

MINUTES
OF
FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION
MARYLAND STATE
ASSOCIATION
OF
ORIGINAL
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

CONVENED
26 & 27 JUNE 1970
AT THE
MT. CALVARY CHURCH
PERRYMAN, MARYLAND

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The Fifth Session of the Maryland State Association will convene 25 & 26 June 1971 with the Bethel Church, 3713 Davis Ford Road, Woodbridge. Host pastor will be Rev. Elzo Bevan.

MARYLAND STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

OFFICERS

MODERATOR: Rev. William Steele
Chestnut Hill Church
Big Island, Virginia

CLERK: Mr. Cossie Meade
249 Cabbel Drive
Manassas Park, Virginia

PROMOTIONAL SECRETARY: Rev. Lester Horton
Fairwood Church
7415 Ox Road
Fairfax Station, Virginia

SECRETARY: Miss Nancy L. Meade
249 Cabbel Drive
Manassas Park, Virginia

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. Elzo Bevan
Bethel Church
3713 Davis Ford Road
Woodbridge, Virginia
Term Expires: 1971

Rev. Johnnie Skeens
Mt. Calvary Church
Perryman, Maryland
Term Expires: 1972

Rev. William Steele
Chestnut Hill Church
Big Island, Virginia
Term Expires: 1973

Rev. Curtis Byrd
Trinity Church
Darlington, Maryland
Term Expires: 1972

Bro. Eugene Wampler
Welcome Home Church
Bel Air, Maryland
Term Expires: 1971

NATIONAL OFFICES

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS
POST OFFICE BOX 1088
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37202**

Address above can be used for following Departments:

**Board of Foreign Missions
Home Missions - Church Extension
Sunday School Department
Executive Church Bonds
Church Training Service
Retirement and Insurance
Laymen's Board
Woman's Auxiliary**

**FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE
3606 WEST END AVENUE
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37205**

**FREE WILL BAPTIST HOME FOR CHILDREN
ROUTE 9
GREENEVILLE, TENNESSEE 37743**

THE MARYLAND STATE ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS

1. The Clerk or his assistant or in their absence the senior minister in years shall call the Association to order if a quorum is present. The Moderator or in his absence the Assistant Moderator shall take charge. If neither is present, a Moderator Pro Tem shall be elected.
2. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to enroll the ordained personnel and delegates to this Association who shall sign the register upon arrival with name, address, and Quarterly Meeting they represent. Visitors will also be registered.
3. It shall be the duty of each Quarterly Meeting belonging to this Association to send a letter to each annual meeting of this Association reporting in the same its statistics and benevolent work. Any Quarterly Meeting belonging to this Association may be dismissed from the Association by a two thirds vote of all members present.
4. Each session shall be opened by Scripture reading and prayer and shall be closed with prayer.
5. By a two thirds vote of all members present a ruling of the Moderator can be overruled.
6. The Moderator shall have the same privileges to speak as any other person provided the Chair is filled.
7. This Association may correspond by letter or otherwise with other religious bodies.
8. This Association shall sit with open doors except when it shall go into a committee of the whole.
9. Any person not a member of this Association may be allowed to take part in discussions by obtaining permission from the Moderator and properly identifying themselves.
10. Anyone desiring to speak shall stand and address the Moderator by the appellation "Brother Moderator" but shall not speak further until recognized by the Moderator.
11. It shall be the duty of each member of the association to be present at the time appointed for each meeting. Anyone wishing to retire should first obtain permission from the Moderator.
12. The Moderator of this Association must be an ordained minister and no person may be Moderator more than twice in succession.
13. The Moderator shall not allow discussion when not carried on in a Christian spirit or when he thinks it will cause discord or division.
14. No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any committee provided the person nominated be elected.
15. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to seat delegates in a body in a designated section at the beginning of each session.
16. Five members or a majority of the resident members present shall constitute a quorum in conference.
17. Each minister shall make a yearly report to the Clerk of the Quarterly Meeting of which he is a member prior to the State Association. Good standing cards will be issued only to those that report.

CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

We the members of the Free Will Baptist denomination, being baptized upon the profession of our faith in Christ and realizing the necessity of a bond of union and fellowship among us as a State Association and to preserve and maintain correspondence and coordination among us, do therefore adopt this Constitution for our better denominational government.

1. This yearly meeting shall be called the Maryland State Association of Free Will Baptists and shall be composed of such regularly organized and well disciplined Free Will Baptist Quarterly Meetings conveniently located as may embody themselves under this Constitution.

2. The business of this Association shall be conducted by the ordained ministers and deacons and elected delegates who are members of a quarterly meeting within this Association. Each quarterly meeting is entitled to three delegates from each church in addition to the ordained personnel who are standing delegates.

3. The officers of this Association shall be Clerk, Treasurer, and Secretary who shall retain that office until terminated by this Association or themselves. The Moderator shall be elected at the close of the annual meeting of this Association.

4. Any well organized Free Will Baptist quarterly meeting composed of such church as conform to the usages and adopt the doctrines and the Treatise of the National Association of Free Will Baptists and the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association may at any time, upon application and by majority vote of this Association, become a member thereof.

5. From this time (June 1970) forward, any minister or deacon applying for membership in this Association must first meet the qualifications set forth in First Timothy, Chapter 3 and Titus Chapter 1. No minister or deacon shall hold membership in this Association if he or his wife have a living companion from a previous marriage.

6. This Association shall have authority to discipline the quarterly meetings of which it is composed and exclude them for practices contrary to the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association.

7. The annual meeting of this Association shall convene on Friday morning at 10 o'clock before the fourth Sunday in June and shall have power to adopt any regulations or by-laws not inconsistent with the Constitution which may be deemed essential to the further regulation of its sessions.

8. This Association shall not recognize any minister or delegate unless they comply with the Constitution and By-Laws thereof.

9. Parliamentary procedure will be governed by "Roberts Rules of Order."

DISSOLUTION

In the event of the dissolution of the Maryland State Association of Free Will Baptists, any assets of the organization then remaining shall be conveyed to such organizations then existent dedicated to similar objectives to those of this organization, selected by the Executive Board at the time of dissolution, which organization must be exempt under Section 501 (E) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 as amended or under successor provisions of the Code as may be in effect at the time of dissolution.

MINUTES

Friday, June 26, 1970 - 10:00 A.M. Session

The Maryland State Association of Free Will Baptists met with the Mt. Calvary Church, Perryman, Maryland, on June 26, 1970 at 10:00 A.M.

Session opened with congregational singing, "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus." Bro. Johnnie Skeens, Pastor of the Mt. Calvary Church, welcomed the Association. Prayer was led by Bro. Clate Kilby. Bro. Elzo Bevan gave the response and read for Scripture Psalm 133.

Moderator William Steele called the business session to order.

Moderator called for Conference letters to be brought forward and read by Clerk.

Moved and seconded that letters be accepted as read pending any necessary changes. Motion carried.

Called for visiting ministers and visitors from National Association. Moderator welcomed Bro. Don Ellis, Free Will Baptist Children's Home, and Bro. Rufus Coffee, Executive Department.

Moved and seconded that Association adopt program prepared by the Maryland-New Jersey Conference. Motion carried.

Moderator called for old business.

Bro. Elzo Bevan, member of Committee to Change By-Laws, distributed copies showing proposed revisions for examination by delegates, ministers and deacons.

Moved and seconded that Moderator be given authority to appoint Committee on Committees and Assistant Moderator. Motion carried.

Moderator appointed Committee on Committees: Bro. Johnnie Skeens (Maryland-New Jersey Conference), Bro. Lonnie Hale (Northern Virginia Conference), and Bro. Clate Kilby (New River Conference).

Moderator appointed Bro. Elzo Bevan as Assistant Moderator.

Question of raising the \$1000 for the Bible College as was voted in last Association taken up. Moved and seconded that Association make up any difference in money taken in and the \$1000 (this in order that the money might be presented at the National Association in July), but this was not to relieve the individual churches of their responsibility to get this money in to the Clerk. Motion carried.

Noted that Bro. Steele's term on State Executive Board expires this year. Moved and seconded that we retain Bro. Steele on the Executive Board. Motion carried.

Question of Home Mission Board taken up. Noted that Secretary-Treasurer needed to replace Bro. Swearingen.

Bro. Curtis Byrd nominated for three year term on Home Mission Board (to expire in 1973). Moved and seconded that nominations cease. Bro. Byrd elected.

Moved and seconded that Promotional Director of Home Mission Board also serve as Secretary-Treasurer. Motion carried.

Bro. Johnnie Skeens nominated for one year term as Promotional Director of Home Mission Board. Moved and seconded that nominations cease. Bro. Skeens elected.

Bro. Cal Childers requested that he be placed on Executive Board (term expires in 1971). Moved and seconded we grant his request. Motion carried.

Moved and seconded that Bro. Elzo Bevan replace Bro. Childers on Executive Board to finish serving his term. Motion carried.

Bro. Hobert Dowell requested that he also be replaced on Executive Board. Moved and seconded we grant his request. Motion carried.

Bro. Curtis Byrd nominated to replace Bro. Dowell. Moved and seconded that nominations cease. Carried by vote of the body that Bro. Byrd fill Bro. Dowell's place on Executive Board, which expires in 1972.

Moved and seconded that we re-elect Bro. Lester Horton as Maryland State Promotional Director for one year term. Motion carried.

Moved and seconded that business session be recessed until 2:00 P.M. Motion carried.

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Moved and seconded that we re-elect Bro. Lester Horton as Maryland State Promotional Director for one year term. Motion carried.

Moved and seconded that business session be recessed until 2:00 P.M. Motion carried.

11:30 Worship

Congregational singing, "Some Day."

Message brought by Bro. Rufus Coffee, Executive Secretary of the National Association. Text was Hebrews 13:8, "A Changeless Christ in a Changing World."

Benediction by Bro. Clate Kilby.

2:00 P.M. Session

Opened with congregational singing, "I'm Going That Way." Scripture reading by Bro. Curtis Byrd, Psalm 150. Prayer by Bro. Elzo Bevan.

Bro. & Sis. Ellis gave a report on the work at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Greeneville, Tennessee.

Bro. Dan Merkh, our Missionary to France, gave a very challenging report on his work and the great need in France for workers.

Moderator called for any new business.

Moved and seconded that the 1971 Maryland State Association be held with the Bethel Church, Woodbridge, Virginia. Carried.

Question of delegates to the National Association taken up.

Moved and seconded that Sisters Lottie Horton and Lillian Meade represent this body at National as they will be attending with their husbands. Motion carried.

Moved and seconded that Board Member be given letter from Maryland State Association authorizing him to appoint as delegates anyone who might attend the National up to five people. Motion carried.

Moved and seconded that State Association contribute \$200.00 to help Comertown Church in their building program. Carried.

Moved and seconded that money given to Comertown Church be given with stipulation that the property is deeded to Free Will Baptist people. Motion carried.

Moved and seconded that this Association give each student from Maryland State Association attending Free Will Baptist Bible College \$50.00. Carried.

Moved and Seconded that ministers' names, addresses and phone numbers be included in the Minutes. Carried.

Moved and seconded we omit Maryland State History from Minutes this year. Motion carried.

Bro. Coffee gave a talk on Executive Department work in the National Association.

Bro. Steele read letter from Bro. Shockey of National Home Mission.

Moved and seconded that business session be adjourned until evening worship at 7:00 P.M. (6:00 P.M. for Ministers' Conference.) Carried.

7:00 Worship

Opened with Congregational Singing "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms."

Scripture reading, Psalm 1, by Bro. Clate Kilby.

Prayer by Bro. Reed Mullins.

Special Singing: Bro. Eddie Green, Bethel Messengers, Gospel Echoes.

Message brought by Bro. Eddie Green, Hebrews 13:8.

Singing by Fairwood Youth Choir.

Benediction: Bro. Johnnie Johnson

Saturday, June 27, 1970

10:00 Session

Congregational Singing, "I'm Going that Way" and "The Last Mile of the Way."

Scripture Reading: Luke 8:40-47.

Prayer led by Bro. Amos Richeson.

Called for visiting ministers, deacons, and visitors from National Association. Bro. Roger C. Reeds, Director of Sunday School Department, welcomed by Moderator.

Bro. Reeds gave a report on Sunday School Department, its work, its recent growth and expansion.

Bro. Johnnie Skeens gave the report from the Ministers' Conference.

Moved and seconded that ministers' good standing cards be channeled through State Ministers' Conference for review before going to Clerk for issuance of new cards. Motion carried.

By-Laws Committee Report given by Chairman, Bro. Elzo Bevan.

Bro. Bevan asked Bro. Horton (also on By-Laws Committee) to explain where authority lies in Free Will Baptist type of government.

Bro. Bevan read recommended by-Laws. Moved and seconded we accept these recommendations as read. Motion carried.

Bro. Bevan read Preamble, Constitution and Dissolution Clause. Moved and seconded we accept them as read. Carried.

Moved and seconded that State grant good standing cards to those ministers so recommended by their respective Conferences. Motion carried.

Question of Moderator for next session taken up. Bro. Lester Horton and Bro. Bird nominated. Moved and seconded that nominations cease. Motion carried. Bro. Lester Horton elected by majority vote as Moderator for 1971 Session of Maryland State Association.

Bro. Lester Horton gave report on State Promotional work.

Bro. Horton requested that Bro. Coffee give a report on one of the more recent additions to the National work, Super-Annuation—The Board of Retirement and Insurance.

Moderator asked for reading of minutes. Moved and seconded that they be accepted as read. Motion carried.

Moved and seconded that Business Session of the 1970 Maryland State Association be adjourned. The 1971 Session will convene with the Bethel Church. Motion carried.

11:30 Worship

Congregational singing, "Amazing Grace."

Prayer led by Bro. Lester Horton.

Message was brought by Bro. Cal Childers on "The Church", I Corinthians 12.

MARYLAND STATE ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT

NORTHERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE

Local Causes:

Pastors' Salaries
\$11,743.24

Paid Evangelists
\$2,395.35

Building & Repairs
\$31,376.77

Publication
& Literature
\$1,956.57

Maryland State
Association
\$1,074.15

Miscellaneous
\$4,594.72

Outside Causes:

Home Missions
\$269.38

Foreign Missions
\$415.34

Children's Home
\$401.00

MARYLAND-NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE

Local Causes:

Pastors' Salaries
\$5,750.34

Paid Evangelists
\$627.34

Building & Repairs
\$7,108.89

Publication
& Literature
\$1,048.32

Maryland State
Association
\$332.25

Miscellaneous
\$4,463.05

Outside Causes:

Home Missions
\$153.18

Foreign Missions
\$165.83

Children's Home
\$457.68

NEW RIVER CONFERENCE

Local Causes:

Pastors' Salaries
\$2,348.44

Paid Evangelists
\$687.63

Building & Repairs
\$2,597.79

Publication
& Literature
\$427.86

Maryland State
Association

Miscellaneous

Outside Causes:

Home Missions
\$184.94

Foreign Missions
\$251.90

Children's Home
\$32.00

MARYLAND STATE ASSOCIATION STATISTICS

NORTHERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE

No. Churches	Church Membership	Members Rec'd	Ordained Ministers	Deacons	Licensed Ministers	Sun. School Attendance
6	479	97	19	20	6	493

MARYLAND - NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE

7 (1 parsonage)	415		14	13	1	492
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NEW RIVER CONFERENCE

3	337	14	5	6	0	205
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LIST OF DELEGATES

NORTHERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE

Sid Brooks	Ruth Jackson
Frank McDavid	Thettie Robinson
Jack Whited	Nancy Meade
Franklin Nick	Jim Stanley
Charles Shaffer	Bobby Green
Carolyn Nick	Jimmy Fry
Henry Thomas	Reccy Thomas
William Cave	Brenda Thomas
Joe Meadows	Jane Hurt

MARYLAND-NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE

Amos Lane	Margaret Hammonds
Tom Phipps	Clewitt Cook
Clyde Goins	Gentry Phipps
Stuart Goins	Helen Campbell
Reba Messer	Charles England
Hazel Burgess	Edward Lewis
Mrs. Dewey Lockee	Bill Testerman
Marshall McGaha	Libbie Testerman
Aaron Dowell	Homer Hensley
Alfred Hance	Bryan Atwood
Tempe Liles	

NEW RIVER CONFERENCE

Howard Goff
Lynwood McDaniels
Buford Goff
Dorothy Steele
Mae Miller
Marlene Miller
Evazell Kilby
Leff Jones
Leota Jones
Jean Sturgill

