

2009
Quarterly Sessions
One Hundred Twenty-Three Years



Free Will
Free Grace
Free Salvation

Martin Association
Free Will Baptists of Georgia

2009

MINUTES

Published by
The Martin Association
Free Will Baptists of Georgia

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Officers and Board Members of Martin Association...	3
Programs for Martin Association...	4
First Session & Reports...	5
Second Session & Reports...	6
Third Session & Reports...	8
Executive Meeting...	9
Fourth Session & Reports...	10
Financial Record...	16
Obituary Report...	19
Church Directory...	20
Constitution and By-Laws...	22
Church Covenant.....	<i>inside back cover</i>

**MARTIN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS
OFFICERS and BOARD MEMBERS**

2009 - 2010

GENERAL OFFICERS

Moderator.....Rev. Kent Barwick
Assistant Moderator.....Dr. Lynn Frazier
Treasurer.....Rev. Benjamin Miller
Assistant Treasurer.....Bro. Eddie Cobb
Clerk.....Bro. Bobby Tiner
Assistant Clerk.....Sis. Pam Roberts

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. Kent Barwick
Rev. Benjamin Miller
Bro. Bobby Tiner
Bro. Gary Enfinger
Bro. Charles Grimes
Bro. Bobby Richardson

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. Benjamin Miller - 2012
Rev. Andy Merritt - 2011
Rev. Bobby Whitaker - 2010

INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

Bro. Timmy Bellflower - 2012
Rev. Andy Merritt - 2011
Bro. Randy Adams - 2010

REPRESENTATIVES TO STATE BOARDS

Board of Trustees - Bro. Wendell Cox, 2010
Board of Christian Education - Rev. Kent Barwick, 2010
Board of Missions - Bro. Gerald Thompson, - 2010

PROGRAMS

for

Martin Association Quarterly Meetings

FIRST SESSION

Hebrew Free Will Baptist Church - January 10, 2010
Fellowship Meeting.....Sunday, 6:00 p.m.
Host Church In Charge Of Program
Fellowship Meeting

SECOND SESSION

Highway Free Will Baptist Church - April 10, 2010
Business Meeting.....Saturday, 10:00 a.m.
Host Church In Charge Of Program
Business Meeting

THIRD SESSION

Mothers Home Free Will Baptist Church - July 11, 2010
Fellowship Meeting.....Sunday, 6:00 p.m.
Host Church In Charge Of Program
Fellowship Meeting

FOURTH SESSION

Mt. Gilead Free Will Baptist Church - October 9, 2010
Business Meeting.....Saturday, 10:00 a.m.
Host Church In Charge Of Program
Business Meeting

Martin Association Minutes

January 11, 2009

6:00 p.m.

New Salem Free Will Baptist Church Fellowship Meeting

The Martin Association of Georgia Free Will Baptist convened in a worship/fellowship meeting on Sunday evening January 11, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at New Salem Free Will Baptist Church.

The meeting was called to order by Moderator, Rev. Kent Barwick. Rev. Benjamin Miller gave the treasury report. Copy attached: Bro. Kent asked and was granted permission to appoint the delegates at the State Meeting in Columbus, Georgia March 18 - 20. Churches in attendance were recognized at this time. The number present was approximately 130. The prayer was given by host Rev. Jimmy Harris. Bro. Billy Roland the song leader lead us in singing "Melody of Love." Rev. Jimmy Harris gave the Welcome. The choir sang "Set My Soul Afire," "Look and Live." After a prayer and offering for the Martin Association Bro. William Smith was granted the floor and spoke on behalf of the Georgia State office. He reported a 28th consecutive increase in corporate and mission giving and that Debbie Griffin will go back to Japan soon. They are preparing for a budget to relate to the economy and he stressed the importance of mission work. Bro. Smith asked anyone of interest to call Bro. Benjamin about the archives of the Free Will Baptist Church, Bro. Benjamin had done a great job in compiling the information and if you have anything of interest contact the office. Bro. Bobby Tiner was introduced as clerk, Mothers Home Pastor Gary Aslin was also recognized at this time.

At this time the congregation was blessed with special music and song by the New Salem Church choir with the song "Who Am I?"

Rev. Jimmy Harris took his sermon from Acts 14;19-23 and Corinthians 19. He encouraged the congregation to rise up and build Gods kingdom and that God would provide all we needed to do so-he placed special emphasis on church members and the need to love one another and work together to advance Gods Kingdom.

The benediction and blessing was given by Claude Newsome. The meeting was then concluded with a fantastic meal and fellowship in the fellowship hall.

Robert E. Tiner, Clerk April 11, 2009

Martin Association Minutes

April 11, 2009

10:00 a.m.

Thompson Free Will Baptist Church Business Meeting

The Martin Association of Georgia Free Will Baptist convened in a business/fellowship Meeting on Saturday April 11, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at Thompson Free Will Baptist Church. The meeting was called to order by Moderator, Rev. Kent Barwick, and opened with prayer by Bro. Scott Roberts and a song by the congregation. Welcome was given by Bro. Gerald Thompson with response by Bro. Bobby Richardson. Bro. Bob George gave the devotion from Psalms 121.

Roll call was held at this time as follows: Colquitt 8-Corinth 3- Donalsonville 0- Fathers Home 0-Hebrew 3-Highway 9 or 100% Attendance- Mothers Home 4-Mt. Gilead 0-Mt. Glory 1- New Home Mc. 8-New Home Decatur Co. 0-New Salem 1- Thompson 12- with the most present.

The minutes of the January 11, 2009 meeting were read by Clerk Bobby Tiner and motion and second to approve.

Pastor Kent Barwick appointed committees as follows Resolutions - Dr. Lynn Frazier & Sis. Jara Miller- Credentials- Bro. Gerald Thompson & Bro. Wendell Cox after which a 15 minute break was called.

The meeting reconvened with offering and prayer by Bro. Darrell Newberry. Bro. Jim Tolbert was recognized as a visitor with his wife and gave a brief report with handouts on his involvement with Family Ministries of Greenville, Tenn. He also stated he was having a Fund Bike Ride to raise 100,000 for Family Ministries.

Rev. Ben Miller gave the Treasurer's report and Financial Statement with emphasis placed on dues by churches. Motion & second approving this report as presented. Copy attached to minutes.

The Ordaining Council Committee submitted a request by letter and present by Rev. Kent Barwick for a request to proceed with the ordinary of Bro. James Judkins Youth Director of Colquitt Free Will Baptist Church- after discussion motion & second & approved to proceed with this request. Copy of letter attached to minutes. Bro. Gerald Thompson gave a brief report from the State Missions Board Meeting in Columbus, Ga. And positive things taking place with the addition of the 3 New Churches. Motion & second to approve report.

Bro. Wendell Cox gave a brief report on State Trustee Board. Rev. Kent Barwick gave a brief report on the State Christian Education Board. The Resolutions & Credentials committee reports were given & copies are attached to the minutes.

Banners will be given to Thompson Church for best attendance and Highway Church for 100% attendance- when they are found.

Announcement by Highway Church that Homecoming would be April 26-29 and all are welcome. Vacation Bible School by Rev. Ben Miller at New Home Free Will Baptist Church June 7-11 and all are welcome. Ben stated several churches needed Pastors and the need for more participation at Quarterly Meetings. He asked for much prayer for our Ministries.

The closing prayer was given by Rev. Ben Miller. At this time the Host Church Thompson Free Will Baptist took over for the regular service with congregational singing and a special duet by Terri George and Louise Newsome.

Rev. Bobby Whitaker then presented a very interesting trip through the Holy Land taking his scripture from John 13:34 & 35. His presentation used many items which he and his family had collected as a result of visits to that area- to include The Sea of Galilee , The Jordan River, Dead Sea, and Israel.

Pastor Jim Tolbert ended the service with prayer and members adjourned to the fellowship hall for a delicious country feast and Christian fellowship.

Robert E. Tiner Clerk October 10, 2009

Martin Association Minutes

July 12, 2009

6:00 p.m.

Colquitt Free Will Baptist Church

Fellowship Meeting

The Martin Association of Georgia Free Will Baptist convened at Colquitt Free Will Baptist Church.

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Rev. Kent Barwick who gave the welcome and prayer. At this time Rev. Andy Merritt was called to present James Judkins his credentials as approved by the association as an ordained minister, in a very touching and humble manner. This followed with congregation singing lead by Jeff Braswell, Music Director.

Rev. William Smith gave the offertory prayer at this time, after which Buddy Johnson sang, "I'll Fly Away," joined by the choir and congregation.

Moderator Rev. Kent Barwick then introduced Debbie Griffin who is no stranger to the Martin Association who thanked everyone for their continued support of her ministry and then gave a most interesting message using scripture from Titus 2:1-10, Matthew 5:14-16, & Philippians 2:15-16. Debbie closed this very touching message with prayer.

Moderator Rev. Kent Barwick invited everyone to join together in the fellowship hall for dinner and to extend the Right Hand of fellowship to James and Leslie Judkins as a result of his ordination as a minister. The meeting was closed in a benediction and blessing by Rev. Kent Barwick.

Robert E. Tiner, Clerk

October 10, 2009

Martin Association of Free Will Baptists

Executive Meeting

September 29, 2009-6:00 p.m.

Moderator Rev. Kent Barwick called a meeting of the Executive Committee on the above date at the Colquitt Free Will Baptist Church. Refer to page # 3 of this booklet for the results of this meeting. These appointments were approved after a motion and second by the committee after which the meeting was adjourned.

Robert E. Tiner, Clerk

September 29, 2009

Martin Association Minutes

October 10, 2009

10:00 a.m.

Corinth Free Will Baptist Church Business Meeting

The Martin Association of Georgia Free Will Baptist business meeting was called to order by Rev. Kent Barwick, Moderator. Bro. Wendell Cox opened with prayer followed by a song by the congregation. The welcome was presented by Ms. Pam Driggers with a response by Rev. Kent Barwick. The Devotion was given by Dr. Lynn Frazier entitled, "When Will God Bless America?" He used scriptures verses from Nehemiah 8 & 9.

At this time the business session continued with the recognition of licensed ministers with 2 in attendance. Ordained deacons had 8 in attendance. Delegates seated 14 motioned & second and approved- there were no visitors present. A roll call of churches listed as follows Colquitt 5, Corinth 10, Hebrew 2, Highway 5, New Salem 1, Mt. Gilead 2, Mt. Glory 1, New Home Miller Co. 6, Thompson 2. Bro. Kent then appointed the following members to the Resolutions Committee Billy Roland and Jara Miller, Credentials Committee, Grier Tiner and Gary Enfinger, Programs Committee Gerald Thompson and Charles Grimes. A 15 minute recess was then called for these committees to meet.

The meeting reconvened with the offertory prayer by Darrell Newberry for the Martin Association. The minutes of the pervious meetings of April 11, 2009 and July 12, 2009 were read by clerk Bobby Tiner and approved in a motion and second. Rev. Ben Miller presented the Financial report for the quarter July 12, 2009 and thru October 9, 2009 which were approved after motion and second. Copy attached; Moderator Rev. Kent Barwick presented the nominating committee report for 2010 for the association. Copy attached; It was approved after motion and second.

Only brief reports by the State Mission Board and State Christian Education Board were given. The resolutions committee report was presented by Billy Roland Copy Attached: The credentials report was given by Gary Enfinger copy attached:

The banner for attendance was given to Corinth Church for having the most present for this meeting. The program committee consisting of Bro. Gerald Thompson and Bro. Charles Grimes were to investigate places and times for the next 4 meetings and report back. It was stated that the next meeting would be a Fellowship Meeting, January 10, 2010 at Hebrew Free Will Baptist Church. This meeting would be confirmed by the committee.

Rev. Kent Barwick Moderator discussed that a review of the decision to have 2 business meetings and 2 fellowship meetings per year

needed to be updated and it was decided in a motion and second that it remain as is and announce this at the next 2 meetings and after these meetings vote as to whether to amend the By-Laws accordingly.

Discussion took place stating the need for Women Active for Christ to take a more active role in the Martin Association functions- especially have some type of representation at the quarterly meetings. This was presented as discussion only at this time. Moderator Rev. Kent Barwick then turned the meeting over to Rev. Ben Miller for the regular service.

Rev. Ben Miller began the service with a Fellowship Hand Shake by having each one shake the hand and greet someone near to them. He entitled his message "Restoration Process," while taking scripture from Ezra 1:11, Jeramiah 29:10-13, & Hebrew 12:14. He used 4 points of interest as follows: 1- Reclaim lost ground 2- Recapture the excitement or passion 3- Reach the unreachable 4- Reconnect with our past.

Special interest should be noted of the beautiful message in song presented by Bro. Tommy Thompson, Ms. Karen Thompson and Ms. Pam Driggers. Bro. Ben then ended the service in prayer and everyone was invited to a time of continued Fellowship and a delicious meal prepared by the ladies of the Corinth Free Will Baptist Church.

Robert E. Tiner
October 10, 2009

Approved Date:_____

Signature:_____

MARTIN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS
Annual Treasurer's Report
(January 1, 2009 - December 31, 2009)

<i>Deposits</i>				
<i>Date</i>	<i>Sequence</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Meeting Date</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1/12/09	#1	Regular Offering	1/11/09	\$256.75
1/23/09	#2	Regular Fees	1/11/09	\$1,880.00
4/13/09	#3	Reg. Fees & Offerings	4/11/09	\$2,251.75
7/15/09	#4	Reg. Fees & Offerings	7/12/09	\$2,186.00
7/24/09	N/A	Ck # 1258 Voided	N/A	\$50.00
8/4/09	#5	Late Regular Fees	7/12/09	\$222.50
8/4/09	#6	Benevolent Deposit	N/A	\$50.00
9/8/09	#7	Benevolent Deposit	N/A	\$50.00
10/12/09	#8	Regular Offering	10/10/09	\$89.00
10/12/09	#9	Regular Fees	10/10/09	\$2,315.00
11/2/09	#10	Late Regular Fees	10/10/09	\$172.50
			Total Deposits	\$9,523.50

MARTIN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Annual Treasurer's Report

(January 1, 2009 - December 31, 2009)

continued

Disbursements				
<i>Date</i>	<i>Check #</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1/5/09	1239	Automat Printers	2008 Martin Minutes	\$467.38
1/11/09	1240	Rev. Kent Barwick	Moderator	\$50.00
1/11/09	1241	Bro. Bobby Tiner	Clerk	\$50.00
1/11/09	1242	Rev. Benjamin Miller	Treasurer	\$50.00
1/23/09	1243	Mrs. J.J. Scott	Benevolent	\$381.29
1/23/09	1244	Mrs. J.L. Williams	Benevolent	\$381.29
1/23/09	1245	Sis. Helen Robinson	Benevolent	\$381.29
1/23/09	1246	Sis. Mattie McAlister	Benevolent	\$381.29
1/23/09	1247	GA State Association	Co-Op Giving	\$194.08
1/29/09	1248	GA State Association	National/State Dues	\$1,375.00
4/10/09	1249	Rev. Kent Barwick	Moderator	\$50.00
4/10/09	1250	Bro. Bobby Tiner	Clerk	\$50.00
4/10/09	1251	Rev. Benjamin Miller	Treasurer	\$50.00
4/11/09	1252	Bro. Bobby Tiner	Postage	
			Reimbursement	\$13.26
4/14/09	1253	Mrs. J.J. Scott	Benevolent	\$377.79
4/14/09	1254	Mrs. J.L. Williams	Benevolent	\$377.79
4/14/09	1255	Sis. Helen Robinson	Benevolent	\$377.79
4/14/09	1256	Sis. Mattie McAlister	Benevolent	\$377.79
4/14/09	1257	GA State Association	Co-Op Giving	\$163.63
7/10/09	1258	Rev. Kent Barwick	Moderator	\$50.00 Voided

MARTIN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Annual Treasurer's Report

(January 1, 2009 - December 31, 2009)

continued

7/10/09	1259	Bro. Bobby Tiner	Clerk	\$50.00
7/10/09	1260	Rev. Benjamin Scott	Treasurer	\$50.00
7/15/09	1261	Mrs. J.J. Scott	Benevolent	\$363.29
7/15/09	1262	Mrs. J.L. Williams	Benevolent	\$363.29
7/15/09	1263	Sis. Helen Robinson	Benevolent	\$363.29
7/15/09	1264	Sis. Mattie McAlister	Benevolent	\$363.29
7/15/09	1265	GA State Association	Co-Op Giving	\$245.70
7/24/09	1266	Rev. Kent Barwick	Ck # 1258 Reissued	\$50.00
10/9/09	1267	Rev. Kent Barwick	Moderator	\$50.00
10/9/09	1268	Bro. Bobby Tiner	Clerk	\$50.00
10/9/09	1269	Rev. Benjamin Miller	Treasurer	\$50.00
10/13/09	1270	Mrs. J.J. Scott	Benevolent	\$408.71
10/13/09	1271	Mrs. J. L. Williams	Benevolent	\$408.71
10/13/09	1272	Sis. Helen Robinson	Benevolent	\$408.71
10/13/09	1273	Sis. Mattie McAlister	Benevolent	\$408.71
10/13/09	1274	GA State Association	Co-Op Giving	\$76.65
10/21/09	Draft	Harland Clarke Checks	Supplies	\$11.25
			Total Disbursements	\$9,321.27

Beginning Balance (Jan. 1, 2009)			\$2,244.76
	Additions		\$9,523.50
	Subtractions		\$9,321.27
Closing Balance (Dec. 31, 2009)			\$2,446.99

MARTIN ASSOCIATION
OBITUARY REPORT - 2009
As Reported

COLQUITT FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Mrs. Clemmie Williams

Born: December 9, 1917 - Died: December 29, 2008

CORINTH FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Frances Elaine Golden

Born: June 26, 1942 - Died: February 7, 2009

DONALSONVILLE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Joel White

Birth Unknown - Died: September 20, 2008

HEBREW FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Mrs. Annie Merle-Helms Parker

Born: July 11, 1927 - Died: April 20, 2009

Mrs. Judy Lynnette-Faircloth Cloud

Born: March 4, 1946 - Died: May 23, 2009

NEW HOME FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH - Miller County

Mr. David Bracewell

Born: December 13, 1954 - Died: May 24, 2008

Mr. Harry Roberts

Born: September 22, 1922 - Died: November 2, 2008

NEW SALEM FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Elaine Mock Bryan

Born: December 19, 1936 - Died: April 8, 2009

Edna Roland

Born: October 27, 1914 - Died: June 2, 2009

Lorraine Middleton Tison

Born: January 21, 1924 - Died: July 3, 2009

CHURCH DIRECTORY

CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK
COLQUITT	Rev. Kent Barwick 1077 Enterprise Rd. Colquitt, GA 39837 758-6221	Sis. Jeannie Lee 656 Thompson Town Rd. Colquitt, GA 39837 758-2105
CORINTH		Sis. Gloria Frazier 811 Rose Circle Bainbridge, GA 39819 246-4078
DONALSONVILLE	Rev. Rollin Rathel 5876 Hwy. 39 South Donalsonville, GA 39845 524-8917	Sis. Laverne Holman 2456 Cannington Rd. Iron City, GA 39849 Tele. Not Listed
FATHERS HOME	NO REPORT	
HEBREW	Rev. Andy Merritt 63 Old Airport Rd. Colquitt, GA 39837 758-2451	Sis. Doretha Stewart 2971 Croom-Webb Rd. Donalsonville, GA 39845 861-3171
HIGHWAY	Rev. Darrell Newberry 2153 Hutchinson Ferry Rd. Quincy, FL 32352 229-416-0715	Sis. Scarborough Scott 3334 Dothan Rd. Brinson, GA 39825 246-1978
MOTHERS HOME		Sis. Willine Musgrove 310 Adams Powell Rd. Colquitt, GA 39837 246-7735
MT. GILEAD	Bro. Charles Taylor (Interim Pastor)	Bro. Timmy Bellflower 156 Bethany Church Rd. Brinson, GA 39825 254-2851

CHURCH**PASTOR****CLERK****MT. GLORY**

Rev. James Lemieux (Interim)
P. O. Box 181
Greensboro, FL 32330
850/ 442-4379

Sis. Ethel Newberry
2157 Hutchinson Ferry Rd.
Quincy, FL 32352
850/ 856-5134

NEW HOME (M.C.)

Rev. Benjamin Miller
84 Lane Rd.
Colquitt, GA 39837
758-2330

Sis. Pam Roberts
265 Grimsley Rd.
Colquitt, GA 39837
758-5335

NEW HOME (D.C.)

Rev. Benny Cumbie
125 Church Rd.
Climax, GA 39834
246-2046

Bro. Larry Miles
211 Open Pond Rd.
Bainbridge, GA 39817
246-1323

NEW SALEM

Rev. Jimmy Harris
16047 Hwy 39
Blakely, GA 39823
229-723-8373

Bro. Bobby Richardson
1256 Mayhaw Rd.
Blakely, GA 39823
758-2659

THOMPSON

Rev. Bobby Whittaker
70 Thompson West Rd.
Colquitt, GA 39837
758-8839

Bro. Louie Grimes
233 Bush Grimes Rd.
Colquitt, GA 39837
758-2102

MARTIN ASSOC.

MODERATOR:
Rev. Kent Barwick
1077 Enterprise Rd.
Colquitt, GA 39837
758-6221

TREASURER:
Rev. Benjamin Miller
84 Lane Rd.
Colquitt, Ga. 39837
758-2330

CLERK:
Bro. Robert E. Tiner
16356 Damascus-Hilton Rd.
Damascus, GA 39841
229-723-6631

BY-LAWS

MARTIN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

1. It is recommended that each church close its books on September 1st and mail the quarterly and annual reports to the clerk two weeks before each session of the Association.

2. It is suggested that the Pastoral year begin September first.

3. All business of this Body shall be conducted according to established parliamentary procedures as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order.

4. 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.

5. The Woman's Auxiliary, and any other Auxiliary of this Association shall give an annual written report at the October meeting.

6. Obituary reports from each church should give name, date of birth, and date of death of deceased members in the annual report to the Association. This information will be given to the Resolutions Committee.

7. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to call the meeting to order and to maintain order and harmony.

8. It shall be the duty of the Assistant Moderator to assume the duties of the Moderator in his/her absence or upon the request of the Moderator.

9. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep accurate financial records in terms of receipts, expenditures, and balance of funds to be reported to the Association quarterly and prepared for yearly publication.

10. The Assistant Treasurer shall perform such duties as are incumbent on the Treasurer in his/her absence or upon the request of the Treasurer.

11. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a minute of the proceedings and to prepare the Minutes for publication, including all items of business, committee reports, and all other matters which effect the program of this Association.

12. The Assistant Clerk shall perform such duties as are incumbent on the Clerk in his/her absence or upon request of the Clerk.

13. These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at any regular session.

CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

We, the Martin Association of Free Will Baptists of Georgia, do establish and ordain this Constitution for the purpose of advocating, promoting, and increasing our fellowship with one another as fellow members of the Church of Jesus Christ, and for the extension of the Kingdom of God through the preaching of the Gospel of the divine Son of God.

ARTICLE I

NAME:

This Association shall be called the Martin Association of Free Will Baptists, and shall be composed of such regularly organized and well-disciplined churches as may embody themselves under this constitution.

ARTICLE II

COMPOSITION AND DELEGATES:

Section 1. This Martin Association shall be composed of its general officers, all ordained and licensed ministers of Gospel, all ordained deacons who are in good standing with the churches of which they are members, duly elected delegates from the local churches comprising the Association, and all Home and Foreign Missionaries who are members in good standing with a church belonging to this Association.

Section 2. Local churches shall be allowed two (2) delegates for the first fifty members or fraction thereof, and one (1) delegate for each additional twenty-five (25) members or fraction thereof.

ARTICLE III

MEETINGS:

The Sessions of this Association shall be held quarterly in January, April, July, and October on Saturday following the first Sunday of these months. The place of meeting to be determined by vote of the Association. It shall be the duty of the member churches to represent by letter and delegates at these meetings and report their condition and statistics on forms provided by the Association. The October session shall be considered the annual session of this Association.

ARTICLE IV

INDEPENDENCE OF THE LOCAL CHURCHES:

Every church in this Association shall be considered an independent body and shall control its own internal affairs, having unrestricted right to administer its own government without interference from any higher body, being under Christ free and independent.

ARTICLE V

ASSOCIATIONAL RELATIONSHIP TO THE LOCAL CHURCHES:

The Martin Association shall be considered an advisory board whose function is to meet quarterly at such places as may be determined according to Article III of this Constitution, and not to adjourn formally until all pertinent matters are disposed of. While in session its duty shall be to examine all questions of interest to this Association and to use its best influence to promote Christian, denominational, and benevolent programs and institutions, such as Sunday Schools, Church Training Service, Woman's Auxiliary, Masters Men, Home and Foreign Missions, and child-care institutions. The only punitive power this Association has in relation to the member churches is the right to withdraw fellowship from such churches who are in open violation of the rules and regulations of said Association or who become unsound in the doctrines and practices of the Free Will Baptist Denomination.

ARTICLE VI

OFFICERS:

Section 1. The officers of this Association shall be Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Clerk and Assistant Clerk, each of whom shall be elected at the close of the October session and assume the duties of their offices the next day following their election.

Section 2. No individual shall be elected to more than one office at a time.

Section 3. The Moderator may not serve more than (3) terms in succession. The Clerk and Treasurer may serve for an indefinite period of time.

ARTICLE VII

PROCEDURES FOR JOINING THE ASSOCIATION:

A church desiring to become a member of Martin Association shall submit a petitionary letter to the Association at any of its regular quarterly sessions, stating the date and place of organization, the Pastor's name and address, list of all elected officers, number of members, and time and place of regular meetings. The church must conform to the doctrines, and practices of the Free Will Baptist Denomination as set forth in the Treatise of Faith and Practice of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

This Association reserves the right to send its Executive Committee to investigate any applicant for membership in this Association if it deems necessary and to subsequently act on the report of said Executive Committee before approval for membership becomes final.

ARTICLE VIII

FINANCE:

Section 1. It is suggested that each church comprising this Association send to the Association on a quarterly basis fifty cents (.50) per member to be determined on a total membership basis. However, at the discretion of the churches, inactive members need not be in the per-capita figure, but it is hoped that the churches will elect to include all members, active and inactive, in determining their total fee.

Section 2. Regular funds to the Associational treasury shall be disbursed on a quarterly basis as follows:

- A. Retain in the treasury fifty (50) dollars.
- B. State Association, fifteen (15) dollars.
- C. For printing minutes, one hundred fifty (150) dollars.
- D. Moderator's honorarium, fifty (50) dollars; Clerk's honorarium, fifty (50) dollars; Treasurer's honorarium fifty (50) dollars.
- E. The remaining funds will be allocated as follows: State Cooperative Program, 70% - Benevolent Fund, 30%.

ARTICLE IX

COMMITTEES, BOARD, COUNCIL

Section 1. Committees may be chosen for any particular function at any session of the Association as the need arises. Unless otherwise specified, the Moderator shall appoint these committees.

Section 2. Standing Committees may be set up by the Association as the need arises and unless otherwise specified, the Moderator shall appoint these committees.

Section 3. The Standing Committees of this Association shall be the Executive Committee and the Investigating Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, and three (3) members to be elected annually by the Association.

The Executive Committee shall act for and in behalf of the Martin Association on matters pertaining to its interests which may arise between sessions and which by their nature require immediate action. Such actions shall, however, be subject to final approval by this Association at its next regular session and consequently must be reported in full to the Association at its regular meeting.

The Investigating Committee shall consist of three (3) members who shall be elected as follows: one for a three (3) year term; one for a two (2) year term; and one for a one (1) year term. Election thereafter shall be for the three (3) year term. This committee shall act on instruction from the Association in investigating any irregularities among the churches which threaten the harmony and well being of the Association. It shall have no legislative or jurisdictional powers within itself, but must report all its findings to the Association for official action.

Section 4. There shall be an Ordaining Council consisting of three (3) ordained ministers in good standing with Martin Association. They shall be elected as follows: one for a three (3) year term; one for a two (2) year term; and one for a one (1) year term. Election thereafter shall be for the three (3) year term.

The Ordaining Council shall examine candidates for ordination to the Gospel ministry under the procedures adopted by this Association.* (Guidelines adopted by the State Association.)

ARTICLE X

ALTERATIONS OR AMENDMENTS:

This Consitution may be altered or amended by the Martin Association at any of its regular sessions by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting, provided that notice of the proposed alteration or amendment be presented in writing, filed with the Clerk of the Association, and read publicly before the Body at least two (2) times at a previous regular meeting.

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Jesus Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant.

We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to provide things honest in the sight of all men.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship, and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the holy gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society; constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday Schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world.

And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.