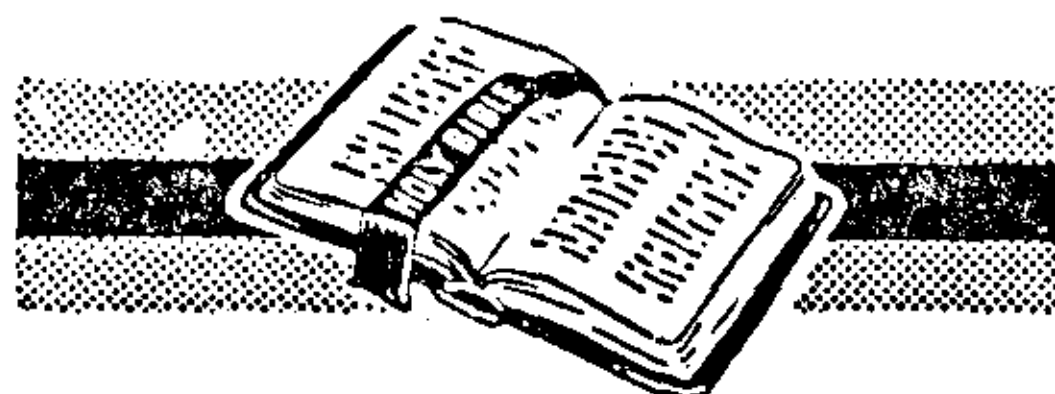


MINUTES

OF THE
73rd ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
MARTIN FREEWILL BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION



WHICH CONVENEED WITH
BELLVIEW CHURCH, Colquitt, Ga.
AND
PILGRIM HOME CHURCH, Newton, Ga.
ON

October 23rd and 24th, 1959

OFFICERS

T. A. Drake, Moderator Iron City, Ga.
Willis L. Heard, Secty. & Treas. Bainbridge, Ga.

Executive Committee

Willis L. Heard (Chairman) Bainbridge, Ga.
Lee Roy Johnson Donalsonville, Ga.
O. F. Everson
W. R. Barber Colquitt, Ga.
Edgar Smith Colquitt, Ga.

INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

Bro. Willie Lane (3 years) Iron City, Ga.
Bro. Z. T. Calhoun (2 years) Colquitt, Ga.
Bro. I. M. Ard (1 year) Iron City, Ga.

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. H. L. Catrett (3 years) Chairman Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. L. D. Scott (2 years) Brinson, Ga.
Rev. W. H. Horn (1 year) Donalsonville, Ga.
Rev. A. B. Ard (Emeritus) Bainbridge, Ga.

STANDING BOARDS

Mission Board

Sister C. A. Lane, Secty. & Treas. (3 years) Iron City, Ga.
Bro. O. F. Everson, Chairman (1 year)
Bro. J. T. Hilburn (2 years) Newton, Ga.

Promotional Board

Bro. Herbert Boyd (3 years) West Bainbridge, Ga.
Bro. W. R. Barber (2 years) Colquitt, Ga.
Sister Mary Brown (1 year) Secty. & Treas. Colquitt, Ga.

Superannuation Board

Bro. Edgar Smith, Chairman (3 years) Colquitt, Ga.
Bro C. T. Turner (2 years) Brinson, Ga.
Sister J. J. Scott (1 year) Brinson, Ga.

State Promotional Secretary & Treasurer

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

PROCEEDINGS

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

The 73rd Annual Session of The Martin Freewill Baptist Association convened with Bellview Church, Colquitt, Ga. at ten o'clock on Friday morning, Oct. 23, 1959.

The Session was opened with a song service led by Rev. B. W. Clenney and prayer by Rev. J. B. Lovering.

Sister Drew Floyd gave the Devotional, reading from the 16th chapter of St. Luke, beginning with the 19th verse.

Sister B. W. Clenney gave the welcome address and Rev. Drew Floyd gave the response.

At 10:30 A. M. the Moderator gave his message taken from the 3rd chapter of Lamentations, 22nd verse.

Next the Credential Committee was appointed which consisted of Bro. Lee Roy Johnson, Bro. John Bailey and Bro. R. T. Middleton. The Moderator, Bro. T. A. Drake, turned in his

and

resignation (to become effective at the close of this 73rd Session) and asked that he not be considered for re-election.

Rev. C. J. Harvey gave a talk on Camp Mt. Bethel and asked for a donation to help pay the Camp indebtedness. Bro. Harvey stated that he would give 10 percent of what the Association gave. An offering of \$37.64 was taken. Bro. Harvey gave \$3.76 which made a total of \$41.40.

Rev. Edward Sheffield preached the eleven o'clock Sermon, reading from the 20th chapter of St. Matthew beginning with the 20th verse and reading thru the 28th verse, using the 22nd verse as his text.

Rev. Lee Roy Knighton dismissed the Body for the noon hour.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The Friday afternoon Session opened at 1:30 P. M. with a song service led by Rev. B. W. Clenney and prayer by Rev. C. A. Gilbert.

Rev. J. J. Scott gave the devotional and talked from the 23rd Psalm.

The Credential Committee made a partial report and reported 16 Churches represented with a total of \$301.75. A move and second was made and carried to accept this partial report as read.

Sister Lucille Stewart and Sister C. M. Smith were appointed to read the Church letters. Delegates which were read are as follows:

Thompson Church:

Bro. Clifton Powell, Bro. and Sister G. R. Grimes, and Sister Alma Jean Grimes.

River Turn Church:

Sister Charlotte Parker and Sister Betty Barber.

New Evergreen Church:

Sister Howard Corley and Bro. and Sister J. L. Barnett.

Pilgrim Home Church:

Sister W. J. Hilburn and Sister Calvin Touchtone

New Home No. 1 Church:

Sister I. M. Ard, Sister Owen Sheffield, Sister Tom McLendon, Sister Patricia McLendon and Bro. P. E. Middleton.

New Home No. 2 Church:

Bro. Claude Newsome and Bro. and Sister Eddie Avery.

Polar Branch Church:

No delegates.

Hebrew Church:

Bro. and Sister J. C. Riddelhoover, Bro. Lee Roy Johnson, Bro. Edd Hill, and Bro. Fred Ingram.

Spring Field Church:

Bro. Jessie Reagans, Sister Annie Mae Sheffield, and Sister C. B. Reese.

Highway Church:

Sister Bessie Scott, Sister Jewel Barber and Sister L. D. Scott.

Mt. Gilead Church:

Bro. T. J. Heard, Bro. Robert Boyd and Bro. Herbert Boyd.

New Salem Church:

Bro. and Sister B. D. Wells, Bro. and Sister W. R. Barber and Bro. and Sister Drew Prickron.

Corinth Church:

Bro. and Sister Jack Burke, Sister A. J. Cordell and Sister C. A. Lane.

Bellview Church:

Bro. and Sister Kimbrel, Sister Carroll Brown, Sister Pansy Pate and Sister Clyde Brunson.

Colquitt Church:

Sister W. T. Cooper, Sister Ella Lovering, and Sister Clifton Carpenter.

Mothers Home Church:

Bro. and Sister John Bailey, Bro. and Sister Joe Brown Adams and Bro. Z. T. Calhoun.

A move and second was made and carried that these letters be received as read and delegates be seated with the Body.

Call was made for petitionary letters. None was received.

Roll Call of Mnisters As Given Below:

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. Drew Floyd	Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. Tom Henry	Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. H. L. Catrett	Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. Lewis Batchelor	Rt. 2 Camilla, Ga.
Rev. W. H. Horn	Rt. 2, Donalsonville, Ga.
Rev. L. D. Scott	Brinson, Ga.
Rev. A. B. Ard	Bainbridge, Ga.
Rev. C. A. Gilbert	Cilquitt, Ga.
Rev. B. W. Clenney	Rt. 3, Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. F. W. Sellers	Rt. 3, Bainbridge, Ga.
Rev. R. W. Holes	Rt. 2, Box 795, Albany, Ga.
Rev. Edward Sheffield	Rt. 3, Donalsonville, Ga.

and

Rev. Willie Sellers	Rt. 1, Camilla, Ga.
Rev. J. J. Scott	Brinson, Ga.
Rev. J. B. Lovering	Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. Paul Long	Colquitt, Ga.

LICENSED MINISTERS

Rev. Lary Powell	Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. Isaac Musgrove	Rt. 2, Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. G. W. West	Rt. 1, Cairo, Ga.
Sister Della McAlpin	Sneads, Fla.
Rev. Gus Ivey	
Rev. Irvin Williams	Colquitt, Ga.

The following committees were appointed:

Program Committee:

Sister Edward Sheffield, Sister Mary Brown and Bro. J. R. McNease.

Disbursement Committee:

Bro. Edgar Smith, Rev. L. D. Scott, and Bro. W. R. Barber.

Nominating Committee:

Bro. J. C. Riddlehoover, Bro. T. J. Heard and Sister Jack Burke.

Churches appointed on various committees are as follows:

Bellview Church	Sunday School
Pilgrim Home	Resolutions
Hebrew Church	Obituaries
Thompson Church	Suggestions
Mt. Gilead Church	Temperance
New Salem Church	Sabbath Observance

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

Midway Association: Bro. O. V. Everson, Bro. Lee Roy Knighton, Bro. Alvin Day, and Bro. T. D. Tedder.

Union Association: Bro. Curtis Gay, Bro. C. J. Harvey,

State Association: Bro. E. C. Morris.

A move an second was made and carried that the Moderator extend the right hand of Christian fellowship to these visitors. This the Moderator did.

Reports of the delegate to various Associations was called for. One was received. Rev. B. W. Clenney gave a report of Little River Association.

Rev. E. C. Morris gave a report on the Unified Program.

Call was made for reports of Standing Boards and Committees. See reports.

Rev. J. B. Lovering made a talk on changing, amending,

or revising articles No. 2 and No. 7 of the Associational Constitution.

A move and second was made and carried, that the Moderator appoint a committee to study articles No. 2 and No. 7 of the Associational Constitution and bring any suggestions they have for changing, amending or revising same before the Body in Session Saturday morning, Oct. 24, 1959. The Moderator appointed Rev. H. L. Catrett, Rev. Edward Sheffield and Rev. Paul Long to serve on this Committee.

A move and second was made and carried to extend Bellview Church and Community a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality during the first day of this Session.

A move and second was made and carried to adjourn for the day and meet with Pilgram Home Church on Saturday morning Oct. 24th, 1959.

Rev. H. L. Catrett led the closing prayer.

Bro. T. A. Drake, Moderator
Bro. Willis L. Heard, Clerk

FRIDAY EVENING SERVICE

There were several young people came together from various churches and led the service on Friday evening, beginning at 7:30. Reverend Larry Powell led the singing and also the Devotional. He used Galatian 6:7 and gave some very timely admonitions to both old and young.

Brother Louie Grimes was acting as master of ceremonies, and after an interesting testamony service, and a solo by Shirley Clenney he presented Rev. J. B. Lovering who delivered the sermon. The text was Romans 10:13-15, and he used for a subject "Links In The Chain of Redemption."

There were several of our Ministers and older laymen who attended the service with the youth. Surely our young people are always ready to render service, but they also appreciate the interest and encouragement of their seniors.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The Saturday morning Session of the Martin Freewill Baptist Association met at Pilgrim Home Church on Oct. 24th, 1959.

The Session opened at 9:45 A. M. with a song service led by Rev. H. L. Catrett and prayer by Rev. Drew Floyd.

Silent prayer was offered for Bro. Ellie Drake and Daughter, and Rev. Roy Roberts with Rev. H. L. Catrett closing the prayer.

and

The Devotional was given by Rev. Issac Musgrove, taken from the 13th chapter of 1st Corinthians.

Welcome address was given by Bro. Willie Hilburn and Bro. Richard McNease gave the response.

Called for reading of first day's minutes. Same was read and adopted.

Called for report of Committee on changing, amending, or revising the Constitution. Rev. H. L. Catrett read reports, and explained the proposed changes of articles No. 2 and No. 7. The report was tabled until Saturday afternoon. See reports.

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

Union Association Bro. A. C. Trulock.

The Moderator extended Bro. Trulock the right hand of Christian fellowship.

Renewed call for Church letters. Two were received with a total fee of \$19.50. Sister Jack Burke read these letters. Delegates which were read are as follows:

Proctor Chapel Church Bro. and Sister Jim Willis.

Mt. Glory Church — Bro. Jimmy Taylor and Bro. Wesley Newberry.

Move and second was made and carried to receive these letters as read and seat the delegates.

Renewed call for reports of all Boards and Committees. See reports.

A move and second was made and carried, that the Mission Board investigate the condition of Coolspring Church and render all service possible to help this Church.

Renewed call for correspondence from other associations. Same was given as follows:

State Line Association Bro. Leo Curtis.

Union Association Bro. Marvin Irvin

The Moderator extended these visitors the right hand of Christian fellowship.

Rev. Paul Long preached the eleven o'clock sermon, reading the first ten verses of the 19th chapter of St. Luke, using "Heaven in The Home" as a subject.

Rev. Leo Curtis dismissed the Body for the noon hour.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The Saturday afternoon session opened at 1:30 P. M. with a song service led by Rev. H. L. Catrett.

Rev. C. A. Gilbert gave the Devotional reading from the

14th chapter of John.

Rev. Tom Henry preached a sermon on "Expressions."

Called for final report of Credential Committee and the Credential committee was relieved.

Renewed call for reports of Boards and Committees. See reports.

A move and second was made and carried to print a special obituaries report for Mothers Home Church in the Associational Minutes and the same be paid for by Mothers Home Church Bible Circle.

A move and second was made and carried to have a two thirds majority vote of the Association in Session before any change in the Association Constitution could be made.

Rev. Catrett was asked to re-read the report of the Change or Ammendment Committee which had been tabled earlier. This Rev. Catrett did. A move and second was made and carried (by over two third majority vote) to accept this report and to make the proposed changes in the Constitution. For these changes see report of Change or Amendment Committee.

Called for reports of Nominating Committee, Disbursement Committee and Program Committee. Same was given. See reports.

A corrected Treasure report was given by Clerk.

A move and second was make to nominate the Moderator and Clerk from the floor instead of being nominated by the nominating committee. The move was defeated by a vote of 28 to 16.

Delegates appointed to various Associations are as follows, Midway Association; Rev. and Sister B. W. Clenney.

Little River Association, Rev. Paul Long and Bro. R. T. Middleton.

Union Association, Rev. and Sister Drew Floyd.

Salem Association, Rev. W. H. Horn, Rev. H. L. Catrett.

State Line Association, Rev. C. A. Gilbert, Rev. B. W. Clenney.

State Association: Bro. Z. T. Calhoun, Bro. W. J. Hilburn.

Chattahoochee Association, Rev. Edward Sheffield.

Georgia Union Association, Rev. and Sister J. B. Lovering.

A move and second was made and carried to extend a rising vote of thanks to Bro. T. A. Drake for his service as Moderator.

A move and second was made and carried to give the

and

Mission Board authority to pay out of the Mission Board treasure any expense it deems necessary while helping Cool-spring Church.

A move and second was made and carried to extend Pilgrim Home Church and Community a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality during this second day of the 73rd Annual Session of the Martin Freewill Baptist Association.

A move and second was made and carried to adjourn and meet with Hebrew Church on Friday, Oct. 21st, 1960 and with New Salem Church on Saturday, Oct. 22nd, 1960.

Rev. L. D. Scott led the closing prayer.

Bro. T. A. Drake, Moderator

Bro. Willis L. Heard, Clerk.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Change or Ammendment Committee

We your Committee on "Change or Ammendment" of the second and seventh articles of the Associational Constitution, resolve the following change or ammendment;

Article No. 2—The Association when assembled. shall be composed of all Ministers of the Association, both Ordained and Licentiates, all Standing Board members and the delegates chosen by the several Churches from time to time for that purpose.

Article No. 7—The Association shall have a Mssion Board, a Promotional Board and a Superannuation Board. These shall be known as, "Standing Boards". There shall also be an Ordaining Council and an Investigating Committee, and any other Committee the the Body shall deem necessary. All Board and Committee members shall be appointed annually by the Moderator of elected by the Body. The Chairman of each of the Standing Boards together with the Moderator and Sect. & Treas. shall compose the Executive Committee.

Respectfully Submitted

Rev. H. L. Catrett, Chairman

Rev. Edward Sheffield

Rev. Paul Long

OBITUARIES COMMITTEE

We regret very much to learn that 11 members of our Association have been claimed by death in the last year. They are as follows:

New Salem Church:

Bro. Ralph Sheffield, Bro. Guy Long and Sister Frank Shepherd

Proctor Chapel Church:

Bro. E. O. Palmer

Highway Church:

Bro. Perry Mills

Hebrew Church:

Sister W. J. Horn

New Home No. 1 Church:

Sister Lizzie Daniels

Thompson Church:

Sister Annie Jordan

Mothers Home Church:

Sister Zula Mae Lunsford and Sister Eula Musgrove

Respectfully Submitted

Corinth Church and Pastor

SPECIAL OBITUARIES REPORT

From Mothers Home Church and Bible Circle

Mothers Home Bible Circle and Church was saddened this past year by the passing of two of the older members of their Church and Bible Circle, Sister Zula Mae Lunsford and Sister Eula Musgrove. They were both charter members of Mothers Home Church and faithful to God and Church until Jesus called them to rest. They will be missed by all the Church and community, but we are comforted in the thought that they have gone to be with Jesus.

Sister Lunsford died at her home in Boykin Monday morning, December 29th. Sister Lunsford was the former Miss Zula Mae Haywood, the daughter of the late James Henry and Mary Jean Haywood. She was the wife of the late Claude C. Lunsford.

Funeral services were held at Mothers Home Church, Dec. 30th. Rev. J. B. Ledlow and Rev. L. D. Scott officiated.

Survivors include three daughters, Mrs. A. W. Brewer of West Bainbridge, Ga.; Mrs. O. D. Gray and Mrs. A. W. Ford of Oakland, Fla.; six sons, Carroll, Ferris, Claude, Grndy, Fred and Ray Lunsford, all of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.; One brother, Spurgeon Haywood, one sister, Mrs. E. F. Lovering, both of Colquitt, Ga., and a large number of grandchildren.

and

Sister Eula Musgrove died Friday evening, March 20th, at her home in the Boykin community. Sister Murgrove was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Thornton and the wife of the late Michall B. Musgrove.

Her funeral was held at Mothers Home Church, with the Rev. Drew Floyd and the Rev. L. D. Scott officiating.

Survivors include two sons, Isaac and Paul Musgrove of Colquitt, Ga.; four daughters, Mrs. Willie Johnson of Dade City, Fla., Mrs. Peggy Bryan and Mrs. Russell Boatright of Jacksonville, Fla., Mrs. Mallie Spencer of Colquitt, Ga.; two sisters, Mrs. Connie Gordon of Damascus, Ga. and Mrs. Hook Heard of Quincy, Fla.; five brothers, Pete Thornton of Leesburg, Fla., Red, Bill, John and Rudolph Thornton, all of Colquitt, and several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

DISBURSEMENT COMMITTEE

We your committee on disbursements recommend the following:

Clerk	\$20.00
Moderator	10.00
State Association	20.00
National Association	5.00
Delegates expense to Nat. Assoc.	20.00
Retain in Treasure	50.00

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

State Secretary	20 pct.
Local Superinnuation Board	35 pct.
Local Promotional Board	22.5 pct.
Mission Board	22.5 pct.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee has not had any business during the past year. We want each Church to feel free to call on the Executive Committee any time we can be of any service at all. Regardless of how small the matter may seem we are always willing to help.

Respectflly Submitted
The Executive Committee

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

We urge that each member of our Church be temperate in all things. Wine and strong drink is a robber of wealth, health

and virtue. We should earnestly pray that all our Church members be temperate always.

Beverage alcohol must be brought under control. This enemy is a criminal turned loose in our American Society. He is a gangster and murderer taking lives by the thousands. Robbing our Nation of many times what he pays in taxes. Even worse he is corrupting men and women, destroying homes and damning souls by the hundreds of thousands. Why is it that sensible, upright people in America will continue to let so great an enemy run loose?

Respectfully submitted

New Home No. 1 Church and Pastor

The following Committees had no report: Sunday School, Resolutions, Suggestions, Ordaining Council and Investigating.

SUPERANNUATION BOARD REPORT

Money Received:

Balance from 1959	\$18.52
Janu. 14, Bro. Richard McNease	17.85
April 13, Bro. Richard McNease	15.75
June 17, Bro. Richard McNease	22.05
Sept. 14, Bro. Richard McNease	16.10
Oct. 17, Bro. W. L. Heard	35.52
Total Received	\$125.79

Money Paid Out:

Rev. A. B. Ard	\$31.00
Rev. Tom Henry	31.00
Sister Dave Braswell	31.00
State Superannuation	31.00
Balance in treasury	\$ 1.79

Respectfully Submitted

Sister J. J. Scott, Bro. Edgar Smith

Bro. C. T. Turner

MISSION BOARD TREASURY REPORT (1958-1959)

Assets:

Cash on Hand	\$147.73
Union Meeting Funds Nov. 29, 1958	6.75
Union Meeting Funds Mar. 28, 1959	7.65
Union Meeting Funds May 30, 1959	9.45
Union Meeting Funds Aug. 29, 1959	6.90
M. F. W. B. Assoc. Funds	22.84
Total Received	\$201.32

Disbursements:

NONE.

Balance in Treasury _____ \$201.32

Bro. O. F. Everson, Bro. J. T. Hilburn
Sister C. A. Lane, Secty. and Treas.

PROMOTIONAL BOARD

Cash on Hand _____ \$188.63

Received during 1959 _____ 43.99

Total in Treasure _____ \$232.62

Respectfully Submitted

Sister Mary Brown, Secty. & Treas.

Bro. Joe. B. Adams

Bro. W. R. Barber

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

We the Committee on nominations beg to submit the following:

For Moderator _____ Bro. Lee Roy Johnson

For Assistant Moderator _____ Bro. Louie Grimes

For Clerk _____ Bro. Willis L. Heard

For Assistant Clerk _____ Bro. Willie Hilburn

For Ordaining Council:

Rev. H. L. Catrett (3 years) _____ Colquitt, Ga.

For Mission Board:

Sister C. A. Lane, Secty. & Treas. (3 years) Iron City, Ga.

For Superannuation Board:

Bro. Edgar Smith (3 years) _____ Colquitt, Ga

For Investigating Committee:

Bro. Willie Lane (3 years) _____ Iron City, Ga.

For Promotional Board:

Bro. Herbert Boyd (3 years) _____ West Bainbridge, Ga.

We also recommend that the Association convene with Hebrew Church Friday, Oct. 21, 1960 and with New Salem Church on Saturday, Oct. 22nd, 1960.

We further recommend that Rev. F. W. Sellers bring the Introductory message at Hebrew Church on Friday, Oct. 21, 1960.

Respectfully Submitted

Bro. J. C. Riddlehoover

Bro. T. J. Heard

Sister Jack Burke

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

FRIDAY SESSION—OCTOBER 21, 1960

The program plans given below are proposed for the 74th annual Session of The Martin Freewill Baptist Association, to be held with Hebrew Church on Friday, October 21st, 1960, and with New Salem Church on Saturday, October 22nd, 1960.

Friday Morning, 10:00 A. M.—

Song Services conducted by Bro. C. A. Williams
Assembly of Body for Worship by Moderator
Devotional _____ Sister J. B. Lovering
Welcome Address _____ Bro. W. C. Atkinson
Response _____ Bro. Louie Grimes _____

10:30 A. M.—

Moderator's Message
Appointment of Credential Committee and Reading Clerk.
Call for corresponding Church letters composing this Body.

11:00 A. M.—

Message _____ Rev. Paul Long
Noon hour

Friday Afternoon, 1:30 P. M.—

Devotional _____ Bro J. C. Riddlehoover
Report of Credential Committee
Reading and adoption of letters and seating of delegates
Call for petitionary letters
Call for correspondents from other Associations
Report of State and National Associations
Report of Women's Auxiliary
Roll call of Ministers
Report of all Boards—Promotional, Superannuation, Ordination, Investigational, Executive
Appointment of delegates to various Associations
Appointment of Sessional Committee
Arrangements and adjournment

Friday night Services—

Devotional _____ Bro. Gene McNease
Message _____ Bro. Larry Powell

SATURDAY SESSION—OCTOBER 22nd, 1960

Saturday Morning, 9:30 A. M.—

Song service conducted by Bro. Ike Ard
Devotional _____ Bro. T. D. Carter
Welcome Address _____ Bro. Emmett Houston

and

Response — Sister Ed Avery
Renew call for Committee reports
Reading and adoption of first days minutes
Renew call for correnspondence and visitors

11:00 A. M. —

Message to be supplied
Noon hour

1:30 P. M. —

Devotional Bro. Ervin Williams
Renewal of call for Committee reports
Report of Nominating Committee
Report of Program Committee
Miscellaneous business
Election of officers
Report of treasure
Appointment of New Committees
Completion of all unfinished business
Adjournment

Respectfully submitted
Bro. J. R. McNease
Sister Edward Sheffield
Sister Mary Brown

MINUTES OF THE MARTIN F. W. B. UNION MEETING

UNION MEETING TREASURE REPORT

Money Received:

Union Meeting, New Home No. 2, Nov. 29th, 1958	\$55.00
Union Meeting at Thompson, March 29th, 1959	61.00
Union Meeting at New Evergreen, May 30th, 1959	73.00
Union Meeting at Mt. Glory, Aug. 29th, 1959	76.00
Total Received	\$255.00

Disbursements:

November 29, 1958:	
Rev. E. C. Morris	\$15.75
Sister J. J. Scott	15.75
Sister Carol Brown	6.75
Sister C. A. Lane	6.75
Moderator and Clerk fee	10.00
Total paid, Nov. 29th, 1958	\$55.00
March 29th, 1959:	
Rev. E. C. Morris	\$17.85
Sister J. J. Scott	\$17.85
Sister Carol Brown	7.65

Sister C. A. Lane	7.65
Moderator and Clerk fee	10.00
Total paid, March 29th, 1959	\$61.00

May 30th, 1959:

Rev. E. C. Morris	\$22.05
Sister J. J. Scott	22.05
Sister Carol Brown	9.45
Sister C. A. Lane	9.45
Moderator and Clerk fee	10.00
Total paid May 30th, 1959	\$73.00

August 29th, 1959:

Rev. E. C. Morris	\$16.10
Sister J. J. Scott	16.10
Sister Carol Brown	6.90
Sister C. A. Lane	6.90
Moderator and Clerk fee	10.00
State Association fee	10.00
Printing of Minutes	10.00
Total paid Aug. 29th, 1959	\$76.00

Grand Total Paid Out	\$255.00
Balance brought forward	\$000.00

Last Session the Moderator appointed Committees consisting of the following:

Nominating Committee:

Sister L. D. Scott, Chairman

Sister Ethel Newberry

Sister Gail Powell

Program Committee:

Sister Walter Atkinson, Chairman

Sister Tom Lane

Sister W. R. Barber

A special offering was taken for Rev. J. L. Tedder May 30th, 1959 amounting to \$26.21. August 29th, 1959 an offering of \$40.00 was taken for the building program at Mt. Glory Church.

Rev. Edward Sheffield --- Moderator

Bro. J. R. McNease --- Clerk

UNION MEETING NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Nominating Committee, recommend that we retain the same Moderator and Clerk for the next year.

We further recommend that the Union Meeting convene with the following Churches:

and

First Session	_____	Mother's Home Church
Second Session	_____	Cool Springs Church
Third Session	_____	Hebrew Church
Fourth Session	_____	Corinth Church

Respectfully submitted,
 Mrs. L. D. Scott, Chairman
 Ethel Newberry
 Gail Powell

UNION MEETING PROGRAM FOR 1959-1960

First Session: Mother's Home Church

Devotional	_____	Mrs. C. A. Lane
Welcome Address	_____	Mrs. Richard McNease
Response	_____	Mrs. Emmett Houston
Business		
11 O'clock Message	_____	Rev. J. J. Scott
Lunch		
Afternoon Devotional	_____	Mrs. Linda Floyd
Talk	_____	Mr. Louie Grimes
Adjourn		

Second Session: Cool Springs

Devotional	_____	Rev. Chester Gilbert
Welcome Address	_____	Dee Brown
Response	_____	Miss Ethel Newberry
Business		
11 O'clock Message	_____	Rev. Edward Sheffield
Lunch		
Afternoon Devotional	_____	Mrs. L. D. Scott
Talk	_____	Rev. Jack Horn
Adjourn		

Third Session: Hebrew

Devotional	_____	Mrs. Edd Hill
Welcome Address	_____	Mrs. Earl Barber
Response	_____	Mrs. Willie Lane
Business		
11 O'clock Message	_____	Rev. Drew Floyd
Lunch		
Afternoon Devotional	_____	Rev. H. L. Catreet
Talk	_____	Mr. Ridlehoover
Adjourn		

Fourth Session: Corinth

Devotional	_____	Mrs. E. D. Avery
Welcome Address	_____	Mr. J. J. Turvin
Response	_____	Mrs. Roy Barber

Business
 11 O'clock Message Rev. L. D. Scott
 Lunch
 Afternoon Devotional W. R. Barber
 Talk Larry Powell
 Adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,
 The Program Committee
 Mrs. Walter Atkinson, Chairman
 Mrs. Tom Lane
 Mrs. W. R. Barber

MINISTERS CONFERENCE

Session 1

The Ministers Conference will be held on Friday night before the fifth Sunday in November at Mothers Home Church.

Devotional Bro. Odis McVay
 Welcome Address Bro. Joe Brown Adams
 Response Lennis Lovering
 Business
 Message Rev. Ervin Williams
 Refreshments

Session 2

The Ministers Conference will be held on Friday night before the fifth Sunday in January at Cool Springs Church

Devotional Bro. Deen Brown
 Welcome Address Bro. Albert Blount
 Response Bro. C. M. Smith
 Business
 Message Rev. Jack Horn
 Refreshments

Session 3

The Ministers Conference will be held on Friday night before the fifth Sunday in May at Hebrew Church.

Devotional Bro. Lee Roy Johnson
 Welcome Address Bro. Jessie Riddlehoover
 Response Bro. Howard Roberts
 Business
 Message Rev. Ike Musgrove
 Refreshments

Session 4

The Ministers Conference will be held on Friday night before the fifth Sunday in July at Corinth Church.

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Devotional	Bro. Taylor Drake
Welcome Address	Bro. Jack Burke
Response	Bro. C. T. Turner
Business	
Message	Rev. L. D. Scott
Refreshments	

Refreshment Committee: Bro. C. A. Gilbert, Bro. Howard Roberts.

Program Committee: Rev. J. J. Scott, Brinson, Ga., and Bro. Emmett Houston, Colquitt, Ga.

Clerk	Bro. Edgar Smith, Colquitt, Ga.
Moderator	Rev. L. D. Scott, Brinson, Ga.

CONSTITUTION ON 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 the Martin Associaton.

6. The Clerk shall be paid \$5.00 per annum for preserving and editing the minutes of the Conference.

7. The Ministers 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 Ministers 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.

LEAGUE RALLY REPORT

The Free Will Baptist League Rally met at Colquitt Free Will Baptist Church on August 30, 1959. The meeting was opened with a song and prayer by Bro. John Bailey. The morning devotional was given by Doris Roberts, followed with prayer by Rev. Drew Floyd. Bro. Abbie Calhoun gave a warm welcome and the response was given by Mrs. Richard McNease.

The minutes were read and approved. There were six churches represented. They were New Home, Mother's Home, Bellview, Thompson, Salem and Colquitt. There were only three preachers present. Officers were elected as follows:

President	Louie Grimes
Vice-President	Gene McNease
Recording Secretary	Mrs. Alma Jean Grimes
Corresponding Secretary	Doris Roberts
Sword Drill Leader	Mrs. Richard McNease
Chorister	Mrs. Carolyn Hornsby
Pianist	Glenda Wells
Field Workers	Mr. John Bailey, Mr. Pete Davis, Mr. Emmett Houston
Program Committee	Mrs. Ray Hornsby, Mrs. Inez Powell, Mrs. W. T. Cooper
Nominating Committee	Mrs. Abbie Calhoun, Mrs. Fritz Scarborough, Miss Yvonne Roberts
Constitutional Committee	Mr. Clifton Powell, Mr. W. T. Cooper, Mr. Buddy Tully

Rev. Larry Powell gave a most enjoyable talk. Then we were dismissed for lunch.

AFTERNOON

After the lunch hour, we opened with a song and prayer by Mr. Pete Davis.

The afternoon devotional was given by Louie Grimes.

The convention decided to buy six new Bibles to use in the Sword Drill.

Delegates were appointed to the State League Rally. They were as follows: Mrs. Richard McNease and Gene, Mr. Frank Newberry and Becky, Mrs. W. T. Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. Buddy Tully and Mr. and Mrs. Louie Grimes.

Bro. Floyd gave away a lamp which he made to Peggy Hines.

A rising vote of thanks was extended to Colquitt Church for its fine hospitality shown during the day.

and

Program For the League Rally at Thompson

Morning Devotional _____ Glenda Wells
Welcome Address _____ Mrs. Betty Wilson
Response _____ Mrs. Zack Calhoun
Business Period
Morning Talk _____ Bro. Idus Goocher
Noon
Afternoon Devotional _____ Gene McNease

Program for League Rally at River Turn

Morning Devotional _____ Charles Grimes
Welcome Address _____ Mrs. Eddie Lynn
Response _____ Mrs. Alma Houston
Business Period
Morning Talk _____ Bro. Ervin Williams
Noon
Afternoon Devotional _____ Shelby Williams

PROGRAM OF SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

Nov. 29, 1959 : Mothers Home Church

10:30 A.M. Devotional _____ Bro. Louie Grimes
Welcome Address _____ Mrs. John Bailey
Response _____ Mrs. W. E. Lane
Business
11 O'clock Message _____ Rev. J. J. Scott
Noon
Afternoon Devotions _____ Bro. Herbert Boyd
Programs
Adjournment

May 29, 1960 : Hebrew Church

10:30 A.M. Devotions _____ Bro. Pete Davis
Welcome Address _____ Mrs. LeRoy Johnson
Response _____ Rev. Isaac Musgrove
Business
11 O'clock Message _____ Rev. J. B. Lovering
Noon
Afternoon Devotions _____ Bro. Richard McNease
Programs
Adjournment

October 30, 1960 : New Salem Church

10:30 A.M. Devotions _____ Rev. Irvin Williams
Welcome Address _____ Miss Glenda Wells
Response _____ Mrs. Abbe Calhoun
Business

11 O'clock Message Rev. H. L. Catrett
 Noon.
 Afternoon Devotions Bro. T. D. Carter
 Programs
 Elect Officers
 Adjournment
 President Mr. Emmett Houston
 Vice-President Mr. Henry Mae Bellflower
 Recording Secretary Mrs. Herbert Boyd
 Corresponding Secretary Mrs. Edward Sheffield

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 defense or excuse.

4. That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace through the meditation 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

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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 Scripture 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 of Christian Sabbath; that it should be kept sacred to religious purposes by abstaining from all secular labor and recreation by the direct observ-

ance 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 judgement 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 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 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.

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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 member 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.

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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 acknowledgement shall be minuted in the church book.

20. Members dismissed from the church by letter who become 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 being 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 New Testaments were given by the inspiration of God, and are binding on all as our 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 of 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.

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10. **PRESERVANCE.** 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 improvements.

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 baptised believers in Christ.

3. That the visible church is the aggregate or whole number of Gospel churches, and that the invisible church is composed of the redeemed now in Heaven; and 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 subservive to the churches and dangerous to the liberties of men.

5. That the Gospel churches are the 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, from 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 purposes 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 supper 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 worshipping God

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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, all standing board members and the delegates 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 fraction 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 any way 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 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. The Association shall have a mission board, a promotional board and a superannuation board. These shall be known as "Standing Boards." There shall also be an ordaining council and an investigating committee, and any other committee the body shall deem necessary. All board and committee members shall be appointed annually by the moderator or elected by the body. The chairman of each of the standing boards together with the moderator and secretary & treasurer shall compose the executive committee.

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 broth-

erly 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 warm, 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, honors, 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. Mem.	Ass'n Fee	Unified Program	Gave Pastor	Value of Church Property	Sunday School	F. W. B. L.	Ladies Aux.	Prayer Meeting
Colquitt	Edward Sheffield	Miss. Vertie Weaver	Colquitt, Ga.	Full	1	3	1	0	0	1	16	16.00	21.24	112.85	6,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Mothers Home	L. D. Scott	J.R. McNease	Colquitt, Ga.	24	0	2	2	0	0	2	11	29.25	61.53	433.11	3,000	Yes	Yes	No	
Bellview	J.B. Lovering	C. C. Brown	Colquitt, Ga.	24	9	2	0	0	0	0	17	44.00	37.90	102.23	10,145	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Corinth	Coy Watson	Mrs. C.A. Lane	Iron, City, Ga.	24	2	0	1	0	0	0	88	22.00	47.45	362.42	5,000	Yes	Yes	No	No
New Salem	J.B. Lovering	I.J. Goocher	Colquitt, Ga.	19	10	3	2	0	0	0	192	48.00	133.39	136.45	6,000	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Mt. Gilead	H.L. Catrett	Herbert Boyd	West Ga. Bainbridg	Full	0	2	1	0	0	0	44	11.00	72.64	156.20	8,000	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
High Way	C.A. Gilbert	Mrs. L.D. Scott	Brinson, Ga.	24	0	0	1	1	0	1	41	10.25	39.00	229.49	4,500	Yes	No	No	Yes
Springfield	Isac Musgrove	Jessie Reagan	Donalsonville, Ga.	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	5.00	0	85.10	1250	No	No	No	No
Hebrew	J.J. Scott	W.C. Atkinson	Donalsonville, Ga.	3	3	1	1	0	0	1	42	10.50	0	207.70	4,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Polar Branch	Eugene Dean	E.E. McAlpine	Greensboro, Fla.	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	5.00	0	0		No	No	No	No
New Home # 2	C.A. Gilbert	O'neal Cumbie	Climax, Ga.	13	6	0	1	0	0	0	95	23.75	0	157.65	3,000	Yes	No	No	Yes
New Home # 1	J.J. Scott	W.E. Lane	Iron City, Ga.	24	1	0	0	0	0	1	122	30.50	9.00	381.1	6,500	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Pilgrim Home	H.L. Roberts	Virginia Matthews	Newton, Ga.	13	0	2	3	0	0	0	31	9.25	0	763.50	8,000	No	No	No	No
New Evergreen	F.W. Sellers	Lois Barnett	Elmodel, Ga.	13	0	0	3	0	0	0	12	3.00	0	175.00	5,000	No	No	No	No
Riverturn	J.L. Batchelor	Mrs. Eddie Lynn	Donalsonville, Ga.	13	1	3	0	0	0	0	29	10.00	0	202.88	9,000	Yes	No	No	Yes
Thompson	Drew Floyd	G.R. Grimes	Colquitt, Ga.	13	0	1	3	0	0	1	91	24.25	54.52	600.04	6,000	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Proctor Chapel	L.W. Baldwin	Frank Cain	Pellham, Ga.	Full	0	3	0	0	0	1	38	9.50	0	290.00	5,000	Yes	No	No	Yes
Mt. Glory	F.W. Sellers	S.E. Newberry	Quincy, Fla.	24	0	1	0	0	0	0	38		0	327.78	5,000	Yes	No	No	

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