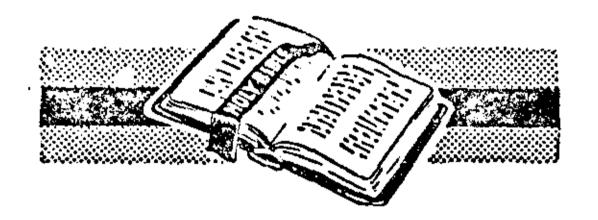


OF THE

74th ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

MARTIN FREEWILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION



WHICH CONVENED WITH

HEBREW CHURCH, Donalsonville, Ga. on October 21st, 1960 AND

NEW SALEM CHURCH, Colquitt, Ga. on October 22nd, 1960

OFFICERS

Lee Roy Johnson,	Moderator	Donalsonville,	Ga.
Frank Newberry,	Secty. & Treas.	Colquitt,	Ga.
•	Executive Committee		
Lee Roy Johnson	(Chairman)	Donalsonville,	Ga.
Frank Newberry		Colquitt,	Ga.
	······································	·	
		•	Ga.
			

The Next Session to convene with New Home No 2 Church on October 20th, 1961 and with New Home No 1 Church on October 21st, 1961.

INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE
Bro. E. L. Houston (3 years) Colquitt, Ga.
Bro. Willie Lane (2 years) Iron City, Ga.
Bro. Z. T. Calhoun (1 year) Colquitt, Ga.
ORDAINING COUNCIL
Rev. H. L. Catrett, Chairman (2 years) Colquitt, Ga.
Rev W H Horn (3 year) Donalsonville Ga
Rev. L. D. Scott (1 year) Brinson, Ga.
Rev. A. B. Ard (Emeritus) Bainbridge, Ga.
STANDING BOARDS
Mission Board
Sister C. A. Lane, Secty. & Treas. (2 years) Iron City, Ga.
Bro. J. R. McNease (3 years) Bro. J. T. Hilburn (1 year) Newton, Ga.
Promotional Board
Sister W. T. Cooper, Secty. & Treas. (3 years).
Bro. Herbert Boyd (2 years) West Bainbridge, Ga.
Bro. W. R. Barber (1 year) Chairman Colquitt, Ga.
Superannuation Board
Sister J. J. Scott, Secty. & Treas. (3 years) Brinson, Ga.
Bro. Edgar Smith (2 years) Chairman Colquitt, Ga.
Bro. C. T. Turner (1 year) Brinson, Ga.
State Promotional Secretary & Treasurer
Rev. E. C. Morris P. O. Box 553, Tifton, Ga.
1011 11 01 11011 10 111111111111111111

PROCEEDINGS FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

The 74th annual session of the Martin Freewill Baptist Association convened with Hebrew Church, Donalsonville, Ga. at ten o'clock on Friday morning, October 21, 1960.

The Session opened with a song service led by Rev. H. L. Catrett and prayer by Rev. J. J. Scott.

Sister Drew Floyd gave the Devotional, reading the first chapter of Second Thessalonians.

Sister Bessie Barber gave the welcome address and Rev. B. W. Clenny gave the response.

At 10:30 A. M. the Moderator gave his message taken from Second Corinthians using the 8th verse of the fourth chapter as his text. The message was followed with prayer by Rev. L. D. Scott.

Next the Credential Committee was appointed which consisted of Bro. W. R. Barber, Bro. R. T. Middleton, and Bro. R. L. Boyd.

Sister Lucille Lane and Sister Roy Barber were appointed as reading clerks.

Rev. Tom Henry preached the eleven o'clock sermon, using "The Vision of Dry Bones" as his subject, taken from the 37th chapter of Ezekial.

Rev. I. O. Cook dismissed the Body for the noon hour.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The Friday afternoon Session opened at one o'clock with a song service led by Rev. H. L. Catrett and prayer by Rev. J. E. Wood.

The Credential Committee made a partial report and reported 14 Churches represented with a total of \$299.75. A move and second was made and carried to accept this partial report as read.

Sister Lucille Lane and Sister Roy Barber read the church letters. Churches and Delegates which were read are as follows:

Bellview Church:

Sister Edward Kimbrel, Sister W. O. Brunson, Sister Bill Mason, Sister Jordon Mason, Bro. John A. English, and Bro. and Sister T. D. Carter.

New Salem Church:

Bro. Douglas Worsley, Bro. Frank Newberry, Sister B. D. Wells, Sister Alma Houston, Sister C. A. Gilbert, and Sister Eva Middleton.

New Home No. 2 Church:

Bro. and Sister Wiley Brock, Bro. and Sister Clarence Sadler, Bro. and Sister Jeff Sadler, and Bro. Claude Newsome.

Riverturn Church:

Bro. and Sister Luther McCalvin and Bro. Eddie Lynn.

Thompson Church:

Bro. James Mott, Bro. and Sister Johnny Wilson and Bro. and Sister G. R. Grimes.

New Home No 1 Church:

Bro. R. T. Middleton, Sister Dixie Roberts, Sister Tom

McLendon, Sister Sue Middleton and Jan Middleton.

Colquitt Church

Sister W. T. Cooper and Sister Ella Lovering.

Polar Branch Church:

Bro. and Sister W. H. McAlpin and Bro. and Sister Ozzie Morris.

Corinth Church:

Bro. T. A. Drake, Bro. and Sister Jack Burke, Sister Tom Lane and Sister C. A. Lane.

Mt. Gilead Church:

Bro. Robert Boyd, Bro. Fred Kelly and Sister Louise Barwick.

Highway Church:

Bro. and Sister Roy Barber and Bro. C. T. Turner.

Springfield Church:

Sister J. H. Dykes, Sister Annie Mae Shefffield, Sister C. B. Reese and Sister Gatsy Sheffield.

Mothers Home Church:

Bro. and Sister John Bailey, Bro. and Sister Odis Mc-Vey, and Bro. and Sister J. R. McNease.

Hebrew Church:

Bro. Wade Croom, Bro Marvette Alday, Bro. and Sister Walter Atkinson.

Following is a letter from Colquitt Church which was submitted with their Associational letter:
Bro. and Sister Delegates:

We, the Colquitt Freewill Baptist Church, do hereby find that since our Sister Associations changed their Pastors at an earlier date than we, it sometimes cause hardships on our Martin Association Churches, by the loss of Pastors before the Association year expires. We the Colquitt Freewill Baptist Church pray that you might deem it necessary to change our Pastor expiration date to September 1st, instead of the latter part of October. We believe that this change would be beneficial to moving Pastors who have children in school. Trusting you will give this your prayerful attention.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Colquitt Freewill Baptist
Church and Pastor

A move and second was made and carried that these letters be received as read and delegates be seated with the Body, also the suggestion made in the letter from Colquitt Church be adopted.

Call was made for petitionary letters. None received.

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

Midway Association _____ Rev. and Sister J. L. Tedder. Salem Association _____ Rev. and Sister I. O. Cook. State Association _____ Rev. and Sister E. C. Morris

A move and second was made and carried to seat these visitors with the Body and the Moderator extended them the right hand of Christian fellowship.

Call was made for report of State and National Associations. Rev. E. C. Morris reported for both State and National Associations.

Called for report of Ladies Auxiliary; None received.

Roll Call of Ministers 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	
Rev. C. A. Gilbert	
Rev. B. W. Clenney	Rt. 3 Colquitt. Ga.
Rev. F. W. Sellers	Rt. 3. Bainbridge Ga.
Rev. R. W. Holems	Rt. 2, Box 795 Albany, Ga.
Rev. Edward Sheffield	Rt. 3. Donalsonville. Ga.
Rev. Willie Sellers	Rt. 1, Camilla, Ga.
Rev. J. J. Scott	
Rev. J. E. Wood	Colquitt Ga
Rev. Lary Powell	Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. Irvin Williams	Colquitt, Ga.

LICENSED MINISTERS

Rev.	Isaac	Musgrove	Rt. 2,	Colquitt,	Ga.
Rev.	G. W.	West	 Rt.	1, Cairo,	Ga.

Sister Della McAlpin	Sneads.	Fla.
	Pelham,	

Called for report of all Boards and Committees. Reports were received as given below.

Temperance Report:

We, your Committee on temperance, beg to submit the following: We think our Churches should be temperant in all things. The word temperance means self control, does not only apply to strong drink but in all things just as the Bible teaches. We may not indulge in strong drinks and yet we may speak or act in a way that may prove us intemperate.

Respectfully Submitted
Mt. Gilead Church and Pastor

Mission Board Treasure Report 1959 & 1960

As	se	ts	•
			_

Cash on Hand	\$201.32
Union Meeting Funds	9.00
Union Meeting Funds Jan. 30, 1960	9.00
Union Meeting Funds May 28, 1960	
Union Meeting Funds Aug. 23, 1960	
	26.15
Total	\$264.97

Disbursements:

Rev. Eugene Irvin (Service at Cool Springs) \$7.	50
Rev. Eugene Irvin (Service at Cool Springs)7.	50
Total Disbursements\$15.	

Balance in Treasure _____\$249.97

Respectfully Submitted Bro. O. F. Everson, Chairman Bro. J. T. Hilburn

Sister C. O. Lane, Secty. & Treas.

Report of the Ordaining Council

We have ordained two Ministers, Rev. Larry Powell of Thompson Church on Oct. 1, 1960, and Rev. Irvin Williams of Thompson Church on Nov. 28, 1959. We recommend that their names be placed on the roll of Ordained Ministers.

Prayerfully Submitted

Rev. H. L. Catrett, Chairman

Rev. L. D. Scott

The Program Committee appointed Sister Ed Hill to bring the Friday Evening Devotional and Rev. J. E. Wood to bring the Friday Evening Message due to the absences of Bro. Gene McNease and Rev. Larry Powell. They also appointed Rev. B. W. Clenney to bring the eleven o'clock message Saturday morning.

The following Committees were appointed:

Disbursement Committee:

Rev. H. L. Catrett, Bro. Herbert Boyd, Sister Bessie Barber.

Nominating Committee:

Rev. Edward Sheffield, Rev. L. D. Scott, Bro, W. C. Atkinson.

Program Committee.

Sister Drew Floyd, Rev. B. W. Clemny, Bro. J. R. Mc-Nease.

A move and second was made and carried to extend Hebrew 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 New Salem Church on Saturday morning, Oct. 22, 1960 at 9:30 a. m.

Rev. B. W. Clenney led the closing prayer.

Bro. Lee Roy Johnson, Moderator Bro. Willis L. Heard, Clerk

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The Saturday Morning Session of the Martin Freewill Raptist Association met at New Salem Church on Oct. 22, 1960.

The Session opened at 9:45 a.m. with a song service led by Bro. Ike Ard and prayer by Rev. C. A. Gilbert.

Sister T. Cleveland gave the Devotional and talked on the coming of the Lord.

The welcome address was given by Bro. Emmett Houston, and the response was given by Sister Sadler.

Renewed call for reports of all Boards and Committees.
The Promotional Board reported with a balance of \$303.16 in treasure.

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

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

Midway Association: Rev. J. B. Lovering, Sister Robert Pyle, Rev. T. B. Melette.

Salem Association: ______ Rev. W. S. Driggers

Move and second was made and carried for the Moderator to extend these visitors the right hand of Christian Felloship. This the Moderator did.

Rev. E. C. Morris gave a report on the State Promotioonal Program and The Bible College. An offering was taken for The Bible College and \$40.35 was donated.

The Credential Committee made a final report and report three more Churches representing with fees of \$28.00. Sister Lucille Lane read these letters. Churches and Delegates which were read are as follows:

Proctor Chapel Church ... Sister E. O. Palmer, Bro. and Sister J. C. Newsome.

Mt. Glory Church Bro. and Sister David Brock and Bro. Jimmy Taylor

Pilgrim Home Church Bro. and Sister Guy Touchtone and Bro. and Sister W. J. Hilburn

This makes a total of 17 Churches represented with fees totaling \$327.75. A move and second was made and carried to accept this report as read and seat the delegates with the Body. The Credential Committee was relieved.

Rev. B. W. Clenney preached the eleven o'clock sermon. Reading verses 2 through 10 of the first chapter of Haggai, using part of the fifth verse, "Consider your Ways," as a subject.

Rev. Willie Sellers 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 Bro. Ike Ard and prayer by Rev. H. L. Catrett.

Rev. T. B. Melette gave the Devotional reading from the 23rd chapter of St. Luke.

Renewed call for reports of Boards and Committees. The following was received.

OBITUARIES COMMITTEE REPORT

We regret very much to learn that 19 members of our Association have been claimed by death in the last year. They are as follows:

Bellview Church:

Sister Berta Addison, Sister Minnie Sheffield, Sister Ella Phillips, Sister Emma Kenny, Sister Georgia Lane, and Sister Betty Cleveland.

New Salem Church:

Bro. D. J. Roland, and Sister Jim McCorkle.

New Home No. 1 Church: Sister Lula Weaver.

Proctor Chapel Church:
Bro. L. A. Howell.

Thompson Church:

Sister Annie Jordon.

Corinth Church:

Sister T. A. Drake.

Pilgrim Home Church:

Sister H. L. Catrett.

Hebrew Church:

Sister J. C. Riddlehoover. Sister Ben Barber, Bro. Jessie L. Owens.

New Home No. 2 Church:

Bro. Johnnie Avery, Bro. Johnnie Sadler, Bro. Edward Newsome.

Highway Church:

Bro. W. M. Scott.

Colquitt Church:

Sister Lena Williams, Bro. Connie Toole.

Respectfully Submitted Hebrew Church and Pasto

A move and second was made and carried to print a special obituaries report for Pilgrim Home Church in the Associational Minutes.

Special Obituaries Report

The members of Pilgrim Home Freewill Baptist Church mourned the passing of Sister Nettie Sheffield Catrett on Dec. 2, 1959. She was a faithful wife, mother and church member. So many times she visited her church when we knew she was not physically able to attend. Although it is our loss and Heavens gain we still miss her.

Funeral services were held at Pilgrim Home Church with Rev. Nichols and Rev. Shutes officiating.

She is survived by her husband Rev. H. L. Catrett, of Colquitt, Ga., and three children. Her children are Mrs. Carey Williams, Colquitt, Ga., Mr. William H. Catrett, Jacksonville, Fla., and Mr. Eugene Catrett, Columbus, Ga. She also had a number of grandchildren.

Her parents were the late Will Sheffield and Mary Cook Sheffield.

Respectfully Submitted Pilgrim Home Church

SABBATH OBSERVANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We urge every Christian to attend Church on the Sabbath that they might keep it Holy.

We believe the only way to correctly keep the Sabbath Holy is to refrain from all labor, sports and any worldly amusements.

The mind is the ruling power of the body, therefore we must keep it centered on Holy things and things pertaining to the Holy Spirit.

Respectfully Submitted New Salem Church and Pastor

Sabbath Observance

We know of no better way of observing the Sabbath of the Lords Day than by observing it with and for the Lord, attend Church and Sunday School or some religious service each and every Sunday. Try to get others to attend, you may keep them out of trouble or accident or even lead them to the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This is the Lords, give it to Him.

Respectfully Submitted
Bellview Church and Pastor

SUGGESTION COMMITTEE REPORTS

We the Committee on Sdggestions, suggest that we carry out the suggestions that we already have in the minutes and refrain from making duplicate suggestions, but we do suggest that we use blank forms (Associational Letter) that the Association furnishes each Church.

Respectfully Submitted
Thompson Church & Pastor

SUPERANNUATION BOARD REPORT 1959 & 1960

Balance in Treasure	\$1.79
Money Received:	\$ • .
Dec. 14, Richard McNease	21.00
Feb. 15, Richard McNease	21.00
June 20, Richard McNease	24.50
Aug. 16, Richard McNease	21.00
Oca 10, Willis Heard	40.67
Total	\$129.96
Money Paid Out:	
Rev. A. B. Ard	\$32.00
Rev. Tom Henry	_ 32.00
Rev. Tom HenrySister Dave Braswell	_ 32.00
Bro. J. W. Clower (State Superannuation Board)	_ 32.00
Total Balance in Treasure	f128.00
Balance in Treasure	\$1.96
Respectfully Submitted	·
Bro. Edgar Smith (Chairman)	
Bro. Edgar Smith (Chairman) Bro. C. T. Turner	· .
Sister J. J. Scott, Secty. & Treas	3.

DISBURSEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

We your Committee on disbursements recommend the following:

Clerk	\$20.00
Moderator	10.00
State Association	20.00
National Association	5.00
Retain in Treasure	50.00/

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

State Unified Program	20	percent
Local Superannuation Board	_ 35	percent
Local Promotional Board		
Mission Board	22.5	percent

Respectfully Submitted Rev. H. L. Catrett Bro. Herbert Boyd Sister Bessie Barber

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. Frank Newberry
For Assistant Clerk _____ Bro. Willie Hilburn
For Ordaining Council (3 years) ____ Rev. W. H. Horn
For Investigating Committee 3 yrs Bro. E. L. Houston
For Mission Board (3 years) ___ Brs. J. R. McNease
For Promotional Board (3 years) ___ Sister W. T. Cooper
For Superannuation Board (3 years) Sister J. J. Scott
State Promotional Secty & Treas ____ Rev. E. C. Morris
P. O. Box 553, Tifton, Ga.

We also recommend that the Association convene with New Home No. 2 Church Friday, October 20th, 1961 and with New Home No 1 Church on Saturday, October 21st, 1961.

Respectfully Submitted

Bro. W. C. Atkinson

Rev. L. D. Scott

Rev. Edward Sheffield

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

The program plans given below are proposed for the 75th annual Session of The Martin Freewill Baptist Association to be held with New Home No. 2 Church on Friday, October 20th, 1961 and with New Home No. 1 Church on Saturday, October 21st, 1961.

Song, Prayer service conducted by Rev. H. L. Catrett
Assembly of Body for Worship by Moderator
Devotional _______ Rev. C. A. Gilbert
Welcome Address ______ Sister Eddie Avery

•	Appointment of Credential Committee and Reading Call for corresponding church letters composing this
Clerks	Morning, 10:00 A. M.— call for corresponding church letters composing this 11 o'clock Message Rev. Edward Sheffield con hour
	Devotional Rev. L. D. Scott Report of Credential Committee Reading and adoption of letters and seating of delegates Call for petitionary letters Call for correspondence from other Associations Report of State and National Associations Roll call of Ministers Report of all Boards and Committees Appointment of Sessional Committees Arrangements and adjournment
•	Night Service— Devotional Rev. Irvin Williams Testimonial Serice led by Rev. Drew Floyd Message Rev. W. S. Driggers
	SATURDAY SESSION—OCTOBER 21st 1961 At New Home No. 1 Church ay Morning, 9:30 a. m.— Song Service conducted by Bro. Ike Ard Devotional Rev. H. L. Catrett Welcome Address Rev. B. W. Clenney Response Sister Alma Houston Renew call for reports of Boards and Committees Reading and adoptions of first days Minutes Reliew call for correspondents
	A. M.— Message to be supplied Noon hour

1:30 P. M. —

Saturday Afternoon:

Devotional ______ Rev. Tom Henry
Renewal of call for Committee reports
Miscellaneous business
Appointment of new Committees
Completion of all unfinished business
Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted Sister Drew Floyd Rev. B. W. Clenney Bro. Emmett Houston

TREASURE REPORT

Cash on hand

\$67.50

Assets	•
4400000	٠

Received from Association	321.25
Received from Union Meeting	10.00
Received from Ministers Conference	
Received from Sunday School Convention	
Received from League Ralley	
Total	•
Disbursements:	•
Moderator	\$10.00
Clerk	20.00
State Association	
Minutes	
State Secretary	
Superanguation Board	
Promotional Board	
Mission Board	
Total	
Balance in Treasure	·
Delegates appointed to various Associations follows:	are as
Little River Association Rev. H. L. Midway Association Rev. Drew Floyd, an Willie	id Bro.
Union Association Rev. C. A. Gilbert, Rev. J. Salem Association Bro. Willistate Line Association	J. Scott ie Lane
State Association Bro. W. R. Barber, Bro. W.	THINUIII
13.	

Chattahoochee Association ____ Rev. Edward Sheffield Georgia Union Association

Churches appointed on various committees are as follows: Colouitt Church Sunday School Mothers Home Church _____ Resolutions Corinth Church Obituaries Highway Church Suggestions New Home No 2 Church _____ Temperance Proctor Chapel Church _____ Sabbath Observance

A move and second was made and carried to extend New Salem Church and Community a rising vote of thanks for thei rhospitality during the second day of this 74th Annual Session of the Martin Freewill Baptist Association.

A move and second was made and carried to adjourn meet with New Home No 2 Church on Friday, October 20th, 1961 and with New Home No 1 Church on October 21st, 1961.

The Session was closed with a song and everyone partaking in a hand shaking service.

> Bro. Lee Roy Johnson, Moderator Bro. Willis L. Heard, Clerk

MINUTES OF THE MARTIN FREEWILL BAPTIST UNION MEETING

Treasure Report	· -
Union Meetings:	
Mothers Home Church, Nov. 28, 1959	\$70.00
Cool Springs Church, Jan. 30th, 1960	70.00
Hebrew Church, May 28, 1960	80.00
Cool Springs Church, Jan. 30th, 1960 Hebrew Church, May 28, 1960 Corinth Church, July 30, 1960 Total	80.00
Total	\$300.00
Disbursements Nov. 28, 1959	
Rev. E. C. Morris	\$21.00
Sister J. J. Scott	21.00
Sister Carrol Brown	9.00
Sister C. A. Lane	9.00
Moderator and Clerk fee	10.00
Total paid Nov. 28, 1959	\$70.00
Disbursements January 30,1960	
Rev. E. C. Morris	\$21.00
Sister J. J .Scott	21.00
14.	

Sister Carrol Brown	9.00
Sister C. A. Lane	
Moderator and Clerk fee	10.00
Total paid Jan. 30, 1960 \$	370.00
Disbursements, May 28, 1960	
	24.50
Sister J. J. Scott	24.50
Sister Carrol Brown	10.50
Sister C. A. Lane	
Moderator & Clerk fee	
Total paid May 8, 1960\$	
Disbursement, July 30, 1960	
Rev. E. C. Morris	21.00
Sister J. J. Scott	21.00
Sister Carrol Brown	
Sister C. A. Lane	
Moderator & Clerk fee	
Printing of Minutes	
Grand total paid out\$3	
Balance brought forward\$0	00.00
Special offerings taken	
Unified Program, Nov. 28, 1959	21 81
Rev. H. L. Catrett, Nov. 28, 1959	62.45
Rev. Roy Roberts, Sister Lucille Stewart and	
Sister O. F. Everson, May 28, 1960	31.22
Rev. Tom Henry, July 30, 1960	
166v. 10111 dicitiy, buly bo, 1000	
Rev. Irvin Williams was ordained, Nov. 28, 1959.	
A move and second was made and carried that Churches use the letter forms adopted by the Union Metor reports.	t the eting
The Moderator appointed the following Committee	es:
Nominating Committee	
Bro. G. R. Grimes	
Bro. J. C. Riddlehoover	
Sister Norma Jane Brock	
Program Committee	
Due 7 Th Colhoun	
Sigton Dota Davig	
Sister Pete Davis	
Sister Roy Barber	

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Nominating Committee, nominate Bro. Willie Lane, Moderator, and Bro. Emmett Houston, Clerk.

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

First Session	New Salem Church
Second Session	Highway Church
Third Session	
Fourth Sesson	Mt. Glory Church

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

First Session: New Salem Church	
Devotional	Sister Arlana McKenny
Welcome Address	
Response	
Business	DISUCT II. IV. NOUU
11 O'clock Message	Rev. J. E. Woods
Tunch	
Afternoon Devotional Talk	Sister J. R. McNease Rev. Paul Long
Adjourn	
Second Session: Highway Church	
Devotional	Bro. Thomas Scott
Welcome Address	Sister J. J. Scott
Response	Sister Herbert Boyd
Business	
11 O'clock Message	Rev. Parrish
Lunch	
Lunch Afternoon Devotional	Rev. C. A. Gilbert
Talk	Rev. Irvin Williams
$\mathbf{Adjourn}$	
Third Session: Thompson Church	
Devotional	Sister Drew Floyd
Welcome Address	Bro. Louie Grimes
Response	
Business	
11 O'clock Message	Rev. J. J. Scott
Lunch	
Afternoon Devotional	
Talk	Bro. I. J. Goocher
Adjourn	

Fourth Session: Mt. Glory Church Devotional ______ Sister S. D. Newberry Welcome Address _____ Sister Annie Knight Response _____ Roy Barber Business 11 O'clock Message ______ Rev. F. W. Sellers Afternoon Devotional _____ Rev. Drew Floyd Talk _____ Rev. B. W. Clenney Adjourn A move and second was made and carried to adopt these reports as read. Rev. Edward Sheffield, Moderator Bro. J. R. McNease, Clerk MINISTERS CONFERENCE Session 1 The Ministers Conference will be held on Friday night before the fifth Sunday in October at New Salem Church. Devotional _____ Bro. Emory Richardson Welcome Address ______ Bro. Pete Davis Response _____ Bro. Richard McNease Business Refreshments Session 2 The Ministers Conference will be held on Friday night before the fifth Sunday in January at Highwa Church. Devotional Bro. T. E. Scott Welcome Address _____ Bro. Will Brogdon Response _____ Bro. J. B. Adams Business Message ______ Rev. Edward Sheffield Refreshments Session 3 The Ministers Conference will be held on Friday night before the fifth Sunday in April at Thompson Church. Devotional ______ Bro. Clifton Powell Welcome Address ______ Bro. Edgar Smith Response Brs. C. M. Smith Business Message _____ Rev. B.W. Clenney

Refreshments

Session 4

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

Devotional ______ Bro. David Brock
Welcome Address _____ Bro. S. E. Newberry
Response _____ Bro. 'T. D. Carter
Business
Message _____ Rev. J. E. Wood

Refreshments

Refreshment Committee—

Rev. C. A. Gilbert and Bro. Howard Roberts

Program Committee—

Bro. Emmett Houston, Colquitt, Ga. & Rev. J. J. Scott Brinson, Georgia.

Moderator ______ Rev. L. D. Scott Clerk _____ Bro. Edgar Smith

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 Association.
- 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 felowship, 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 River Turn Free Will Baptist Church on July 31, 1960. The meeting was opened with a song and prayer by Bro. Emmett Houston.

The morning devotional was given by Charles Grimes.

The welcome address was given by Mrs. Robert Cunningham. The response was given by Mrs. Alma Houston.

The minutes were read and approved. There were ten churches represented. They were New Salem, Hebrew, River Turn, Father's Home, Bellview, Highway, Mother's Home, New Home, Corinth, and Thompson.

Officers were elected for the following year. They were as follows:

President	Gene McNease
Vice President	Sally Zorn
Recording Secretary	Betty McCalvin.
Corresponding Secretary	Gail Powell
Sword Drill Leader	Mrs. Alma Jean Grimes
	Shelby Williams
Pianist	Glenda Wells
Field Workers	Mrs. Pete Davis, Mr. Emmett
	TT 1 B.C. T. 1. The 21
Nominating Committee	Mrs. Edward Sheffield
Mrs. Emmet	t Houston, Mrs. Drew Floyd
Constitutional Committee	Rev. Edward Sheffield,
Mr. En	mett Houston, Glenda Wells.
Program Committee	Rev. Ervin Williams, Mrs.
B.]	B. Barber, Mrs. J. B. Lovering

Rev. Ervin Williams gave the morning talk. Then we were dismissed for lunch.

AFTERNOON

The afternoon devotional was given by Gene McNease.
19.

We then had the business period. The Constitutional Committee recommended that the league rallies meet in the afternoons so as not to conflict with the Sunday School services in our regular home churches. They recommended that this be tabled until our next convention.

Delegates were appointed to the State League Rally. They were Mr. and Mrs. Louie Grimes, Mrs. Alma Houston, Rev. and Mrs. Drew Floyd, and Glenda Wells.

We then had the sword drill. The winners, which will go to the State League Convention at Camp Mt. Bether in November were Glenda Wells and Mildred Weaver.

We then had the programs. They were Corinth, River Turn, New Salem, and Hebrew.

Bro. Floyd gave away a cedar chest which was received by Edwina Hand from Corinth Church.

A rising vote of thanks was extended to River Turn Church for their fine hospitality during the day.

We were then dismissed.

Program For League Rally at Mother's Home Morning Devotional _____ Carol Sue Byran Welcome Address _____ Mrs. Carolyn Hornsby Response _____ Ray Cox Business Period Morning Talk _____ Louie Grimes Noon Afternoon Devotional _____ Edgar Smith Program For League Rally At Hebrew Morning Devotional _____ Carlton Chambers Welcome Address _____ Mrs. Bessie Kate Barber Response _____ Mrs. Jack Burke Business Period Morning Talk ______ Bro. Wood / Noon Afternoon Devotional _____ Mrs. Clifton Carpenter

20.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION REPORT

The Martin Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention met at Hebrew Church on May 29, 1960.

The meeting was opened with a song service led by Rev. J. B. Lovering.

Devotional was given by Sister Linda Floyd.

Welcome address was given by Sister Leroy Johnson and Rev. Issac Musgrove gave the response.

The minutes were read and adopted.

Delegates were appointed to the State Sunday School Convention as follows: Becky Newberry, Elaine Houston, Carolyn Hornsby, Gene McNease, and Sally Zorn.

Four ministers and two Sunday School Superintendents were present.

The President appointed the following committees:

Nominating Committee Bro. John Bailey, Bro. Herbert Boyd and Sister C. A. Lane

Program Committee _____ Sister Linda Flody, Sister Virginia Hicks, Sister Sally Zorn and Bro. Gene McNease.

Eleven o'clock message by Rev. J. B. Lovering taken from the 20th chapter of Jeremiah.

Dismissed for the noon hour.

Reassembled at 1:30 p. m.

Afternoon Devotional by Bro. Gene McNease.

Report of committees were read and adopted as follows:

Nominating Committee Report

President	Bro. Henry M. Bellflour
Vice President	Bro. Gene McNease
Recording Secretary	Sister Sally Zorn
Corresponding Secretary	Bro. Douglas Worsley
	04

21.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

1st Session—Corinth Church April 30, 1961,

Congregational Singing
Devotional Rev. Edward Sheffield
Welcome Address Sister Virginia Hicks
Response Bro. Ray Cox
Business
Programs

2nd Session—Highway Church, October 29, 1961
Congregational Singing
Devotional Rev. J. J. Scott
Welcome Address Sister J. J. Scott
Response Bro. Joe Riddlehoover
Business
Programs

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

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

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 righteouness 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 sunctifies 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 loasting 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 ascribes 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 righteous. 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.

- / 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 contribution 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, dicipline and 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 meeting 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 tusiness.
- 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 apparant 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 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 Santifier 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 blassings 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.

- 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 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 devise of earthly ambition repugnant to the word of God and subsersive to the churches and dangerous to the liberties of men.
- 5. That the Gospel churches are the eclesiastical 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

29.

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 eclesiastical 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, exortation 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 members 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 or heresay.
 - 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 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 an 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 eslesiastic 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 busines.
 - 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 the 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 Shopherd 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 firstborn of Heaven in ascribing blessings, honors, might, majesty to Him who sitteth on the throne and the Lamb forever.

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