MINUTES

OF THE Fifty-First Annual Session

OF THE

MIDWAY ASSOCIATION

OF THE

Original Free Will Baptists of Georgia

HELD WITH

Oak Grove Church

MILLER COUNTY, GEORGIA

November 2nd and 3rd, 1949

Next session to convene with New Enterprise Church, Decatur County, Georgia, on Wednesday and Thursday before the first Sunday in November, 1950, session to open at ten o'clock. Rev. T. B. Mellette to preach the Introductory Sermon with Rev. J. N. Barnes as alternate.

Officers

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Officers.

Rev. T. B. Mellette, Moderator_____Blakely, Ga. Rev. J. N. Barnes, Assistant Moderator____Blakely, Ga.

W.	ъ.	Grim	in, Clerk			Leary,	Ga.
R.	Β.	Pyle,	Assistant	Clerk	Cedar	Springs,	Ga.
A.	D.	Ivey,	Treasure			Jakin,	Ga.

Executive Committee

J. F. Griffin, Chairman, Leary, Ga.; Martin W. Still, Blakely, Ga.; J. O. Irvin, Newton, Ga.; L. W. Wiley, Damascus, Ga.; Alvin Day, Blakely, Ga.; G. L. Bryant, Morgan, Ga.; B. Houston, Colquitt, Ga.

List of Ordained Ministers

W. T. Wiley, Rev. E. C. Williams, Rev. T. B. Mellette, Rev. H. G. Harvey, Rev. C. C. White, Rev. J. N. Barnes, Rev. S .T. Shutes, Rev. J. L. Tedder, Rev. W. H. Eley, Rev. Cooper Fort, Rev. C. J. Harvey, Rev. C. R. Houston, Rev. J. B. Lov-ering, Rev. J. O. Fort.

Licentiates

Cecil Strickland

Voney Irvin

Burdette Dowdney

Annual Association—Order of Business

First Day's Session, 10 A. M.

Assembly of body for worship by the moderator.

Worship period conducted by the moderator or assistant moderator, or clerk.

Call for corresponding church letters from churches composing this body. Appointment of reading clerks by the moderator.

Reading and adoption of all letters and the seating of all delegates, which is done by a majority vote of the delegate body. Recess for the Introductory Message and refreshments.

Afternoon Session—

Devotional services by the moderator, or at his discretion.

Renewal of call for correspondence.

Roll call of ministers.

Call for petitionary letters.

Invitation to visiting brethren from sister associations, and the hand of fellowship by the moderator.

Appointment of committees by the moderator—Devotional, Nominating, Obituaries, Disbursements and Finance.

Appointment of delegates to sister associations as the body may choose. Miscellaneous business and recess until second day.

Second Day's Session, 9:30 A. M.-

Devotional service as per appointment.

Call to order by the moderator.

Reading, correction and adoption of the first day's minutes.

Renewal of call for correspondence and visitors. Call for committee reports.

Mid-day service with worship and praise and prayer. Recess for refreshments.

Afternoon Session—

Devotional—Worship period.

Renewing of call for committee reports.

Reports of Nomination committee, whose duty it is to make selection of place for next session of Association, and Introductory Message.

Report of Finance Committee.

Miscellaneous business.

Election of officers, including the executive committee, etc.

Report of Treasurer.

Appointment of new committees.

Completion of all unfinished business.

Clearing of the clerk's table.

Adjournment.

PROCEEDINGS

The Fifty-First Annual Session of the Midway Free Will Baptist Association of Georgia met with Oak Grove Church, Miller County, Georgia, on November 2 and 3, 1949.

After congregational singing led by Rev. S. T. Shutes, the Moderator, Rev. T. B. Mellette, read the second chapter of James for the devotion and declared the body in session.

The moderator called for the letters from the various churches. Rev. S. T. Shutes and Rev. J. B. Lovering were asked to read them which they did as follows:

Cedar Springs-Delegates: J. A. Mercer, J. S. Pyle, Nina Tola.

Enderprise—Delegates: T. W. Jenkins, P. C. Harrel.

White Plains—Delegates: L. J. White, H. J. Cosby and wife, Mrs. H. B. Paul.

Live Oak—Delegates: S. J. Johnson and wife, J. T. Sanders.

Pine View—Delegates: Jim Williams and wife, J. W. Widner and wife.

White Pond—Delegates: Albert Jones and wife, Mrs. A. D. Cleveland, Jinks Cleveland.

Macedonia—Delegates: Arthar Philips, B. Houston, T. V. Merritt, Viola McCant.

Blakely-Delegates: Alvin Day, S. W. Mercer, R. T. Jenkins, Henry Pelham.

New Light—Delegates: B. E. Paul, H. R. Paul, Mrs. R. E. Drinkwater. New Enterprise—Delegates: E. B. Ard and wife, Henry Barber. Damascus—Delegates: Mrs. Christina Cheshire, Mrs. W. A. Wright,

Ruby Joe Peek.

Travelers Rest—Delegates: Martin Parker and wife, Mrs. M. W. Irvin, Mrs. G. R. Parker.

Zion-Delegates: Martin Still, Gordon Lane, Cyriel English.

Open Pond—Delegates: S. T. Dunning and wife, A. D. Ivey, H. H. Reeves, Mrs. H. G. Hudson.

Oak Grove—Delegates: Fannie Allace Boyd, Mrs. Ray Houston, Charlie Gilbert.

Patmos—Delegate: W. B. Griffin.

Mt. Zion-Delegate: C. G. Jordan.

Bethlehem—Delegates: Bill Ferguson and wife, Mrs. Evelyn Jones.

The moderator appointed Brothers A. D. Ivey, T. W. Jenkins and M. W. Still on the Finance Committee.

The invitation was given to visiting brethren from other associations. They reported as follows: Rev. E. C. Morris from the State Association. Rev. K. V. Shutes from the Progressive Association, North Alabama. Rev. G. W. Nobles and Brother J. C. Howell from the State Line Association; next session will convene with Prospect Church on Thursday and Friday before the Second Sunday in October, 1950. Rev. H. G. Catrett, Rev. C. L. Roberts, Rev. B. W. Clenney and Brother O. B. Everson from the Mar-

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tin Association; next session will convene with Mothers Home Church on Friday and Saturday before the Fourth Sunday in October, 1950. Brother C. V. King from the Chattahoochee Association; next session to convene with St. Johns Church, Columbus, Ga., on Friday and Saturday before the first Sunday in October, 1950. They were given a hand of welcome by the moderator.

At this time the body adjourned for the preaching and noon hour. Rev. W. T. Wiley brought the message from I Corinthians 2:2. The body enjoyed the message and showed by giving him an offering (He being 82 years of age) of \$36.85. Benediction by Rev. C. J. Harvey.

Wednesday P. M.

The devotion was conducted by Rev. G. W. Nobles from the State Line Association.

The ministers roll was called. Present: Rev. W. T. Wiley, E. C. Williams, T. B. Mellette, S. T. Shutes, J. L. Tedder, J. N. Barnes, J. B. Lovering, C. J. Harvey, C. R. Houston; also, Rev. J. C. More was present from the Missionary Baptist Church and gave us an inspiring song service, some of his own compositions.

At this time the moderator appointed some of the committees.

On Nominations: Rev. E. C. Williams, Miss Dot Harvey, Mrs. T. B. Mellette.

On State of Churches and Character of Ministers: C. G. Jordan, B. Houston and R. B. Pyle.

On Obituaries: Rev. C. J. Harvey, Mrs. M. W. Irvin, Mrs. Delora (Eth-

eridge) Wallace.

The moderator called on his assistant to take the chair, while he introduced a new committee to be known as a Ministers Conference Committee. This committee will work with committees of other associations to fix a time and place for the ministers of the State to meet in a conference to discuss and study the duties and possibilities of pastors. The move was carried and Rev. S. T. Shutes, Rev. E. C. Morris and Brother A. D. Ivey were appointed.

Rev. K. V. Shutes gave us the standing of the Alabama Orphan's Home and made a plea for food and clothing.

The moderator called for volunteers to Sister Associations. Rev. J. L. Tedder and Rev. E. C. Williams were sent to the State Line Association. Brother Alvin Day and C. G. Jordan to go to the Martin Association.

Rev. J. B. Lovering was asked to lead the devotion Thursday A. M.

Motion by Brother Jake Craft that we adjourn until 10 o'clock Thursday A. M. Benediction by Rev. J. C. More.

Thursday A. M.

The body met as to adjournment. The devotion was led by Rev. J. B. Lovering. His subject "If You Are to Build You Must Count the Cost." First, the minutes of the previous day were read and corrected. This being completed the moderator called for the reports of the committees.

• Rev. S. T. Shutes read the report on the Ministerial Conference which was adopted. See report.

The Committee on State of Churches and Character of Ministers was read and the report was adopted. See report.

The Committee on Christian Education's report was discussed, Rev. T. B. Mellette and W. B. Griffin. The report was adopted. See report.

At this time the body recessed for preaching services and the noon hour to meet back at 1:30 o'clock. Rev. K. V. Shutes brought the message from Paul's letter to Timothy. His subject being: "Preach the Word." Benediction by Rev. J. B. Lovering.

Thursday P. M.

After the noon hour of refreshments and fellowship one with the other, the body met as to adjournment. First, was a song by the congregation led by Brother W. B. Griffin, "Jesus Needs Just You."

After this the body was asked to ordain Brother Calvin Williams to the ministry, also Brother J. B. Davis as a Deacon. Both from Pine View Church. Brother Williams was a soldier in World War Two and lost his eye sight completely. The council took over and had a very impressive service.

Rev. E. C. Morris gave his report on promotional work of the State. After which he took a collection for foreign mission that amounted to \$108.05. The body was led in prayer of thanksgiving by Rev. E. C. Morris.

Other committee reported.

Macedonia Church and Pastor: Reported on Sunday School and League work and was discussed by Brother W. B. Griffin, Rev. J. B. Lovering, Alvin Day and then was adopted. See report.

The Committee on Obituaries read their report. The report was adopted. See report.

The Committee on Nominations recommended that the First Quarter of the association meet with Patmos Church on Friday before the Fourth Sunday in January, 1950. Rev. S. T. Shutes to preach at 11 o'clock with Rev. C. J. Harvey as his alternate. The Second Quarter of the association to meet with Bethlehem Church on Friday before the Fourth Sunday in April, 1950. Rev. C. R. Houston to preach at 11 o'clock with Rev. E. C. Morris as his alternate. The Third Quarter of the association to meet with White Pond Church on Friday before the Fourth Sunday in July, 1950. Rev. J. B. Lovering to preach at the 11 o'clock hour with Rev. Calvin Williams as his alternate. The Annual Session to convene with New Enterprise Church on Wednesday and Thursday before the First Sunday in November 1950. Rev. T. B. Mellette to preach at 11 o'clock with Rev. J. N. Barnes as his alternate.

The Finance Committee made their report and report was adopted. See report.

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The Treasurer made his report and his report was adopted. See report. The moderator appointed four delegates to the State Association. The following committees were appointed.

On Christian Education—Open Pond Church and Pastor.

On Mission—Blakely Church and Pastor.

Sunday Schools and F. W. B. Leagues-Mt. Zion Church and Pastor. Temperance-New Enterprise Church and Pastor.

Brother William Clowers was elected as a delegate to the National Association with Brother R. B. Pyles as his alternate. It was voted for the Treasurer to pay the associational dues, both to the State and National Associations.

The Drifton Florida Church asked for a letter of dismission from our body as they were going to the North Florida Association and a letter.of dismission was granted.

A standing vote of thanks was given to Oak Grove Church for their hospitality shown us while in our Fifty-First Session with them. The motion was made and carried to adjourn to meet with Patmos Church in January, 1950.

> Rev. T. B. Mellette, Moderator W. B. Griffin, Clerk.

Announcements

The Ladies Auxiliary Convention will meet with Oak Grove Church, Miller County, Georgia, on Thursday before the Fourth Sunday in March, 1950.

First Quarterly Session

The First Quarterly Meeting of the Midway Association met with Patmos Church, Baker County, Georgia, on January the 20th, 1949, with 16 churches representing and 5 ministers of the Midway Association; namely, E. C. Williams, T. B. Mellette, C. R. Houston, J. N. Barnes, J. B. Lovering, with Rev. J. C. Roberts from the Martin Association, Rev. G. A. Sellers from the Union Association and Rev. E. C. Morris from the State Association.

The eleven o'clock message was given by a layman, Brother W. B. Grif-. fin. His Subject was "The Changes in this World." Benediction by Rev. G. A. Sellers.

Afternoon Session

The devotional: The body was favored with a special song service led by Mrs. D. S. Haupman, Mrs. John Spells and their Father, J. E. Griffin. Our promotional secretary gave a report on his trip to Cuba. And, was followed by Mrs. Edith Showers with a talk on the need of a Vacation Bible School in every church.

The Finance Committee reported a collection of \$151.26.

Rev. T. B. Mellette, Moderator W. B. Griffin, Clerk

Second Quarterly Session

The Second Quarterly Session of the Midway Association met with New Light Church, Calhoun County, Ga., on the 21st day of April, 1949, with 16 churches and five pastors representing and three visiting ministers from other associations. At this time Brother William Clowers brought the message from the subject: "Give Me This Mountain."

Afternoon Session

After the devotion, Travelers Rest Church asked that the body ordain Brother Martin Parker. After the ordination the subjects for discussion were communion and foot washing.

The Finance Committee reported a collection of \$190.86. The body adjourned. Benediction by Rev. W. T. Wiley.

> Rev. T. B. Mellette, Moderator W. B. Griffin, Clerk

Third Quarterly Session

The Third Buarterly Session of the Midway Association met with Macedonia Church, Miller County, Ga., on Friday before the Fourth Sunday in July, 1949, with 14 churches and four ministers present. The message was brought by Brother O. B. Everson. His subject being "What Will You Do with Jesus?"

After the noon hour the body returned to the house at the rap on the door. The devotion was led by Rev. W. F. McDuffee. A round table discussion in the interest of the new state camp and the Finance Committee reported a collection of \$137.80, and recommended that we give to the camp \$50.00; and a public collection was taken for the camp that amounted to \$75.00.

Adjourned to meet with Oak Grove Church in November.

Rev. T. B. Mellette, Moderator W. B. Griffin, Clerk

Ministerial Fellowship Committee

Whereas our moderator has recommended a three day ministerial institute, leading to an organization of a state ministerial association, Be it re-

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solved that we memorialize the State Association to plan such an institute to be held at Camp Mt. Bethel on June 6-8, 1950.

Committee:

S. T. Shutes E. C. Morris A. D. Ivey

COMMITTEE ON STATE OF CHURCHES AND CHARACTER OF MINISTERS

We find all churches in good standing so far as we can find out. We also find ministers in full fellowship.

We recommend that each church call a minister to serve their church and not right on to another church at same time. We recommend that each church in the association consider half time servivces per month. We also recommend that each church take care of their obligations.

Respectfully submitted,

R. B. Pyle, Chair.B. HoustonC. G. Jordan

Christian Education

The Committee on Christian Education prayerfully makes the following report.

1. The American people as a nation depends on the training of the minds of the American youth in the principles of free government as a republic and issues set forth in Jefferson Democracy as a progressive nation for agriculture, industry, and commerce for its permanent prosperity and for its destiny.

2. The Church of Jesus Christ and the doctrines of Christ as set forth in the scriptures and Treatise of the Free Will Baptist Church of Jesus Christ depends on the development of the minds of those who go forth to teach and to preach to the constituency of our church and that our church is wholly dependent on our clergy for its posterity and the faith and doctrines to be practiced.

Therefore, be it resolved that whereas God qualifies whom He calls, but His work is carried on by those whom He chooses and that by the leadership of the Holy Spirit He has given us freedom of speech, freedom of press and freedom of worship. We recommend that we encourage our people to support our Bible College, our Young Peoples Camp at Mt. Bethel with our prayers and our substance.

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Respectfully,

Live Oak Church and Pastor, T. B. Mellette

Sunday School and League Report

Your Committee on Sunday School and League report the following: The Sunday School is the greatest agency of the church for reaching the lost and educating the saved. The greatest need of our Sunday Schools is two-fold. First: Leaders who are dedicated to the task; and, Second: Leaders who are trained to do the work. We therefore urge every Sunday School to have a course taught in Sunday School administration during the coming year.

For the benefit of youth and their training for Christian service in general the F. W. B. L. is excellent. Nevertheless we recommend that Christian adults see that the spiritual benefits be stressed beyond the social benefits,

Respectfully submitted,

Macedonia Church and Pastor

Report on Obituaries

We, your committee, find that God has seen fit to take from our midst the following:

Cedar Spring 1, Traverlers Rest 1, Zion 2, New Light 1, Pine View 1, White Pond 2, Live Oak 2, Damascus 1, White Plain 1.

We recommend that each church send with their association letter their names, age, and how long they had been a Free Will Baptist of those dying in their church that your obituaries committee may have something to work on. We further recommend that our clerk drape a page in our minutes in honor of our dead.

Respectfully,

Bro. C. J. Harvey Mrs. M. W. Irvin

Report of Finance Committee

	Camp	Education	Received
Open Pond Church		\$	\$ 15.98
Blakely Church	· · · · · · · · ·		15.00
Cedar Springs Church			25.00
Damascus	•		14.00
Enterprise			15.00
Live Oak		25.00	10.00
Macedonia			15.00
New Enterprise			12.00
White Plains			10.00
White Pond			7.50
Travelers Rest			25.00
Oak Grove			10.00

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Pine View Fatmos Zion Mt. Zion	$10.00 \\ 12.50 \\ 30.00$
Mt. Zion New Light Bethlehem	20.00 30.00 15.00
	\$291.98 37.50
	\$329.48

We recommend that \$50.00 be given to the Preachers Conference to be promoted by the State Association. We recommend that \$25.00 be given to the Alabama Orphanage and \$25.00 be given to the South Carolina Orphanage. We also recommend that we give \$50.00 for Foreign Missions and \$57.44 be held in treasury to pay for minutes.

We also recommend that each church send same amount of cash to each session of the association; and, if your church fails to attend any session that you double your offering next session; and, that each church send some time through the year at least 33 1-3c per capita membership for associational purposes.

Signed,

A. D. Ivey

Martin Still

Report of Treasurer.

Amounts Received

Nov. 4—Received from association	\$275.63
Nov. 4—Received collection for Rev. Paul Irwin	40.32
Nov. 27—Received from Live Oak Church	10.00
Nov. 27-Received from Old Enterprise Church	

1949

1948

Jan. 21—Received from association	151.26
Feb. 5-Received from Cedar Springs Church	10.83
April 22—Received from association	216.00
May 15—Received from Old Enterprise Church	5.00
July 22—Received from Association	137.80
July 22—Received Collection for Mt. Bethel Camp	21.20
Aug. 2-Received from Cedar Springs Church	6.63
Aug. 2—Received from Rev. T. B. Mellette for Camp	25.00
Aug. 2-Received from A. D. Ivey for Camp	25.00
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Total Received

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\$934.67

1949	
Nov. 2—Disbursements Total	862.21
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Balance on hand	\$ 72.46
1948 Disbursements	· · · · · · ·
Nov. 4—Overdrawn	\$ 13.00
Nov. 4—Overdrawn	•
Nov. 4-Paid Clerk	12.00
Nov. 4—Paid Rev. W. T. Wiley	
Nov. 4—Paid Rev. E. C. Williams	
Nov. 4—Paid Rev. J. L. Tedder	
Nov. 4—Paid Mrs. J. M. Emanuel	
Nov. 4—Paid R. B. Pyle, State Superannuation	· · · · ·
Nov. 5—Paid Rev. Paul Irwin	
Nov. 5—Paid Treasurer	•
1949	- -
Jan. 21—Paid R. B. Pyle, State Superannuation	20.00
Jan. 21—Paid Rev. E. C. Williams	15.00
Jan. 21—Paid Clerk	4.00
Jan. 21—Paid Rev. W. T. Wiley	
Jan. 21—Paid Rev. J. L. Tedder	15.00
Jan. 21—Paid Mrs. J. M. Emanuel	
Jan. 21—Paid Free Will Baptist Press for Minutes Feb. 4—Paid State Association	
Feb. 4—Paid State Association Feb. 4—Paid Sinking Fund	,
April 22—Paid Rev. W. T. Wiley	
April 22—Paid Clerk	4.00
April 23—Paid Rev. E. C. Williams	
April 23—Paid Rev. J. L. TedderApril 23—Paid Mrs. J. M. Emanuel	
April 23—Paid R. B. Pyle, State Superannuation	
April 23—Paid G. C. King for State Camp	132.00
July 22—Paid R. B. Pyle, State Superannuation	
July 22-Paid Rev. J. L. Tedder	
July 22—Paid Rev. E. C. Williams July 22—Paid Clerk	
July 23—Paid Rev. Wiley	15.00
July 23-Paid Mrs. J. M. Emanuel	

Total paid

\$862.21

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1948	Education	Rec'd.	Disb
Nóv. 4-	-Received from Old Enterprise Church	\$10.00	\$
Nov. 27-	-Received from Live Oak Church	25.00	· .
1949			
Aug. 3–	-Paid State Association		35.00
			•
	Balanced		
1948	Sinking Fund	Rec'd.	Disb.
Nov. 4–	-Balance brought forward	\$190.84	\$
	-Paid Rev. Paul Irwin		50.00
1949			
Feb. 4-	-Received from Association	52.22	
	-Paid G. C. King for Camp		100.00
April 22	2—Paid Rev. H. L. Knighton for Nat'l. Asso.)	50.00
	Total	\$243.06	\$200.00
	Balance on hand	•	•

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Churches	Pastors	Clerks and Addresses Meeting Days Paid Pastor Paid Pastor
Blakely Bethlehem Cedar Springs Damascus Damascus Enterprise Enterprise New Enterprise Live Oak Macedonia Mt. Zion New Light Pine View Open Pond Oak Grove Patmos Travelers Rest White Plains White Pond Zion	E. C. Morris	Mrs. J. S. Yates, Blakely, Ga.4111042-4 $\$$ $\$$ 40.00 $\$$ 862.5Mrs. Evelyn Jones, Shellman, Ga.1187 $\$$ 60.00 250.0 E. A. Reed, Hilton, Ga.111 $\$$ 87.4 60.00 250.0 L. W. Wiley, Damascus, Ga.121 62.1 88.71 303.0 Hattie Jenkins, Blakely, Ga.121 50.4 60.00 184.3 Hattie Jenkins, Blakely, Ga 61.2 55.00 216.0 E. B. Ard, Brinson, Ga 61.2 55.00 216.0 J. M. Craft. Colquitt, Ga.21 $8<$

STATISTICAL TABLE NO. 1

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STATISTICAL TABLE NO. 2

Churches	SUNDAY No. on Roll		F. W. B. No. on Roll	LEAGUE Avg. Attd.	LADIES AID No. on Roll	PRAYER MEETING Avg. Attd.
Bethlehem	. 40	25	1. 1.		25	12
Blakely	68	45	~ 50	20	-	25
Cedar Springs	20	15	-		25	·
Damascus	25	10	15	10		
Enterprise	-					·
New Enterprise	. 51	40				
Live Oak	. 38	28				38
Macedonia	30	25			11	12
Mt. Zion	45	25	70	65		
New Light	145	80	95	65	· · ·	
Open Pond	. 82	37	30	12	17	10
Oak Grove	25	15			14	•
Pine View						
Patmos	. 65	47	60	45	16	10
Travelers Rest	. 50	35	30	20	15	25
White Plains	25	20				
White Pond	84	45		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	17 .	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Zion	40	20	50	20	12	

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