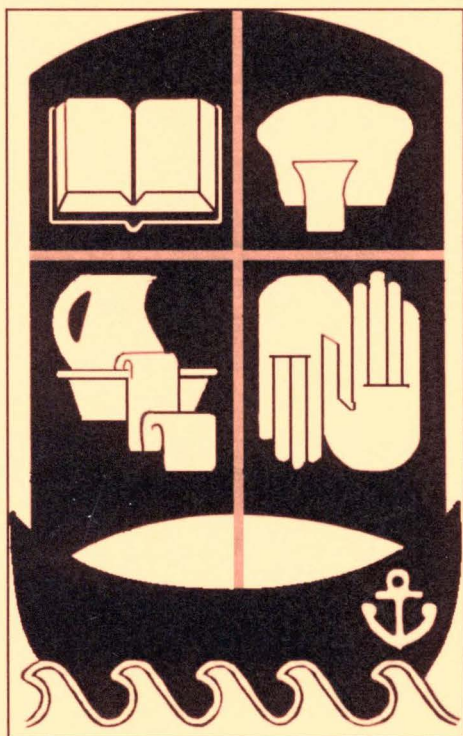


**MICHIGAN STATE
ASSOCIATION OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS**



**65-66TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
MAY 21-22, 2021
CONVENING AT
Zehnder's
Frankenmuth, Michigan**

**THESE MINUTES ARE FOR THE 2021 CONFERENCE
WHICH WAS THE 66TH CONFERENCE!
DUE TO THE EVENTS OF 2020 NO STATE CONFERENCE WAS
CONVENED WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN THE 65TH.
THIS YEAR IS THE 67TH CONFERENCE OF THE MICHIGAN
STATE ASSOCIATION**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

State Officers	-----4
Standing Boards	-----4
Church Covenant	-----5
Constitution	
Article I – Name	-----6
Article II - Membership and Representation	-----6
Article III - Officers	-----7
Article IV - General Board	-----7
Article V - Other Boards	-----8
Article VI - Ministers	-----10
Article VII – Meetings	-----11
Article VIII - Discipline	-----11
Article IX - Financing	-----11
Article X - Amendments	-----12
By-Laws —Membership	-----13
Standing Boards	-----13
Discipline	-----14
Parliamentary Authority	-----14
Amendments	-----14
Rules of Decorum	-----15
Articles of Faith	-----16
Minutes	-----19
General Board/Financial Report	-----20
Board Reports	-----22
Committee Reports	-----28
State Personnel Directory	-----32
Church Directory	
Fellowship Association (8)	-----40
New Hope Association (2)	-----42
West Michigan Association (3)	-----43
Wolverine Association (12)	-----44
Missionaries	-----46

State Officers

2020-2021

Moderator -----	Rev. Ron Helms	313-389-5101
Assistant Moderator ----	Rev. Joe Jones	734-728-6559
Clerk -----	Rev. Allen West	734-223-9045
Assistant Clerk -----	Rev. Dean Sanford	414-760-9997
Treasurer -----	Rev. Steve Thrasher	586-582-9829
Assistant Treasurer -----	Lisa Watts	

Other State Leaders

General Board Member/State Promotional Secretary

Rev. Jimmy Lawson734-788-1430

STANDING BOARDS

Mission Board

Scott Caudill	2022
Joe Wilson	2022
Mike Trimble	2023 Chairman
Steve Thrasher 2	2023
Calvin Brown	2024

Youth Board

Jon Locklear	2022 Chairman
Travis Lilly	2022
	2023
Brett Weaver	2024
Susan Newton	2024

Christian Education Board

Don Myers	2022
Gene Hurley	2022
Jimmy Williams	2023
Jacob Riggs	2024 Chairman
Jeff Isaacs	2024

Master's Men Board

Rudy Taylor	2022
Paul Collins	2022
Richard Hardy	2023
Greg Floars	2024
Dave Johnson	2024 Chairman

Church Covenant

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in 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 the 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 the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the 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.

CONSTITUTION

Preamble

The object of this organization shall be to unify and strengthen the work of Free Will Baptists of Michigan, composing the State Association and to devise and execute measures for the extension of the Kingdom of God among member associations.

Article I

Name

This organization shall be known as the Michigan State Association of Free Will Baptists.

Article II

Membership and Representation

Section 1. The membership of this association shall consist of all subordinate associations that from time to time shall become members of this body.

Section 2.

- A. Each subordinate association shall be entitled to a number of elected delegates equal to the number of churches composing said association.
- B. The standing delegation shall consist of all active ordained ministers and their wives, licensed ministers and their wives, the elected officers of each subordinate association and the elected officers and board members of the Michigan State Association of Free Will Baptist.
- C. Each local church which holds membership in the Michigan State Association of Free Will Baptist through its subordinate association shall be entitled to represent directly with one lay delegate.

Article III

Officers

Section 1. The officers of this State Association shall consist of a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer, each of which shall be elected at the close of each annual session.

Section 2. This association shall have as many boards as it deems necessary to promote its work.

Section 3. The moderator shall appoint committees, as necessary, unless otherwise provided for, and shall hold office until their work is completed or until their successors are elected.

Article IV

General Board

Section 1. The General Board shall consist of the Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Legal Counsel, chairman of the standing boards and the moderator of each district association.

Section 2. The General Board shall have the power to act on behalf of and for the State Association from one regular session to another, and shall also have power to elect such officers as may be necessary for its own government and to carry out the plans and undertaking of the State Association.

Section 3. The General Board may hire a Promotional Secretary to help carry out the business and promotional

activities. The promotional secretary is directly accountable to the General Board.

Section 4. The General Board may obtain a legal consultant to give counsel and direction in legal matters. The legal consultant is directly accountable to the General Board.

Article V

Other Boards

Section 1. The following standing boards shall function in designated areas of the work, subject to the approval of the State Association, Mission Board, Christian Education Board, Youth Board and Master's Men Board.

Section 2. Each of the above named boards shall be composed of five members. These shall be rotating boards with terms of three years expiring on the basis of two the first year, two the second year and one the third year.

Section 3. No officer of the association shall serve on any board of the association (except the General Board). No member shall serve on more than one board. The chairman of each standing board shall automatically be a member of the General Board.

Section 4. Each board shall organize after the final adjournment of the annual meeting to elect a chairman and any other officers needed. A majority of each board shall constitute a quorum. Members may represent by proxy.

Section 5. Each board shall make a written report, including financial data to each session of the General Board.

Section 6. The Promotional Secretary shall be an ex-officio member of each board. He and the boards shall work cooperatively. The Promotional Secretary shall work with the chairman of each standing board and moderator, or specified promotional director, of each district association to promote the work of the Lord and Free Will Baptists in the state of Michigan. He will also work cooperatively with the Michigan Woman Active for Christ.

The Promotional Secretary shall edit, publish and mail a monthly paper, and mail a packet to each church for distribution.

Section 7. The Youth Board shall give general oversight to youth camp and other state youth activities, while helping Michigan Free Will Baptist State youth workers in their local churches. Each state youth event and ministry will fall within the realm of the board's responsibility.

Section 8. The Christian Education Board shall promote the cause of Christian education by promoting Sunday schools, setting up activities and programs whereby ministers and lay people may continue their Christian education, and give guidance to Free Will Baptist young people in matters of education.

The Christian Education Board will cooperate with the various standing boards of the Michigan State Association of Free Will Baptist in implementing their programs as they relate to Christian education, and

work with Promotional Secretary in supporting the Minister's Laymen Retreat and Minister's Seminar.

Section 9. The Mission Board shall develop and carry on a program of establishing new churches in the State, and assist in keeping established churches open. This board shall attempt to enlist the State membership in supporting North America Missions and International Missions by conference, itineraries and other means.

Section 10. The Master's Men Board shall seek to get churches to establish Master's Men chapters as well as cooperate with the National Master's Men Board.

Article VI

Ministers

Section 1. The Michigan State Association of Free Will Baptist recognizes the right of any member District Association to license, ordain and issue minister's certificates and cards of good standing to their ministers.

Section 2. A minister must meet the following qualifications:

A. Must not take part in practices repugnant to Free Will Baptist doctrine, such as:

- [1] Sanctification as a second definite work of grace.
- [2] Oneness rather than the trinity.
- [3] Unknown tongues as commonly recognized.
- [4] Positional eternal security rather than provisional security as taught by the Scriptures and recognized by our treatise.

B. Concerning Character:

[1] Only men will be licensed, ordained or recognized as ministers.

[2] A minister must be the husband of one wife.

[3] He may not engage in activities or practices which are inconsistent with prevailing Free Will Baptist beliefs and attitudes, such as the use of tobacco and illegal drugs, the use or sale of intoxicating beverages, or involvement in a homosexual lifestyle.

[4] He must be an example of behavior which is pleasing to The Lord.

[5] The spirit of giving and of charity should be well rooted in his character, as exemplified by tithing.

Article VII

Meetings

The meetings of this State Association shall be held annually during the week prior to the third Saturday in May.

Article VIII

Discipline

To maintain sound doctrine and proper conduct, this association shall have the right to act on any question that may properly come before it. These actions shall be handled according to the Word of God and the Treatise of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

Article IX

Finance

Section 1. Each subordinate association shall send a representation fee per member church to the Michigan State Association of Free Will Baptists. The

representation fee will be recommended by the General Board at the annual meeting and voted on by the body.

Section 2. Each local church that represents directly with a lay delegate shall send [\$10.00] ten dollars with that delegate.

Section 3. The Michigan State Association of Free Will Baptist shall be affiliated with the National Association of Free Will Baptist and shall pay the annual representation fee as determined by the National Association Free Will Baptist.

Article X

Amendments

This constitution may be amended or altered at the regular session of this State Association by a two-thirds vote of members present, provided proposed amendment or alteration be presented in writing to this body one day in advance.

BY-LAWS

Membership

Section 1. Any subordinate association desiring to become a member of this State Association shall do so by presenting duly elected delegates and a petitioner letter certifying to their appointment to this association at any session and upon examination by this association, the subordinate association, if found orthodox, shall be admitted. This petitioner letter shall include the names and addresses of all ordained ministers and deacons and the officers of the subordinate association.

Standing Boards

Section 1. The General Board shall have the power to fill irregular vacancies that may occur in its own body, and shall have power to fill any irregular vacancies that may occur in any department of the work between sessions of this State Association. It shall be the duty of this board to make written reports of all its work to each session of the association.

Section 2. The General Board shall organize at its own discretion for the promotion of its work. It is understood that any executive committee consisting of seven members shall be elected by the General Board from among its membership, whose duty it shall be to act on all matters coming within the scope of the work of the Board when said General Board is not in session.

Section 3. The duties of various standing boards shall be to plan a program and supervise its operation in their respective fields. They shall organize themselves and regulate their work as may become necessary and as may be found in harmony with the principles and tenets of the State Association. It shall be the duty of each

standing board to make written reports of all its work to each annual session of this association.

Discipline

Section 1. This State Association shall have the right to settle any questions of discipline, doctrine or practice that may properly come before it from any other bodies composing said organization of the Michigan State Association of Free Will Baptists, or act on any appeal that may be made by any body belonging to the State Association. Said appeal shall have been written and properly signed by the constituent body or bodies, and its decision shall be final. Such appeals are to come before the State Association after having been appealed from the lower to next higher body.

Section 2. All appeals coming before this association may be settled in either of the following ways:

1. By this association when sitting in a committee as a whole.
2. By a special committee whose report shall be voted on without discussion.

Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. All meetings of this organization shall be governed by parliamentary law as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order (Revised).

Amendments

Section 1. These by-laws may be amended or altered at any regular session of this association by a two-thirds vote of members present, provided proposed amendments or alterations be presented in writing to the body one day in advance.

Rules of Decorum

1. The State Association, when convened, shall be opened and closed by singing and prayer.
2. Only one person shall speak at a time, which shall arise to his feet and address the moderator.
3. The moderator shall not interrupt each person thus speaking in speech, except, until he gets through; nor shall the moderator interrupt him unless he breaks order.
4. The person speaking shall adhere to the question and shall in no wise cast reflection on any person who may have spoken before him.
5. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave of the association.
6. No person shall laugh or whisper in time of public speech.
7. Members shall address each other by the appellation of brother or brethren or sisters.
8. No members of this association shall absent them self when the association is sitting in conference without leave of the moderator.
9. The names of the members of this association shall be enrolled and called as often as the association thinks it necessary.
10. No member shall speak longer than fifteen minutes at any one time without leave of the moderator.

Articles of Faith

1. ***The Bible.*** The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.
2. ***God.*** There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe; and in the Scriptures as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore, and obey.
3. ***Christ.*** Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified, He is now risen and glorified, and is our ever present Saviour and Lord.
4. ***The Holy Spirit.*** The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God.
5. ***The Government of God.*** God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of men requires.
6. ***The Sinfulness of Man.*** Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherit a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability, sin and become guilty before God.

7. ***The Work of Christ.*** The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death, and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free, and is the ground of salvation by faith.

8. ***The Terms of Salvation.*** The conditions of salvation are:

1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it.
2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Saviour and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith, the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin, and becomes a child of God.
3. Continuance in faith and obedience unto death.

9. ***Election.*** God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

10. ***Freedom of Will.*** The human will is free and self-controlled, and having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.

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. ***Perseverance.*** All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.

13. ***Gospel Ordinances.*** Baptism, or the immersion of believers in water, and the **Lord's Supper**, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel. **Feet Washing**, an ordinance teaching humility, is of universal obligation, and is to be ministered to all true believers.

14. ***Tithing.*** God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ endorsed it in the Gospel (Matt. 23:23), and the apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God has prospered him" (1 Cor. 16:2a).

15. ***The Christian Sabbath.*** The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works, and activities, and for personal communion with God.

16. ***Resurrection, Judgment, and Final Retribution.*** The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

MINUTES

The 66th Annual State of Michigan Association was opened by Rev. Jon Locklear leading in song 'aksjfi' and 'asdjfk'. The conference was called to order by the Clerk, Rev. Allen West who introduced the Moderator, Bro. Ron Helms!

The moderators message was from 1 John 1:3-10 titled Fellowship. Fellowship is 2 parties participating together. Fellowship is mentioned 4x in 1 John. 15x in the N.T. & 17x in the O.T. Fellowship with God is most important in individual lives and with each other.

v.3 - have real fellowship with God then with each other

v.4 - fellowship will be full with God

v.5 - God is light. If fellowship is to be had with God we must change because God doesn't change.

1 John 3:10 is key because God is light and love. We can't walk in darkness and walk with God. Can't walk with God and not love the brethren.

v.8 & v.10 to walk with God we must confess. In Genesis 3 the sweet fellowship Adam had with God was severed by sin. Only Jesus can bridge this gap and bring us back to fellowship with God. 1 John 2:3-4, 29; 3:9 tells us we must have a relationship with God before we can fellowship with God. Life should be marked by walking obedience to God. As Christians we are not sinless we just sin less.

v.6 tells us of the testimony of fellowship with God.

What we do allows us to fellowship by confessing to God.

2 Corinthians 6:14 speaks to us of where we are in our relationship with God. "Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?"

Right relationships are only possible when we are dead or die to our own sins. See Psalm 66:18-19 & Proverbs 28:13. God's holiness never bends but does make amends.

Then we see the love you lavish. 1 John mentions love 33x. 3:10 and 4:7 we are told to love the brethren and if we do not then the love of Christ is not in us. In 1 John 4:11 we are told God loved us first. Before Paul came to Christ Christians were his enemy.

After Paul came to Christ Christians were his friends. In a relationship sometimes things happen to cause our fellowship to break down. By relationship to God is tied to my relationship with fellow Christians.

1st & greatest commandment is to love God. 2nd is to love each other. A person can't separate their love of God from their love for each other. See 1 John 4:20; 3:16,18; 4:11 and 4:21. What we do says more than what we say. See Acts 2:43-47. The Christians were known by their love for each other.

The delegates were seated with a MMSC and prayer of consecration was given by Rev. Jimmy Lawson.

Appointment of Committees

Business	General Board
Budget	Steve Thrasher; Assoc treasurers
Obituary	Assistant Clerk
Registration	State Clerk
Statistical	State Clerk

Nominating Jimmy Lawson, Chairman, Mike Trimble, Jon Locklear, Jacob Riggs, Dave Johnson.

General Board Report:

Report given by Clerk Rev. Allen West: The General Board met on several occasions to deal with the Liberty Association issues. Much was discussed with Liberty withdrawing fellowship from the Michigan State Association of FWB. 2 churches wished to remain with the State Association and they joined the Wolverine Association. It was a very trying, stressful and Satan attacking 2 years. The board met on 5/20/21 with 11 members present and heard a wonderful financial report.

Promotional office - a new Facebook page has been set up & will be the place to register & read all about the State Association. The State will be partnering with Home Missions & International missions in a new outreach to the Muslim community in the state. We heard reports from the Boards who will be sharing their information later. The Board voted to change the nominating

committee from the Association Moderators to the Board Chairmans with the Promotional Secretary as chairman.

State Treasurer Report:

Steve Thrasher gave the report.

This is a report of finances from May 1, 2020 to April 30, 2021 of the giving from each association:

	TOTALS	State Assoc. & FEE	National (To Way!)
FELLOWSHIP	\$18,833.73	\$2,825.00	\$875.00
NEW HOPE	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$0.00
WEST MI.	\$1,225.00	\$325.00	\$0.00
WOLVERINE	\$134,229.61	\$4,646.49	\$4,716.78
BEDFORD/RIVERSIDE	\$11,798.49	\$48,930.15	
TOTALS	\$166,486.83	\$57,126.64	\$5,591.78

	Inter. Missions	N. America Missions	Other Ministries	MICH MISSIONS
FELLOWSHIP	\$10,129.44	\$4,154.29	\$850.00	
NEW HOPE	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
WEST MI.	\$900.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
WOLVERINE	\$77,641.35	\$19,492.75	\$27,732.24	
BED/RIVERSIDE				\$244,345.65
TOTALS	\$88,670.79	\$23,647.04	\$28,582.24	\$244,345.65

Free Will Baptist Foundation Accounts Balances as of 4/30/2021

Bedford Endowment.....\$ 176,255.36
 Michigan Missions Trust.....\$ 291,160.16
 Youth Trust.....\$ 22,585.39
 Bill Ferguson Memorial Trust.....\$ 116,741.42
 MMSC to receive the Report.

Budget Committee

All honorariums to remain unchanged.

Michigan State Association of Free Will Baptists

Moderator	\$ 350.00
Clerk	\$ 350.00
Speakers	\$ 100.00
Promo Secretary	\$4,400.00
Treasurer	\$4,000.00
Legal Counsel	\$ 750.00
MMSC to adopt the budget.	

Mission Board Report

Rev. Mike Trimble shared a report from the Riggs, France is lifting restrictions within 2 weeks so they will be able to meet in the new facility. \$25,000 was sent to the Riggs to complete their facility.

Tim Johnson is retiring from the mission field to become the Director of Missions @ Welch College.

Missoula, Montana work has purchased a building pray for them. Pray for the preacher in Michigan.

Youth Board Report

Rev. Jonathon Locklear reported youth camp costs and said board unity and fellowship is the best it has been in 10 years. Ask us to check out the MIFWBYOUTHcamp Facebook page.

Master Men Board

Bro. Rudy Taylor shared about registration.

Christian Education Board

Rev. Don Myer stated a book titled *Canoeing the Mountains* is provided for each pastor free of charge.

MWAC

Sis. Katy Taylor shared the ladies were unable to meet for the annual meeting in April. The board conducted necessary business. There will not be a retreat for 2021.

Promotional Secretary/General Board Member

Rev. Jimmy Lawson told us it was a most trying year. Please check out the Facebook page & the website mifwb.org. Bro. Jimmy is working with Rekindle to help struggling churches. He is using Who is your Neighbor? To reach the muslims in the Cameroon community in our state. Exciting things are going on in the State and we have a bright future.

MMSC to receive all reports as information & adjourn from the business session.

Moderator ordered a 15 minute recess.

Moderator called the session back to order.

National Department Reports

Executive Office

Stated they are here to help. Theme for 2021 Ephesians 4, Help us be Healthy and effective people and churches. Watch Refresh on YouTube. Check out the Better Together Podcasts. 8 out of 10 Americans are on Facebook. We are losing 40 churches a year & 126 churches are without pastors. Setting up a together way trust because of changing tax structures.

Free Will Baptist International Missions

We need to look @ strangers in our land as a mission field.

Randall House

2020 was bad and never want to go thru that again. We are stronger coming out of it. In the coming year our focus should be

- 1 - on discipleship. Make disciple makers
- 2 - measuring engagement not on results (Bible reading & witnessing)
- 3 - access to strongest tools to help us (D6)

Must have strong churches or the denomination will close. Randall house will cease to exist in 5-6 years unless support from the /denomination increases.

Free Will Baptist North America Missions

46 church plants in the states.

Masters Men

Disaster response team is going strong. MM has 20 Bible studies to choose from. 7 Chaplains serving in the military

WNAC

Elizabeth Hodges sent a video. Check out their Facebook page for new blogs & studies.

Welch College

Tim Owen said the college has 40+ programs for education. 96% of welch grads regularly attend church.

Free Will Baptist Foundation

Estate plan to further support FWB after death should be created by all of us. 1992 started with \$920,000 now manage of \$100 million.

Board of Retirement & Insurance

Don Myers reported. A power point was shown.

MMSC to accept the reports as information. Moderator called a recess from business until Saturday morning.

Worship Service

Rev. Jon Locklear opened the service leading the group in *Wonderful Peace*.

Ministry in the Word

Rev. Don Myer

Title: Worship

Text: Malachi 1:6-14

Treatment: When things are bad maybe we need to spend time worshipping the Lord.

We are doing something great to win people to give back in worship to God for what God has given to us through Jesus. We sang such an awesome God. When things are bad maybe we need to spend time worshipping the Lord. We need to focus on the word of God and grab hold of Jesus in true worship.

I. WORSHIP COSTS US SOMETHING. Malachi 1:6-14

David said he would not offer God a sacrifice which cost him nothing. Worship should cost us something on God's terms. We should not keep the best for ourselves claiming it is for God's glory. Need to give Him our best. When we don't we are not pleasing God. Malachi 1:10-11.

- a. Are we more concerned for our glory or sacrificing for God's glory. John 12:1-3. Martha served (her glory) but Mary worshipped. We must be willing to use our glory and sacrifice for glory of God.
- b. Are we more zealous for what we can gain or what I can give to God? When willing to give sacrificially we must be like John the Baptist who said, 'I must decrease and He must increase'.

Hebrew word worship means to fall down and press forehead to ground. The Greek word means if equal then kiss on lips, if superior kiss on cheek, if greater than me must bow & blow kisses.

II. Must be practical and experienced in private worship. Our most intimate times of worship should be private. Matthew 6:5-6

III. Worship must be expressed publicly. Luke 17. 10 lepers were healed, 9 were thankful but only 1 publicly worshipped Jesus. He returned to praise & worship Jesus. How can we compare our cost of worship to what Jesus did on the cross. There are many ways to worship: kneel, stoop, prostrate, shout, raise hands, applaud & be Still. Our external purpose is to worship God.

A.W. Tozer said, 'piano used to produce music, can be used as a stool and has 19 possible uses. Designer had one purpose in mind to make beautiful music'. God had one propose in mind when He created us & it was to worship Him. Bro. Don then lead in My Jesus I love Thee.

Moderator called for recess until 7:00 pm.

Recess for afternoon

Friday evening, May 17, 2019

Rev. Jon Locklear opened by leading in *At the Cross*, then *What a Friend we have in Jesus*.

Bro. Ron introduced Rev. Jacob Riggs to speak on Discipleship. Before he preached Sara and Olivia Lawson sang, *in Christ alone*.

Ministry in the Word

Rev. Jacob Riggs

Title: Discipleship

Text: 1 Thessalonians 2:7-8

Treatment:

Technology has isolated us greater than any time in history. Loneliness survey said only 53% had a daily meaningful relationship. Sharing God's word and prayer are vital in discipleship. Discipleship happens in context of quality non-virtual time spent together.

I. Examples. Jesus asked his disciples to leave everything and stay with Him 24 hours/day. In 1 Thessalonians Paul longs to meet face to face. In 2 Timothy 1:4 Paul says wants to see you. Philippians 3:17 tells us to imitate someone. It is impossible to imitate someone without spending time with them. The people knew Paul well enough to recognize his handwriting. We spend @ most 3 hours a week with each other. How can we imitate each other or encourage each other? In Acts 2:42-47 they spent way more than 3 hours a week.

1 Peter 5:1-3 elders are instruct to be an example. How can I be an example if I don't have fridge rights in your home? In 1 Timothy 4:16, Timothy is told to spend enough time with the people so they can observe your life.

II. Why does this matter.

A. Some things better caught than taught. Visual examples matter more. John 13 where Jesus washed the disciples feet is the perfect example. Quality time caught is the most

important. Whispering correction is far better than loud vocal criticism. Vocalizing praise is better than whispering praise.

- B. Godly walk gives credibility to our walk. We can say the right things but not live it. This removes all credibility. Praise in the storm does work. Does your life prove God works? 2 Timothy 3:16 scripture completes us in Christ. The Bible is food for our soul, vital for our growth. Quality time is the plate and prayer is the meat with scripture the potatoes.

III. 2 THINGS TO DO.

- A. Spend quality time with people while incorporating scripture and prayer. Word of God is food, prayer is breathing. Go in 3 if possible and ask people to go places with you. The one who says yes is the one you are to disciple. Practice hospitality. Need to see God's word is not scheduled.
- B. For Pastors - equip our people to spend quality time with people. Instead of I'll pray say let us pray. Invite younger men into our lives. How can you bring someone into who you are? We don't because afraid people will reject us if they really knew us. We are afraid of responsibility for other soul. Christ is not just an example to follow. His slide shows we are precious and righteous which gives us freedom to walk and enjoy the journey. We undervalue ourselves. The enemy wants us to think we have nothing to give or benefit someone else. There is so much Jesus wants to show others through me. We are not their savior Jesus is.

Bro. Jimmy Lawson gave away some books to pastors donated by Randall House.

Rev. Calvin Brown dismissed in prayer.

Conference was adjourned for the evening.

Conference resumes Saturday, May 22 at 8:30 am.

Conference resumes called to order by Moderator Ron Helms.

Tom and Chris Kuhn were elected as delegate to the National Convention.

A MMSC to allow moderator to appoint additional delegates to the National Association meeting.

Committee Reports

Business and Budget

No business to conduct and budget to remain the same.

OBITUARY COMMITTEE

Report read by Clerk.

Fellowship Association

William Alcorn - Community
Lillian Alcorn - Community
Jaunita Caudill - First of Ypsilanti
Alton 'Doc' Scutchfield - First of Ypsilanti
Doxie Giles - First of Ypsilanti
Tony Hampton - First of Ypsilanti
Elizabeth Brewington - Trinity
Sandy Shope - Trinity
Everett Blackburn - Trinity

New Hope Association

None reported

Wolverine Association

Kay Churchill - Anchor
Linda Mace - Community
Charles Foster - Faith
Alice Meadows - Faith
Wayne Davenport - Faith
Sandra McGowan - Friendship
Joy Ledbetter - First of Pontiac
Leah Beeman - First of Pontiac
Roxanne Farley - Southgate
Julie Shope - Southgate
Ralph Belanger - Southgate
Randy Wiseman - Stoney Creek

West Michigan Association

Evie Story - Comstock
Al Cox - Comstock
Dorothy Paull - Comstock
Nancy Roeloff - Comstock
Donnie Bowman - Comstock

MMSC to receive the Obituary report and Bro. Brain Newton led in prayer for the living to remember those who served & worked.

REGISTRATION/STATISTICAL COMMITTEE

Submitted by: Allen West

MMSC to accept

Pastor	11
Pastor wives	7
Deacon	2
Deacon wives	2
Ordained minister	3
ord minister wives	1
Licensed minister	0
Lic minister wives	0
Delegate	9
visitors	5
TOTAL	40
MYC	0
Out State visitors	6
Conference TOTAL	46

District Associations	4
District Associations reporting	2
No. of Churches	26
No. of Churches reporting	13
Total full time pastors	19
Total bi-vocational pastors	6
No. of baptisms	20
Total new members	16
Total members lost	12
Total membership	707
No. of ordained deacons	9
No. of ordained ministers	22
No. of licensed ministers	13
Sunday School enrollment	385
CTS enrollment	0
Woman's Auxiliary enrollment	84
Master's Men enrollment	0
No. of churches with budgets	12
Income of all churches	\$517,092.00
Value of all church property	\$13,142,000.00

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Bro. Joe Jones read Nominating Committee report and MMSC to receive the report and elect by acclamation.

ModeratorRon Helms
Assistant ModeratorJoe Jones
ClerkAllen West
Assistant ClerkDean Sanford
TreasurerSteve Thrasher
Assistant TreasurerLisa Watts

For the following boards see page 4 for elected board members:

Mission Board

Youth Board

Christian Education Board

Masters Men Board

A MOTION CARRIED to adjourn.

PRAYER OF BENEDICTION

PERSONNEL DIRECTORY

Licensed.....	(L)
Ordained, not a pastor	(O)
Ordained, a pastor	(P)
Foreign Missionary	(FM)
Home Missionary	(HM)
Youth Director, Full-time	(YP)
Badder, Donald (O).....	734-789-8763
Wolverine	
24704 Curtis Dr., Brownstown 48134	
Ball, Andy (O).....	586-264-4873
Wolverine	
32443 Sunny Ln., Warren 48092	
Begley, Austin (O)	734-243-0600
Fellowship	
5560 Central Ave, Monroe 48161	
email: thefaithful1@sbcglobal.net	
Brown, Bill (O)	734-697-4944
Fellowship	
110 South Biggs, Belleville 48111	
Brown, Calvin (P).....	734-955-6129
Fellowship	
38173 Walnut St., Romulus 48174	
email: pastorbrown55@sbcglobal.net	
Byrd, Milford (O)	734-961-7715
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Wilson, Joe (O)

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Michigan State Association of Free Will Baptists
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www.kirbychurch.com

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Tecumseh, MI 49286
517-423-2214

Trinity FWB

410 Oregon
Ypsilanti, MI 48198
734-483-8011

West Wayne FWB

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faithfreewillbaptistonline.org

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1750 Baldwin
Pontiac, MI 48340
248-335-6011

Friendship FWB

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Davison, MI 48423
810-658-0928

North Warren FWB

3003 Chicago
Warren, MI 48092
586-264-6720

Redemption Bible FWB

74 W. Ten Mile
Madison Heights, MI 48071
248-541-5152

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Rev. David McGowan

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Rev. Brian Newton

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Rev. Steve Thrasher Sr.

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Stony Creek FWB

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