



MINUTES  
OF THE  
FIFTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE  
MIDWAY ASSOCIATION  
OF THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA  
HELD WITH  
HAMMOCK SPRINGS CHURCH  
SEMINOLE COUNTY, GEORGIA  
OCTOBER 29 AND 30, 1952



Next session to convene with Traveller's Rest and Patmos Churches, Baker County, Georgia, on Wednesday and Thursday before the first Sunday in November, 1953. Session to open at ten o'clock. Rev. T. B. Mellette to preach the Introductory Sermon; Rev. J. B. Lovering as his alternate.

OFFICERS

REV. T. B. MELLETTE	Moderator
REV. S. T. SHUTES	Clerk



## – Officers –

REV. T. B. MELLETTTE, <i>Moderator</i> .....	Blakely, Ga.
REV. J. N. BARNES, <i>Assistant Moderator</i> .....	Blakely, Ga.
REV. S. T. SHUTES, <i>Clerk</i> .....	Colquitt, Ga.
VAUDINE REEVES, <i>Assistant Clerk</i> .....	Jakin, Ga.
A. D. IVEY, <i>Treasurer</i> .....	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 –

Rev. E. C. Williams, Rev. T. B. Melette, Rev. C. C. White, Rev. J. N. Barnes, Rev. S. T. Shutes, Rev. J. L. Tedder, Rev. C. J. Harvey, Rev. C. R. Houston, Rev. J. B. Lovering, Rev. J. O. Fort, Rev. Calvin Williams, Rev. H. L. Roberts, Rev. Adam Scott, Rev. Burdette Dowdney.

## – Licentiates –

Cecil Strickland

Paul Irvin

# 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.

# Annual Session Proceedings

The fifty-fourth annual session of the Midway Association of Free Will Baptists met with Hammock Springs Church, six miles south of Donaldsonville, Georgia, Seminole County, October 29, 30, 1952.

The body was called to order by the moderator. The singing was led by the clerk. The moderator's message was based on Philippians 2.

Letters were received from the following churches:

*Albany*—Mrs. Lawrence Houston, Mrs. E. B. Haggins.

*Blakely*—Alvin Day, S. W. Mercer, Mr. and Mrs. Alton Mercer, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Middleton.

*Bainbridge*—Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Sellers, Willard Tetter.

*Bethlehem*—Represented by letter.

*Cedar Springs*—Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Pyle, Mrs. Irene Dykes, Mrs. W. F. McDuffie.

*Damascus*—Mrs. Ina Wiley, Mrs. Christine Cheshire.

*Enterprise*—Mrs. Ralph Jenkins, T. W. Jenkins, Robert Windsor.

*Hammock Springs*—Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Williams, Ira Barber.

*Live Oak*—E. A. Sanders and wife, J. T. Sanders, J. N. Etheridge and wife.

*Macedonia*—Mrs. J. B. Lovering, Mrs. O. B. Everson, Mr. and Mrs. B. Houston.

*Mt. Zion*—C. G. Jordan, T. A. Wiley, W. N. Hudgins.

*New Enterprise*—Ralph Bell, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Waddell, M. S. Waddell.

*New Light*—G. L. Bryan, William H. Turner, Emmett Paul, R. E. Paul.

*Oak Grove*—Miss Margaret Houston, Mrs. Mary F. Bundy, Mrs. Carlton Houston.

*Jakin*—Miss Nell Miller, Miss Dor Harvey, Miss Marilyn Avirett, John Hudson, Miss Gloria Reeves.

*Patmos*—W. B. Griffin, Mrs. Grace Star, Mrs. Sally Woodard.

*Pine View*—Mrs. Eunice McLendon, Mrs. Jessie Mae Broxton, Mrs. Jim Williams.

*Traveller's Rest*—Mrs. Milledge Irvin, Mrs. Caudia Rhode, rs. Lizzie B. Hughes, Bowen Edmonds, Mrs. Kate Edwards.

*White Plain*—Martin Murkerson.

*White Pond*—Represented by letter.

*Zion*—Mr. and Mrs. Martin Still, Mrs. Edna Mills, Mrs. Ella Wiley, Mrs. Ester Mae English.

*Ministers answering to roll call:* Elders E. C. Williams, T. B. Mellette, J. T. Tedder, J. N. Barnes, J. B. Lovering, C. J. Harvey, C. R. Houston, H. L. Roberts, W. F. McDuffie, and S. T. Shutes.

Recess.

Preaching. Rev. J. N. Barnes very ably filled the stand, using as a text, Luke 22-35.

The audience enjoyed a bountiful spread by the host church.

One thirty singing, and a good devotional service on Kings 2:9 by Rev. W. F.

McSuffie. Moderator presiding, business resumed. Call renewed for corresponding letters. Visitors and corresponding messengers call for. These responded:

*S. C. Conference*, Arthur L. Fryer and Edison Kirby; *State Line*, George H. Jordan and wife, Rev. George Nobles and wife; *Chattahoochee*, Rev. and Mrs. Coy Watson, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. King, Rev. and Mrs. E. C. Morris; *Martin*, Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Everson, visitors, Mrs. Alma McDonald, Mrs. Grimes, Mrs. Tully, Mrs. Lane, Mrs. Crawford, Mrs. Middleton, Mrs. H. L. Roberts.

Motion prevailed to fellowship and seat these delegates and visitors, and that Vice-Moderator give right hand of fellowship.

Motion carried: that Damascus Church be granted the liberty to receive one young man into their church without baptism, because of having to wear a tube in his lung.

Committees appointed:

*Devotions*: R. R. Williams, J. N. Etheridge and A. D. Ivey.

*Nominations*: Rev. H. L. Roberts, E. A. Sanders and Willard Tedder.

*State of Churches and Character of Ministers*.

*Obituaries*: Rev. Carlton Houston, Mrs. J. B. Lovering and Alvin Day.

Talk by the moderator on things that will lead to a delightful progress of the Midway Association.

Motion carried for the appointment of a committee to draft principles for which the Midway Association stands and the governing of our work.

Motion carried that Bro. T. B. Mellette serve as chairman, and have the privilege of selecting any two of this body's members. W. B. Griffin and C. R. Houston were his selections.

At this time an offering was taken for the program—the amount \$74.06.

Motion prevailed that corresponding delegates be appointed at this time to Sister Associations, the State Association, also National Associations.

*Chattahoochee*: Revs. H. L. Roberts and E. C. Williams, also Alvin Day; *State Line*, Revs. J. G. Tedder, E. C. Williams, T. B. Mellette, S. W. Mercer; *Martin*, Alvin Day; *Union*, Revs. H. L. Roberts, E. C. Williams, C. J. Harvey and wife; *S. C. Conference*, T. B. Mellette; *State Association*, W. B. Griffin, Mrs. T. B. Mellette; *National Association*, B. Houston.

At this time the Devotional Committee reported Scottie Driggers to preach Thursday at eleven, E. C. Morris, alternate.

Motion prevailed that assistant moderator, together with the pastor of Blakely Church and delegates assign duties to various churches in the Association (those that did not have any other duties assigned them), of securing plates, forks, cups and napkins for the State Association while in session at Blakely, Georgia.

The Promotional Secretary of the State Association gave a very encouraging report of the State work.

Motion carried for adjournment until 9:30 Thursday A. M., October 30, 1952.

#### THURSDAY

Body reconvened as per adjournment, the Moderator presiding. Singing.



Devotional by Rev. J. B. Lovering, Joshua 5:13, 15. The moderator then declared the body officially open. Renewed letter call. None. Minutes of previous day's work read and adopted. Committee reports called. Jakin F. W. B. Church and pastor reporting, John Hudson reading report on FWB League, and S. S. adopted by voice vote (See Report).

Mrs. Martha Everson, reporting on Christian Education for Macedonia church and pastor. Report adopted by voice vote (See Report), with amendment for the grouping of churches of the Midway Association for convenience in having training institutes.

New Light letters and delegates came in and were seated.

A motion carried by voice vote for the church to add the amount given each session of the Association during the year in the column marked "Association Fund."

Report by Special Committee of what we stand for, read by C. R. Houston. Report adopted (See Report).

Motion to adjourn for preaching. The sermon by Rev. Scottie Driggers was very inspiring. Text I Thess. 12:11, subject, Three R's.

Recessed for the noonday refreshments by the host church.

1:30 Resumption of business, moderator presiding. Singing. Devotion by Rev. Edison Kirby, Psalms 1, Phil. 2:1, 2. Prayer and special song by A. L. Fryer.

Bro. J. O. Cook from Salem Association in Jackson County, Fla., came in and was seated. S. T. Shutes and W. F. McDuffie were appointed as delegates to the 1953 Salem Association, Friday and Saturday before first Sunday in October.

Obituaries, Rev. Carlton Houston reporting for Committee. The memorial of Rev. W. T. Wiley by a Special Committee was read, also the report adopted (See Report). The body was asked to stand for silent prayer, the prayer concluded by Rev. E. C. Morris.

State of churches and character of ministers reporting adopted by voice vote (See Report).

Nomination Committee reporting. Rev. H. L. Roberts reading. Motion carried by voice vote.

A program committee for the 1952 Session of the Association were retained, after a program for the 1953 sessions was read and adopted. See report.

The Finance Committee reported, W. B. Griffin reading. This was accepted, and a standing vote was asked for the budget report. This was unanimous. The Treasurer reporting, A. D. Ivey reading. Adopted (See Report). Miscellaneous business entered. A rising vote of thanks was given to the Hammock Springs Church and community.

Motion to have picture of Rev. W. T. Wiley printed in minutes, and the association paying for having the cut made.

Bro. Fryer of S. C. made a timely talk.

Motion for church to have minutes printed on a competitive basis.

Motion to adjourn, to meet one year hence.

Signed:

REV. T. B. MELLETT, Moderator

REV. S. T. SHUTES, Clerk

### REPORT OF TREASURER

1952		RECEIVED
July 25	Balance on hand .....	\$ 70.82
July 25	Received from the Association .....	237.00
July 25	Received Collection at Association .....	51.59
July 25	Total received .....	\$ 359.41
July 25	Total Disbursed .....	284.00
Oct. 29	Balance on hand .....	\$ 75.41

### DISBURSEMENTS

1952		DISBURSED
July 25	Paid Mrs. W. T. Wiley .....	\$ 15.00
July 25	Paid Rev. E. C. Williams .....	15.00
July 25	Paid Rev. J. L. Tedder .....	15.00
July 25	Paid Mrs. J. M. Emanuel .....	15.00
July 25	Paid R. B. Pyle State Sup. Treas. ....	20.00
July 25	Paid Rev. S. T. Shutes Clerk .....	4.00
July 25	Paid G. C. King for Camp .....	50.00
July 25	Paid F. W. B. Bible College .....	100.00
July 25	Paid Rev. Adam Scott Albany Church ..	25.00
July 25	Paid O. W. Sellers Bainbridge Church ..	25.00
July 25	Total Disbursed .....	\$ 284.00

### REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

		RECEIVED
Oct. 30, 1952	Annual Session .....	
Oct. 29, 1952	Rec. from Churches for Budget .....	\$ 243.00
Oct. 29, 1952	Rec. Collection .....	74.06
Oct. 29, 1952	Rec. Education .....	15.00
Oct. 29, 1952	Total rec. ....	\$ 332.06
Oct. 29, 1952	Bal. in Treas. ....	75.41
Oct. 29, 1952	Total .....	\$ 407.47
We recommend that we give Mrs. W. T. Wiley .....		\$ 30.00
Mrs. J. M. Emanuel .....		20.00
Rev. E. C. Williams .....		10.00
Rev. J. L. Tedder .....		10.00
R. B. Pyle State Sup. Treas. ....		23.33
Moderator .....		15.00
Clerk .....		12.00
Bainbridge Church .....		25.00
Camp .....		100.00
Minutes .....		80.00
Rev. K. V. Shutes for radio program ..		6.40
Total .....		\$ 331.73
Total on hand .....		\$ 407.47
Total recommended .....		331.73
Balance .....		\$ 75.74

## CHURCHES

*We Also Recommend*

## ASSO. FUND

Albany	\$ 30.00
Bainbridge	20.00
Bethlehem	50.00
Blakeley	70.00
Cedar Springs	80.00
Damascus	28.00
Enterprise	50.00
Jakin	80.00
Live Oak	48.00
Macedonia	70.00
Mt. Zion	60.00
New Light	80.00
Hammock Springs	30.00
New Enterprise	40.00
Oak Grove	60.00
Patmos	80.00
Pine View	40.00
Traveler Rest	80.00
White Plains	50.00
White Pond	50.00
Zion	72.00

Budget for 1952 &amp; 53

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

We your committee on nominations submit the following report:

The first quarterly session to meet with Macedonia Church on Friday before the fourth Sunday in January. Rev. C. R. Houston to preach with Rev. C. J. Harvey as alternate. The second quarterly session to meet with New Light Church on Friday before the fourth Sunday in April. Rev. H. L. Roberts to preach with Rev. E. C. Williams as alternate. The third quarterly session to meet with White Pond, on Friday before the fourth Sunday in July. Rev. W. F. McDuffie to preach with Rev. J. L. Tedder as alternate.

The fifty-fifth annual session to meet with Travellers Rest Church on the first day and Patmos Church on the second day. The annual session will meet on Wednesday and Thursday before the first Sunday in November, 1953. Rev. T. B. Mellette to preach, J. B. Lovering as alternate.

We recommend the same officers for the next two years.

H. L. ROBERTS, *Chairman*

E. A. SANDERS

W. S. TEDDER

## SUNDAY SCHOOL AND FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE REPORT

We, your Committee on Sunday School and Free Will Baptist Leagues, make the following report.

Our Sunday Schools and Leagues fulfill two primary functions in the local church. The Sunday School is the academic learning institution of the church, while the Leagues are the practical training institutions of the church. In the Sunday School, we study the Bible to learn its meaning; and in the Leagues, we learn how to put what we know into practice. From our youth, we have looked to



Churches	Baptized	Rec'd Letter	Restored	Dis. by Letter	Expelled	Died	Total Mens.	Pd. Pastor	Evangelist	Bld. & Repair	Incidentals	Superannuation	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Christian Education	Publication	Miscellaneous	Youth Camp	Ass'n Fund	Value Church Property	Children's Home	Meeting Days
Albany.....	15	48	0	3	0	1	63	\$ 2,945.00	\$ .00	\$ 7,571.40	\$ .00	\$ .00	\$ .00	\$ .00	\$ .00	\$120.50	\$ 832.00	\$ .00	\$ 20.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ .00	Full Time
Blakely.....	10	4	0	6	0	1	118	860.00	50.00	241.90	40.00	9.92	65.19	48.33	131.25	49.18	87.60	55.32	60.00	20,000.00	5.53	1-3
Bethlehem.....	3	1	0	1	0	3	80	357.00	125.00	.00	.00	.00	10.00	.00	5.00	.00	.00	.00	40.00	5,000.00	.00	4
Bainbridge.....	0	11	0	0	0	0	11	144.50	.00	.00	.00	9.02	9.11	5.20	9.55	5.50	96.68	.00	15.00	.00	.00	Full Time
Cedar Springs.....	5	4	0	3	0	2	74	740.77	.00	1,261.15	.00	5.69	87.79	39.26	436.23	72.34	518.40	26.33	60.00	3,000.00	13.56	1-3
Damascus.....	0	0	0	1	0	1	40	279.38	65.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	66.26	.00	35.00	5,000.00	.00	2
Enterprise.....	3	2	0	0	0	1	67	250.00	62.10	474.40	.00	27.50	8.70	15.00	15.00	10.00	12.36	15.00	60.00	4,000.00	.00	4
Hammock Springs.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	31	495.00	98.00	125.00	34.80	6.00	27.90	6.50	5.00	56.12	31.12	.00	35.00	7,500.00	.00	2-4
Live Oak.....	1	2	0	3	0	1	35	275.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	15.00	.00	.00	.00	40.00	5,000.00	.00	3
Macedonia.....	1	0	0	0	3	1	83	835.60	110.00	100.00	84.00	7.29	13.66	13.66	247.77	32.15	105.10	27.33	60.00	7,500.00	16.34	1-3
Mt. Zion.....	0	3	0	5	4	1	84	300.00	25.00	200.00	10.00	40.00	.00	.00	.00	50.00	.00	.00	40.00	3,000.00	.00	2
New Enterprise.....	4	0	0	0	1	1	50	269.67	76.50	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	42.34	.00	.00	40.00	2,000.00	.00	3
New Light.....	12	1	0	1	0	0	267	498.00	166.86	50.00	30.00	.00	.00	.00	99.33	50.00	.00	10.00	60.00	5,000.00	.00	4
Oak Grove.....	3	4	0	1	1	1	93	309.00	91.00	510.00	13.20	.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	50.00	.00	10.00	60.00	3,500.00	25.00	1
Jakin.....	4	7	1	1	0	0	138	804.00	100.00	2,592.92	13.50	10.00	25.00	18.00	85.00	145.56	13.50	.00	60.00	10,000.00	.00	2-4
Patmos.....	14	0	0	8	0	3	194	600.00	100.00	718.18	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	252.00	.00	60.00	5,000.00	.00	2-4
Pine View.....	1	0	0	6	0	0	75	181.15	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	10.00	.00	.00	12.36	.00	40.00	3,000.00	.00	1-3
Traveller's Rest.....	3	0	0	1	0	5	100	475.20	75.00	300.00	.00	.00	60.00	60.00	50.00	65.00	50.00	.00	60.00	3,000.00	.00	4
White Plain.....	1	2	0	7	0	1	100	450.00	76.00	.00	412.84	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	40.00	5,000.00	.00	3
White Pond.....	7	1	0	0	0	0	114	310.45	100.00	.00	26.23	.00	.00	.00	14.80	63.49	31.35	.00	40.00	3,500.00	.00	1-3
Zion.....	1	0	0	3	0	2	134	241.78	100.00	65.00	12.36	60.00	26.00	.00	8.25	.00	100.00	.00	60.00	5,000.00	.00	2-4
Totals.....	89	91	2	51	10	26	1,951	\$11,601.52	\$1,420.48	\$14,309.95	\$675.93	\$175.42	\$343.35	\$235.95	\$334.00	\$812.18	\$2,208.73	\$143.98	\$985.00	\$115,000.00	\$ 60.43	

CHURCHES	PASTORS AND ADDRESS	CLERKS AND ADDRESS	S. S. Roll	Av. Attendance	F.W.B.L. Roll	Av. Attendance	Women's Aux. Roll	Av. Attendance	Prayer Meeting
Albany.....	W. S. Driggers.....	Hoyt Sheffield, 3035 Madison St., Albany, Ga.....	108	60	40	35	26	18	30
Blakely.....	P. E. Knighton, Phenix City, Ala.....	Mrs. J. S. Yates, Blakely, Ga.....	65	48	46	30	12	8	27
Bethlehem.....	D. F. Pelt, Marianna, Fla.....	Mrs. Evelyn Jones, Shellman, Ga.....	30	18	40	25	00	00	00
Bainbridge.....	J. B. Lovering, Colquitt, Ga.....	E. L. Pickron, Bainbridge, Ga.....	30	25	00	00	7	5	25
Cedar Springs.....	W. F. McDuffie, Cedar Springs, Ga.....	A. B. Paul, Hilton, Ga.....	60	43	65	50	18	10	10
Damascus.....	Jno. E. Ellis, Columbus, Ga.....	L. W. Wiley, Damascus, Ga.....	60	40	00	00	00	00	25
Enterprise.....	L. S. Anthony, Thomaston, Ga.....	Miss Hattie Jenkins, Blakely, Ga.....	00	00	00	00	00	12	8
Hammock Springs.....	G. W. Nobles, Cottonwood, Ala.....	Z. R. Jones, Donaldsonville, Ga.....	32	20	29	20	8	7	00
Jakin.....	I. J. Blackwelder, Alma, Ga.....	Miss Ina Sewell, Jakin, Ga.....	76	43	32	21	19	15	20
Live Oak.....	H. L. Catrett, Colquitt, Ga.....	Kitty Tyson, Leary, Ga.....	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
Macedonia.....	J. B. Lovering, Colquitt, Ga.....	J. M. Craft, Colquitt, Ga.....	36	28	00	00	00	00	16
Mt. Zion.....	H. L. Roberts, Colquitt, Ga.....	Rachel Roban, Arlington, Ga.....	45	30	50	35	12	8	25
New Enterprise.....	G. W. Nobles, Cottonwood, Ala.....	E. B. Ard, Brinson, Ga.....	75	40	43	28	00	00	15
New Light.....	D. F. Pelt, Marianna, Fla.....	B. E. Paul, Morgan, Ga.....	100	75	45	30	00	00	00
Oak Grove.....	C. R. Houston, Colquitt, Ga.....	Emory Boyd, Colquitt, Ga.....	40	25	23	15	20	12	25
Patmos.....	C. R. Houston, Colquitt, Ga.....	Eloise Griffin, Leary, Ga.....	60	53	60	53	12	8	00
Pine View.....	B. W. Clenny, Colquitt, Ga.....	Inez Pons, Colquitt, Ga.....	00	00	00	00	12	9	00
Traveller's Rest.....	H. L. Roberts, Colquitt, Ga.....	G. W. Parker, Newton, Ga.....	75	50	35	25	25	20	25
White Plain.....	C. R. Houston, Colquitt, Ga.....	Mrs. Jack White, Blakely, Ga.....	33	18	00	00	00	00	00
White Pond.....	J. N. Barnes, Blakely, Ga.....	Mrs. Marcine Ezell, Blakely, Ga.....	84	38	40	33	13	12	00
Zion.....	J. N. Barnes, Blakely, Ga.....	Jimmie Wiley, Hilton, Ga.....	44	27	50	35	18	12	00

the Sunday School as a source of Biblical interpretation; and in the Leagues, many of us obtained our first experiences of practical Christian living.

Through organization, Free Will Baptists have furthered this same endeavor by providing for us several Youth Camps and the Free Will Baptist Bible College. However, a comparatively small number of us are privileged to attend the Youth Camps and still less are ever able to attend our Free Will Baptist Bible College. This fact makes it extremely important that much effort be made to make of our Sunday Schools and Leagues the very best that is possible. For our local Sunday Schools and Leagues, under these circumstances, will be the only source of Christian training that the great majority of our future church leaders will have.

Therefore, we strongly recommend, first, that our churches provide adequate buildings and other material facilities for a better learning situation that the best possible results may be obtained from our educational effort in our Sunday Schools and Leagues, and, second, that much prayer and effort be made toward securing adequate, spiritual leadership both as teachers in our Sunday Schools and leaders in our Leagues which can be had by taking a greater interest in our teachers and leaders and by aiding them to take advantage of opportunities afforded for them in our Youth Camps and the Free Will Baptist Bible College.

Respectfully submitted,

Jakin Free Will Baptist Church and Pastor

#### STATE OF CHURCHES AND CHARACTER OF MINISTERS

First, the churches should become more concerned about spiritual things. Let us leave off worldly amusements and entertainments to "draw the crowds." Nothing can draw the crowd better than the pure, undefiled Word of God.

Then let us stop sponsoring suppers and lottery to support the churches. God does not approve of such. His plan for the financial support of the church is through tithes and offerings.

Next, let us strive to get every church in our association on half-time, at least.

Finally, the deacons and lay members are responsible for selecting pastors that are qualified for the churches.

Now we recommend that the ministers of this association devote full-time to their pastoral duties, preach the word, and do not take on too many churches. We do not believe it to be fair to the preacher or the church for the preacher to have more than one appointment on each Sunday.

We further recommend that each minister of this association correspond with this body, and bring or send a written report to the annual session explaining his work through that year.

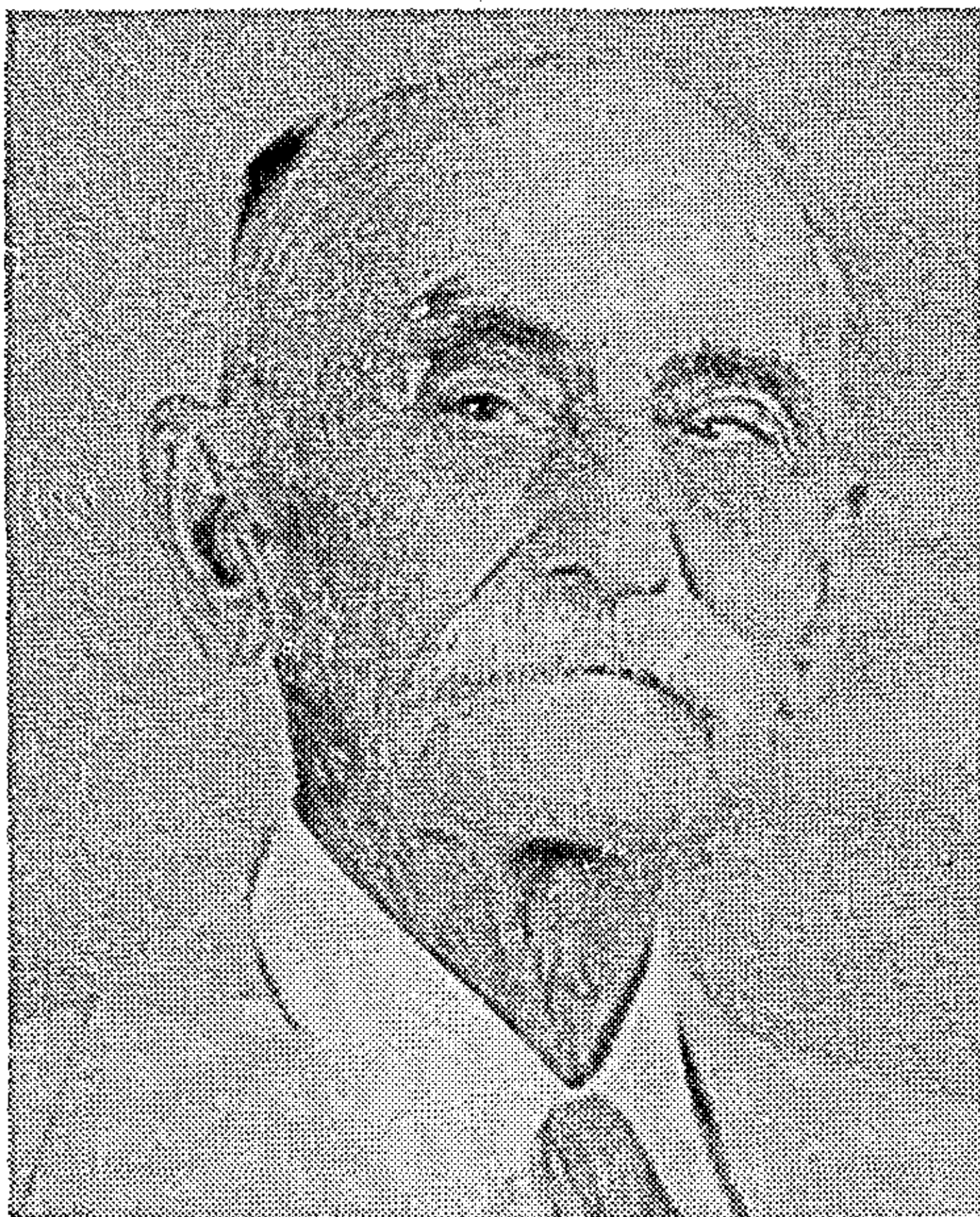
We recommend that Brother Scottie Driggers be accepted as a member of this association.

R. B. PYLE

MRS. O. B. EVERSON

MRS. C. RHODES





REV. W. T. WILEY

IN MEMORIAM

Rev. W. T. Wiley, a beloved saint of God, was born September 6, 1868, in Early County, Georgia. He was a citizen of his native county continuously until the time of his death on June 26, 1952.

Rev. Wiley was married to Miss Ella Alston on February 11, 1892. To this union was born four sons and three daughters, all of which survive except one daughter. Rev. and Mrs. Wiley observed their golden wedding anniversary on February 11, 1952.

Brother Wiley, as he was called by his many friends, was converted after his marriage and was ordained to the gospel ministry by authority of the Midway Association of Georgia during his thirtieth year of life. He had already been serving churches as a licentiate minister before his ordination. Of interest in his ministerial life was an unbroken career of service at New Light Church, Morgan, Georgia, which services consisted continuously for approximately for fifty-three years. He was also pastor at Bethlehem Church for approximately fifty years. With these, he pastored other churches at different intervals. He pastored one of the leading churches in west Florida for several years—Hickory Grove Church, Bascom, Florida. He served as moderator of his association at different intervals for a number of years and was honored by his association for his saintly life and unstinted service.

His funeral was one of the largest ever attended a minister in Southwest Georgia. In addition to an estimated crowd of more than one thousand persons

who attended the services, 22 ministers were present to testify to his life and service. This service was conducted in the home church, Zion, in the community where he was born and reared by Rev. T. B. Mellette.

Rev. Wiley was beloved by adherents of all denominations and his service was welcomed by all. Too, may we say that he served as chaplain of the masonic lodge in Blakely, Georgia, for the last years of his life, which benevolent craft took charge of the body and held the last rites when it was committed back to the earth.

His father was a minister of long faithful service in the Free Will Baptist Church. Brother Wiley followed in the line of his father and became an outstanding example of holy living.

Of the many things that could be said of him, his death sickness lasted only about eighteen hours. He was stricken while in the home of a friend while in revival services at Bethlehem Church in Randolph County, Georgia.

As was said of the patriarchs of old, he fell asleep on the date given above and his remains await the resurrection of the righteous dead in Christ.

REV. T. B. MELLETTE

MRS. EDNA MILLS

MRS. BERNICE STILL

#### PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 1952-53

*First Session:* "The Laymen of the Church" by Willard Tedder.

*Second Session:* "Music in the Church" by Mrs. Pauline Bush.

*Third Session:* "Church Administration" by Rev. S. T. Shutes.

#### Committee:

C. R. HOUSTON

J. B. LOVERING

J. M. CRAFT

#### OBITUARIES

We, your Committee on Obituaries, submit the following report:

Since our last annual association we have suffered the loss of 21 of our members. We humbly bow our heads to the will of God at the passing of these noble souls, and we recommend that a moment of silent prayer be offered to God in gratitude for their lives, and for comfort to the bereaved families.

REV. C. R. HOUSTON

MRS. J. B. LOVERING

ALVIN DAY

#### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT

Few of us deny our children any temporal thing that we can afford. Yet many of them lack the most valuable possession of all—eternal life. Parents are responsible when they fail to set Christian examples, to study the Word, and to pray with their children daily. The family altar is the foundation of a Christian educa-



tion. Solomon tells us, "To train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Christian education, then, begins in the home.

When a person is properly trained around the family altar, he is anxious to continue his Christian education through the church and its auxiliaries. It is therefore necessary that we elect Christian teachers and officers in the Sunday School, the League, the summer encampment, and every other auxiliary of the church. Emphasis should be placed on the Bible. Let us keep worldly amusements and entertainments out of our service.

Since there is a need of trained teachers in almost all of our churches, we recommend a course for Sunday School teachers in each church to be held at the earliest possible date.

Let us mention another institution of Christian education—our Bible College. Surely its rapid growth and development is proof of the fact that it is approved by God, and it deserves our full support—our Prayers as well as our finances.

No matter what a person's station in life might be, he has so much to gain through Christian education. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Macedonia Church and Pastor

## PRINCIPLES OF FAITH AND PRACTICE OF THE MIDWAY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Inasmuch as the Midway Association of the Original Free Will Baptist Church was organized fifty-four years ago on the two principles of missions and education for the Christian ministry. The Midway Association in this 1952 session do hereby reaffirm these same principles for which the association was founded, and we hereby proclaim that these principles be posted in every church and printed in the 1952 minutes of the association, and published in our Free Will Baptist paper.

We therefore affirm that we stand for the following principles:

We endorse the missionary program as being sponsored by the National Association of Free Will Baptists, both home and foreign.

We endorse the educational program as now endorsed and sponsored by the National Association, and all other orthodox schools that may become the property of Free Will Baptist bodies that are members of bodies to which we belong, provided these institutions are proven to be fundamental on the teachings of the Bible and the Second Coming of Christ.

We stand four-square for the youth movement of our denomination, and especially our own Mount Bethel Camp at Ashburn, Georgia.

We endorse and stand for the aims and purposes of the Georgia State Association; including its program of superannuation, education, missions, and its promotional program.

We purpose to be progressive and admonish and pray that local churches look



well to the calling of pastors who are in sympathy with our denominational work both at home and abroad.

We oppose any minister pastoring our churches or evangelizing in our midst who is not orthodox in the faith and practice of the Original Free Will Baptists.

We urge that all ministers doing pastoral work in our association encourage at least twice monthly service, commonly known as half-time services, and that all churches go on half time services beginning the pastoral year 1953.

We endorse the holding of two revivals in each church during the year.

We recommend that the ministers preach tithing as a means of supporting the church, and that the church support the pastor in such a manner that he can live on the same plane with his membership.

We discourage any minister doing double service on the same Sunday unless it be as a means of missions in neglected communities.

Therefore, we stand for missions, both home and foreign, Christian education in school and church, and youth camp activities of Bible Institute work. We are for the superannuation of the aged and worn-out ministers—locally, statewide, and nationally.

We stand for the old-fashioned family altar and call upon our laity and ministers to practice and set examples of holy living, being emperate in all things.

# Quarterly Sessions, 54th Associational Year

## THE FIRST QUARTERLY SESSION

This session convened with Enterprise Church, 3 miles north of Blakely, Ga., Jan. 25, 1952, 10:00 A. M. Singing by the moderator. Scripture John 38:1-11, also by the moderator. Gave a very instructive message on the Scripture.

There were nineteen churches reporting. The report was good, and money presented at this session was \$277.44. Twelve (12) ministers were present, and seven visiting ministers. The sermon was presented by Bro. W. F. McDuffie, Matt. 7:38, a message full of gospel truth. The host church entertained with a bountiful spread.

11:30. The Business Session was presided over by the moderator.

Mrs. Martin Still responded at the call of the Program Committee with a great message impregnated with the gospel, Topic: "Looking on the Field." A general discussion followed. Motion carried that Moderator appoint committees to work the churches for the camp. The appointment was made and the work was partially done. Motion carried that S. T. Shutes arrange for Mrs. Still to broadcast her message on radio also that she publish same in our church paper. Rising vote of thanks to Host Church and community for entertainment.

Adjourned.

Signed: T. B. MELLETTE, *Moderator*  
S. T. SHUTES, *Clerk*

## THE SECOND QUARTERLY SESSION

Second Session convening with Cedar Springs Church, April 25, 1952, Moderator presiding, reading and commenting on Matt. 13. Twenty churches gave reports. They were very good. Eleven ministers answered to the roll call. The churches responded with \$375.72. Rev. and Mrs. M. H. Mellette and Bro. Tillman Mellette were present.

Bainbridge F. W. B. Church presented a petitionary letter, which was received by a voice vote. Bro. Willard Tedder and Sister Josie Lamb as delegates. Hand of fellowship was given by congregation.

Motion that Bro. Roy Roberts serve as proxy for Bro. Wiley on the Ordaining Counsel.

Recessed for the noonday service.

Brother Roy Roberts preached, Rev. 3:1 as a text. A great message it was. Then the noonday meal was a real treat to all present.

1:30 p. m. House called to order by Moderator. The devotion was conducted by Rev. M. H. Mellette, John 19:15-17, a great message.

Special offering \$76.11.

Ordination Service: Brother Paul Irvin to the gospel ministry, and Bros. T. G. Pace, E. B. Averitt, as Deacons. This was administered by the Council, Revs. T. B. Mellette, J. N. Barnes, H. L. Roberts.

The special offering to purchase a Bible for Rev. Paul Irvin was \$18.29.

The Program Committee presented Bro. W. O. Clower. His subject was: Preparing for the Harvest Field.

The various reports were adopted, and will be added in the annual report.

Vote of thanks to host church.

Adjournment.

Signed: T. B. MELLETTE, *Moderator*

S. T. SHUTES, *Clerk*

### THE THIRD QUARTERLY SESSION

This session met with Oak Grove July 25, 1952, at 10:00 A. M.

Session opened by the Vice-Moderator, J. M. Barnes, Singing by W. B. Griffin. Scripture Matt. 5:1-16. Prayer by Bro. H. L. Catrett. Revs. J. B. Lovering and C. R. Houston served as reading clerks, Bros. Martin Murkerson, Alton Mercer and A. D. Ivey as finance committee.

There were twenty churches reporting with \$283.59, and offering in the amount of \$48.09. There were fine reports of revivals in most of the churches. 11:00 service was conducted by Bro. Burdett Dowdney of our Bible College, Nashville, Tenn. Scripture, Acts 1:8. This was a very fine message. Then the noon day meal which was typical of a F. W. B. Church, a bountiful spread.

The Moderator came in and the chair was turned over to him.

The afternoon session was opened by singing with Rev. Damon C. Dodd giving a very timely devotion, and reports of the progress of our church.

The program called and Mrs. A. B. Paul responded with a fine message on covering the harvest field. It was voted for Mrs. Paul to give this on the Faith Program.

A motion carried to place Mrs. W. T. Wiley on the superannuated roll.

Motion that someone be elected to Ordaining Council in place of Rev. W. T. Wiley. Bro. Roy Roberts and S. T. Shutes were nominated. S. T. Shutes was elected by the delegates to fill out Bro. Wiley's time.

At this time Bro. Ralph Lightsey gave us an informative talk on our College.

Motion that Bro. T. B. Mellette, Mrs. Martin Still and Mrs. Ralph Miller write a memorial to the late Rev. W. T. Wiley, deceased, to be presented to the annual session of the association.

Rising vote of thanks was given to the Oak Grove Church and community for the splendid entertainment.

Adjourned to meet at Hammock Springs Church in October for the annual session.

Signed: T. B. MELLETTE, *Moderator*

S. T. SHUTES, *Clerk*