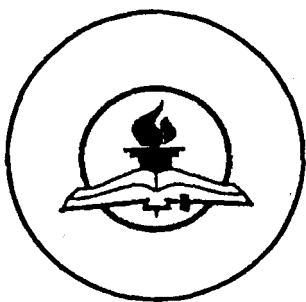


2017

Quarterly Sessions

ONE HUNDRED THIRTY YEARS



Free Will
Free Grace
Free Salvation

Martin Association
Free Will Baptists of Georgia

2017 MINUTES

Published by
The Martin Association
Free Will Baptists of Georgia

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**MARTIN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST
OFFICERS and BOARD MEMBERS
2017-2018**

GENERAL OFFICERS

Moderator.....Rev. Ron Wallace
Assistant ModeratorRev. Kent Barwick
TreasurerSister Pam Roberts
Assistant TreasurerSister Annie Laura Middleton
Clerk.....Sister Becky Harrell
Assistant ClerkBro. Rod Brewer

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. Ron Wallace
Rev. Kent Barwick
Sister Becky Harrell
Sis. Annie Laura Middleton
Bro. Rod Brewer
Sis. Pam Roberts

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. Andy Merritt - 2020
Rev. Kent Barwick - 2019
Rev. Bobby Whitaker - 2020

INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

Rev. Andy Merritt - 2020
Bro. Randy Adams - 2019
Rev. William Smith - 2020

REPRESENTATIVES TO STATE BOARD

Board of Trustees - Rev. Talmadge Worsley, 2021
Board of Christian Education - Rev. Kent Barwick, 2021
Board of Missions - Bro. Gerald Thompson, 2019
Board of Camping - Rev. James Judkins, 2019

MARTIN ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETINGS

FIRST SESSION

Colquitt FWBC - January 14, 2018

Fellowship MeetingSunday, 6:00 p.m.

SECOND SESSION

Hebrew FWBC - April 8, 2018

Fellowship MeetingSunday, 6:00 p.m.

THIRD SESSION

Highway FWBC - July 8, 2018

Fellowship MeetingSunday, 6:00 p.m.

FOURTH SESSION

Mother's Home FWBC - October 13, 2018

Business MeetingSaturday, 10:00 a.m.

MARTIN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

January 8, 2017

Mother's Home FWB Church, Colquitt, GA
Fellowship Meeting

The Martin Association of Georgia Free Will Baptists held their fellowship meeting at Mother's Home Free Will Baptist Church in Colquitt, GA on Sunday, January 8, 2017. There were 47 people in attendance. The meeting began with Mother's Home church choir singing, "Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this Place." Bro. Rod Brewer then led the congregation in singing, "Jesus, Hold my Hand." Rev. Bobby Whitaker led in prayer.

Bro. Rod then introduced our moderator, Rev. Ron Wallace, who welcomed everyone to the meeting. Unfinished business from previous meeting was conducted. Bro. Ron was accepted in October as moderator, pending a letter of good standing from the North Georgia Association. Rev. Bobby Whitaker read said letter and stated that Bro. Ron will receive the right hand of fellowship at close of meeting.

Other unfinished business concerned election of Sister Pam Roberts as assistant treasurer. She agreed to accept this position.

We then selected 3 delegates to represent the Martin Association at the Georgia state meeting to be held in March. They are, Bro. Charles Harrell, Sister Cheryl Barwick and Sister Janice Wallace.

The next Martin meeting will be held April 9, 2017 at Mt. Gilead FWB Church in Bainbridge. This will be a fellowship meeting.

We received an offering of \$202.00.

Several prayer requests were given: Rev. William Smith, Bro. Buddy Worsley, Rev. Keith Horn, Rev. Andy and Sister Patsy Merritt, Bro. Melvin Whitaker, Sister Ruby Roberts and Sister Janice Brewer.

A round of applause was given for the hospitality of Mother's Home church.

Bro. Rod Brewer welcomed everyone to Mother's Home church. Sister Willine Musgrove sang "Holy Ground." The congregation sang, "I'm on the Battlefield for my Lord" and "I've a Home Beyond the River." Sister Susie Bryan then sang, "Hymn of Praise." This was followed by more congregational singing. A special, "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" was then presented by Bro. Darren Blankenship.

The congregation sang, "O, Say but I'm Glad."

Rev. Talmadge Worsley brought an inspiring message from Jeremiah 6:16. We need to walk in the old paths. We need to be faithful.

Rev. Wallace gave prayer of dismissal and blessing on the food.

We then enjoyed a wonderful time of food and fellowship.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Harrell, Clerk
Rev. Ronald Wallace, Moderator

Clerk Becky Harrell

Moderator Rev. Ronald Wallace

MARTIN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

April 9, 2017

Mt. Gilead FWB Church, Bainbridge GA
Fellowship Meeting

The Martin Association of Georgia Free Will Baptists held their fellowship meeting at Mt. Gilead Free Will Baptist Church in Bainbridge, GA on Sunday, April 9, 2017. There were 45 people in attendance. The meeting began with the congregation singing, "Redeemed." Moderator, Rev. Ron Wallace welcomed everyone to Mt. Gilead. Rev. Kent Barwick led in prayer. Bro. Ron announced that we had a special treat in store in that Doug and Miriam Bishop, missionaries to Japan would be speaking. We will take our regular offering as well as a special offering at the end of the service for the Bishops.

Bro. Ron then asked the congregation to offer a round of applause for the hospitality of the Mt. Gilead church. We then sang, "Victory in Jesus."

The next Martin meeting will be held July 9, 2017 at New Home FWB Church in Colquitt. This will be a fellowship meeting.

We received an offering of \$138.00.

Bro. Ron recognized those in attendance from each church in the Martin Association. There were 4 churches that were not represented. 2016 minutes are available for those who didn't get them at the January meeting.

All churches were asked to promote the World Mission Offering that will be received on April 30.

Doug and Miriam then gave an inspiring presentation about their ministry in Japan. They still need \$500 in monthly support before they can return to the field. If 20 people would pledge to give \$25 a month, that goal would be met.

We received an offering of \$244.00 for the Bishops. Bro. Ron encouraged all of the churches to invite them to have services at their church and to give to support their ministry.

Rev. Wallace gave prayer of dismissal and blessing on the food.

We then enjoyed a wonderful time of food and fellowship.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Harrell, Clerk
Rev. Ronald Wallace, Moderator

Clerk Becky Harrell

Moderator Rev. Ronald Wallace

MARTIN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS
July 9, 2017
New Home FWB Church, (Miller County) Colquitt, GA
Fellowship Meeting

The Martin Association of Georgia Free Will Baptists held their fellowship meeting at New Home Free Will Baptist Church, Miller County in Colquitt, GA on Sunday, July 9, 2017. There were 63 people in attendance. The meeting began with the Bro. Scott Roberts extending a warm welcome to everyone in attendance. Bro. Scott then led the congregation in singing, "This is the Day." A ladies trio from the host church then gave a beautiful rendition of "What a Lovely Name." Rev. Andy Merritt led in prayer.

Moderator, Rev. Ron Wallace recognized those in attendance from each church in the Martin Association. There were 4 churches (Corinth, Donalsonville, Highway and New Home, DC) that were not represented.

Bro. Ron announced that the next Martin meeting will be held October 14, 2017 at New Home FWB Church, Decatur County in Bainbridge. This will be the annual business meeting. We received an offering of \$357.00.

Announcements: National directories (one per church) may be picked up at front of church. An executive board meeting will be held soon. Members of the board will be notified of time and place for meeting.

Prayer requests: Veda Bellflower's grandson, Logan, Bob Roberts who had a stroke, Rev. Andy and Patsy Merritt's son and grandson on the way to Ecuador for mission trip. Rev. William Smith led in prayer.

Bro. Ron thanked New Home church for hosting the meeting. He also welcomed home missionary, Rev. Josh Bennett to the service.

Bro. Scott then led the congregation in singing several songs.

Bro. William introduced our speaker, Bro. Josh Bennett, who has just moved back to Georgia to plant a church in Tifton. He gave a challenging message about what God wants the Church to be. 1. Be faithful to preach and teach the Word of God. 2. Church extremely dependent on prayer and the Holy Spirit. 3. Compassionately concerned for the lost. 4. Strive to be extremely servant oriented. 5. Church that has MUCH of Jesus.

The congregation sang, "Jesus Saves."

Bro. Scott gave prayer of dismissal and blessing on the food. We then enjoyed a wonderful time of food and fellowship.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Harrell, Clerk
Rev. Ronald Wallace, Moderator

Clerk Becky Harrell

Moderator Rev. Ronald Wallace

August 22, 2017

On August 22, 2017, the Executive Board of the Martin Association of Free Will Baptists met at the Moby Dick restaurant in Colquitt. Board members, Rev. Ron Wallace, Rev. Kent Barwick, Rod Brewer, Annie Laura Middleton, Pam Roberts and Becky Harrell, were in attendance. Rev. William Smith and spouses of some board members also attended.

Moderator, Bro. Ron Wallace thanked everyone for coming. He also expressed appreciation for the invitation to join the men from Colquitt FWB church for a fish fry following the meeting. Bro. Ron led in prayer.

Bro. Ron stated he had mailed letters to the following churches regarding them hosting Martin Association meetings in 2018. They were asked to respond if they are not able to host a meeting. He has received no response so far. If any church is unable to host, Mt. Gilead church is next in line.

January 14, 2018 (Fellowship meeting) - Colquitt FWB Church, 6:00pm

April 8, 2018 (Fellowship meeting) - Hebrew FWB Church, 6:00pm

July 8, 2018 (Fellowship meeting) - Highway FWB Church, 6:00pm

October 13, 2018 (Business meeting) - Mother's Home FWB Church, 10:00 am

Ron asked if anyone had something that needs to be addressed at next meeting. No issues.

We have churches that are struggling. Corinth church, for example, is having a difficult time.

Their interim pastor is having health problems and unable to be there every Sunday. Several other members have health issues as well. Bro. William Smith stated that we have probably 20 church in Georgia that are one funeral away from closing. Bro. Ron asked if the investigating committee could approach Corinth church to see if we, as an association can help. Bro. Kent suggested that the executive committee should take care of this. Bro. Kent made motion for Bro. Ron to contact Sis. Pam Driggers at Corinth church to explore possibilities, 2nd by Annie Laura, carried.

The Martin Association officers at present are:

Moderator - Rev. Ron Wallace, Asst. Moderator - Rev. Kent Barwick

Treasurer - Sister Annie Laura Middleton, Asst. Treasurer - Sister Pam Roberts

Clerk - Sister Becky Harrell, Asst. Clerk - Bro. Rod Brewer. We recommend that Sis. Pam Roberts be elected as Treasurer and Sis Annie Laura Middleton become Asst. Treasurer. All other officers to remain the same unless there are nominations from the body.

Ordaining Council: Rev. Andy Merritt (2017), Rev. Bobby Whitaker (2017), Rev. Kent Barwick (2019). We recommend that Bro. Andy and Bro. Bobby remain in this position until 2020.

Investigating Committee: Rev. Andy Merritt (2017), Bro. Randy Adams (2019). We also recommend that Rev. William Smith be placed on this committee. He will serve until 2020.

Representatives to State Boards: Board of Trustees - Rev. Talmadge Worsley (2021), Board of Christian Education - Rev. Kent Barwick (2021), Board of Missions - Bro. Gerald Thompson (2019) and Board of Camping - Rev. James Judkins (2019)

The moderator appointed the following committee members to serve at the meeting in October: Resolutions Committee: Rod Brewer, chairman, Charles Harrell and Janice Wallace

Credentials Committee: Pam Roberts and Annie Laura Middleton

Becky Harrell will present the obituary report.

With no further business, Bro. Ron gave prayer of dismissal and blessing on food. We all then enjoyed a wonderful fish fry with a group from Colquitt FWB Church.

Moderator: Rev. Ron Wallace

Clerk: Becky Harrell

MARTIN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS
October 14, 2017
New Home Free Will Baptist Church (Decatur County)
Business Meeting

The Martin Association of Georgia Free Will Baptists held their annual business meeting at New Home Free Will Baptist Church, Decatur County, on Saturday, October 14, 2017. The meeting opened with the congregation singing, "Just a Little Talk with Jesus" led by Bro. Howard Scarborough.

After Moderator, Rev. Ron Wallace, led in prayer, he called the meeting to order. Bro. Ron recognized the church pastor, Rev. Jimmy Hooks, who welcomed everyone to New Home Church.

Bro. Ron gave a devotional from James 4 about prayer. God answers our prayers in different ways. Sometimes He says 1. yes, 2. no, 3. wait, 4. not now, 5. ask me again or 6. I can't hear you. We must pray with the right motive.

The business session began. There were 14 ministers and deacons present. Standing delegates were recognized. M/S/C to seat elected delegates. There were no visitors.

The roll call of churches was taken with 9 churches represented with a total present of 47. Bro. Ron appointed Rev. Talmadge Worsley, Bro. Charles Harrell, and Sis. Janice Wallace to the resolution committee. Sis. Pam Roberts, Sis. Annie Laura Middleton, and Sis. Becky Harrell made up the credentials committee. The executive board serves as the nominating committee. We received an offering of \$370.00. A 15 minute recess was called for the committees to meet.

We then reconvened the business session. M,S,C to adopt 2016 minutes as printed. The treasurer's report was given by Sis. Annie Laura Middleton. M,S,C to accept report as given. Sis. Pam Roberts gave the credentials committee report. There were 12 churches reporting with a total active membership of 441. We received regular fees of \$271.00, \$1164.00 for the benevolent fund, and \$600.00 for national dues. New Home Church, Decatur County won both the attendance banner and the banner for highest percentage present. Bro. Ron commended those who are faithful to attend the association meetings.

There was no report from the ordaining council.

GWAC state president, Sis. Janice Wallace announced that the 2018 state meeting will be held March 15 at White Oaks FWB Church in Macon. Home missionaries, Josh and Ashley Bennett will be the speakers. She also announced that the GWAC prayer retreat will be April 13 & 14, 2018 at Lake Blackshear with Lynette Morgan as the speaker. This report was received as information. Bro. Ron encouraged churches who do not have a WAC to think about starting one.

Rev. Talmadge Worsley gave the following report of the resolutions committee: 1. That we all be better prayer warriors for our churches. 2. That we pray for our country. 3. That the body give a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality. This report was accepted.

Sis. Becky Harrell then read the obituaries which were reported. Rev. Bobby Whittaker prayed in memory of those who had passed away and remembered their families.

Mission Board - Bro. Gerald Thompson stated that the Rev. Josh Bennett and his wife, Ashley are church planters in Tifton. They have a report each month in the state promotional bulletin. He encouraged each church to call and have them come and hold a service. This was accepted as information.

The executive board met on August 22, of this year. The following dates and places for 2018 meetings were adopted at that time:

January 14, 2018 (Fellowship meeting) - Colquitt FWB Church, 6:00pm

April 8, 2018 (Fellowship meeting) - Hebrew FWB Church, 6:00pm

July 8, 2018 (Fellowship meeting) - Highway FWB Church, 6:00pm

October 13, 2018 (Business meeting) - Mother's Home FWB Church, 10:00am

Bro. Ron gave the report of the nominating committee. We recommend that Rev. Andy Merritt and Rev. Bobby Whittaker replace themselves on the ordaining council and remain in this position until 2020. We also recommend that Rev. William Smith be added to the investigating committee to serve until 2020.

We recommend that Sis. Pam Roberts be elected treasurer and Sis. Annie Laura Middleton become asst. treasurer. All other officers will remain the same. Motion, second and carried to accept these recommendations.

Bro. Ron stated that he had spoken with Sis. Pam Driggers from the Corinth church. Their pastor, Rev. James Miller, is having health issues but has agreed to serve them as long as he is physically able to do so. They have also lost members due to aging and relocating. They are unable to host the association meetings at this time. When they can no longer have services they will think about joining with other churches. We need to pray for Corinth as well as our other churches.

The business session adjourned. Bro. Ron turned the program over to the host church.

The worship service began with the New Home puppets performing two inspiring songs, "John Saw" and "A Beautiful Life." Pastor, Jimmy Hooks then brought an inspiring message from Matthew 6:25-34. The message was entitled, "God's Stress Remover". If we put the kingdom of God first, He will take care of us. We need to take time to pray, read God's Word and listen to God. We do not need to worry.

Bro. Ron gave prayer of dismissal and blessing on the food. We then enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by the host church.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Harrell, Clerk
Rev. Ron Wallace, Moderator

Moderator

Clerk

Rev. Ron Wallace
Becky Harrell

MARTIN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS
Annual Treasurer's Report
October 1, 2016 – September 30 , 2017

Deposits

Date	Purpose	Amount
10/13/17	Offering	\$163.00
10/13/17	Fees	\$2619.00
1/14/17	Offering	\$202.00
1/14/17	Fees	\$2464.00
4/17/17	Offering	\$138.00
4/17/17	Fees	\$1719.00
7/12/17	Offering	\$357.00
7/12/17	Fees	\$1754.00
	Service Chg - R'td	\$4.00
	Total Deposits	\$9420.00

MARTIN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS
Annual Treasurer's Report continued
October 1, 2014 – September 30 , 2015

Disbursements				
Date	Chk #	Payee	Purpose	Amount
10/08/16	1517	Cecil Griner	Moderator	\$50.00
10/08/16	1518	Becky Harrell	Clerk	\$50.00
10/08/16	1519	Annie L. Middleton	Treasurer	\$50.00
10/08/16	1520	Becky Harrell	Postage	\$18.80
10/13/16	1521	Mrs. J. L. Williams	Benevolent	\$510.29
10/13/16	1522	Mrs. Helen Robinson	Benevolent	\$510.00
10/13/16	1523	Mrs. Mattie McAlister	Benevolent	\$510.29
10/13/16	1524	Ga. St. Assoc. FWB	Co-Op	\$162.40
12/28/16	1525	Houston Printing Co.	Minutes	\$482.87
1/17/17	1526	Postmaster	Postage	\$9.40
1/17/17	1527	Rev. Ronald Wallace	Moderator	\$50.00
1/17/17	1528	Becky Harrell	Clerk	\$50.00
1/17/17	1529	Annie L. Middleton	Treasurer	\$50.00
1/17/17	1530	Mrs. J.L. Williams	Benevolent	\$510.10
1/17/17	1531	Mrs. Mattie McAlister	Benevolent	\$510.10
1/17/17	1532	Mrs. Helen Robinson	Benevolent	\$510.10
2/12/17	1533	Ga. St. Assoc. FWB	Co-Op	\$189.00
4/17/17	1534	Ga. St. Assoc. FWB	St. & Ntl. Fees	\$1875.00
4/17/17	1535	Rev. Ronald Wallace	Moderator	\$50.00
4/17/17	1536	Becky Harrell	Clerk	\$50.00
4/17/17	1537	Annie L. Middleton	Treasurer	\$50.00
4/17/17	1538	Mrs. J. L. Williams	Benevolent	\$386.84
4/17/17	1539	Mrs. Helen Robinson	Benevolent	\$386.84
4/17/17	1540	Mrs. Mattie McAllister	Benevelont	\$386.84

MARTIN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS
Annual Treasurer's Report continued
October 1, 2014 – September 30 , 2015

Disbursements				
Date	Chk #	Payee	Purpose	Amount
7/09/17	1541	Ga. St. Assoc. FWB	Co-Op	\$81.90
7/09/17	1542	Rev. Ronald Wallace	Moderator	\$50.00
7/09/17	1543	Becky Harrell	Clerk	\$50.00
7/12/17	1544	Annie L. Middleton	Treasurer	\$50.00
7/12/17	1545	VOID		
7/12/17	1546	VOID		
7/12/17	1547	VOID		
7/12/17	1548	Becky Harrell	Postage	\$19.60
7/12/17	1549	Mrs. J. L. Williams	Benevolent	\$405.38
7/12/17	1550	Mrs. Helen Robinson	Benevolent	\$405.38
7/12/17	1551	Mrs. Mattie McAlister	Benevolent	\$405.38
7/21/17	1552	Ga. St. Assoc. FWB	Co-Op	\$234.50
		Bank Service Charge	Fees	\$6.00
TOTAL EXPENSES				\$9,111.01

Previous Year Adjustment.....	+20
Balance on hand 9/30/16	\$1,489.26
Deposits	\$9,420.00
Subtotal	\$10,909.46
Expenditures	\$9,111.01
Closing Balance	\$1,798.45

MARTIN ASSOCIATION OBITUARY REPORT AS REPORTED

Colquitt Free Will Baptist Church

Colleen Raw: b. 7/13/51 d. 3/09/17

Jimmy Mason: b. 8/13/63 d. 5/29/17

Corinth Free Will Baptist Church

Annette Knight: b. 6/22/53 d. 7/14/17

Mother's Home Free Will Baptist Church

Nellie Cutts Bailey.: b. 3/04/24 d. 5/22/17

Mt. Gilead Free Will Baptist Church

Laurette Hatton Bland: b. 8/23/43 d. 6/02/17

Melvin Riley Whitaker: b. 9/30/37 d. 7/04/17

New Home Free Will Baptist Church (D.C.)

Oliver Parrish: b. 8/28/41 d. 5/03/17

Rev. Benny T. Cumbie: b. 7/24/43 d. 1/04/17

Mary H. Boutwell: b. 12/29/31 d. 8/30/17

Robert Maston Harrell: b. 2/13/47 d. 10/06/17

New Home Free Will Baptist Church (M.C.)

Jeanette Ard Cox: b. 08/31/31 d. 2/06/17

New Salem Free Will Baptist Church

Joe Tom McLendon: b. 3/02/23 d. 11/06/16

Mark Roland: b. 3/31/60 d. 2/10/17

Bobby E. Richardson, Sr.: b. 4/17/37 d. 6/05/17

CHURCH DIRECTORY

CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK
COLQUITT P.O. Box 5 Colquitt, GA 39837 229-758-5070	Rev. Kent Barwick 1077 Enterprise Rd. Colquitt, GA 39837 726-5866 kentbarwick@aol.com	Sis. Jeannie Lee c/o FWBC P.O. Box 5 Colquitt, GA 39837 jeannielee9620@gmail.com
CORINTH P.O. Box 447 Iron City, GA 39859	Interim Bro. James Miller	Sis. Pam Driggers 2543 Ash Crossing Rd. Iron City, GA 39859 229-254-9893
DONALSONVILLE P.O. Box 4504 Donalsonville, GA 39845	Rev. Rollin Rathel 5876 Hwy. 39 South P.O. Box 326 Donalsonville, GA 39845 524-8917	Sis. LaVerne Holman 2456 Cannington Rd. Iron City, GA 39859 774-2581
HEBREW 6776 Hebrew Rd. Donalsonville, GA 39845	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 3376 Dothan Rd. Brinson, GA 39825	Rev. Kim Whitehead 276 Black Jack Rd. Bainbridge, GA 39817 246-1558	Sis. Eva Phillips 165 Carters Mill Rd. Brinson, GA 39825 246-5740
MOTHERS HOME 62 Mothers Home Church Rd. Colquitt, GA 39837	Rev. Talmadge Worsley 505 S. 3rd St. Colquitt, GA 39837 229-726-9552	Sis. Willine Musgrove 310 Adams Powell Rd. Colquitt, GA 39837 246-7735
MT. GILEAD 2932 Spring Creek Rd. Brinson, GA 39825	Rev. Ronald Wallace P: 2930 Spring Creek Rd. Brinson, GA 39825 M: P.O.Box 818 Blairsville, GA 30514 706-994-4371 revwallace48@gmail.com	Sis. Veda Bellflower 254 Hales Landing Rd. Bainbridge, GA 39817 229-246-3414

CHURCH DIRECTORY

CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK
MT. GLORY		Sis. Luvern Newberry 63 Newberry Rd. Quincy, FL 32352 850-856-5154
NEW HOME (M.C.) 80 Lane Rd. Colquitt, GA 39837		Sis. Pam Roberts 265 Grimsley Rd. Colquitt, GA 39837 254-6905
NEW HOME (D.C.) 125 Church Rd. Climax, GA 39834	Rev. Jimmy Hooks 149 Chapman Hall Rd. Bainbridge, GA 39817 229-254-4665	Bro. Wayne Scott 1034 Salem Church Rd. Climax, GA 39834 229-246-8685 229-416-7224
NEW SALEM 75 New Salem Church Rd. Colquitt, GA 39837	Rev. Jimmy Harris 16047 Hwy. 39 Blakely, GA 39823 723-8373	Sis. Arlene Worsley 980 Hwy. 91 N. Colquitt, GA 39837 758-2180 taworsley@gmail.com
THOMPSON Corner of Thompson Town Rd. & Thompson-West Rd. Colquitt, GA 39837	Dr. Robert L. 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. Ronald Wallace 2930 Spring Creek Rd. Brinson, GA 39825 706-994-4371 revwallace48@gmail.com	Clerk: Sis. Becky Harrell 132 Croley Rd. Bainbridge, GA 39817 246-6547	Treasurer: Sis. Pam Roberts 265 Grimsley Rd. Colquitt, GA 39837 229-254-6905

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.

AMENDMENT #1

MEETINGS:

Meeting Sessions of the Association shall be classified in 2 categories as follows. On January and July of each year there shall be held a Fellowship Meeting only. On April and October of each year there shall be held the regular Business Meetings as in the past. The By-Laws shall only apply to the April and October Meetings as specified.

AMENDMENT #2

MEETINGS:

Meeting sessions of the association shall be classified in 2 categories as follows. In January, April and July of each year there shall be held a Fellowship Meeting only. In October of each year there shall be held the annual Business Meeting as in the past.

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 Ordaing 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 Constitution 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 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.