williams serve as the Moderator next year and Brother Frank Newberry as Clerk.

W. R. Davis, Chairman

Mrs. S. D. Newberry, Howard Roberts

1st Session: Mt. Glory.

Devotional, Sister Sarah Newberry.

Welcome address, Brother Bill Wade.

Response, Brother Phillip Hines.

Business.

11:00 o'clock message, Rev. Edward Sheffield.

Lunch.

Afternoon devotional, Brother Louie Grimes.

Talk, Church Doctrine, Rev. H. L. Catrett.

Adjourn.

2nd Session: Pilgrim's Home.

Devotional, Brother J. T. Hilburn.

Welcome address, Brother W. J. Hilburn.

Response, Sister Pete Davis.

Business period.

11:00 o'clock message, Brother S. D. Driggers.

Afternoon devotional, Sister Mary Brown.

Talk, The Mission of the League, Sister Calvin Fountain.

3rd Session: New Home No. 2.

Devotional, Sister T. I. Crawford.

Welcome address, Brother Dock Kelley.

Response, Sister John Bailey.

Business.

11:00 o'clock message, Rev. Drew Floyd.

Lunch.

Afternoon devotional, Brother E. D. Averitt.

Talk, Cooperation, Brother L. D. Scott.

4th Session: Colquitt.

Devotional, Brother T. I. Crawford.

Welcome address, Sister Troup Grimes.

Response, Sister Herbert Boyd.

Business.

11:00 o'clock message, Rev. B. W. Cienney.

Afternoon devotional, Sister Eugene Middleton.

Talk, Christian Leadership, Brother S. D. Driggers.

-: PLANNED 70TH ANNUAL ASSOCIATION SESSION :-

The program plans given below are proposed for the 70th Annual Session of the Martin Free Will Baptist Association to be held with Thompson Church on the 4th Friday, October 26, 1956 and held with Mother's Home on the 4th Saturday, October 27, 1956.

FRIDAY SESSION, October 26, 1956:

10:00 A.M. - Devotional.

Song service conducted by C. A. Williams.

Welcome address, Z. T. Calhoun.

Response, Sister J. R. McNease.

10:30 A.M. - Moderator's message.

Appointment of Credential Committee.

11:00 A.M. - Message, Rev. H. L. Catrett.

Noon hour.

1:30 P.M. - Devotional, C. A. Gilbert.

Report of Credential Committee.

Call for Petitionary Letters.

Call for correspondence.

Report of all Boards – Promotional, Superannuation,
Ordinational, Investigational,
Executive.

Appointment of sessional committees.

Arrangements and adjournment.

SATURDAY SESSION, October 27, 1956:

9:30 A.M. - Song service conducted by Rev. H. L. Catrett.

Welcome address, Sister John Bailey.

Devotional, Lucile Stewart.

Renew previous calls.

Roll call.

Reading of minutes.

Report of State and National Associations.

Report of all committees.

11:00 A.M. - Message, to be supplied.

Noon hour.

1:30 P.M. - Devotional, Mrs. Oscar Brunson.

Resume business.

Appoint delegates to various associations.

Appoint State and National Association delegates.

Appoint standing committees and board members.

Miscellaneous business.

Election of officers.

Adjournment.

DOCTRINAL VIEWS

1. We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is a treasure of Heavenly instruction that has a God for its author, salvation for its end and truth without mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us, and therefore, it shall remain with us to the end of time, the true center of Christian union and the supreme standard to which all human conduct and opinion should conform.

2. That there is but one true God, whose name is Jehovah the maker and ruler of Heaven and earth, inexpressively glorious in holiness, worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love, revealed in the personal distinction of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

3. That man was created in a state of holiness under the laws of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state, in consequence of which men are sinners, not by constraint, but by choice, being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, of Satan and their sinful passions and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defence or excuse.

4. That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace through the mediation of the Son of God, who took upon him our nature; yet without sin honored the law by His personal obedience, and made atonement for sin by His death; being risen from the dead, He is now enthroned in Heaven and uniting in His Wonderful person the tender sympathies with divine perfection, in every way qualified to be a suitable compassionate and all sufficient Savior.

5. That the great gospel blessings which Christ of His fullness bestows on such as believe on Him is justification; that justification consists in the pardon of sin and promise of eternal life upon principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of anything which we have done, but solely through His own righteousness and atonement, and that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God.

6. That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to receive them by a cordial and obedient faith, and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth but his own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ which results will subject him to aggravated condemnation.

7. That in order to be saved we must be regenerated or born again. That regeneration consists of giving a holy disposition to the

mind, and is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit producing a voluntary obedience to the Gospel; and that its proper evidence is found in the holy fruits which we bring forth to God.

8. That election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners. That being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all means with the end, that it is a most glorious display of God's goodness, being infinitely wise, holy, unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting and promotes humility, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of His free mercy; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it is the foundation of Christian assurance, and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves, demands and deserves our utmost diligence.

9. That the preserving attachment of true believers to Christ the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special providence watches over their welfare and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

10. That the law of God is the eternal, unchangeable rule of His government; that it is holy, just and good, that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen man to fulfill the precepts arise entirely from their love of sin to deliver them from which and to restore them through a mediator to unfeigned obedience to the Holy law is one design of the Gospel and the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.

11. That the first day of the week is the Lord's day or Christian Sabbath; that it should be kept sacred to religious purposes by abstaining from all secular labor and recreation by the direct observance of all means of grace, both public and private, and prepare for the rest which remains for the people of God.

12. That civil government is of divine appointment for the interest of order of human society; that the magistrates are to be prayed for conscientiously; honored and obeyed in all things not contrary to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the Lord of conscience and Prince of the kings of the earth.

13. That there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and wicked, and that such only are justified by faith in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and is sanctified by the spirit of God as are truly righteous in His esteem while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are, in His sight, wicked and under the curse and this distinction holds good among men, both in and after death.

14. That the end of this world is approaching when Christ will

descend from the Heaven and raise the dead from their graves to final retribution, that solemn separation will then take place, the righteous being adjudged to everlasting happiness and the wicked to endless punishment and his judgment will forever fix the final state of men in Heaven or Hell on principles of righteousness.—John 5:25; Matt. 25:31; 41:46.

ASSOCIATIONAL DECORUM

1. The Association shall be called to order by the moderator elected last session.
2. This Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
3. The moderator and clerk shall officiate until their successors are elected.
4. It shall be the duty of the moderator to call the meeting to order, to see that order is preserved, receive and submit all questions to the body. He shall have the privilege of speaking but must call upon some other brother to preside in his place while speaking. He shall not have the right to vote unless the body is equally divided, when he may cast the deciding vote.
5. The members present shall be enrolled and their names called as often as necessary.
6. The majority of the members present shall rule in cases, except upon admission of new churches, which shall require a unanimous vote.
7. No member shall absent himself from the house without leave from the moderator, and no member shall leave the association without the consent of the body.
8. All business shall be brought before the body by a move and second and shall be disposed of according to good usage.
9. No person shall be allowed to speak more than three times on the same subject nor more than fifteen minutes each time without permission from the body.
10. No person shall be disturbed while speaking unless he departs from the subject and it will be necessary to call him to order.
11. Only one person shall be allowed to speak at a time and he must rise to his feet and address the moderator and must not use abusive language or personal reflection on any one without being subject to a call to order by the moderator.

12. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a minute of the proceedings and read the same when called upon, to be corrected at the discretion of the body, and shall prepare the minutes for publication, unless the association shall appoint someone for that purpose. He shall keep all books and papers belonging to the association and read the same when ordered to do so, and shall have such compensation for his services as the association may prescribe.

13. It shall be the duty of the corresponding secretary to carry on correspondence by writing to persons belonging to other associations of like faith in any way that would be likely to create interest in this association for its promotion and well being.

14. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to keep all money committed to him by the association, and to keep an account of receipts and expenditures, make a report at every association if called upon, pay out money when ordered to do so by the association, and shall receive such compensation as the association may prescribe.

15. No Church shall liberate any member to preach the Gospel unless he has held membership in the Church for at least twelve months; and no minister who comes from another denomination be liberated until he has been examined by the Ordaining Council and received Credentials bearing their approval.

16. These rules of decorum may be amended at the discretion of the association.

CHURCH DECORUM

1. The church may choose a pastor annually at the last regular conference in association year; or if they prefer it may choose a pastor for an indefinite length of time to continue from year to year, as long as they deem it proper to keep up the connection.

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

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

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

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

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

7. When a new clerk is appointed all the books, etc belonging to the clerk shall be immediately delivered to him by his predecessor.

8. When a church deems it necessary, a committee of not less than three male members well acquainted with business, shall be appointed, whose duty it shall be to give advice to brethren who apply to them relative to cases of dealings and etc.

9. The church shall hold two days meetings monthly, embracing Saturday and the Lord's day following the first of which shall be the regular time of conference.

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

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

12. Conference, after prayer or divine service shall be opened as follows: (1) Inviting visiting brethren to seat. (2) Opening the door of the church for the reception of members. (3) Calling for the reading of the minutes of the last conference. (4) Calling for absentees. (5) For acknowledgements. (6) For references or deferred business. (7) For new matters of dealings, which are to come before the body. (8) For miscellaneous business.

13. Visiting brethren, as help called in from sister churches, shall be allowed to speak and make motions and seconds, but not allowed to vote.

14. Any orderly member of the Baptist Church may be received into the church without letter, when it is made apparent that his Christian character is unimpeachable, and that he has applied for a letter and could not obtain it because he desired to join this or some sister church. All other members must join by letter or baptism.

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

16. When the moderator calls for absentees, the clerk shall inform the church what members have been absent from three successive conferences, and the moderator shall appoint some brother or brethren to cite each of them to the next conference.

17. No member shall be expelled unless he has been cited verbally or in writing to attend his trial; provided his residence be known to the church. If a minister be guilty of unchristian conduct, he may be dealt with just as any other member, by his church, and must be reported to the Ordaining Council and they may silence him for a period of time or indefinitely, as they see fit.

18. When a witness, not a member of the church, is introduced, he shall not be examined till the question has been put to the church: "Will you hear the testimony of this witness?"

19. The evidence in every case of dealing and acknowledgment shall be minuted in the church book.

20. Members dismissed from the church by letter who becomes disorderly or continue to hold their letters without a good reason, shall be cited to the conference to answer for their conduct.

21. Expelled members may be restored to fellowship on their petition if their walk since expulsion has convinced the church that they have sincerely repented of their former evil conduct.

22. A vote shall not be taken upon any question without a move and a second, and in all important questions the vote shall be taken by rising to the feet.

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

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

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

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

27. No one shall speak more than three times on the same motion without permission from the moderator, nor shall the remarks of any one be unreasonably long.

28. When the moderator speaks in debate he must nominate some brethren moderator in his stead.

29. No one shall be interrupted while speaking unless it is necessary to call him to order.

30. It shall be the rule of the church to attend to the administration of the Lord's supper and foot washing at least four times a year, and the expenses are to be paid by the church.

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

32. Public fasting, humiliation and prayer shall be observed on proper occasions.

33. It shall be the duty of the pastor to take up collections quarterly for the support of the home mission work.

34. It shall be the duty of each church to appoint a committee to revise the church book once a year.

35. This decorum may be altered or amended by the vote of two-thirds of the members present at any two successive monthly conferences.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **THE SCRIPTURE.** The Scripture of the old and the New Testaments were given by the inspiration of God, and are binding on all as or only rule of faith and practice. There is only one living and true God. infinite in all of His attributes; the Creator, Preserver and Governor of the Universe, revealed to us in the Scriptures as Father, Son and Spirit.

2. **CHRIST.** He is God manifest in the flesh, being in His divine nature true, God, in His human nature true man, united in the person of Messiah as the mediator for the redemption of the world.

3. **THE HOLY SPIRIT.** He possesses all personal divine attributes belonging to the Reformer, Comforter and Sanctifier of men.

4. **DIVINE PURPOSE AND PROVIDENCE.** The purposes of God are eternal and immutable, and His Wise and Holy Providence is over all things to secure His only glory and the highest welfare of all creatures.

5. **ORIGINAL STATE AND FALL OF MAN.** Man was created upright, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. All his posterity inherits his fallen nature, which is cherished by indulgence so all who come to years of moral accountability, sin and come short of the glory of God.

6. **THE ATONEMENT.** Christ in His great compassion offered Himself as a sacrifice in our stead, and those by His life, suffering and death, made an atonement which is full and free to all, and opens the only way to salvation.

7. **GRACE.** No one can by his own work merit, obtain salvation which is wholly of the grace of God, and through which all spiritual blessings are bestowed upon us.

8. **CONDITION OF SALVATION.** These are repentances implying Godly sorrow for open concessions and other renunciations of sin, faith or the unreserved committal of the mind and heart to receive, obey and trust in Christ, regeneration by the Holy Spirit, whereby the soul is freed from the dominion of sin and brought into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

9. **ELECTION.** God has not fixed the future state of man by any unconditional decree, but determined from the beginning to save all who could comply with the conditions of salvation.

10: **PERSERVANCE.** None will be finally saved but those who, through grace, preserve in holiness.

11. **SALVATION FREE.** God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will, may come and take of the water of life freely.

12. **THE FREEDOM OF THE WILL.** The human will is not controlled by any fatal necessity or external force, but is free and self-determined, having power to yield to gracious influences or resist them and perish.

13. **GOSPEL ORDINANCES.** Baptism or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's supper are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel or universal obligation and to be administered to all true believers.

14. **THE SABBATH.** The Christian Sabbath is a divine institution binding on all, and should be observed by abstaining from all secular business, amusements and consecrated to the worship of God and to spiritual improvement.

15. **THE RESURRECTION.** Final judgment and final retribution—Christ will make His second appearance at the end of the world, when the dead will be raised, the judgment will set, the righteous will be received to eternal blessedness, and the wicked banished to endless suffering.

GOVERNMENT AND ORDINANCES

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

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

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

4. That the establishment of a central or Catholic government over the visible church or any part thereof is a device of earthly ambition repugnant to the word of God and subsversive to the churches and dangerous to the liberties of men.

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

6. That churches may nevertheless, meet by delegates, form an association and declare the terms upon which they will keep up a friendly correspondence but that the rights and authority of the churches being inalienable are in no wise compromised by or hindered by entering into an association, therefore associations have no shadow of authority over churches or individuals, their only powers being to transact business which does not pertain to churches in their ecclesiastical capacity, or to promote mutual intercourse and concentration of voluntary effort, and to give that advice to churches which might with equal authority be given by an individual.

7. That the authority of churches are designated for the perpetuation of the true religion of the Gospel and for the preservation of a pure and orderly body of Christians on earth, that is fully sufficient for the purpose intended, but it does not extend to the person's property or consciences of men in any case whatever.

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

9. That the officers of the church are elders and deacons; that elders are also called bishops or pastors; that all elders are equal in rank; though they may perform different functions since some may be bishops or pastors of a particular church, while others may be simply elders, having no pastoral charge.

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

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

12. That the Lord's upper is an ordinance to be observed in the church till the Lord comes.

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

ASSOCIATIONAL CONSTITUTION

1. A church proper in its lowest sense is a body of Christians united and congregated together for the purpose of worshiping God and promoting His cause, and in which the Gospel is regularly preached; the ordinances duly administered and the principles of holiness encouraged and practiced. Each church or body thus formed is a separate part thereof and independent in itself; possessing the right to direct its own affairs in its own way, subject only in certain difficult cases

to arbitrate by sister churches. Such churches may, however, unite in associational capacity for purposes of more thorough organization, efficient work and for general and mutual good of all without surrendering any of their individual rights. Therefore, the churches hereinafter mentioned resolve themselves into a body ecclesiastic to be known as the Martin Association of Free Will Baptist which shall meet annually at such time and place as may be agreed upon by the body at its annual meeting.

2. The association, when assembled, shall be composed of all ministers of the association, both ordained and licentiates, and the delegates or messengers chosen by the several churches from time to time for that purpose.

3. The number of delegates to be determined by the membership of the respective churches. To simplify this we will state that any church is entitled to two delegates, it matters not how few members it may have. That after it has attained fifty members it shall then be entitled to one more delegate to every twenty-five members or fractional part thereof, until it has reached one hundred; then for every fifty, or fractional part thereof and go on increasing in its ratio to any number.

4. The officers of the Association shall consist of a moderator, clerk and treasurer to be chosen annually for the next year and to be elected by ballot or anyway the Association deems proper.

5. It shall be the duty of the moderator to preside over the body during the session for which he is elected, call the session to order, enforce the rules of the decorum, decide all questions of discipline, and in case of a tie, to cast the deciding vote.

6. It shall be the duty of the clerk to keep an accurate record of the business transactions of the association, superintend the printing of the minutes and draw on the treasurer for the funds to discharge the expense of the same: He shall hold office until his successor is elected and installed, and shall receive such compensation for his services as the association may deem proper to allow.

7. There shall be an executive committee of discreet brethren appointed annually by the moderator, or elected by the body who shall properly be the association in recess, and whose duty may be more fully defined from time to time by the association. The treasurer shall be one of the number.

8. When the association is assembled a majority of all the members enrolled shall be required to form a quorum for the transaction of business.

9. All debates shall be conducted in a Christian like and brotherly spirit. All shall be allowed the privilege of speaking on any question which is submitted to the consideration of the body.

10. Every speaker shall rise to his feet, address the moderator, and keep to the question in debate, and shall avoid all unpleasant reflections and personalities.

11. No brother shall be allowed to consume more than fifteen minutes in one speech, or speak more than twice on the same subject except by permission of the moderator or body.

12. All questions shall be submitted by move and second the first motion taking precedence in point of order. Every motion seconded must be acted upon, unless withdrawn by the mover.

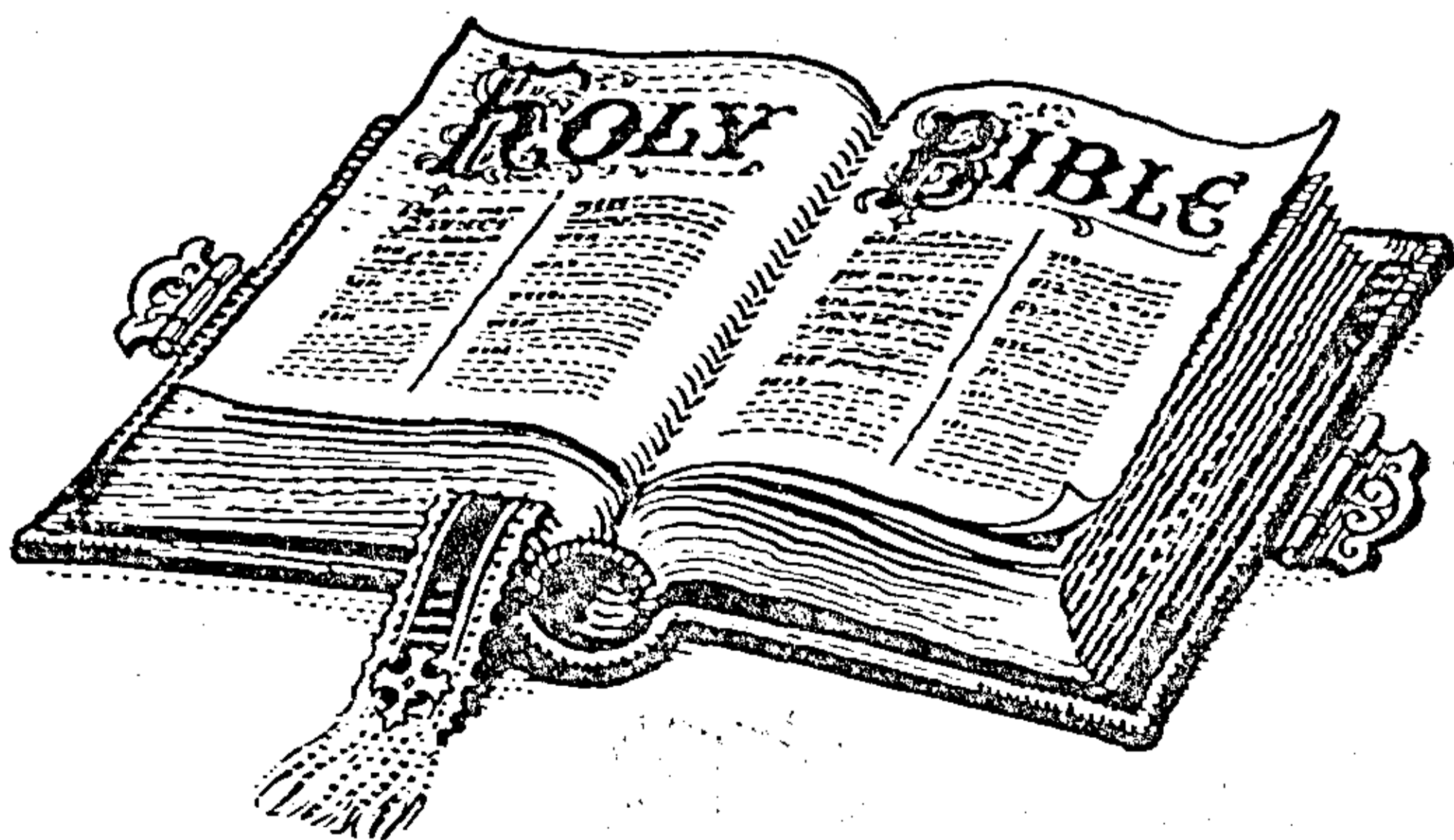
13. The business shall be taken up in order according to the subjoined plan, unless it becomes necessary to suspend the regular rules for a time for purposes which appear proper.

14. The moderator shall, at each session, invite corresponding delegates from other bodies of our own order, and also ministers from other denominations to seats, when thus seated shall be entitled to the friendship of honorary members.

ASSOCIATIONAL COVENANT

Having been, we trust, brought together to organize an association; by divine grace to embrace our Lord Jesus Christ, to give ourselves up wholly to Him, with all humility and brotherly love; to watch over each other for good, and stir up each other to love and good work, and not forsaking the frequent assembling of ourselves together with our neighbors to worship God according to His revealed will, as occasion may

require; to warn, rebuke and admonish each other according to the rules of the Gospel, that the knowledge may be thereby promoted to the end. We will uphold the public worship of God and the ordinances of His house, and hold constant communion with each other therein; and we will cheerfully contribute of our property for the maintenance of a faithful minister of the Gospel among us and for the extension of the blessed Redeemer's kingdom among us universally. We will not omit family and close religion at home nor allow ourselves in the too common neglect of the great and important duty of religiously training our children for the service of God and the enjoyment of heaven. We will also sympathize with each other in seasons of temptation and affliction and be ready to distribute to the necessities of the saints. We will especially pray for and with each other for the churches universally, for the promised effusion of the Holy Spirit, for the prosperity of Zion, and the ingathering of the elect and may the God of Peace, who brought again from the dead, our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the Sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make us perfect in every good work to do His will, that we may not only enjoy a name and place in the church on earth but finally with His glorious church of the first born of Heaven in ascribing blessings, honor, might, majesty to Him who sitteth on the throne and the Lamb forever.



CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS	ADDRESS	Meeting Days	Baptised	Rec'd by Letter	Dis. by Letter	Restored	Ex. Com.	Died	Total No.	Ass'n. Funds	Unified Program	Gave Pastor	Value of Church	Sunday School	F.W.B.L.	Ladies Aid	Prayer Meeting
Bellview	C. B. Dowdney	Counce Sheffield	Colquitt, Ga.	1 & 3	1	0	5	0	14	1	131		\$36.06	\$642.00	\$9,000.00	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Colquitt	H. L. Catrett	Mrs. Thelma Lovering	Colquitt, Ga.	2 & 4	4	0	0	1	0	1		\$23.00	45.00	263.55	5,000.00	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Coolsprings																			
Corinth	Drew Floyd	Mrs. C. A. Lane	Iron City, Ga.	1 & 3	0	0	0	0	0	1				142.90	6,132.00	Yes	No	Yes	No
Evergreen	H. L. Catrett	Mrs. Lois Barnett	Elmodel, Ga.	1 & 3	3	3	8	0	0	3		47.00	14.25	1052.18	5,000.00	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Father's Home																			
Hebrew	Edward Sheffield	Walter Atkinson	Donalsonville, Ga.	1 & 4	8	2	1	0	0	0		11.75		600.00	8,000.00	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Highway	L. D. Scott	Archie Perry	Brinson, Ga.	2 & 4	4	8	0	0	0	1		12.00	66.77	161.15	4,500.00	Yes	No	No	No
Mother's Home	Drew Floyd	J. R. McNease	Colquitt, Ga.	1 & 3	2	0	0	0	0	1		28.50		748.87	2,000.00	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mt. Gilead	H. L. Catrett	I. V. Vickers	Bainbridge, Ga.	3	1	0	7	0	0	0		13.25		250.00	4,000.00	Yes	No	No	Yes
Mt. Glory	L. D. Scott	Ethel Newberry	Rt. 2, Quincy, Fla.	3	0	0	1	0	0	0		5.85		146.73	5,000.00	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
New Home No. 1	J. B. Lumpkin	W. E. Lane	Iron City, Ga.	4	0	0	0	0	0	3		30.50	39.00	305.34	5,000.00	Yes	No	No	Yes
New Home No. 2	L. D. Scott	Dock Kelley	Climax, Ga.	1 & 3	0	0	0	0	0	1		20.00		158.47	3,000.00	Yes	No	No	No
New Light																			
New Salem	Scott Driggers	Idus Goocher	Colquitt, Ga.	2 & 4	2	1	4	0	1	0		20.00	107.00	600.00	6,000.00	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Pilgrim's Home	H. L. Catrett	Walter E. Player	Newton, Ga.	1	1	1	3	0	0	0		8.00		334.75	5,000.00	Yes	No	No	Yes
Polar Branch	I. O. Cook	J. C. Morris	Rt. 1, Greensboro, Fla.	3	3	0	0	0	0	0		5.50		79.63	1,000.00	Yes	No	No	Yes
River Tum	Scott Driggers	Mrs. Pauline Sheffield	Box 302, Donalsonville, Ga.	2 & 4	0	0	2	0	0	0		10.00		348.48	2,000.00	Yes	No	No	No
Springfield	J. L. Batchelor	C. B. Reese	Jakin, Ga.	1	0	0	0	0	4	0		5.00		125.57	1,250.00	No	No	No	No
Thompson	B. W. Clenney	G. R. Grimes	Coquitt, Ga.	Fulltime	1	2	2	0	0	0		15.75	71.56	706.33	5,000.00	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

W/12/57