

# MINUTES

*of the*

77th ANNUAL SESSION

*of the*

## Martin Freewill Baptist Association

*Which Convened With*

CORINTH CHURCH, Colquitt, Georgia  
*on October 25th, 1963*

*and*

MT. GLORY CHURCH  
*on October 26th, 1963*

### OFFICERS

Louie Grimes, Moderator	Colquitt, Ga.
Frank Newberry, Clerk	Colquitt, Ga.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Louie Grimes, Chairman	Colquitt, Ga.
Frank Newberry	Colquitt, Ga.
J. R. McNease	Colquitt, Ga.
W. R. Barber	Colquitt, Ga.
Edgar Smith	Colquitt, Ga.

The next session to convene with Bellview Church on October 23rd, 1964; and with Enterprise Youth Camp on Saturday, October 24th, 1964.

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Louie Grimes, Moderator . . . . .	Colquitt, Ga.
Frank Newberry, Clerk . . . . .	Colquitt, Ga.

### Executive Committee

Louie Grimes, Chairman . . . . .	Colquitt, Ga.
Frank Newberry . . . . .	Colquitt, Ga.
J. R. McNease . . . . .	Colquitt, Ga.
W. R. Barber . . . . .	Colquitt, Ga.
Edgar Smith . . . . .	Colquitt, Ga.

The next session to convene with Bellview Church on October 23rd, 1964; and with Enterprise Youth Camp on Saturday, October 24th, 1964.

## INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

Bro. Fred Kelley (3 years) . . . . .	Iron City, Ga.
Bro. W. E. Lane (2 years) . . . . .	Iron City, Ga.
Bro. John T. Bailey (1 year) . . . . .	Colquitt, Ga.

## ORDAINING COMMITTEE

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

## STANDING BOARDS

### Mission Board

Sister Jack Burke (2 years), Sect. & Treas. . . . .	Iron City, Ga.
Bro. Emmett Houston (3 years) . . . . .	Colquitt, Ga.
Bro. J. T. Hilburn (1 year) . . . . .	Newton, Ga.

### Promotional Board

Sister Vonnie Calhoun (2 years), Sect. & Treas. . . . .	Colquitt, Ga.
Bro. Herbert Boyd (3 years) . . . . .	West Bainbridge, Ga.
Bro. W. R. Barber (1 year), Chairman . . . . .	Colquitt, Ga.

### Superannuation Board

Sister Alma Jean Grimes (3 years), Sect. & Treas. . . . .	Colquitt, Ga.
Bro. Edgar Smith (2 years) . . . . .	Colquitt, Ga.
Bro. C. T. Turner (1 year) . . . . .	Brinson, Ga.

## State Promotional Secretary and Treasurer

Rev. Mance Cason . . . . .	Moultrie, Ga.
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## PROCEEDINGS

### Friday Morning Session

The 77th annual session of the Martin Freewill Baptist Association convened with Corinth Church, Iron City, Ga. at ten o'clock on Friday morning, October 25th, 1963.

The session was opened with a song service led by Bro. Herbert Boyd and prayer by Rev. Erwin Williams.

Rev. Harris Nix gave the devotional, reading scripture from Matthew 5: 14 - 16.

Bro. Jack Burke gave the welcome and Sister Alma Houston the response.

The Credential Committee was appointed consisting of Bro. Edd Roberts, Bro. Richard McNease and Bro. Jesse Reigan.

Sister Ruby Barber and Sister Jake Scott were appointed as the reading clerks.

The Moderator extended the right hand of christian fellowship to Rev. C. C. Williams, Bro. Alvin Day, Bro. Wash Nix, Bro. Henderson, Rev. Windham, visitors from other Associations.

At 10:30 A. M., the Moderator gave his message and a report on the National Headquarters Building, asking that each Association give to help pay for the property.

Rev. J. E. Wood preached the 11:00 A.M. sermon. Scripture taken from the 12th chapter of Daniel and the 4th chapter of Genesis.

The Credential Committee made a partial report. Reporting 14 churches representing. \$273.50 Associational dues.

Rev. Drew Floyd asked that an offering be taken for the Youth Camp. A move was made and carried to this effect and an offering of \$92.10 was taken.

Rev. C. A. Gilbert, treasurer of the Youth Camp, gave a report of \$668.30 in the treasury.

A move was made by Rev. Harris Nix and seconded by Bro. W. R. Barber to discontinue the reading of each church letter to the Association. Motion carried.

Rev. J. E. Wood gave a report from the Ordaining Committee. Motion made and carried to receive the report as read.

Bro. Alvin Day dismissed the body for the noon hour.

### Friday Afternoon Session

The Friday afternoon session opened at 1:15 P. M. with a song service led by Bro. Herbert Boyd. Prayer by Bro. John Bailey.

Afternoon devotional was given by Rev. C. A. Gilbert who read from the 1st chapter of James.

Rev. Mance Cason reported from the Promotional Board and gave certificates to the following churches:

GRAND HONOR ROLL: Mt. Glory Church  
Mt. Gilead Church

HONOR ROLL: Proctor Chapel  
New Salem  
New Home No. 1  
Hebrew  
Corinth  
Bellview

JUNIOR HONOR ROLL: Thompson

Sister Eva Clenny gave a report on the State and National Associations. The next State Association will meet at Camp Mt. Bethel, Ashburn, Ga. Bro. Mance Cason gave us additional information from the National Association and the new headquarters building being planned.

Call was made for petitionary letters. None received.

The Credential Committee gave a report of 15 churches representing with a total dues of \$318.25.

Roll call of ministers; nine present.

A move was made and carried to place Rev. W. E. Sellers on the Ordained Ministers list and to remove Isaac Musgrove from the Licensed Ministers list and add Bro. John Poston as a Licensed Minister.

Sister Jake Scott reported from the Superannuation Board. A move was made and carried to receive this report as read.

Sister Jack Burke gave a report from the Mission Board and this report was adopted as read.

A move was made and carried to send a donation to Bro. Willey from the Mission Board to buy blankets for the Cuban refugees.

A motion was made and carried to send Bro. Willie Hilburn flowers and card.

Appointment of committees.

Nominating Committee: Bro. Edgar Smith  
Bro. P. B. Hilburn  
Sis. Louise Richardson

Program Committee: Sis. Ruby Barber  
Bro. J. D. Barwick  
Sis. Chastine Burke



Disbursement Committee: Bro. Z. T. Calhoun  
Bro. Lester Lane  
Bro. Gilbert Avery

A rising vote of thanks was given Corinth Church for their fine hospitality shown during the day.

Moved and carried to adjourn.

Bro. T. D. Carter led the closing prayer.

*Bro. Louie Grimes, Moderator*  
*Bro. Frank Newberry, Clerk*

### Saturday Morning Session

The Saturday morning session of the Martin Freewill Baptist Association met at Mt. Glory Church on October 26th, 1963.

The Session was opened with a song service led by Bro. Herbert Boyd and prayer by Bro. Richard McNease.

Sister Ethel Newberry gave the devotional, taking scripture from the 1st chapter of Ruth.

The welcome address was given by Bro. Jimmy Taylor and the response by Bro. Lester Lane.

The minutes of the Friday session of the Association were read by the clerk and same adopted as read.

Bro. Louie Grimes reported that a League workshop would be held at the Enterprise Youth Camp with Bro. Samuel Johnson as director.

Moved, seconded and carried for the Clerk of the Association to see about getting the minutes of the Association printed where the State Association minutes are printed.

Moved, seconded and carried that the Clerk have expenses paid in getting the minutes printed.

Moved, seconded and carried to table a resolution, until afternoon, for each church to send their Associational letters two weeks before the Association to the clerk.

A discussion was held on what to do with Cool Springs Church. Moved, seconded and carried to table this discussion until the afternoon session.

Moved, seconded and carried to petition for the State Association for the 1964 Session to be held at Enterprise Youth Camp.

Rev. C. A. Williams preached the 11:00 o'clock message, using Galatians 6: 15 as his scripture.

Bro. Forest Shelley dismissed the body for the noon hour.

## Saturday Afternoon Session

The Saturday afternoon session opened with special singing by five members of the congregation. Congregational singing led by Bro. Herbert Boyd. Prayer by Sister Richard McNease.

The Association recognized Bro. Nicklson from the Salem Association.

A special song sung by Bro. Fred Kirksey.

Rev. W. S. Driggers gave the afternoon devotional with scripture from St. John 19: 30.

Rev. Mance Cason gave a very interesting talk on Togetherness.

Moved, seconded and carried a motion to remove from the table the motion for the churches to mail the clerk of the Association their church letters two weeks before the Association convenes.

Moved and seconded to remove from the table the question of what to do with Cool Springs Church. Motion was made for the church to be sold to any denomination to be used for church only and that Bro. Wingate get what money he has in the building and the balance to be given to the Youth Camp. A large majority voted against this motion and it was not carried.

Call for reports of all Boards and Committees.

Investigating Committee: no report.

Motion moved, seconded and carried to adopt the report of the Resolution Committee.

Motion moved, seconded and carried to accept the report of the Obituary Committee.

Motion moved, seconded and carried to adopt the report of the Suggestions Committee.

Motion moved, seconded and carried to adopt the report of the Temperance Committee.

Motion moved, seconded and carried to adopt the report of the Sabbath Observance Committee.

Motion moved, seconded and carried to adopt the report of the Program Committee.

Motion moved, seconded and carried to adopt the report of the Disbursement Committee.

Motion moved, seconded and carried to accept the final report of the Credential Committee.

Motion moved, seconded and carried to elect those nominated by the Nominating Committee.

The Moderator appointed delegates to the various Associations as follows:

Little River Association .

Midway Association . . . Bro. & Sis. O. F. Everson

Salem Association . . . Rev. & Mrs. W. S. Driggers

Union Association . . . Bro. O. F. Everson

State Association . . . Sis. Alma Houston

Bro. & Sis. J. D. Barwick

Georgia Union Association. Rev. Jack Horn

Fla. State Association . . Bro. & Sis. L. D. Scott

A rising vote of thanks was given Mt. Glory Church for their fine hospitality shown during the day.

Moved, seconded and carried to adjourn.

Bro. C. A. Williams led the closing prayer.

*Bro. Louie Grimes, Moderator*

*Bro. Frank Newberry, Clerk*

#### CHURCHES and DELEGATES to the ASSOCIATION:

Bellview Church:

Bellview Church: Bro. & Sis. J. D. Barwick, Bro. & Sis. T. D. Carter, Sis. J. E. Wood, Sis. Eva Clenney.

Colquitt Church: Sis. Jeanette Jordan, Sis. Essie Cooper, Sis. Jimmie Mears, Bro. Gary Phillips.

Corinth Church: Bro. T. A. Drake, Bro. Jack Burke, Sis. Winnie Preston, Sis. Chastain Burke.

Hebrew Church: Sis. Edd Hill, Sis. W. S. Driggers. Sis. Earl Barber.

Highway Church: Sis. Ruby Scott, Bro. Will Brodgan, Sis. Bessie Brodgan.

Mothers Home Church: Bro. & Sis. Z. T. Calhoun, Sis. J. R. McNease, Sis. Dola Regan.

Mt. Gilead Church: Bro. T. J. Heard, Bro. I. V. Vickers, Sis. Ruby Barber.

New Home No. 1 Church: Bro. Edd Roberts, Bro. Lester Lane, Bro. Leonard Varnum, Sis. Tom McLendon, Sis. Claude Roberts, Sis. Allie Lee Ard.

New Home No. 2 Church: Bro. Gilbert Avery, Bro. Clarence Saddler, Bro. & Sis. Oneal Cumbie.

New Salem Church: Sis. Eva Davis, Bro. & Sis. Emmett Houston, Sis. J. W. Nix, Sis. Emory Richardson, Bro. John Henry Pickren.

Pilgrim Home Church: Bro. J. P. Hilburn, Bro. J. T. Hilburn.

Proctor Chapel Church: Bro. J. C. Newsome, Sis. F. W. Sellers, Sis. W. A. Sellers, Sis. Ethel Banks.

Mt. Glory Church: Bro. Jimmie Taylor, Sis. Ethel Newberry, Bro. David Brock, Sis. David Brock, Sis. Portivent.

Springfield Church: Bro. Jesse Reagan, Sis. Gatsy Sheffield, Sis. Jannie Knight.

### Ordained Ministers

Rev. A. B. Ard	Bainbridge, Ga.
Rev. W. S. Driggers	Rt. 5, Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. Lewis Batchelor	Rt. 2, Camilla, Ga.
Rev. Grady Etheridge, Jr.	Elmodel, Ga.
Rev. Drew Floyd	Rt. 5, Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. C. A. Gilbert	Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. Tom Henry	Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. R. W. Holms	Rt. 2, Box 795, Albany, Ga.
Rev. W. H. Horn	Rt. 2, Donalsonville, Ga.
Rev. B. H. Nix	Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. Larry Powell	Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. J. J. Scott	Brinson, Ga.
Rev. L. D. Scott	Brinson, Ga.
Rev. F. W. Sellers	Rt. 3, Bainbridge, Ga.
Rev. W. E. Sellers	
Rev. Edward Sheffield	Fayetteville, Ga.
Rev. C. A. Williams	Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. Irvin Williams	Colquitt, Ga.
Rev. J. E. Wood	Colquitt, Ga.

### Licensed Ministers

Rev. G. W. West	Rt. 1, Cairo, Ga.
Sister Della McAlphine	Sneads, Fla.
Rev. Gus Ivey	Pelham, Ga.
Rev. John Poston	

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT 1963 - 64

We the Nominating Committee recommend the following:

For Moderator	Bro. Louie Grimes
For Assitant Moderator	Bro. Herbert Boyd
For Clerk	Bro. Frank Newberry
For Assitant Clerk	Bro. Phillip Hines
For Ordaining Committee (3 years)	Rev. W. H. Horn
For Investigating Committee (3 years)	Bro. Fred Kelley
Promotional Secretary (2 years)	Sis. Vonnie Calhoun
Promotional Secretary (3 years)	Bro. Herbert Boyd



Mission Board (3 years) . . . . . Bro. Emmett Houston  
Superannuation Board (3 years) . . . . . Sis. Alma Jean Grimes

We also recommend that the Association convene with Bellview Church on Friday, October 23rd, 1964 and with Enterprise Youth Camp on Saturday, October 24th, 1964.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Bro. Edgar Smith*  
*Sis. Ethel Newberry*  
*Sis. Louise Richardson*

## PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

The Program Committee plans for the 78th Annual Session of the Martin Freewill Baptist Association to be held with Bellview Church on Friday, October 23rd, 1964 at 10:00 A. M. and Enterprise Youth Camp on Saturday, October 24th, 1964 as follows:

### Friday Morning:

Song, prayer service conducted by Bro. Rudy Clenny.  
Assembly of body for worship by Moderator.  
Devotional, Bro. Jesse Reagan.  
Welcome address, Sis. Grace Barwick.  
Response, Sis. Herbert Boyd.  
11:00 A. M. Message, Rev. Grady Etheridge, Jr.

### Friday Afternoon:

Devotional, Bro. Lane McLendon.  
Report of Credential Committee.  
Call for Petitionary letters.  
Report of State and National Associations.  
Roll call of ministers.  
Report of all boards and committees.  
Appointment of Sessional committees.  
Arrangements and adjournment.

### Friday Night Service:

Devotional, Patricia McLendon.  
Testimonial service, Sis. J. R. McNease.  
Message, Rev. W. S. Driggers.

### Saturday Morning, 9:30 A. M., October 24th, 1964:

Song service, Ronnie Williams.  
Devotional, Bro. James Roland.  
Welcome address, Virginia Driggers.  
Response, Pam Barber.  
11:00 A. M. Message, Rev. Harris Nix.

Saturday Afternoon: 1:30 P.M.

Devotional, Tina Adams.

Renewal of call for Committee Reports.

Miscellaneous business.

Appointment of new committees.

Completion of all unfinished business.

Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

*Sis. Chestain Burke*

*Sis. Ruby Barber*

*Bro. J. D. Barwick*

## DISBURSEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your Committee on Disbursements, recommend the following:

Clerk . . . . .	\$35.00
Moderator . . . . .	15.00
State Association . . . . .	20.00
National Association . . . . .	10.00
Retain in Treasury . . . . .	50.00

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

State Unified Program . . . . .	20%
Local Superannuation Board . . . . .	50%
Local Promotional Board . . . . .	15%
Local Mission Board . . . . .	15%

Flowers for Bro. Willie Hilburn to be purchased out of retained money. (\$10.00)

Respectfully submitted,

*Bro. Z. T. Calboun*

*Bro. Gilbert Avery*

*Bro. Lester Lane*

## PROMOTIONAL BOARD REPORT

Cash on hand . . . . . \$364.24

Money received:

Martin F.W.B. Association . . . . .	27.00
Union Meeting . . . . .	5.85
Union Meeting . . . . .	9.00
Union Meeting . . . . .	10.50
Union Meeting . . . . .	11.35
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	\$427.94

Money paid out:

Enterprise Youth Camp . . . . .	\$100.00
Balance in Treasury . . . . .	<u>\$327.94</u>

Respectfully submitted, *Sis. J. J. Scott*  
*Bro. Edgar Smith* *Bro. C. T. Turner*

### MISSION BOARD TREASURY REPORT

Assets:

Cash on hand . . . . .	\$325.00
Union Meeting Funds (Dec. 29th) . . . . .	5.85
Martin F.W.B. Association Funds . . . . .	27.00
Union Meeting Funds (Mar. 30th) . . . . .	9.00
Union Meeting Funds (June 29th) . . . . .	10.50
Union Meeting Funds (Aug. 31st) . . . . .	11.35
Balance in Treasury . . . . .	<u>\$388.70</u>

Respectfully submitted,  
*Bro. J. T. Hilburn*, Chairman  
*Bro. J. R. McNease*  
*Sis. Jack Burke*, Sect. & Treas.

### SUPERANNUATION BOARD REPORT 1963-64

Balance in Treasury . . . . .	\$ 1.38
Money Received:	
Union Meeting, January . . . . .	13.85
Martin Association . . . . .	42.00
Union Meeting, July . . . . .	45.50
Union Meeting, October . . . . .	20.65
Total Received . . . . .	<u>\$123.38</u>

Money Paid Out:

Rev. Tom Henry . . . . .	\$20.61
Rev. A. B. Ard . . . . .	20.61
Mrs. Dave Braswell . . . . .	20.61
Mrs. B. W. Clenny . . . . .	20.61
Rev. Willie Sellers . . . . .	10.11
State Superannuation Board . . . . .	30.30
Total Paid Out . . . . .	<u>\$122.85</u>
Balance in Treasury . . . . .	\$ 0.53

Respectfully submitted, *Sis. Vonnie Calhoun*, Treas.  
*Bro. W. R. Barber*  
*Bro. Herbert Boyd*

## RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT

The world is getting in a mess, if you will excuse the expression. It would not be surprising for anything to happen at any time, for God is not mocked. So be it resolved by this committee that we, all of us, fear God and keep His Commandments — for if God be for us who can be against us.

We know if we stay close to God, Satan will not come near us, then we can live a happy life and fear no evil and inherit eternal life in the world to come.

Respectfully submitted,  
Corinth Church and Pastor

## SABBATH OBSERVANCE

We, the Sabbath Observance Committee, submit the following report:

Observe the Sabbath by laying aside all work and assembling in the house of the Lord and worshipping together.

Respectfully submitted,  
New Salem Church

## TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Thoughtful men in all lands have pointed out that almost any quality, good as well as bad, can be carried too far. The Greek philosopher, Aristotale, suggested "The Golden Mean" as a principle of life. This principle urges moderation in eating and drinking, in work and play, and in all the enjoyments and activities of life. Temperance once meant this kind of moderation.

Temperance took on a different meaning in the 1800's. It came to refer only to moderation in the enjoyment of pleasures. Anyone who drank more alcoholic liquors or ate more food or attended more plays than his neighbors was likely to be told that he ought to practice "Temperance". The temperance movement became an effort, not to promote moderation in drinking, but to abolish it.

The ideal of temperance, or moderation, is a good and useful one to follow in many of our daily activities. In practice, it means doing about what the average person does. But a musician who practices in moderation, or a surgeon who is only moderately careful about infection, can not get far in today's world. A locomotive engineer who drinks even a moderate amount of alcohol while on duty is a danger to society. The intelligent person is temperate



in many things but he also avoids some things entirely and goes all out for others which call for positive action.

Galations 5: 23. "Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."

II Peter 1: 6. "And to knowledge, temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience Godliness."

New Home No. 1 Church and Pastor

## **SUGGESTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

We suggest that all members of the Martin Association of Free-will Baptist determine anew and afresh to cooperate with each other that the cause of Christ might be built up.

Respectfully submitted,

Mothers Home Church and Pastor

## **ORDAINING COUNCIL**

We, the Ordaining Council, submit the following report:

We haven't had any Ordination work to do this year. Please join us in prayer that the Lord will send more laborers into the ministry.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. J. E. Wood, Chairman

## **OBITUARIES COMMITTEE REPORT**

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

New Salem: Sis. Essie Sheffield.

Highway: Sis. Sallie Scott.

Corinth: Sis. Allen Drake, Sis. W. G. Catrett.

New Home No. 1: Bro. Ike Ard.

Bellview: Bro. Cleveland Cobb.

New Home No. 2: Bro. Thomas Hurley, Bro. E. D. Boutwell.

Thompson: Sis. Trellie Grimes.

Hebrew: Bro. Allen Alday, Bro. Hiram Sullivan, Sis. Emma Robinson.

Mother's Home: Bro. Hooke Heard, Bro. T. R. Bryan, Bro. Floyd Taylor.

Proctor Chapel: Sis. Fain, Bro. Palmer.

Respectfully submitted,

Highway Church and Pastor

Churches appointed on various committees are as follows:

Sunday School	Pilgrim Home
Resolutions	Proctor Chapel
Obituaries	Mt. Glory
Suggestions	Springfield
Temperance	Thompson
Sabbath Observance	Polar Branch

Compiled reports on the 77th Session of Martin Freewill Baptist Association by the Credential Committee:

Churches represented	17
Delegates reported	57
Active church members	854
Inactive church members	376
Total church membership	1230
Members received by Baptism	26
Members received by letter	11
Members received by statement of faith	4
Total members received (1963)	41
Members dismissed by letters	32
Members deceased	17
Total members dismissed	49
Sunday Schools	15
Members enrolled in Sunday School	783
Freewill Baptist Leagues	10
Members enrolled in Baptist Leagues	461
Woman's Auxiliary	5
Members enrolled in Woman's Auxiliary	48
Prayer Meetings	7
Vacation Bible Schools	2

FINANCIAL REPORT

Total offerings received	\$13,503.77
Amount given for:	
Pastor	12,876.54
Evangelists	1,524.13
Unified Program	761.27
Building and repairs	2,638.14
Literature, all purposes	829.45

Miscellaneous . . . . .	1,788.28
Other causes, not listed . . . . .	5,090.09
Association fees . . . . .	318.25
Value of church property . . . . .	93,000.00

## MINISTERS CONFERENCE

### Session 1

The Ministers' Conference will be held on Friday night before the Fifth Sunday in March at New Home No. 1 Church.

Devotional . . . . .	Bro. Edgar Smith
Welcome Address . . . . .	Bro. Lester Lane
Response . . . . .	Bro. C. A. Gilbert
Business	
Message . . . . .	Bro. Ervin Williams
Refreshments	

### Session 2

The Ministers' Conference will be held on Friday night before the Fifth Sunday in June at New Salem Church.

Devotional . . . . .	Bro. Fred Kelley
Welcome Address . . . . .	Bro. Bruton Middleton
Response . . . . .	Bro. Jack Burke
Business	
Message . . . . .	Rev. L. D. Scott
Refreshments	

### Session 3

The Ministers' Conference will be held on Friday night before the Fifth Sunday in September at Pilgrim Home Church.

Devotional . . . . .	Bro. Richard McNease
Welcome Address . . . . .	Bro. P. B. Hilburn
Response . . . . .	Bro. Philip Hines
Business	
Message . . . . .	Rev. Grady Etherage, Jr.
Refreshments	

### Session 4

The Ministers' Conference will be held on Friday night before the Fifth Sunday in December at Mt. Glory Church.

Devotional . . . . .	Bro. Jimmy Taylor
Welcome Address . . . . .	Bro. George Ray
Response . . . . .	Bro. Abbie Calhoun

Business

Message . . . . Rev. B. H. Parish

Refreshments

## **FREEWILL BAPTIST LEAGUE RALLY**

The Freewill Baptist League Rally met May 31, 1963 at New Home No. 1 Church. The meeting opened with a song service and prayer.

Devotional was given by Terrell Mock and followed with prayer. Diane Cross gave the Welcome Address and Laverne Clenny gave the Response. Rev. W. S. Driggers gave the morning Talk.

There were five churches represented and two League presidents were present.

New officers elected for the following year were:

President . . . . .	Rev. Harris Nix
Vice-President . . . . .	Mr. W. R. Davis
Recording Secretary . . . . .	Mable Richardson
Corresponding Secretary . . . . .	Becky Braswell
Sword Drill Leader . . . . .	Mrs. Harris Nix
Song Leader . . . . .	Mrs. J. E. Woods
Pianist . . . . .	Mrs. Shirley Kimbrel
Field Workers . . . . .	Rev. W. S. Driggers Mr. Emmett Houston Mr. Ferrel Mock
Constitutional Committee . . . . .	Rev. Harris Nix & Committee
Nominating & Program Committee . . . . .	Mrs. B. W. Clenny Mrs. Eva Davis Mrs. Leonard Varnum

Delegates selected to go to the State League Rally were Mrs. J. E. Wood, Mrs. Eva Clenny, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Kimbrel and two Sword Drill Leaders.

Diane Cross was selected to go to the National League Association. An offering was taken at the meeting to send Diane Cross.

The Nominating Committee decided to carry the League Rally to Bellview for the First Session and New Salem for the Second.

Motion moved, seconded and carried to start the next League Rally Convention at 2:00 o'clock P.M.

Mr. Louie Grimes gave a 10 minute talk.



The Sword Drill was held with Brenda Brooks and Kenneth Wayne Driggers as the winners; after which the programs were presented.

Many thanks were extended to New Home No. 1 Church for their kindnesses during the day and the group was dismissed.

### **Program for League Rally at Bellview**

Devotional, James Roland.  
Welcome Address, Billy Kimbrel.  
Response, Laverne Mock.  
Business.  
Talk (10 minutes), Lavon Clenny.  
Sword Drill.  
Programs.  
Report of Committees.

### **Program for League Rally at New Salem**

Devotional, Gloria McVey.  
Welcome Address, Bro. Idus Goocher.  
Response, Gail Powell.  
Business.  
Talk (10 minutes).  
Sword Drill.  
Programs.  
Report of Committees.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION REPORT**

The Martin Freewill Baptist Sunday School Convention convened at Mt. Glory Church, September 29, 1963. Song services were led by Bro. Herbert Boyd.

Devotional, Bro. James Roland.  
Welcome, Sister Norma Brock.  
Response, Bro. Pete Davis.

The minutes were read and adopted.

Four Sunday School Superintendents were present and the following eight churches were represented: Bellview, Highway, New Salem, Mothers Home, Mt. Gilead, New Home No.1, Proctor Chapel and Mt. Glory.

The following Program Committee was appointed: Sis. F. S. Sellers, Sis. J. J. Scott and Sis. W. S. Driggers.

The following Nominating Committee was appointed: Rev. Lindsey Scott, Bro. Herbert Boyd and Rev. W. S. Driggers.

Motion moved, seconded and carried that report blank forms be printed and sent to each Sunday School before each Session. Bro. Herbert Boyd, Rev. Harris Nix, Bro. James Roland and Rev. W. S. Driggers were appointed to draw up this report form. The Committee reported that 50 reports would be printed at first and then the report forms would be printed and/or changed as needed.

A motion was made to donate \$30.00 to the Youth Camp and also send \$10.00 to help pay for the printing of the minutes.

Reports of the committees were read and adopted as follows:

#### NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT:

President . . . . .	Bro. James Roland
Vice-President . . . . .	Bro. Lavon Clenney
Secretary & Treasurer . . . . .	Sis. LaVerne Mock
Ass't. Secretary & Treasurer . . . . .	Sis. Marynelle Bailey
Pianist . . . . .	Sis. Ethel Newberry

#### PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT:

##### First Session, New Salem Church:

Congregational singing.  
Devotional, Kenneth Driggers.  
Welcome, Elaine Houston.  
Response, Gail Powell.  
Business.  
Programs.

##### Second Session, Bellview Church:

Congregational singing.  
Devotional, Ronnie McNease.  
Welcome, Brenda Brooks.  
Response, Gerald Lane,  
Business.  
Programs.

The churches presenting programs were Bellview, Mothers Home, Mt. Gilead, New Home No. 1, New Salem and Mt. Glory.

A rising vote of thanks was given Mt. Glory Church for their fine hospitality.



# MINUTES OF THE MARTIN FREEWILL BAPTIST UNION MEETING

## Treasurer Report

### Union Meetings:

Mt. Glory, December 29, 1962	\$ 50.00
Mothers Home, March 30, 1963	120.00
Youth Camp, June 29, 1963	110.00
Highway, September 28, 1963	124.00
Total	<u>\$404.00</u>

### Disbursements, December 29, 1962

Rev. Mance Cason	\$13.65
Sister J. J. Scott	13.65
Sister Abbie Calhoun	5.85
Sister Jack Burke	5.85
Moderator and Clerk fee	10.00
Postage	1.00
Total	<u>\$50.00</u>

### Disbursements, March 30, 1963

Rev. Mance Cason	\$21.00
Sister J. J. Scott	21.00
Sister Abbie Calhoun	9.00
Sister Jack Burke	9.00
Moderator and Clerk fee	10.00
Union Meeting forms	5.00
Youth Camp	45.00
Total	<u>\$120.00</u>

### Disbursements, June 29, 1963

Rev. Mance Cason	\$24.50
Sister J. J. Scott	24.50
Sister Abbie Calhoun	10.50
Sister Jack Burke	10.50
Moderator and Clerk fee	10.00
Youth Camp	30.00
Total	<u>\$110.00</u>

### Disbursements, September 28, 1963

Rev. Mance Cason	\$20.65
Sister J. J. Scott	20.65
Sister Abbie Calhoun	11.35
Sister Jack Burke	11.35

Moderator and Clerk fee . . . . .	10.00
Printing of minutes . . . . .	10.00
Youth Camp . . . . .	40.00
Total . . . . .	<u>\$124.00</u>

Special offerings:

Wilson family, March 30, 1963 . . . . .	\$32.56
Youth Camp, September 28, 1963 . . . . .	93.70

Moderator appointed the following committees:

- Nominating Committee: Bro. James Roland, Bro. Edgar Smith, Sister Ruby Sheffield.
- Program Committee: Sister Jack Burke, Sister Perry Tully, Sister Z. T. Calhoun.

### Nominating Committee Report

We, the Nominating Committee, nominate Bro. Clifton Powell, Moderator; Bro. Herbert Boyd, Clerk; Rev. J. J. Scott, Assistant Moderator and Bro. James Roland, Assistant Clerk. We further recommend that the Union Meeting convene with the following churches:

First Session . . . . .	New Home No. 1
Second Session . . . . .	New Salem
Third Session . . . . .	Pilgrims Home
Fourth Session . . . . .	Mt. Glory

### Program Committee Report

First Session, New Home No. 1:

Devotion . . . . .	Sister Harris Nix
Welcome Address . . . . .	Sister Ruby Sheffield
Response . . . . .	Sister Linda Floyd
Business	
11:00 o'clock Message . . . . .	Rev. B. H. Parrish
Lunch	
Afternoon Devotional . . . . .	Sister Richard McNease
Talk . . . . .	Sister J. E. Wood
Adjourn.	

Second Session, New Salem:

Devotional . . . . .	Sister Eva Middleton
Welcome Address . . . . .	Bro. James Roland
Response . . . . .	Sister Charlie Reese
Business	



11:00 o'clock Message . Rev. Jack Horn  
 Lunch  
 Afternoon Devotional . . . Sister Jack Burke  
 Talk . . . . . Bro. Edgar Smith  
 Adjourn.

Third Session, Pilgrims Home:

Devotional . . . . . Sister Willie Lane  
 Welcome Address . . . Sister Willie Hilburn  
 Response . . . . . Sister Ed Hill  
 Business  
 11:00 o'clock Message . Rev. W. S. Driggers  
 Lunch  
 Afternoon Devotional . . . Bro. Gilbert Avery  
 Talk . . . . . Sister C. A. Lane  
 Adjourn.

Fourth Session, Mt. Glory:

Devotional . . . . . Sister Edward Albritton  
 Welcome Address . . . Bro. Jimmy Taylor  
 Response . . . . . Sister Ruby Barber  
 Business  
 11:00 o'clock Message . Rev. C. A. Williams  
 Lunch  
 Afternoon Devotional . . . Rev. Irwin Williams  
 Talk . . . . . Bro. Philip Hines  
 Adjourn.

Motion made, seconded and carried to adopt these reports as read.



## 1963 ASSOCIATION TREASURER REPORT

Assets:

Cash on hand . . . . .	\$ 49.53
Received from Association . . . . .	318.25
Received from Union Meeting . . . . .	10.00
Received from Ministers Conference . . . . .	10.00
Received from Sunday School Convention . . . . .	10.00
Received from League Rally . . . . .	10.00
Total assets . . . . .	<u>\$407.78</u>

Disbursements:

Clerk . . . . .	\$ 35.00
Moderator . . . . .	15.00
Bro. Louie Grimes (1963 Nat'l. Assoc.)	10.00
State & Nat'l. Assoc. 1964 . . . . .	30.00
Local Superannuation Board . . . . .	41.39
Local Promotional Board . . . . .	12.41
Local Mission Board . . . . .	12.42
State Unified Program . . . . .	16.56
Association Minutes . . . . .	180.00
Postage & Miscellaneous . . . . .	5.00
Total Disbursements . . . . .	<u>\$357.78</u>
Balance in Treasury . . . . .	50.00
Flowers for Bro. Willie Hilburn purchased from retaining treasure . . . . .	10.00
FINAL BALANCE . . . . .	<u>\$40.00</u>



## 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 Ministers' 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 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 ammended or altered at any meeting by two-thirds majority voting.



## DOCTRINAL VIEWS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### ASSOCIATIONAL DECORUM

1. The Association shall be called to order by the moderator elected last session.

2. This Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

3. The moderator and clerk shall officiate until their successors are elected.

4. It shall be the duty of the moderator to call the meeting to order, to see that order is preserved, receive and submit all questions to the body. He shall have the privilege of speaking but must call upon some other brother to preside in his place while speaking. He shall not have the right to vote unless the body is equally divided, when he may cast the deciding vote.

5. The members present shall be enrolled and their names called as often as necessary.

6. The majority of the members present shall rule in cases, except upon admission of new churches, which shall require a unanimous vote.

7. No member shall absent himself from the house without leave from the moderator, and no member shall leave the association without the consent of the body.

8. All business shall be brought before the body by a move and second and shall be disposed of according to good usage.

9. No person shall be allowed to speak more than three times on the same subject nor more than fifteen minutes each time without permission from the body.

10. No person shall be disturbed while speaking unless he departs from the subject and it will be necessary to call him to order.

11. Only one person shall be allowed to speak at a time and he must rise to his feet and address the moderator and must not use abusive language or personal reflection on any one without being subject to a call to order by the moderator.

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

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

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

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

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

### **CHURCH DECORUM**

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **ARTICLES OF FAITH**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

## **GOVERNMENT AND ORDINANCES**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

### ASSOCIATIONAL CONSTITUTION

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

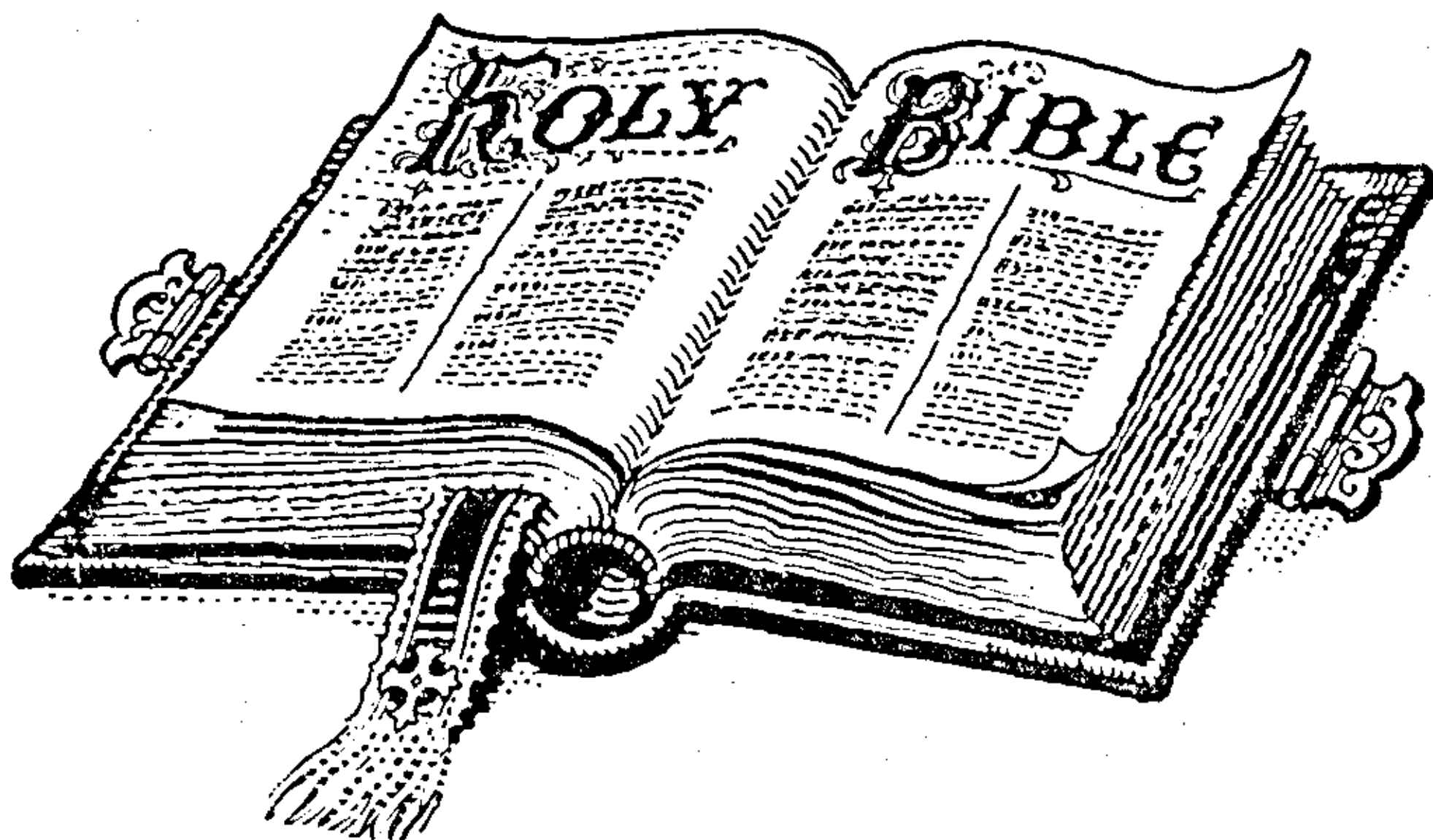
14. The moderator shall, at each session, invite corresponding delegates from other bodies of our own order, and also ministers from other denominations to seats, when thus seated shall be entitled to the friendship of honorary members.

### **ASSOCIATIONAL COVENANT**

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



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





CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS	ADDRESS	Meeting Days	Baptized	Received by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Restored	Ex. Com.	Died	Total Number of Members	Association Fee	Unified Program	Gave Pastor	Value of Church Property	F.W.B.L.	Sunday School	Ladies Auxiliary	Prayer Meeting
BELLVIEW	Rev. J. E. Wood	John Clenny	Colquitt, Ga.	Full	4	2	5	0	0	1	166	\$37.50	128.74	\$2,766.84	10,000.00	46	87	Yes	Yes
COLQUITT	Rev. J. O. Fort	Mrs. Jeanette Jordan	Rt. 2. Colquitt, Ga.	Full	0	0	0	0	0	0	66	16.50	0	1,820.00	8,000.00	0	59	Yes	Yes
CORINTH	Rev. J. J. Scott	Mrs. C. A. Lane	Iron City, Ga.	2nd & 4th	0	0	4	0	0	2	83	20.75	133.90	765.99	5,000.00	0	48	0	0
HEBREW	Rev. W. S. Driggers	Walter Atkinson	Rt. 3 Box 188 Donalsonville	1st & 3rd	0	0	0	0	0	3	64	16.00	0	536.68	6,000.00	49	59	Yes	0
HIGHWAY	Rev. C. A. Gilbert	Horace King	Brinson, Ga.	1st & 3rd	0	0	1	0	0	1	51	12.75	0	294.50	4,500.00	43	43	0	0
MOTHERS HOME	Rev. J. J. Scott	J. R. McNease	Rt. 2 Colquitt, Ga.	1st & 3rd	1	1	0	1	0	3	118	29.50	74.36	506.35	3,000.00	Yes	Yes	Bible Circle	Yes
MT. GILEAD		Herbert Boyd	Rt. 1 Brinson, Ga.	2nd & 4th	8	0	0	0	0	0	52	13.00	96.00	720.00	8,000.00	45	59	0	Yes
MT. GLORY	Rev. L. D. Scott	Mrs. S. E. Newberry	Rt. 2 Box 277 Quincy, Florida	2nd & 4th	3	2	0	0	0	0	55	13.75	272.07	471.22	5,000.00	15	27	0	Yes
NEW HOME No.1	Rev. W. S. Driggers	Leonard Varnum	Colquitt, Ga.	2nd & 4th	0	0	3	0	0	1	114	28.50	36.29	634.06	7,000.00	60	60	0	0
NEW HOME No.2	Rev. B. H. Parish	O'Neal Cumbie	Rt. 2 Climax, Ga.	1st & 3rd	3	1	2	0	0	2	70	17.50	0	113.58	3,500.00	0	35	0	Yes
NEW SALEM	Rev. B. H. Nix	Idus Goocher	Rt. 5. Colquitt, Ga.	Full	7	6	9	0	0	1	200	50.00	60.00	1,751.41	7,000.00	44	47	Yes	Yes
PILGRIM HOME	Rev. Grady Ethridge	Mrs. Elizabeth Parker	Newton, Ga.	1st & 3rd	0	1	0	0	0	1	46	11.25	0	1,200.00	15,000.00	Bible Study	35	0	0
PROCTOR CHAPEL	Rev. F. W. Sellars	Walter Holton	Powell Street Pelham, Ga.	Full	1	1	5	1	0	2	79	19.75	120.00	836.13	5,000.00	19	35	0	Yes
SPRINGFIELD	Rev. Irvin Williams	Jessie Reagan	Donalsonville	1st & 3rd	0	0	1	0	0	0	9	5.00	0	241.00	2,000.00	0	0	0	0
THOMPSON	Rev. Drew Floyd	G. R. Grimes	Colquitt, Ga.	1st & 3rd	1	0	3	0	0	1	105	26.25	51.32	600.00	6,000.00	49	75	0	Yes
POLAR BRANCH	Rev. W. Addison	Ozzie Morris	Mt. Pleasant, Florida	1st & 3rd	0	3	0	0	0	0	18	6.00	0	65.64	2,000.00	0	0	0	0
RIVER TURN	Rev. Max Guy	Mrs. L. C. Howard	Rt. 3 Box 258 Donalsonville	2nd & 4th	1	0	0	0	0	0	32	10.00	0	90.00	3,000.00	0	25	0	Yes