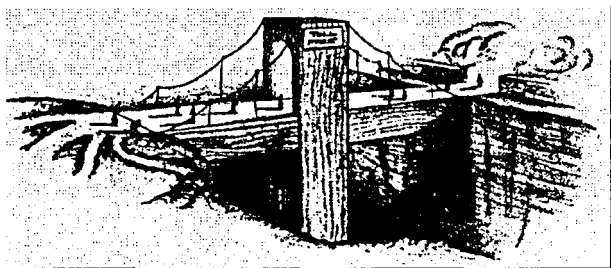


Midway

Association
of
Free Will Baptists
of
Georgia

1997 Minutes



Ninety Ninth Year

99TH
YEAR OF
MIDWAY ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

1997 SESSIONS CONVENED WITH

CEDAR SPRINGS FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
JANUARY 25, 1997

ENTERPRISE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
APRIL 26, 1997

HAMMOCK SPRINGS FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
AUGUST 2, 1997

TRAVELERS REST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
OCTOBER 25, 1997

1998 Sessions

to Convene with

Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church

On January 24, 1998

New Light Free Will Baptist Church

On April 25, 1998

New Enterprise Free Will Baptist Church

On August 1, 1998

Patmos Free Will Baptist Church

On October 24, 1998

© Midway Association of Free Will Baptists of Georgia
G. Gene Gilbert, Clerk
Route 2 Box 405
Newton Georgia 31770
Phone 912-734-6815

General Officers:

Moderator --	Leron Clower Route 1 Arlington, Georgia 31713 Phone 912-725-4485	Assistant Moderator --	Rev. W.E. Brown 3156 Spring Creek Road Brinson, Georgia 31725 Phone 912-243-0109
Clerk --	Rev. G. Gene Gilbert Route 2 Box 405 Newton, Georgia 31770 Phone 912-734-6815	Assistant Clerk ---	Paula Gilbert Route 2 Box 405 Newton, Georgia 31770 Phone 912-734-6815
Treasurer --	Malcolm Freeman Route 1 Box 415 Jakin, Georgia 31761 Phone 912-372-4648	Assistant Treasurer --	Pat Freeman Route 1 Box 415 Jakin, Georgia 31761 Phone 912-372-4648

Boards And Committees

Mission Board

Bill Lofton (84), Joe Martin (85), Charles Drinkwater (85), Marshall Day (95), Mack Harrison (97)

Budget and Finance

Joe Murkerson (95), Nadine Blanton (96)

Resolutions Committee

Henrietta Brown (96), Shirley Kimbrell

Credentials Committee

Betty Day (92), Helen Gilchrist, Ruby Ethridge (97)

Ordaining Board

Billy Hanna (86), Gary Smith (88), J.M. Creech (92), Joe Buttgen (94), Glynn Thomas (97)

Nominating Committee

Mary Griffin (92) 912-849-2491, Janice Temples (96) 912-849-2491, Edith Shiver (96) 912-734-5021

Camping Board

Rudy Woods (85), Rod Goodman (95), Eddie Williams (96), Edwina Drinkwater (96), Bonnie Amburgey (97)

Midway's State Board Members

Mission Board Malcom Freeman, *Trustee Board* Edward Kimbrell,
Christian Education Bill Lofton, *Camp Board* Rod Goodman

Midway District
Georgia Women Active for Christ
(WGAC)

President	Henrietta Brown	912-243-0109
Vice President	Shirly Kimbrell	912-758-2587
Secretary	Christine Daniel	912-435-0802
Treasurer	Nadine Blanton	912-849-3343
Study Chairman	Darlene Butggen	912-723-4516
Prayer Chairman	Janice Temples	912-849-2491
Mission Chairman	Patricia Fite	912-758-3555
Service Chairman	Martha Jenkins	912-723-5260
Field Workers	Katie Rogers	912-524-2367
	Teresa Smith	912-524-8693

Church Training Service
(CTS) Officers

President	Rod Goodman
Vice President	Ti Bamhill
Secretary and Treasurer	Allen Raburn

Sunday School Officers and Program Committees
Officers

President	Rev. Joe Buttgen	Blakely
Vice President	Woodrow Parker	Travelers Rest
Secretary	Joy Brackin	New Enterprise
Treasurer	Charles Drinkwater	New Light

Program Committee:

Edwina Drinkwater, Dorothy Irvin, Leron Clower, Rudy Woods

Ordained Ministers

Rev. John Amburgey	Route 2 Box 67	Leary, GA 31762	912-734-5553
Rev. Mark Barber	P.O. Box 5418	Aiken, SC 29804	
Rev. W.E. Brown	3156 Spring Creek Road	Brinson, GA 31725	912-243-0109
Rev. Joe Buttgen	117 Perry Avenue	Blakely, GA 31723	912-723-4516
Rev. J.M. Creech	2023 Bellview Road	Colquitt, GA 31737	912-758-2982
Rev. David Fite	30 Phillips Road	Colquitt, GA 31737	912-758-3555
Rev. Gene Gilbert	Route 2 Box 405	Newton, GA 31770	912-734-6815
Rev. Rodney Goodman	3009 Dove Avenue	Albany, GA 31707	912-883-5640
Rev. Billy Hanna	125 West Doublegate Drive	Albany, GA 31707	912-436-1973
Dr. W. Irvin Hyman	1696 South Philema Rd	Albany, GA 31701	912-438-9449
Rev. W. F. McDuffee	Nursing Home	Donalsonville, GA 31745	
Rev. Andy Merritt	63 Old Airport Road	Colquitt, GA 31737	912-758-2451
Rev. Melvin Moody	P.O. Box 67	Morgan, GA 31766	912-849-0098
Rev. Joe Murkerson	320 Lee Street	Blakely, GA 31723	912-723-6923
Rev. M.C. Powell	177 Johnny Aultman Rd	Sylvester, GA 31791	912-776-4071
Rev. Gary Smith	Route. 3, Box 319	Donalsonville, GA 31745	912-524-8693
Rev. William I. Smith, Sr.	P.O. Box 295	Cedar Springs, GA 31732	912-372-4949
Rev. Nathan A. Snow	Izumino 5-12	Ebetsu Shi Japan 067	
Rev. Danny G. Thomas	2011 Weymouth Drive	Albany, GA 31707	912-436-6665
Rev. Glynn Thomas	2011 Weymouth Drive	Albany, GA 31707	912-436-6665
Rev. Rudy Woods	136 Croley Road	Bainbridge, GA 31717	912-246-6547

MIDWAY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

Church	Pastor	Church Clerks
Bellview FWB Church 2018 Bellview Road Colquitt, Georgia 31737 912-758-2087	Rev. J. M. Creech 2023 Bellview Road Colquitt, Georgia 31737-9522 912-758-2982	Randy Clenney Route 3 Box 56 Colquitt, Georgia 31737 912-758-3986
Berean FWB Church 515 Branch Road Albany, Georgia 31705	Rev. M.C. Powell 177 Johnny Alt. Road Sylvester, Georgia 31791 912-776-4071	Valerie Guy 171 Johnny Atl. Road Sylvester, Georgia 31791 912-776-3966
Cedar Springs FWB Church Route 4 Blakely, Georgia 31723 912-372-4590	Rev. William I. Smith, Sr. P.O. Box 295 Cedar Springs, Georgia 31732 912-372-4949	Eleanor P. Sheffield Route 4 Box 132 Blakely, Georgia 31723 912-372-4605
Damascus FWB Church Route. 1, Box 7 Damascus, Georgia 31741 912-725-4480	Rev. Glynn Thomas 2011 Weymouth Drive Albany, Georgia 31707 912-436-6665	Margaret Daniel Route 1 Box 7 Damascus, Georgia 31741 912-725-4480
Enterprise FWB Church Route 1 Blakely, Georgia 31723	Rev. W.E. Brown 3156 Spring Creek Road Brinson, Georgia 31725 912-243-0109	Martha Jenkins Route 1 Box 162 Blakely, Georgia 31723 912-723-5260
First FWB Church 420 North Westover Blvd. Albany, Georgia 31707 912-436-4021	Rev. Billy D. Hanna 125 West Doublegate Drive Albany, Georgia 31707 912-436-1973	Wynette H. Carver 420 North Westover Blvd. Albany, Georgia 31707 912-436-4021
First FWB Church P.O. Box 2324 Bainbridge, Georgia 31717	Rev. Rudy Woods 136 Croley Road Bainbridge, Georgia 31717 912-246-6547	Brenda Bailey 1315 Jeffery Lane Bainbridge, Georgia 31717 912-246-0285
First FWB Church 115 Perry Avenue Blakely, Georgia 31723 912-723-5685	Rev. Joe Buttgen 115 Perry Avenue Blakely, Georgia 31723 912-723-4516	Gloria Lovering 216 Meadowbrook Drive Blakely, Georgia 31723 912-723-3036
Hammock Springs FWB Route 3 Box 161 Donalsonville, Georgia 31745 912-524-8693	Rev. Gary Smith Route 3 Box 319 Donalsonville, Georgia 31745 912-524-8693	Janice Jones Route 3 Box 314-A Donalsonville, GA 31745 912-524-5618

MIDWAY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

Church	Pastor	Church Clerks
Macedonia FWB Church 30 Phillips Road Colquitt, Georgia 31737 912-758-3555	Rev. David Fite 30 Phillips Road Colquitt, Georgia 31737 912-758-3555	Glynn Henley 439 Cooktown Road Colquitt, Georgia 31737 912-758-2347
New Enterprise FWB Church Iron City, Georgia 31759	Rev. Joe Murkerson 320 Lee Street Blakely, Georgia 31723 912-723-6923	Joy Brackin Route 1 Box 1500 Brinson, Georgia 31725 912-7742208
New Light FWB Church Route 1 Box 53A Morgan, Georgia 31766 912-849-4655	Rev. Charles (Chuck) Walker Route 1 Box 53-A Morgan, Georgia 31766 912-849-4655	Charles R. Drinkwater Route 1 Box 44 Morgan, Georgia 31766 912-849-2560
Patmos FWB Church Route 2 Leary, Georgia 31762 912-734-5599	Rev. John Amburgey Route 2 Box 67 Leary, Georgia 31762 912-734-5553	Edith Shiver Route 2 Box 82 Leary, Georgia 31762 912-734-5021
Travelers Rest FWB Church Route 2 Box 405 Newton, Georgia 31770 912-734-6815	Rev. G. Gene Gilbert Route 2 Box 405 Church Road Newton, Georgia 31770 912-734-6815	Ruby Elthridge 9733 Look Out Road Baconton, Georgia 31716 912-787-5366
White Plains FWB Church Route 4 Box 71 Blakely, Georgia 31723	Rev. Melvin Moody P.O. Box 67 Morgan, Georgia 31766 912-849-0098	Mary H. Easom Route 4 Box 71 Blakely, Georgia 31723 912-723-4727

1998 Calendar of Events and Activities Midway District Meetings

1 st Session	Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church	January 24, 1998
2 nd Session	New Light Free Will Baptist Church	April 25, 1998
3 rd Session	New Enterprise Free Will Baptist Church	August 1, 1998
Annual Meeting	Patmos Free Will Baptist Church	October 24, 1998

WGAC Workshop	Patmos Free Will Baptist Church	March 7, 1998
WGAC Convention	New Light Free Will Baptist Church	October 3, 1998

State Meetings

State WGAC Prayer Retreat	Norman Park	March 27 & 28, 1998
State Association & WGAC Convention	Albany First	November 11-14, 1998

National Meetings

WNAC Retreat	Ridgecrest	September
National Association	Tulsa, Oklahoma	July 12-16
WNAC Convention	Tulsa, Oklahoma	July 12-16
NYC	Tulsa, Oklahoma	July 13-16

Future Session of the National Association

1998	Tulsa, Oklahoma	July 12-16
1999	Atlanta, Georgia	July 18-22
2000	Anaheim, California	July 16-20
2001	Detroit, Michigan	July 15-19
2002	Memphis, Tennessee	July 21-25
2003	Tampa, Florida	July 20-24
2004	Kansas City, Missouri	July 18-22

First Quarterly Session, January 25, 1997

The Midway Association of Free Will Baptist convened on January 25, 1997 at Cedar Springs Free Will Baptist Church for the first session of the 99th year of the Association. The meeting opened with a congregational song led by Rev. William Smith. Rev. Gary Smith led in prayer. The welcome was given by Rev. William Smith, pastor of Cedar Springs Free Will Baptist Church.

The morning devotion was given by Rev. David Fite. His text was taken from II Samuel Chapter 10. The Assistant Clerk, Rev. David Harper called the session to order and presented the Moderator Leron Clower. The Moderator welcomed everyone to the Association.

MIDWAY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

The Clerk, Rev. Gene Gilbert, called the roll of ministers. The following ministers answered roll call the Reverends: W.E. Brown, J.M. Creech, David Fite, Gene Gilbert, Rodney D. Goodman, Billy Hanna, David Harper, Melvin Moody, Joe Murkerson, Terry Pierce, M.C. Powell, Gary Smith, William Smith, Danny G. Thomas, Rudy Woods, Andy Merrit.

The delegates were asked to stand. A motion was made, seconded and carried to seat the delegates. The Moderator appointed Martha Jenkins to serve on the Resolutions Committee and Edith Shiver to serve on the Credentials Committee. The Moderator then called for a recess and asked all the boards to meet during this time.

Brother William Smith led the congregation singing and then gave an oral report of Brother Herbert Waid's condition of health, after receiving injuries from an automobile accident. Brother Charles Drinkwater was reported in poor health. Brother Terry Pierce led the congregation in prayer for these and others that were in need of prayer.

We also were able to hear oral reports from Debbie Griffin and Nathan Snow concerning their mission efforts as well as their respective financial needs of their missionary accounts.

Ordaining Board Recommendations

We, the Ordaining Board of the Midway Association make the following recommendations: We received a letter from Albany First Church recommending Rev. Glynn Thomas be received into the Midway Association. We will write for a letter according to our policy.

Statement: We have received a letter from Rev. Walter Baxley requesting to be taken off the Ordaining Board. We recommend that Rev. Glynn Thomas take his place. Also Brad Hanna is now active in the West Fork Association of Texas.

Respectively Submitted: Rev. J.M. Creech Rev. Billy Hanna Rev. Gary W. Smith

A motion was made, seconded and carried to receive Rev. Glynn Thomas into the association pending letter from Southern Quarterly of the Cumberland Association of Tennessee.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to remove Rev. Walter Baxley from the Ordaining Board and place Rev. Glynn Thomas on the Ordaining Board.

Resolutions Committee Report

Resolve that we give Cedar Springs Free Will Baptist Church a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality in hosting today's meeting.

Respectively Submitted: Henrietta Brown Martha Jenkins MSC

A rise and vote of thanks was given to Cedar Springs Church by all those attending.

Reports and Announcements Made

Midway Sunday School Convention, at New Light Free Will Baptist Church on February 8, 1997 at 9:00. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish and the fee will be \$25.00 per church.

Brother J.M. Creech reported that FWB Bible College now has full Accreditation.

State Camp Board Planning Meeting on March 17, 1997.

Praise Report of well attended Teen Winter Retreat.

Dr. Irvin Hyman reported for Randall House and Mrs. Hyman shared the great response to the Spanish literature that is being used.

Rev. J.M. Creech reported that a Russian student at Free Will Baptist Bible College could use financial assistance.

MIDWAY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

Brother Malcolm Freeman gave an oral report of the State Mission Board. The State Mission Board and the Executive Board were to meet in a joint meeting and discuss future ideas and goals for the state works.

After all boards and committee reported the moderator opened the floor for any business. There was no old business and no new business to come before the Association at this time. We were dismissed from the business meeting with prayer from Rev. Billy Hanna.

The worship service opened with Rev. William Smith leading the congregation in "When We All Get To Heaven." Rev. Melvin Moody led in prayer. The congregation sang "I Am Thine O' Lord" and Rev. Danny Thomas rendered a beautiful rendition of "I'd Rather Have Jesus." The morning message was brought by Rev. Gene Gilbert. His text was taken from Hebrews 11:17-19 True Faith.

Brother William Smith invited all to stay for lunch.

Respectfully Submitted: Gene Gilbert, Clerk

Credentials Committee Report Date: January 25, 1997

Number of Churches with Letters	14
Number of Churches with Delegates	14
Total Dues From Churches	\$450.00
Ministers Present	19
Deacons Present	7
Total Number of Delegates	24
Lay Members Present	10
Visitors Present	10
Total Present	70

Statistical Report

Number of Churches with Sunday Schools	14
Sunday School Enrollment	963
Number of Churches with Church Training Services	14
Church Training Services Enrollment	381
Number of Churches with Women's Auxiliary	7
Women's Auxiliary Enrollment	99
Churches with Master's Men	2
Master's Men Enrollment	14
Number of Churches with Prayer Meeting	12

MIDWAY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

Budget and Finance Board Financial Report for October 26, 1996

Received from Churches	1295.80
Received from Morning Offering	119.49
Received in the Interim	0.00
Designated Offerings	100.00
Totals to Account	1515.29
<i>Payments</i>	
Moderator	30.00
Clerk	49.99
Mission Board	264.12
Minutes Account	150.00
Keith Fletcher	150.00
State Association Dues	150.00
<i>Superannuates</i>	
Mrs. Mathel Barnes	25.00
Rev. Damon Dodd	25.00
Mrs. S. T. Shute	25.00
Rev. W.F. McDuffie	25.00
Mrs. Coy Watson	25.00
<i>Other</i>	
Debbie Griffin	100.00
National Dues	375.00
Designated Minutes	25.00
Nathan Snow	100.00
Total Payments	1519.11
Balance	(3.82)
<i>Minutes Account:</i>	
Balance Brought Forward	500.00
Received This Session	175.00
Expenditures	-0.00
Balance Minutes Account	675.00
<i>Camping Board Account</i>	
Balance Brought Forward	2384.82
Receipts	0.00
Expenditures	-0.00
Balance Camping Board	2384.82
<i>Mission Board</i>	
Receipts	0.00
Expenditures	-900.00
Balance Mission Board	4746.28
<i>All Other Funds</i> 0	
Balance Brought Forward	205.81
Receipts	0.00
Expenditures	-3.82
Balance	201.99
Balance Totals	7887.64

MIDWAY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

Budget Report for January 25, 1997

Total of Funds	
Received from Churches	450.00
Received from Morning Offering	103.74
Received in the Interim	469.05
Designated Offerings	0.00
Other	0.00
Totals to Account	\$1,022.79
Payments	
Moderator	30.00
Clerk	49.99
Mission Board	418.44
Minutes Account	126.72
State Association Dues	0.00
Superannuates	0
Mrs. Mathel Barnes	25.00
Rev. Damon Dodd	25.00
Mrs. S. T. Shute	25.00
Rev. W.F. McDuffie	25.00
Mrs. Coy Watson	25.00
Other	0.00
Debbie Griffin	100.00
Nathan Snow	100.00
Total Payments	\$ 950.15
Balance	\$72.64
Minutes Account:	0
Balance Brought Forward	675.00
Received This Session	0.00
Expenditures	-0.00
Balance Minutes Account	675.00
Camping Board Account	0
Balance Brought Forward	2384.82
Receipts	455.00
Expenditures	-412.88
Balance Camping Board	2426.94
Mission Board	5010.40
Receipts	
Expenditures	
Balance Mission Board	
All Other Funds	0
Balance Brought Forward	
Receipts	
Expenditures	
Balance	
Balance Totals	

Respectfully Submitted by:

Rev. Joe Murkerson, Edwina Drinkwater,
Pat Freeman, Malcolm Freeman

2nd Quarterly Session

The Second Quarterly Session of the Midway Association met with Enterprise Free Will Baptist Church on April 26, 1997. Rev. W. E. Brown lead the congregation in singing "Must I Go and Empty Handed". Rev. Rudy Woods lead in prayer.

Bro. W. E. Brown introduced Dr. Irvin Hyman. Dr. Hyman Used II Samuel 21: 15-17. He spoke of the character of Abishai, though hard to his enemies he was loyal to David. He wanted us to be familiar with the man that killed the giant the David could not kill. He used three points. God does not always do the miraculous. (more often he uses the most available.) The Giants have a way of coming back. I Cor. 10:12. Be careful with your ego. We can not always win the battle alone. Abishai gave David the help he needed.

The clerk called the session to order and recognized the moderator, Brother Leron Clower. The moderator welcomed everyone and asked the clerk to call the roll of ministers. The moderator called for a vote on seating the delegates and the visitors were welcomed. Boards and Committees were recognized.

Bro. William Smith moved that the clerk would send a letter about gift to college be included along with the church letters for the next meeting. The offering was taken and a recess was held until 10:00 a. m. Bro. W. E. Brown led the congregation in "There is Power in the Blood".

Board Reports

Mission Board moved to give each missionaries \$300 that are present. MSC Bro. William Smith moved, second by Dr. Irvin Hyman.

Camping Board Bro. Rod Goodman encouraged people to volunteer for Camp workers and he also distributed information concerning camp.

Moderator called on Debbie Griffin to give her report. Debbie reported how the Lord has blessed in Japan and convey her desires to return to the field.

Moderator called on Bro. Sam McVay. Bro. McVay is the new missionary appointed to Spain. He has a goal to be in Spain by July 1.

Budget and Finance Report

Bro. Malcolm gave financial report. MSC. To receive report. Bro. Malcolm also gave report on our State mission Board on the work of North Fayette. He shared with the delegates that an offer was made to purchase the church property by local black ministers. Bro. Malcolm said the matter would be brought up at the upcoming State Meeting. \$122,000 would pay off the bonds.

Credentials Committee:

With a total of 49 delegates. MSC to receive Credentials Reports.

Resolution Committee:

Henrietta Brown gave report of the Committee. MSC. A rise and vote of thanks was given to the host church.

Nominating Committee: had no nominations at this time.

MIDWAY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

Bro. Terry Pierce moved to give a plaque to Bro. Herbert Waid and that Bro. William Smith would purchase plaque. MSC
Dr. Hyman gave a report for Randall House. We were dismissed from business meeting by Bro. Malcolm Freeman.

Bro. W. E. Brown led in a song "To the Regions Beyond" then there was a special in song by Henrietta Brown. Bro. W. E. Brown introduced Sam and June McVay to the delegates.

Bro. McVay spoke on Romans 10:13-15 "Steps to Salvation"

The Messenger must be sent; The Message must be proclaimed; The Message must be received or heard; The Message must be believed. Bro. McVay then closed in prayer.

Ordaining Board Report: We recommend that Bro. Andy Merritt be ordained. MSC.

The instructions for the noon meal were given by host Pastor Bro. W. E. Brown, and then we were dismissed in prayer by Bro. Joe Buttgen.

Credentials Committee Report

Date April 26, 1997

Churches with Letters	14
Churches with Delegates	14
Total Dues	652.50
Ministers Present	12
Deacons Present	6
Total of Delegates	31
Lay Members Present	4
Visitors Present	14
Total Present	67

Statistical Report

Church Membership	1300
Sunday Schools	14
S.S. Enrollment	932
CTS Services	8
CTS Enrollment	315
Woman's Auxiliary	9
Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment	93
Master's Men	2
Master's Men Enrollment	12
Prayer Meetings	11
Prayer Meeting Attendance	320

MIDWAY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

Budget and Finance Board Financial Report for January 25, 1997

Received from Churches	450.00
Received from Morning Offering	103.74
Received in the Interim	469.05
Designated Offerings	0.00
Totals to Account	\$1,022.79
<i>Payments</i>	
Moderator	30.00
Clerk	49.99
Mission Board	418.44
Camping Board	0.00
Minutes Account	126.72
Bible College Land	0.00
State Association Dues	0.00
<i>Superannuates</i>	
Mrs. Mathel Barnes	25.00
Rev. Damon Dodd	25.00
Rev. W.F. McDuffie	25.00
Mrs. Coy Watson	25.00
<i>Other</i>	
Debbie Griffin	100.00
Nathan Snow	100.00
Total Payments	\$ 925.15
Balance	97.64
<i>Minutes Account:</i>	
Balance Brought Forward	675.00
Received This Session	126.72
Expenditures	-701.72
Balance Minutes Account	\$ 100.00
<i>Camping Board Account</i>	
Balance Brought Forward	2426.94
Receipts	0.00
Expenditures	-200.00
Balance Camping Board	\$2,226.94
<i>Mission Board</i>	
Balance Brought Forward	5428.84
Receipts	0.00
Expenditures	0.0
Balance Mission Board	\$5,428.84
<i>All Other Funds</i>	
Balance Brought Forward	97.64
Receipts	0.00
Expenditures	0.00
Balance	\$ 97.64
Balance Totals	7853.42

MIDWAY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

Budget Report for April 26 , 1997

Total of Funds	
Total of Funds Beginning Balance	97.64
Received from Churches	652.50
Received from Morning Offering	97.27
Received in the Interim	214.00
Designated Offerings	0.00
Other (Interest)	62.07
Totals to Account	\$1,123.48
Payments	
Moderator	30.00
Clerk	49.99
Mission Board	410.34
Minutes Account	100.00
State Association Dues	0.00
Superannuates	0.
Mrs. Mathel Barnes	25.00
Rev. Damon Dodd	25.00
Rev. W.F. McDuffie	25.00
Mrs. Coy Watson	25.00
Other Sam McVey	100.00
Debbie Griffin	100.00
Nathan Snow	100.00
Total Payments	\$ 990.33
Balance	\$133.15
Minutes Account:	
Balance Brought Forward	100.00
Received This Session	0.00
Expenditures	-0.00
Balance Minutes Account	\$ 100.00
Camping Board Account	
Balance Brought Forward	2226.94
Receipts	0.00
Expenditures	0.00
Balance Camping Board	\$2,226.94
Mission Board	
Balance Brought Forward	5428.84
Receipts	0.00
Expenditures	-900.00
Balance Mission Board	\$4,528.84
All Other Funds	
Balance Brought Forward	
Receipts	
Expenditures	
Balance	133.15
Balance Totals	

3rd Quarterly Session

Midway Association met with Hammock Springs F.W.B. Church on August 2, 1997. The opening song was "The Old Account Was Settled" led by Doug Bryan. Dr. Gary Smith welcomed the congregation and called on Bro. Creech to lead in prayer. Pastor Smith introduced the speaker for the morning devotion. Bro. Glenn Thomas gave our devotion using as his text II Timothy 4:1-5. We must preach God's word, it is the only thing that changes lives. We need preachers to preach and live the truth.

The meeting was called to order by the clerk and the Moderator was introduced. The moderator asked the clerk to call the roll of ministers. We also had a partial report of the Credential Committee, which reported 56 present. The Moderator then asked that the church delegates be seated. MSC

The moderator presented a letter from Bro. William Smith to present gifts of retirement for the Waids. Reports were given of the National Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio. The offering was taken of \$113.25, then we had a recess.

We were then called back to order and had a congregational hymn, "Victory in Jesus". We then heard reports from the Mission Board: They recommended that we give \$450.00 each to the Nathan Snow Family, and to Debbie Griffin, and it was Moved, Second, and Carried. This was submitted by: Joe Martin, Bill Loftin, M.G. Shiver

We then heard from the Camp Board: Bro. Rod gave an oral report of the camp and reported that over 20 first time decisions were made this year. He also praised the success of this years camp. This was received as an oral report.

We then heard from the Budget and Finance Committee: Bro. Malcolm gave a report : Motion, Second, Carried. He gave a report of the progress of the mission work where Bro. Paul Smith is meeting in North Fayette. Services are continuing. Another congregation is renting the former building of North Fayette. The property is to be sold pending the action of the State Meeting.

Next we heard from the Resolutions Committee: Our resolution is to give Hammock Springs a Rising vote of Thanks for the hospitality given us today. We thank the folks and Bro. Smith for their preparation. Moved, Second, Carried. Submitted by: Henrietta Brown, Joy Brackin

The Sunday School Convention gave their report: Tentative plans are being made for the convention to be held at Palmos FWB Church, February 1998. This was given as a matter of information.

Credential Committee gave their final report. MSC

A report of the Ordaining Board: We will move on each recommendation individually:

- 1: Accept Bro. John Amburgey pending letter and Questionnaire into the Midway Assoc. MSC
- 2: Letter sent for Walter Baxley to Martin Assoc. MSC
- 3: Letter sent for Michael Barton that he had been dropped from the roll due to failure to attend meetings.
- 4: Recommend Nathan Snow be Ordained on August 31, 1997,

MIDWAY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

Rev. David File moved to wait 1 year before letting him be ordained. This motion received a second and after debating the matter this motion to delay ordination was defeated. MSL

Bro. David File then asked that he be put on record as opposing the recommendation. The clerk so noted his request and the matter was closed.

We then went into the Business Session: There was no old business so we the Moderator called for any new business. Bro. Nathan Snow gave an oral report and told us they were to leave out from Atlanta on September 10, 1997 to go to Tokyo, Japan. The moderator requested prayer for Debbie Griffin and her family in the loss of her father. The Business Session was then dismissed by the moderator. Bro. Billy Hanna was asked to dismiss in prayer.

We then had a song "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder" and prayer by Bro. Joe Buttgen. We were then blessed by special music of Bro. Doug Bryan, "God Said Go". The message was given by Bro. Andy Merritt from Numbers 13:30. God has given us some charges, Others saw giants in the land, Caleb saw God, Others said the giants were big, Caleb said God is bigger.

Pastor Gary Smith gave us instructions for the Noon meal. Brother Hanna then shared from his heart appreciation of Bro. Nathan Snow and his family.

Credentials Committee Report Date: August 2, 1997.

Number of Churches with Letters	12
Number of Churches with Delegates	12
Total Dues From Churches	594.00
Ministers Present	13
Deacons Present	8
Number of Church Delegates Present	30
Total Number of Delegates	51
Lay Members Present	6
Visitors Present	6
Total Present	63

Statistical Report	
Church Membership	1181
Number of Churches with Sunday Schools	12
Sunday School Enrollment	902
Number of Churches with Church Training Services	7
Church Training Services Enrollment	320
Number of Churches with Women's Auxiliary	8
Women's Auxiliary Enrollment	87
Churches with Master's Men	1
Master's Men Enrollment	8
Number of Churches with Prayer Meeting	10
Prayer Meeting Attendance	294

Respectfully Submitted: Helen Gilchrist,
Wynelle Clower.

Budget and Finance Board Financial Report for April 26 -Aug. 1, 1997

Total of Funds Beginning Balance	97.64
Received from Churches	652.50
Received from Morning Offering	97.27
Received in the Interim	214.00
Interest and Adjustments	174.14
Totals to Account	\$1,235.55
<i>Payments</i>	
Moderator	30.00
Clerk	49.99
Mission Board	410.34
Camping Board	0.00
Minutes Account	100.00
State Association Dues	0.00
<i>Superannuates</i>	
Mrs. Mathel Barnes	25.00
Rev. Damon Dodd	25.00
Rev. W.F. McDuffie	25.00
Mrs. Coy Watson	25.00
<i>Other</i>	
Bible (Ordination)	59.98
Debbie Griffin	100.00
Nathan Snow	100.00
Sam McVey	100.00
Total Payments	\$1,050.31
Balance	185.24
<i>Minutes Account:</i>	
Balance Brought Forward	100.00
Received This Session	100.00
Expenditures	0.00
Balance Minutes Account	\$ 200.00
<i>Camping Board Account</i>	
Balance Brought Forward	2226.94
Receipts	6085.54
Expenditures	-5820.73
Error	.60
Balance Camping Board	\$2,492.35
<i>Mission Board</i>	
Balance Brought Forward	5428.84
Receipts	410.34
Expenditures	-900.00
Balance Mission Board	\$4,939.18
<i>All Other Funds</i>	
Balance Brought Forward	0.00
Receipts	0.00
Expenditures	0.00
Balance	0.00
Balance Totals	7816.77

Budget Report for August 2 , 1997

Total of Funds Beginning Balance	185.24
Received from Churches	594.00
Received from Morning Offering	113.25
Received in the Interim	0.00
Designated Offerings	0.00
Other (Interest)	0.00
Totals to Account	\$ 892.49
Payments	
Moderator	30.00
Clerk	49.99
Mission Board	210.90
Minutes Account	200.00
State Association Dues	0.00
Superannuates	0.
Mrs. Mathel Barnes	25.00
Rev. Damon Dodd	25.00
Rev. W.F. McDuffie	25.00
Mrs. Coy Watson	25.00
Other	0
Debbie Griffin	100.00
Nathan Snow	100.00
Total Payments	\$ 790.89
Balance	101.60
Minutes Account:	
Balance Brought Forward	200.00
Received This Session	0.00
Expenditures	-0.00
Balance Minutes Account	\$ 200.00
Camping Board Account	
Balance Brought Forward	2492.35
Receipts	0.00
Expenditures	0.00
Balance Camping Board	\$2,492.35
Mission Board	
Balance Brought Forward	4939.18
Receipts	0.00
Expenditures	0.00
Balance Mission Board	\$4,939.18
All Other Funds	
Balance Brought Forward	
Receipts	
Expenditures	
Balance	
Balance Totals	

Annual Session

Annual Meeting held with Travelers Rest FWB Church, October 25, 1997, opened with singing "Send the Light" led by Bro. Woodrow Parker, and Ginny Gilbert at the piano. Opening prayer by Bro. Joe Murkerson. Bro. Gene Gilbert, pastor, then had the welcome to the meeting. Bro. Gene then introduced the speaker for the devotion, Bro. Chuck Walker, new pastor of New Light FWB Church. Bro. Chuck's text was II Tim. 4:6-8. The title of the message was "What do you think of when you walk through the graveyard?" He talked of Paul's Charge to Timothy: (1) You have a battle to fight, (2) You have a race to run, (3) The ministry is compared to athlete (4) Be ready to go to heavenly home. Bro. Chuck then gave examples of departing: ships losing ropes, soldiers loose tent stakes, philosopher grapple with things, farmer loose the harness, prisoners loose from the shackles.

The clerk, called the session to order and introduced Bro. Leron Clower as Moderator. Roll call of ministers was called by the Clerk. A partial report of the Credential Committee was given. We then had a Motion to seat the delegates. MSC Our visitors were then recognized: Francis Holland from Blakely, Bro. Chuck and Sis. Paula Walker, new pastor and family to New Light FWB Church.

A corium of boards was then called for each board. The Moderator then appointed the following: Obituary: Don Brown and Melvin Moody; Placement Committee: M.C. Powell and Virginia Sheffield. Our morning offering was then taken by Bro. William Smith and Malcolm Freeman, and then Bro. Gene Gilbert read the report of the Sunday School Convention in Bro. Joe Buttgen's absence. It was also mentioned that the fee of \$25 was to be sent in ASAP. We were then dismissed by the moderator for the boards to meet and refreshment time by the host church, Travelers Rest.

Session then resumed with Bro. Woodrow Parker opened the meeting with a song "I'll fly away" played by Ginny Gilbert. An oral report was then given by the Mission Board. From today's offering it will be divided 40% between the Nathan Snow Family and Debbie Griffin. Bro. William Smith moved that this report be accepted. Motion, Second and Carried.

Camping Board Report: Fall retreat information will be mailed out ASAP. The dates set up for Teen Camp are July 26-31, but the site is not final as of yet. This was received as information.

Resolution committee Report: They wanted to set up a committee for our next Annual meeting, which will be our 100 year program and will need special events set up. This was moved by Bro. Joe Murkerson and seconded by Bro. Rudy Woods. The committee was then appointed: Henrietta Brown, Edith Shiver, Leron Clower, Bro. Gene Gilbert, and Bro. John Amburgey. It is to be held at Patmos FWB. The resolution committee then asked us to give our host church Travelers Rest a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality today. Motion, Second and Carried. A rise and vote of thanks was then given to Travelers Rest.

Ordaining Board Report: New Light FWB requested that Bro. Chuck Walker be received into the Association pending a letter in good standing from his former association. Motion, Second and Carried.

Budget & Finance Report: An written report was given by Malcolm Freeman and he explained some of the ways the monies were spread out and designated from our Association. Motion, Second and Carried to accept the report.

MIDWAY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

Obituary Committee Report: The following churches had members to be reported:

Church	Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death
Bellview	Johnny Grant	09-09-1926	01-21-1997
Bellview	Robbie Griffin	04-07-1934	07-24-1997
Cedar Springs	Lois Chambers	07-18-1906	08-08-1997
First Albany	Henry Agnew Tison	06-14-1920	01-08-1997
First Albany	Rex. L. Royal	12-30-1940	02-18-1997
First Albany	Lee Esker "Red" Lamb, Jr.	05-02-1927	09-26-1997
First Blakely	Mrs. W.F. McDuffie	??-??-????	10-06-1996
New Enterprise	Hattie Rea Shores	07-26-1922	07-16-1997
New Light	Inez Paul	03-21-1920	02-26-1997
New Light	Joy P. Shealy	05-19-1933	06-20-1997
Patmos	Almer T. Hay	08-18-1914	01-06-1997
Travelers Rest	Jeanie Musgrove Eakins	08-21-1904	11-09-1996
Travelers Rest	Sarah Henderson Addison	04-15-1919	11-10-1996
Travelers Rest	Robert Earl Butler	03-22-1933	05-26-1997
Travelers Rest	Millard Wingate Edwards	05-02-1923	08-18-1997
White Plains	Annie Florence J. Houston	09-20-1899	06-30-1997

A moment of silent prayer was observed for the loss of these from our midst, and then Bro. Billy Hanna led us in prayer.

Placement Committee Report: The Following list will be our meeting places for the coming year suggested by M.C. Powell, and Virginia Sheffield:

1 st Session	Macedonia	January 24, 1998
2 nd Session	New Light	April 25, 1998
3 rd Session	New Enterprise	August 1, 1998
Annual Session	Patmos	October 24, 1998

There was a suggestion by Bro. William Smith to contact the folks from the Paul Palmer Association about coming to our next Annual Meeting. There is an interest in some of the church people in that Association joining back up with Midway.

The Moderator then asked for show of hands to be delegates to the State Meeting in Savannah, GA the following volunteered:

Henrietta Brown, Janice Temples, Edwina Drinkwater, Bonnie Amburgey, Edith Shiver.

Bro. William Smith gave an oral report on what work the State is doing in the Retirement Service for the Herbert Waid's. Each church is asked to turn in to him the amount of tickets they will need for the banquet that is to be held in their honor. He also said that there will be changes at the State Meeting that we need to be aware of. (1) State Meeting Placing (2) Term/Executive/Secretary/Treasurer editor in chief of the "Promotional Bulletin". Also, they are looking at selling the state office in Moultrie, and getting a temporary one in Colquitt.

The Moderator then asked Bro. Malcolm the situation on the mission church in Atlanta. He shared with us the burden of this present location and that another church there was interested in purchasing it. Brother Malcolm gave Financial report, Motion, Second and Carried.

Nominating Committee Report: Janice Temples gave the following suggestions for the unexpired term of 1997 and 1998:

Assistant Clerk - Paula Gilbert to replace David Harper

Mission Board - Mack Harrison to replace William Smith

Credentials Committee - Ruby Ethridge to replace Mavis Watson

Camping Board - Bonnie Amburgey to replace Terry Pierce

State Board Members:

State Camping Board - Rod Goodman to replace Terry Pierce

State Trustee Board - Edward Kimbrell to replace William Smith

State Christian Education Board- Bill Lofton. She then asked for a motion to accept the whole slate of officers, MSC,

OLD BUSINESS - NONE

NEW BUSINESS -

Recommendations: Rev. Billy Hanna said he wanted Midway Association to go on record as endorsing and recommending Bro. William Smith as Executive/Secretary/Treasurer. That he wanted to go ahead with selling of property in Atlanta.

Announcements were made at this time: Revival at Patmos FWB Oct. 26-30 with Bro. Gene Gilbert the evangelist.

Revival at Bellview FWB November 9-12 with Bro. James Fortlines the speaker.

Women's Auxiliary report : They encouraged attendance to the local meetings and told the fact that they have a new president and to pray for her.

We were dismissed from the business session to enter the Worship Service by the Moderator.

We opened with a congregational song led by Woodrow Parker and played by Ginny Gilbert, "What a lovely name". Prayer by Bro. Bill Lofton, then a special in song by Paula Gilbert "I Need You More Today". Our speaker was then introduced by Bro. Woodrow Parker, Bro. John Amburgey. His text was taken from Deut. 19:14, Prov. 22:28 His message entitled "Don't remove the old Landmarks" He went on to say we need Heritage and Pride in our country and FWB churches. Their land of old stayed in the family and the corner posts were not removed, and that the double furrows had stones placed around them for a boundary, so they(1) couldn't cross over and steal land 100 ft. around (2) king couldn't override them because they were so powerful (3) Foreigners coming in to the country could not take their lands. He also wanted us to remember the past ones in our FWB movement that established some of our main works still going on today: Tom Wiley, SR (Cuba); Laura Bell Barnard (The Untouchables); Carlisle Hanna (India)

We were then dismissed in prayer to go to the Fellowship Hall for the noon meal.

MIDWAY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

Budget and Finance Board Financial Report for August 2- Oct. 24, 1997

Total of Funds Beginning Balance	185.24
Received from Churches	594.00
Received from Morning Offering	113.25
Received in the Interim	0.00
Interest and Adjustments	0.00
Totals to Account	\$ 892.49
<i>Payments</i>	
Moderator	30.00
Clerk	49.99
Mission Board	210.90
Camping Board	0.00
Minutes Account	200.00
State Association Dues	0.00
<i>Superannuates</i>	
Mrs. Mathel Barnes	25.00
Rev. Damon Dodd	25.00
Rev. W.F. McDuffie	25.00
Mrs. Coy Watson	25.00
<i>Other</i>	
Debbie Griffin	100.00
Nathan Snow	100.00
Total Payments	\$ 790.89
Balance	101.60
<i>Minutes Account:</i>	
Balance Brought Forward	200.00
Received This Session	200.00
Expenditures	0.00
Balance Minutes Account	\$ 400.00
<i>Camping Board Account</i>	
Balance Brought Forward	2492.35
Receipts	0.00
Expenditures	0.00
Balance Camping Board	\$2,492.35
<i>Mission Board</i>	
Balance Brought Forward	4939.18
Receipts	210.90
Expenditures	-900.00
Balance Mission Board	\$4,250.08
<i>All Other Funds</i>	
Balance Brought Forward	0.00
Receipts	0.00
Expenditures	0.00
Balance	0.00
Balance Totals	7244.03

MIDWAY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

Budget Report for October 25 , 1997

Total of Funds Beginning Balance	101.60
Received from Churches	1320.50
Received from Morning Offering	101.22
Received in the Interim	44.50
Designated Offerings	0.00
Other (Interest)	101.51
Totals to Account	\$1,669.33
Payments	
Moderator	30.00
Clerk	49.99
Mission Board	375.10
Minutes Account	200.00
State Association Dues	75.00
Superannuates	0.
Mrs. Mathel Barnes	25.00
Rev. Damon Dodd	25.00
Rev. W.F. McDuffie	25.00
Mrs. Coy Watson	25.00
Other	0
National Dues	375.00
Waid (Retirement)	250.00
Total Payments	\$1,455.09
Balance	214.25
Minutes Account:	
Balance Brought Forward	400.00
Received This Session	0.00
Expenditures	-0.00
Balance Minutes Account	\$ 400.00
Camping Board Account	
Balance Brought Forward	2492.35
Receipts	0.00
Expenditures	0.00
Balance Camping Board	\$2,492.35
Mission Board	
Balance Brought Forward	4250.08
Receipts	0.00
Expenditures	0.00
Balance Mission Board	\$4,250.08
All Other Funds	
Balance Brought Forward	
Receipts	
Expenditures	
Balance	
Balance Totals	

Credentials Committee Report

By Churches Reporting
Date October 25, 1997

Enrollment

Church	Church Roll	Sunday School	C.T.S	Women's Aux.	Master's Men	Dues for National	Amount of Dues
Albany First	569	345	135	20	0	25.00	314.25
Bainbridge	30	10	0	0	0	25.00	37.50
Bellview	119	117	35	12	0	25.00	89.25
Berean	32	30	25	7	0	25.00	24.00
Blakely First	88	32	21	8	0	25.00	66.00
Cedar Springs	116	49	25	12	0	25.00	87.00
Damascus	17	20	0	0	0	25.00	15.00
Enterprise	27	18	0	6	0	25.00	20.25
Hammock Springs	50	50	50	12	0	25.00	37.50
Macedonia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
New Enterprise	36	25	17	0	0	25.00	27.00
New Light	150	127	32	12	0	25.00	112.50
Patmos	55	40	26	8	6	25.00	41.25
Travelers Rest	91	50	0	0	0	25.00	68.25
White Plains	41	20	0	0	0	25.00	30.75
Totals ->	1421	933	366	97	6	\$ 350.00	\$ 970.50

Total of Dues and Fees \$1320.50

(Macedonia failed to report to the annual session)

MIDWAY SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION
FEBRUARY 8, 1997

The 1997 Midway Sunday School Convention was held at New Light FWB Church, Morgan, Ga. On February 8. The convention opened with congregational singing led by Sister Janice Temples and pianist Sister Henrietta Brown. The 1997-98 officers were installed. Rev. Joe Buttgen, President, presided.

Speakers were Rev. David Fite, minister of Macedonia FWB Church and Dr. Lynn Frazier, deacon, S.S. teacher and semi-retired professor.

Rev. Fite shared examples of those who have attempted to scientifically prove and others to disprove the Bible. The Christian's confidence in teaching comes from a personal study of the Scriptures and a personal relationship with Jesus Christ through study, prayer and service.

Dr. Frazier opened with Scriptures that relate to the calling and the preparation of S.S. teachers, and to overcoming personal and spiritual problems. He shared a list of basics for teaching Sunday School: understanding growth and development, the classroom, equipment, materials, training and a teacher evaluation tool.

Rev. Buttgen presided over the remaining business. He plans to meet with the Program Committee (Edwina Drinkwater, Terra Smith, Dorothy Irvin, Rev. Rudy Woods) at the April '97 Association to initiate a program for the 1998 S.S. convention. The Nominating Committee (Ruby Ethridge, Janice Temples, Rev. David Harper) for 99-2000 officers will meet at the October '97 Annual Association.

Rev. Buttgen encourages each non-participating church to contribute the designated \$25 dues to the Annual Sunday School Convention as soon as possible.

*** Make the check payable to: **MIDWAY SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION**

*** Mail to: → **MR. CHARLES DRINKWATER**
Route 1, Box 44,
Morgan, Ga. 31766.

The 1997 Convention concluded with a delicious lunch served by the ladies of the New Light Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Joy P. Brackin

**MIDWAY SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION
TREASURER'S REPORT
2-8-97**

	PAYMENT	DEPOSIT	BALANCE
2-8-97	Balance		249.82
	Offering	43.00	292.82
	Dues	100.00	392.82
	Rev. Joe Buttgen 30.00		362.82
	Joy Brackin 30.00		332.82
	Dr. Lynn Frazier 50.00		282.82
	Rev. David Fite 50.00		232.82
3-5-97	Ending Balance		232.82

Four Churches were represented with dues of \$25:

Enterprise, New Light, New Enterprise, Travelers Rest

**MIDWAY
SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION REPORT**

1997-98 Officers

President:	Rev. Joe Buttgen	Blakely
Vice President:	Woodrow Parker	Travelers Rest
Secretary:	Joy Brackin (774-2208)	New Enterprise
Treasurer:	Charles Drinkwater	New Light

1997-1998 Program Committee:

Edwina Drinkwater	Dorothy Irvin
Terra Smith	Rev. Rudy Woods

Churches represented

Blakely	Macedonia	Cedar Springs	New Enterprise	Enterprise
New Light		Travelers Rest		

Placement of 1998 Convention
undetermined

MINUTES
of the
MIDWAY DISTRICT GWAC

held at
MACEDONIA Free Will Baptist Church
on OCTOBER 4, 1997

The Midway District GWAC Annual Convention met at 9:30 A.M. at Macedonia FWB Church in Colquitt, Georgia. The pianist was Becky LaGuardia and Song leader was Renee' Haire. The opening song was "The Lilly of the Valley" followed with prayer by Edith Shiver. The offertory prayer was given by Patricia Fite followed with an offering received by Gloria and Melanie Henley. Special music was rendered by Becky LaGuardia and Renee' Haire. They so beautifully sang a medley of songs about Jesus' love.

Mildred Bowen gave the devotional. Her scripture reading was from II Tim. 2: 1-15 and her topic was "Acquiring Knowledge". She stressed the importance of spending time in God's word. She stated that expanding our knowledge in His word will allow us to know God better and allow us great spiritual growth. She challenged each woman to develop her own personal method of studying their Bible, but the important thing is to study it and not let distractions keep her from doing it.

We were then called in to our business session by President Marie Glover. The Committee Members were reiterated. They are:

Registration: Chairperson: Ethel Henley, Alice Martin, Martha Jenkins

Resolutions: Chairperson: Edith Shiver, Mildred Bowen, (in the absence of Mary Griffin), Ethel Henley, Willie Clyde Henderson, and Janice Temples (in the absence of Voncille Musgrove)

Credentials: Chairperson: Shirley Kimbrell, Edwina Drinkwater, Henrietta Brown (in the absence of Teresa Smith)

Finance: Chairperson: Nadine Blanton, Eleanor Sheffield, (in the absence of Ailene Clower), Doris Grant, Helen Gilchrist, (in the absence of Sara Harrell, and Bonnie Amburgey (in the absence of Juanita Parker).

There was a Roll Call of Auxiliaries. Eight (8) Auxiliaries were represented. Shirley Kimbrell gave a report on the WNAC Convention held in Cincinnati, Ohio in July. She stated that it will be held in Tulsa, Oklahoma in 1998 and in Atlanta, Georgia in 1999. A report of the Registration Committee was given. There were 32 present. The Minutes of last year's Convention were read.

The Treasurer's report was given by Nadine Blanton. (See attached report) It was noted that the Auxiliary Minutes of last year's (1996) Convention were inadvertently left out of the 1996 Midway Minutes.

After a short recess, the group reassembled. Our opening song was "At the Cross". The Credentials Committee report was given by Shirley Kimbrell followed by a move and a second to seat all delegates.

A report was given by Doris Grant, who is a member of Project Committee for the 1999 National. She reported on acquiring centerpieces and favors for the WNAC Banquet in Atlanta in 1999. The Midway District will be responsible for making 150 to 200 jars of jelly as part of the souvenirs for each woman who attends the banquet. Each Auxiliary volunteered their group to make a certain number of jars of jams or jellies.

It was MSC that the Treasurer's Report, which was previously given, be approved.

The Resolutions Committee Report was given by Edith Shiver. (See attached Report) MSC to accept.

MIDWAY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

There was no Mission Prayer Report.

The Mission Study Report was given by Janice Temples. She reported on the Workshop held on March 1 at Hammock Springs. The speaker was Karen Rice. (See attached Report)

The Mission Action Report was given by Henrietta Brown. Her desire is for us to furnish a room for a dormitory at the Childrens' Home in Eldridge, Alabama.

The Mission Report was given by Patricia Fite. She reported on a new missionary service which is for MKs (Missionary Kids) and is headed up by Tanya Hart. She mentioned another program which is hopefully forth-coming for the state of Gerogia. This program will under-write our missionaries' expenses so they don't have to spend their furlough time raising their support. It is called the Acts 1:8 Program.

Betty Day, Field Worker, gave her report. She offered a special prayer for all of our Midway District Auxiliaries—their members and their laborers.

Delegates were appointed to go to the GWAC to be held in Savannah, Georgia on November 13, 1997. They are as follows: Darlene Buttgen, Nadine Blanton, Edwina Drinkwater, Helen Gilchrist, Bonnie Amburgey, Marie Glover, Christine Daniel, Terra Smith, Pay Freeman, and Doris Grant.

There was no old business.

There was no new business.

The Nominating Committee Report was given by Edith Shiver.

The following slate of officers were presented:

President	-	Henrietta Brown
Vice President	-	Shirley Kimbrel
Secretary	-	Christine Daniel
Treasurer	-	Nadine Blanton
Study Chairman	-	Darlene Buttgen
Prayer Chairman	-	Janice Temples
Mission Chairman	-	Patricia Fite
Service Chairman	-	Martha Jenkins
Field Workers	-	Katie Rogers and Teresa Smith

It was MSC that these officers be accepted.

Before the new officers were installed, special music was presented by Renee Haire and Becky LaGuardia. They sang "I'd Rather Have Jesus". The officers for the Midway District GWAC for 1997-1999 were installed by Marie Glover, our out-going President. She used flower arrangements as symbols of each office. This was followed with a prayer of dedication by Marie.

A number of prayer requests were made. The minutes for the day (10/4/97) were read by the Secretary, Christine Daniel. MSC that they be accepted.

We were then dismissed with our blessing and benediction prayer by Janice Temples. We enjoyed a delicious noon meal provided by the Macedonian women at a nominal fee of \$4.00 per person.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Daniels

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Midway District Convention of the GWAC at the Macedonia FWB Church on 10/4/97

Albany	2
Bellview	4
Blakely	4
Cedar Springs	5
Enterprise	3
Hammock Springs	0
Macedonia	6
(Rueber Tabb)	
New Light	5
Patmos	2
Total	32

Ethel Henley, Chairperson
 Alice Martin, Martha Jenkins

CREDENTIALS REPORT

We, your Credentials Committee, submit the following report: The following Auxiliaries have properly reported and paid their fees. ALBANY, BELLVIEW, BLAKELY, CEDAR SPRINGS, ENTERPRISE, HAMMOCK SPRINGS, MACEDONIA (RUEBER TABB), NEW LIGHT, PATMOS.

Shirley Kimbrel, Chairperson
 Henrietta Brown, Edwina Drinkwater

Balance on hand as of 10-01-96	\$ 543.36
Deposits	* <u>9604.10</u>
	\$10, 147.46

*Annual Convention	100.00
Workshop	38.00
Local Auxiliaries	<u>\$9466.10</u>
	\$9604.10

Disbursements:

WNAC designated funds	\$9274.10
Christine Daniels, Secretary	30.00
Marie Gover, President	20.00
Malcom Freeman, Minute Account	100.00
Debbie Griffin, Convention Speaker	250.00
Karen Rice, Workshop Speaker	<u>150.00</u>
	\$9824.10

Balance on hand as of October 01, 1997:	<u>\$323.36</u>
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Respectfully submitted,

Nadine Blanton /Midway District Treasurer

MIDWAY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

WNAC Designated

Dues for 95 members	997.00
Co-Laborer	452.00
Emphasis Month	275.00
Memorial Student Loan	53.00
National Building Fund	110.00
State Project	3,762.65
1999 Atlanta Convention	<u>353.00</u>
	\$ 6,002.65

Dot Harvey Loan Fund	192.00
Alabama Children's Home	225.00

Foreign Missions

Laura Belle Barnard Offering	561.45
Debbie Griffin	940.00
Dale and Sandra Bishop	230.00
Carlisle Hanna	49.00
Westfield Pastors	25.00 (goes to the same place)
Nathan and Linda Snow	225.00
New Life Children's Home (Brazil)	<u>130.00</u>
	\$2,160.45

Home Missions

Lizzie McAdams Offering	569.00
Paul Smith (Atlanta)	<u>60.00</u>
	629.00

Spanish Literature	65.00
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TOTAL: \$9,274.10

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Balance brought forward	\$323.36
Offering (10/4/97)	<u>69.16</u>
Total	\$329.52

Paid Out:

President	\$20.00
Secretary	30.00
Minutes	<u>75.00</u>

TOTAL PAID OUT: \$125.00

- \$125.00

Balance \$267.52 as of 10/4/97

Nadine Blanton - Chairperson, Eleanor Sheffield, Doris Grant, Helen Gilchrist, Bonnie Amburgey

SLATE OF: MIDWAY DISTRICT GWAC OFFICERS FOR 1997-1999

MIDWAY DISTRICT OFFICERS - 1997 - 1999

Pres.: Henrietta Brown; *Vice Pres.:* Shirley Kimbrel; *Sec.:* Christine Daniel; *Treas.:* Nadine Blanton; *Study Chairman:* Darlene Buttgen; *Prayer Chairman:* Janice Temples; *Mission Chairman:* Patricia Fite; *Service Chairman:* Martha Jenkins; *Field workers:* Katie Rogers & Teresa Smith

Presented by the Nominating Committee consisting of : Edith Shiver - *Chairperson*, Alice Martin, Martha Jenkins, Janice Temple, Wynelle Clower

MIDWAY DISTRICT GWAC OFFICERS - 1997 - 1999

<u>PRESIDENT:</u>	<u>HENRIETTA BROWN</u>
<u>VICE PRESIDENT:</u>	<u>SHIRLEY KIMBREL</u>
<u>SECRETARY:</u>	<u>CHRISTINE DANIEL</u>
<u>TREASURER:</u>	<u>NADINE BLANTON</u>
<u>STUDY CHAIRMAN:</u>	<u>DARLENE BUTTGEN</u>
<u>PRAYER CHAIRMAN:</u>	<u>JANICE TEMPLES</u>
<u>MISSION CHAIRMAN:</u>	<u>PATRICIA FITE</u>
<u>SERVICE CHAIRMAN:</u>	<u>MARTHA JENKINS</u>
<u>FIELD WORKERS:</u>	<u>KATIE ROGERS AND TERESA SMITH</u>

Henrietta Brown
3156 Spring Creek Road
Brinson, Georgia 31725
912-243-0109

Janice Temples
Route 1 Box 34
Morgan, Georgia 31766
912-849-2491

Shirley Kimbrel
1525 Bellview Road
Colquitt, Georgia 31737
912-758-2587

Martha Jenkins
Route 1 Box 162
Blakely, Georgia 31723
912-723-5260

Christine Daniel
1900 Lullwater Road
Albany, Georgia 31707
912-435-0802

Katie Rogers
Route 3 Box 310J
Donalsonville, Ga. 31745
912-524-2367

Nadine Blanton
P. O. Box 175
Morgan, Georgia 31766
912-849-3343

Teresa Smith
Route 3 Box 319
Donalsonville, Ga. 31745
912-524-8693

Darlene Buttgen
115 Perry Avenue
Blakely, Georgia 31723
912-723-4516

RESOLUTIONS

1. We recommend that all Auxiliaries begin their year on September 1 and end their year on August 31 so that fiscal reports, as well as other reports, will coincide with each other.
2. We recommend that each Auxiliary have a Manual Study this year since new and different manuals have been published.
3. We recommend that we have a Memorial Service during our annual meeting in October for those Auxiliary members who have died from September 1 through August 31. Then these names will be submitted to the State Secretary.
4. We recommend that we give a rising vote of thanks to all out-going officers and those on program today, as well as to Macedonia Church for their gracious hospitality.

Submitted by the Resolutions Committee consisting of: Edith Shiver - *Chairperson*, Mildred Bowen, Ethel Henley, Willie Clyde Henderson, Janice Temples.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Georgia Women Active for Christ Convention
Savannah, Georgia - November 13, 1997

Midway GWAC Workshop - March 7, 1998
Patmos Free Will Baptist Church

Norman Park State Prayer Retreat - March 27, 28
WNAC - Tulsa, Oklahoma - July 12, 16
Ridgecrest National Prayer Retreat - September

Midway GWAC Convention - October 3
New Light Free Will Baptist Church

**Constitution and By-Laws
of the
Midway Association District Sunday School Convention**

The Sunday Schools of the Midway Association of Georgia churches do hereby adopt this revision of the Constitution and By-Laws for the advancement of Christ through the auxiliary of the SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Article I - Name

This organization shall be known as the MIDWAY ASSOCIATION SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION of Original Free Will Baptists.

Article II - Purpose

The purpose shall be concerted efforts, cooperating in unison, teaching the Word of God, sharing ideas for promoting and improving the Sunday School in the Midway Association.

Article III - Membership

The Convention shall be composed of delegates and ministers holding membership in the Sunday Schools and Churches in the Midway Association of Georgia.

Article IV - Officers

The Officers of the Convention shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasury and Program Committee of five. The elected officers shall constitute the Executive Board of the convention which shall act when convention is not in session.

Article V - Committees

- (1) A Chorister shall be appointed for each convention.
- (2) A Pianist shall be appointed for each convention.
- (3) The President shall appoint needed committees for each convention.

Article VI - Time and Place of Convention

- (1) The convention shall meet the last Saturday in June or at the discretion of the Executive Committee. It shall begin at 10:00 A.M. unless announced otherwise.
- (2) The convention shall be held at churches which have Sunday Schools in alphabetical order.
- (3) Everyone is to bring a basket lunch for the noon meal. The host church will also furnish the beverage, ice, plates, cups, napkins, forks and spoons.

Article VII - Finances and Reports

- (1) Each Sunday School shall pay a fee of \$25.00 annually.
- (2) A Free Will Offering shall be received at each convention.
- (3) Each Sunday School shall bring to the convention a written report of enrollment, average attendance, and accomplishments during the current year.

Article VIII - Amendments

- (1) Any Amendment of this Constitution must be presented 30 days, to all Sunday Schools, before the convention and tabled until the next convention at which time it will be voted on.
- (2) A two thirds vote of the delegates must be recorded for a change of this constitution.

BY-LAWS

Article I - Membership

Each Sunday School shall be entitled to Five Voting Delegates plus the Pastor. Others may attend as visitors.

Article II - Officers

- (1) All officers shall be elected at the convention to serve a two year term. Elections shall be held on even number years.
- (2) The installation of officers shall be the last item of business at the convention.

Article III - Meeting

- (1) The convention shall be held as stipulated in VI of the Constitution. If for any reason a Sunday School and Church can not host the convention it should notify the President and Secretary.

Article IV - Voting

- (1) All questions before the body, except a Constitutional Change, shall be decided by a majority vote of delegates, ministers and Standing Board members of the convention.
- (2) In case of a "tie" the Presidents vote declares the final decision.

Article V - Amendments

Any proposed amendment of these By-Laws must be presented to all Sunday Schools 30 days before the convention at which time it will be voted on. A 2/3 vote may change the By-Laws.

Article VI - Duties and Responsibilities

- (1) **Duties of the President:** It shall be the duty of the President to preside over the each session of the convention, keeping order of established Parliamentary Procedure. He shall make all appointments of all necessary committees, which are temporary. The President shall serve as chairman of the Executive Committee.
- (2) **Duties of the Vice President:** It shall be the Vice President's duty to serve with the same authority as the President, in the absence of the President.
- (3) **Duties of the Secretary:** The Secretary shall make a record of all proceedings of the convention in regular session and read them in the convention a year later. He shall send a copy of the proceedings of the convention to the Clerk of the Midway Association to be published in the Midway Minutes. He shall send out two notices of the time and place of the next convention - one sent 3 months and one sent 2 weeks before the convention. In keeping in touch with State and National Officers he shall keep this convention informed of new methods and techniques to promote in our local bounds. He shall turn all records over to the successor of the office.
- (4) **Duties of the Treasurer:** The Treasurer shall receive all monies of the convention. All expenditures shall be authorized by the convention or the Executive Board, after its adoption in a regular session of the Convention. He shall give a report of all monies received and disbursed at each convention. He shall turn all monies in his possession to the successor of the office.
- (5) **Duties of the Program Committee:** This committee shall work with the Executive Committee in planning programs for the convention to uplift Christ and to better the Sunday Schools.

Revision Committee

Leron Clower

Edith Shiver for Reedy Servance

Constitution
of the
Midway District Association
Original Freewill Baptist of the State of Georgia

Preamble

We, the Midway District Association of Original Freewill Baptist of the State of Georgia, do ordain this constitution for the purpose of advancing, promoting and increasing all phases of the cause of Christ.

Article I NAME:

The organization shall be known as the Midway District Association of Original Freewill Baptist of the State of Georgia.

Article II MEMBERSHIP:

This association shall be composed of such Freewill Baptist Churches as shall adopt this compact and agree to this constitution.

Article III REPRESENTATION:

Section 1: The standing delegates of this association shall consist of all ordained ministers, ordained deacons, and officers of this association.

Section 2: Voting privileges shall extend to all standing delegates and to those duly elected delegates representing the churches of this association.

Section 3: Each church shall be entitled to two (2) delegates for the first (50) members or fractional part thereof and one delegate for each additional twenty-five (25) members.

Article IV OFFICERS:

Section 1: The general officers of this association shall be the Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer. These officers shall be elected on even years for the term of two years.

Section 2: There shall be a General Board composed of the officers of the association and the Chairman of the various boards which shall serve as the association out of session.

Section 3: The standing boards of this association shall be the Missions Board, Ordaining Board, Budget and Finance Board, and the Camp Board.

Article V MEETINGS:

The meetings of this association shall be the Saturdays before the fourth Sunday in: January, 9 o'clock thru 12 o'clock noon; April, 9 o'clock thru 12 o'clock noon; October, 9 o'clock thru 12 o'clock noon; and the Saturday after the fourth Sunday in July, 9 o'clock thru 12 o'clock noon, followed with lunch by the host church.

Article VI AMENDMENTS:

This constitution may be amended or altered at any regular session of the association by a two-thirds majority vote of the delegates present provided that the proposed amendment or alteration is presented in writing during one session, placed on the table and voted on the next session. Further it shall be understood that the proposed amendment or alteration be furnished in writing to each church at least thirty (30) days prior to the session during which the vote is taken.

MIDWAY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

BY-LAWS of the Midway District Association of Original Freewill Baptists of the State of Georgia

Article I MEMBERSHIP:

Section 1: All churches affiliated directly with this association shall be required to adopt the Treatise of the Faith and Practices of the Original Freewill Baptists as adopted by the National Association of Freewill Baptists. Applications for membership must contain a statement to this effect.

Section 2: Churches desiring to affiliate themselves with this body must make application by letter and representation to this association while in session.

Article II REPRESENTATION:

Each church shall be required to pay a minimum fee per member of 50 cents per quarterly session and seventy-five cents per member each annual session.

Article III FUNCTIONS OF THE OFFICERS:

Section 1: The duties of the Moderator shall be to preside at all meetings of the association. He shall be empowered with the authority to appoint any committees not otherwise provided for the constitution.

Section 2: The duties of the Vice-Moderator shall be to preside at the request or absence of the Moderator and assist him in such ways as we are necessary and advisable.

Section 3: The duties of the Clerk shall be to keep accurate minutes of the association, to compile the minutes of the boards and the auxiliaries, to prepare them and to publish them. It shall further be the duty of the Clerk to take care of all necessary correspondence.

Section 4: The duties of the Assistant Clerk shall be to function at the request of the Clerk and to assist him in any way necessary.

Section 5: The duties of the Treasurer shall be to receive all association funds and to disburse them as directed by the association.

Section 6: The duties of the Assistant Treasurer shall be to function at the request of or in the absence of the Treasurer and to assist him in any way necessary.

Article IV FUNCTION OF THE BOARDS:

Section 1: The Missions Board shall be composed of five (5) members whose terms of office shall be two years and who shall be reelected or replaced on even years. The function of this board shall be:

- a. To supervise any and all mission's programs of this association and to coordinate their efforts with our state and national agencies.
- b. To be vested with the power of trusteeship; to hold and convey titles of any property coming under the jurisdiction of Mission Board through the Midway Association or as dealing with any or all of the property requiring trusteeship of the Midway Association.
- c. To formulate and promote a live missionary program by the aiding of weak churches, the establishment of new churches and by an earnest effort to keep the spirit of revival ever present within our association. It shall not be the function of this board to hold joint ownership of any church.

Section 2: The Ordaining Board shall be composed of five (5) members who are members of our association in good standing. Boards members shall be elected on even years for the term of two years. The functions of this board shall be:

- a. To examine all applicants for ordination to the ministry and all previously ordained ministers seeking membership in our association.
- b. To ordain or assist in ordination of deacons and ministers when requested to do so by the church of the candidate.
- (1) That all ministers wishing to become members of this Midway Association be recommended from the church of which they are members.
- (2) That all examinees be called upon to present their credentials for examination and answer satisfactorily such questions as may be asked them.
- (3) That a person who is presented for ordination or to be recognized as ordained must be pastoring, involved in a pastoral ministry, or be in a state of retirement due to age or health or have justifiable cause preventing his pastoring.
- (4) That ministers desiring to be ordained must have been licensed for the period of one year and have pastored or been involved in a pastoral ministry for at least six (6) months prior to ordination, six (6) months pastoring, or pastoral ministry during the one year tenure of licensing will be accepted as a prerequisite for ordaining.

Section 3: The Budget and Finance Board shall be composed of three (3) members, one of whom shall be the Treasurer, and who shall serve as its Chairman. These members shall be elected on even years for the period of two (2) years. It shall be their duty to:

- a. Receive and disburse all association monies at the request of the association.
- b. To receive all pleas for help and suggestions for disbursements of monies.
- c. To recommend to the association the disbursements of monies received.
- d. To keep a general oversight of the financial work of the association and to keep the association informed at all times of its financial conditions.

Section 4: The Camp Board shall be composed of five members. Lay members shall be at least two of the five members. The Chairman of the Board shall be the Camp Director, or the board may appoint a Director and Co-Director. This board shall be elected or reelected yearly. It shall be their duties to:

- a. Plan and promote the Youth Camp over the district.
- b. Set time for the Midway Camp.
- c. Set fees for the camp in accordance with the State Camp Board.
- d. Secure volunteer or hire sufficient help and supervision for the camp session.

Article V COMMITTEES:

Section 1: The Nominating Committee shall be composed of three members whose terms of office shall be two years, and who shall be elected or reelected on even years.

Section 2: All committees not provided for by either the constitution or its By-Laws may be appointed by the Moderator as deemed necessary.

Article VI

Section 1: Each church is requested to mail its report to the Clerk fifteen (15) days before each session.

Section 2: Each auxiliary of the association shall give a report to the association meeting which meets in October for the Annual Meeting. It is requested that this report be mailed to the Clerk fifteen (15) days before the Annual Session.

Article VII MISCELLANEOUS:

Section 1: After payments to the Moderator, the Clerk, and the superannuates, forty percent (40%) of association fees (dues) and offerings will go for missions.

MIDWAY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA

Section 2: Each minister who is a member of the Midway Association shall be expected to attend at least one session yearly unless providently hindered.

Section 3: The name, date of birth, date of death, age and church affiliation of any member overtaken by death, each year shall be included in that year's minutes, and such information is to be given to the Clerk by the various Clerks of the churches.

Section 4: At the death of a minister, a page in that year's minutes shall be draped in black in his memory, giving all pertinent information concerning him and his ministry.

Section 5: The General Officers of the association shall be elected on even years for the term of two (2) years.

Section 6: No person may be elected to more than one (1) office in the Midway Association at the same time. No General Officer (top six officers) may succeed himself or herself more than once.

Section 7: The Constitution and By-Laws with any amendments and alterations shall be printed each year in the minutes.

Section 8: A quorum shall consist of a majority of any board or committee.

Article VIII SUPERANNUATION:

Section 1: Retired ministers who have served the Midway Association for a period of at least five (5) years, are members of the association, and are in good standing with the association will be given quarterly supplement of money (the amount depending upon the financial status of the association at the time) when they shall have attained the age of sixty-five (65) years; provided the income of said ministers is inadequate for their needs.

Section 2: Any qualified minister of this association who, by accident or sickness, has been rendered permanently unable to continue as a minister of the Gospel, upon recommendation of his church and the approval of the association, be given the same supplement.

Section 3: At the minister's death, this same quarterly supplement shall be continued to his widow as long as she shall live or remain a widow, provided she meets qualifications as set forth for the ministers.

Section 4: The above sections do not prevent the association from taking "love offerings" or making a "love gift" to any minister or any layman at anytime the association so desires.

Section 5: The Budget and Finance Board shall examine each applicant at each annual association meeting to see if they are still in compliance with these By-laws.

Article IX AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended or altered at any regular session of the association by a two-thirds majority vote of the membership present provided that the proposed amendment is presented in writing during one session, placed on the table and voted on in the new session. The proposed amendment or alternation shall be furnished in writing to each church at least thirty (30) days prior to the session during which the vote is to be taken.

1998

January

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November

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