

*Midway Association
of Free Will Baptists*



"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." – Mark 16:15

1998
Minutes

One Hundredth Year of

**MIDWAY ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA**

1998 SESSIONS

convened 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

1999 SESSIONS

will meet for the:

First Session at
White Plains Free Will Baptist Church
 January 23, 1999

Second Session at
Bellview Free Will Baptist Church
 April 24, 1999

Third Session at
Cedar Springs Free Will Baptist Church
 July 31, 1999

Annual Session at
Berean Free Will Baptist Church
 October 21, 1999

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

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General Officers:

Moderator	Assistant Moderator
Rev. W. E. Brown	Leron Clower
3156 Spring Creek Road	Route 1
Brinson, Georgia 31725	Arlington, Georgia 31713
Phone 912-243-0109	Phone 912-725-4485

Clerk	Assistant Clerk
Rev. G. Gene Gilbert	Paula Gilbert
Route 2 Box 405	Route 2 Box 405
Newton, Georgia 31770	Newton, Georgia 31770
Phone 912-734-6815	Phone 912-734-6815

Treasurer	Assistant Treasurer
Pat Freeman	Malcom Freeman
Route 1 Box 415	Route 1 Box 415
Jakin, Georgia 31761	Jakin, Georgia 31761
Phone 912-372-4648	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), Janice Temples (98)

Resolutions Committee: Henrietta Brown (96), Shirley Kimbrell (97)

Credentials Committee: Ruby Ethridge (97), Virginia Sheffield (98)

Ordaining Board Billy Hanna (86), Gary Smith (88), J.M. Creech (92), John Amburgey (98), Glenn Thomas (97)

Nominating Committee: Melvin Moody (98), Mrs Willie Clyde Henderson (98), Doris Grant (98)

Camping Board: Rudy Woods (85), Chuck Walker (98), Eddie Williams (96), Edwina Drinkwater (96), Bonnie Amburgey (97)

Georgia State Association Board Members from Midway Association

Mission Board: Malcom Freeman, (97); *Trustee Board:* Edward Kimbrell, (97); *Christian Education:* Bill Lofton,; *Camp Board:* John Amburgey (98).

Midway District**Women Active for Christ****WAC Officers for 1998-1999**

Coordinator	Henrietta Brown	912-439-2447
Asst.Coordinator	Shirley Kimbrell	912-243-0109
Secretary	Christine Daniel	912-435-0802
Treasurer	Gloria Henley	912-758-3995
Study Chairman	Darlene Buttgen	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	Teresa Smith

Church Training Service**(CTS) Officers**

President	
Vice President	Ti Barnhill
Secretary and Treasurer	Allen Raburn

Sunday School Officers and Program Committee Officers

President	John Amburgey	Patmos
Vice President	Rudy Woods	Bainbridge, First
Secretary	Joy Brackin	New Enterprise
Treasurer	Charles Drinkwater	New Light

Program Committee:

Paula Cowart, Donald Brooks Shirley Harting,
Rudy Woods, Judy Brank

Ordained Ministers

Rev. John Amburgey Route 2 Box 67 Leary, GA 31762	734-5553	Rev. Melvin Moody P.O. Box 67 Morgan, GA 31766	849-0098
Rev. Mark Barber P.O. Box 5418 Aiken, SC 29804		Rev. Joe Murkerson 320 Lee Street Blakely, GA 31723	723-6923
Rev. W.E. Brown 3156 Spring Creek Road Brinson, GA 31725	243-0109	Rev. M.C. Powell 177 Johnny Ault. Rd Sylvester, GA 31791	776-4071
Rev. J.M. Creech 2023 Bellview Road Colquitt, GA 31737	758-2982	Rev. Gary Smith Route. 3, Box 31 Donalsonville, GA 31745	524-8693
Rev. Steve Faison P.O. Box 295 Cedar Springs, GA 31732	372-4949	Rev. Nathan A. Snow Izumino 5-12 Ebetsu Shi Japan 067	
Rev. David Fite 30 Phillips Road Colquitt, GA 31737	758-3555	Rev. Danny G. Thomas 2011 Weymouth Drive Albany, GA 31707	436-6665
Rev. Gene Gilbert Route 2 Box 405 Newton, GA 31770	734-6815	Rev. Glenn Thomas 2011 Weymouth Drive Albany, GA 31707	436-6665
Rev. Billy Hanna 125 West Doublegate Dr. Albany, GA 31707	436-1973	Rev. Charles Walker Route 1 Box 53-A Morgan, GA 31766	849-4655
Dr. W. Irvin Hyman 1696 South Philema Rd Albany, GA 31701	438-9449	Rev. Mark Walker 1920 A Elkhorne Albany, GA 31707	878-1810
Rev. W. F. McDuffee Nursing Home Donalsonville, GA 31745		Rev. Rudy Woods 136 Croley Road Bainbridge, GA 31717	246-6547

Church	Pastor	Church Clerk
Bellview FWB Church 2018 Bellview Road Colquitt, GA 31737 912-758-2087	Rev. J. M. Creech 2023 Bellview Road Colquitt, GA 31737 912-758-2982	Randy Clenney Route 3 Box 56 Colquitt, GA 31737 912-758-3986
Berean FWB Church 515 Branch Road Albany, GA 31705	Rev. M.C. Powell 177 Johnny Alt. Rd Sylvester, GA 31791 912-776-4071	Valerie Guy 171 Johnny Atl. Road Sylvester, GA 31791 912-776-3966
Cedar Springs FWB Church Route 4 Blakely, GA 31723 912-372-4590	Rev. Steve Faison P.O. Box 295 Cedar Springs, GA 31732 912-372-4949	Eleanor P. Sheffield Route 4 Box 132 Blakely, GA 31723 912-372-4605
Damascus FWB Church Route. 1, Box 7 Damascus, GA 31741 912-725-4480	Rev. Glenn Thomas 2011 Weymouth Dr. Albany, GA 31707 912-436-6665	Perry Daniel Route 1 Box 7 Damascus, GA 31741 912-725-4480
Enterprise FWB Church Route 1 Blakely, GA 31723	Rev. W.E. Brown 3156 Spring Creek Rd Brinson, GA 31725 912-243-0109	Martha Jenkins Route 1 Box 162 Blakely, GA 31723 912-723-5260
First FWB Church 420 N. Westover Blvd. Albany, GA 31707 912-436-4021	Rev. Billy D. Hanna 125 W. Doublegate Dr. Albany, GA 31707 912-436-1973	Wynette H. Carver 420 N. Westover Blvd. Albany, GA 31707 912-436-4021
First FWB Church P.O. Box 2324 Bainbridge, GA 31717	Rev. Rudy Woods 136 Croley Road Bainbridge, GA 31717 912-246-6547	Brenda Bailey 1315 Jeffery Lane Bainbridge, GA 31717 912-246-0285
First FWB Church 115 Perry Avenue Blakely, GA 31723 912-723-5685		Gloria Lovering 216 Meadowbrook Drive Blakely, GA 31723 912-723-3036

Church	Pastor	Church Clerk
Hammock Springs FWB Route 3 Box 161 Donalsonville, GA 31745 912-524-8693	Rev. Gary Smith Route 3 Box 319 Donalsonville, GA 31745 912-524-8693	Janice Jones Route 3 Box 314-A Donalsonville, GA 31745 912-524-5618
Macedonia FWB Church 30 Phillips Road Colquitt, GA 31737 912-758-3555	Rev. David Fite 30 Phillips Road Colquitt, GA 31737 912-758-3555	Glynn Henley 439 Cooktown Road Colquitt, GA 31737 912-758-2347
New Enterprise FWB Church Iron City, GA 31759	Rev. Joe Murkerson 320 Lee Street Blakely, GA 31723 912-723-6923	Joy Brackin Route 1 Box 1500 Brinson, GA 31725 912-7742208
New Light FWB Church Route 1 Box 53A Morgan, GA 31766 912-849-4655	Rev. Charles Walker Route 1 Box 53-A Morgan, GA 31766 912-849-4655	Charles R. Drinkwater Route 1 Box 44 Morgan, GA 31766 912-849-2560
Palmos FWB Church Route 2 Leary, GA 31762 912-734-5599	Rev. John Amburgey Route 2 Box 67 Leary, GA 31762 912-734-5553	Edith Shiver Route 2 Box 82 Leary, GA 31762 912-734-5021
Travelers Rest FWB Church Route 2 Box 405 Newton, GA 31770 912-734-6815	Rev. Gene Gilbert Route 2 Box 405 Church Road Newton, GA 31770 912-734-6815	Ruby Ethridge 9733 Look Out Road Baconton, GA 31716 912-787-5366
White Plains FWB Church Route 4 Box 71 Blakely, GA 31723	Rev. Melvin Moody P.O. Box 67 Morgan, GA 31766 912-849-0098	Mary H. Easom Route 4 Box 71 Blakely, GA 31723 912-723-4727

1999 Calendar of Events and Activities**Midway District Meetings**

First Session	White Plains Free Will Baptist Church	January 23, 1999
Second Session	Bellview Free Will Baptist Church	April 24, 1999
Third Session	Cedar Springs Free Will Baptist Church	July 31, 1999
Fourth Session	Berean Free Will Baptist Church	October 21, 1999

Midway Women Active for Christ Meetings

WGAC Workshop,	First Free Will Baptist Church, Albany Georgia
	March 8, 1999

WGAC Convention

Georgia Free Will Baptists Meetings

State WGAC Prayer Retreat, Norman Park, GA	Mar. 26-27, 1999
State Couples Retreat, GA Baptists Toccoa, GA	Mar. 19-20, 1999
State Ministers Retreat, Ocmulgee Park, McRae, GA	April 12-14, 1999
State Teen Camp, Covington, GA	Jun. 27-Jul. 2, '99
State Youth Conference, Albany, GA	May 14-15, 1999
State Association & WGAC Convention, Metter, GA	Nov. 17-20, 1999

National Free Will Baptists Meetings

National Association	Atlanta, GA	July 18-22, 1999
WNAC Convention	Atlanta, GA	July 18-22, 1999
NYC	Atlanta, GA	July 18-22, 1999

Future Sessions of the National Association

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

First Quarterly Session, January 24, 1998

The Midway Association of Free Will Baptist convened on January 24, 1998 at Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church for the First session of the 100th year of the Association. The meeting opened with a congregational song, "Jesus Saves", led by Rev. Danny Thomas. The welcome was given by Rev. David Fite, the Pastor of Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church.

The morning devotion was given by Rev. David Fite. His text was taken from II Samuel 23:8-21. Bro. David Fite brought out in his devotion that many times Christian schools and organizations are viewed as inferior compared to "pagan" or worldly organizations. He suggested that we should raise the standard of excellence for Christian enterprises; that the world should be looking to us as the highest achievement in excellence and if there is inferiority let it be in the world. It's okay to be a hero. He concluded with prayer.

The Clerk, Gene Gilbert, called the session to order and introduced Assistant Moderator, Rev. W. E. Brown to moderate the meeting in the absence of Bro. Leroy Clower who has been ill for some time. Rev. Brown then asked the Clerk to call the roll of ministers. Seventeen ministers were present. The Clerk then called the roll for board members and committees. Bro. John Amburgey was asked to serve on Budget and Finance. All of the other boards had a quorum.

Bro. Brown called for a motion to seat church delegates. Motion was seconded and carried. Partial report from the Credential Committee was given. Missionaries Ron and Janice Wallace were recognized. Bro. Buttgen reported that the Sunday School Convention date had been postponed and that he would meet with the other members to set a date at this session.

Bro. Matt Pinson from the Martin Association and new editor of the GA Promotional Bulletin updated the delegation of the changes and improvements to the state paper. He also informed us of those who would be writing the articles. Henrietta Brown and Rev. David Fite from Midway were recognized for their contribution to the paper.

Bro. Rudy Woods and Bro. David Fite were called upon to receive the morning offering. Bro. Brown then called on Bro. Woods to lead in prayer. The offering totaled \$123.43. Bro. Brown dismissed the session for a recess so the boards and committees could meet.

We were called back together with Bro. Danny Thomas leading us in a congregational song "Send the Light". Reports were then given by the Mission Board by Bro. Mack Harrison. Motion seconded and carried to accept this report.

Bro. Rod Goodman was then called upon to give the (Camping Board Report) and this was received as information.

We then heard from the (Ordaining Board Report) and their recommendations.

1. We have received a letter of good standing from the Southern Quarterly Cumberland Association for Rev Glenn Thomas. We recommend that he be received into Midway Association in full standing.
 2. We have received a letter of good standing from the Southern Mississippi Association for Rev John Amburgey. We recommend that he be received into Midway Association in full standing.
 3. We recommend a letter of good standing be sent to Little River Association for Rev. Damon Dodd.
 4. We recommend a letter of good standing be sent to North GA Association for Rev. Terry Pierce
- Motion seconded and carried to accept this report.

Ms. Henrietta Brown then gave us an oral report concerning the Woman's Auxiliary and the job that they were doing in our state for Christ. This report was received as information.

We then heard from Bro. Malcom Freeman as he gave the (Budget and Finance Committee Report) Motioned seconded and carried to accept as read. (See Reports)

State Mission Board member Bro. Malcom also gave us a report of the North Fayette work and how that they were in process of acquiring some 3 acres of land South of Love Joy. This report was received as information.

We then heard from the final report of the (Credential Report) Committee. Motion Second and Carried to accept this report. (See Reports)

The Assistant Moderator, Bro. Brown, then gave Bro. Ron Wallace, Home Missionary to Alaska, time to share his burden for the work there. Bro. Ron wanted the churches to remember him and his wife in monthly support and to help carry out the Acts 1:8 plan. He also said they had about 12 folks waiting on them to come and start a church work there. This was received as information.

Bro. Joe Buttgen then gave a (Report of the Sunday School Convention) which will meet at the Patmos Free Will Baptist Church, on June 27 at 10:00 am, with a covered dish lunch. Each church is asked to bring a \$25.00 fee to help defray the cost of the convention speaker, and other needed things. He also stated that the Randall House Sunday School Campaign is entitled "Reaching the Unrecalled". This was received as information.

Sis. Henrietta Brown gave the Resolution Committee Report, that we give the host church, Macedonia, a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality given today. Motion, Second and then rose to our feet to accept this motion.

Our Clerk, Bro. Gene Gilbert, then gave a oral report of the "Shoulder to Shoulder" campaign that the Youth all across the State of GA are doing to help raise the needed monies for Missions. He stated that his church, Travelers Rest has already just about raised the needed amount for the month of January, and encouraged the other churches to do so as well. He also stated that the Acts 1:8 plan was not a new plan, it was God's PLAN, and that we should be working hard as churches and be involved in our local programs to help the missionaries carry out the Gospel. He also stated that Bro. Ron Wallace would be in Revival with Travelers Rest starting March 8. This report was received as information.

The Mission Board Recommends the Following: Give \$500.00 to Debbie Griffin; \$500.00 to Ron and Janice Wallace; \$500.00 to Acts 1:8 - State. Report Submitted By: Mack Harrison, Marshal Day, Joe Martin, Charles R. Drinkwater.

A time of sharing prayer burdens as many brought to our attention the passing of: Brother Layendar's wife Sister Mable Willis and Bro. Owen Gainey's wife. Some of the sick were called out including Brother Leron Clower, J.W. Clower, Mr. Temples, Mr. Shiver and Edith Shiver. Rev. J.M. Creech was asked to lead us in prayer for the bereaved and the sick.

Rev. W.E. Brown then complimented the congregation in working with him to fill Brother Leron Clower's place as moderator of the meeting. We were dismissed from the business meeting for a short recess prior to the worship service.

Rev. Danny Thomas opened the worship service with "Victory In Jesus". Special music was provided by Renee Haire in a beautiful song, "Each One Reach One". Rev. Ron Wallace then brought the morning message. His text was from Jonah 1:3-10; Jonah 4:9-11. He spoke about what might have caused Jonah to run away and not be obedient to the Lord. Racial problems was mentioned as one probable cause. Jonah did not want the Ninevites to be saved, he felt that salvation was of the Jews. However God committed His love to come through the Jews to the entire world so that none would perish. The servant of God must have the vision of God. God sees the whole world in need of a Savior do you? Questions asked of Jonah: What is your occupation? Where did you come from? What people are you? Jonah's message was REPENT ...JUDGEMENT IS COMING. If you repent God will spare you. Rev. Wallace then concluded with prayer.

Rev. David Fite then gave the noon meal instructions and Rev. J.M. Creech was called upon to dismiss in prayer and ask God's blessing upon the food. The assembly enjoyed a wonderful meal and a great time of fellowship.

Reports for First Session

Credentials Committee Report First Session January 24, 1998

Church	Church Roll	Sunday School	CTS	WAC	Master's Men	Prayer Mtg. Att.	Dues
Albany, First	434	345	135	21	0	144	217.00
Bainbridge, First	30	10	0	0	0	5	30.00
Bellview	120	114	35	12	0	35	60.00
Berean	33	32	20	10	0	0	16.50
Blakely, First	88	28	17	7	0	12	44.00
Cedar Spgs	100	43	20	11	0	20	50.00
Damascus	18	25	0	0	0	0	10.00
Enterprise	26	16	0	6	0	0	13.00
Hammock Springs	50	52	52	10	0	18	26.00
Macedonia	60	50	0	9	0	7	30.00
New Enterprise	36	25	17	0	0	17	18.00
New Light	148	127	36	12	0	36	74.00
Patmos	57	40	24	8	7	24	28.50
Travelers Rest	90	60	0	0	0	40	45.00
White Plains	46	20	0	0	0	3	23.00
Totals	1336	987	356	106	7	361	\$ 685.00
Number of Churches reporting with Letters							15
Number of Churches reporting with delegates							15
Total dues from churches							\$685.00
Ministers present							17
Deacons present							17
Church Delegates present							34
Total Number of delegates							68
Lay members present							11
Visitors present							7
Total Present							86

Missionaries to Alaska, Ronald and Janice Wallace were also present.

Respectfully Submitted, Ruby Ethridge and Betty Day

Financial Report October 25, 1997 – January 23, 1998

BEGINNING BALANCE	101.60
Received from Churches	1,320.50
Morning Offering	101.22
Received in the Interim	44.50
Designated Offering	0.00
Other: Interest	101.51
TOTALS TO ACCOUNT	1,669.33
PAYMENTS	
Moderator	30.00
Clerk	49.99
Mission Board	375.10
Camp Board	0.00
Minutes Account	200.00
FWBBC Land / Relocation	
SUPERANNUATES	
Mrs Mathel Barnes	25.00
Rev. Damon Dodd	25.00
Rev. W. F. McDuffee	25.00
Mrs. Coy Watson	25.00
OTHER	
National Dues	375.00
State Delegates	75.00
Herbert Wald	250.00
TOTAL PAYMENTS	1,455.09
BALANCE	214.24

ACCOUNTS BALANCES

MINUTES ACCOUNT	
BALANCE	400.00
Received	200.00
Expenditures	
Balance	600.00
CAMPING ACCOUNT	
BALANCE	2,448.85
Received	250.00
Expenditures	397.07
Balance	2,301.78
MISSION ACCOUNT	
BALANCE	4,250.08
Received this Session	375.10
Expenditures	375.10
Balance	4,250.08
FWBBC LAND FUND	
BALANCE	
Received	
Expenditures	
Balance	
ALL OTHER FUNDS	
BALANCE	
Received	
Expenditures	
Balance	
BALANCE TOTALS	7,801.76
1/23/98	300.00
	7,501.76

Budget Report for January 24 1998

Beginning Balance	214.24
Received from Churches	
Morning Offering	
Designated Offerings	
Received during Interim	325.00
Other: Interest	60.66
TOTALS	
PAYMENTS	
Moderator	30.00
Clerk	49.99
Mission Board	
Camp Board	
Minutes	
SUPERANNUATES	
Mrs Mathel Barnes	25.00
Rev. Damon Dodd	25.00
Rev. W. F. McDuffee	25.00
Mrs. Coy Watson	25.00
STATE DUES	
NATIONAL DUES	
OTHER:	
TOTAL PAYMENTS	

MINUTES ACCOUNT	
Balance Brought Fwd	600.00
Received	75.00
Expenditures	
Balance Minutes	
CAMP BOARD ACCOUNT	
Balance Brought Fwd	2,448.85
Received: Interim	250.00
Expenditures	397.07
Balance Camp Board	2,201.78
MISSION BOARD	4,250.08
Balance Brought Fwd	
Received	
Expenditures	
Balance Mission Board	
Ending Balance	

Second Quarterly Session, April 25, 1998

The Midway Association of Free Will Baptist convened on April 25, 1998 at New Light Free Will Baptist Church for the Second Session of the 100th year of the Association. The meeting opened with a congregational song, "Trust and Obey", led by Rev. Danny Thomas. Opening prayer led by William Smith. Rev. Chuck Walker, Pastor of New Light Free Will Baptist Church, gave the welcome.

Rev. Gary Smith gave the morning devotion. His text was taken from Acts 1:8. Bro. Gary Smith said we should be (1) Eyewitnesses of redemption (2) Hear witnesses of many teachings and personal testimony to others. He says we begin in Jerusalem, our own neighborhood, Command to all who are saved – not just pastors. Get more talkative about Jesus. Send cards, and letters.

The meeting was called to order by the assistant clerk, Paula Gilbert. She then introduced our Moderator, Bro. Leron Clower. Bro. Leron then asked for a roll call of ministers, and a partial report of the Credential Committee. Bro. Leron called for Motion and Second to seat delegates and asked for any visitors - Bro. Leron Clower welcomed Steve Faison. Bro. Leron then asked the assistant clerk to read the letters that he had received from different missionaries, and a letter from Brother and Sister Wade. They were received as information. The morning offering was then taken, and the moderator asked that we be dismissed in order for the boards to meet, and a time of refreshments in the fellowship hall. Before dismissing, Bro. Irvin Hyman asked for a few minutes to give out some information about some books he had available on the front table. Bro. Leron asked for any prayer requests at this time. Bro. Waddell's father died, Steve Hasty died, Marie Hanna died, Bro. Freeman's son-in-law's grandmother died.

We were welcomed back to the service by Bro. Danny Thomas who led us in the congregational singing "Amazing Grace" with Ginny Gilbert at the piano. Bro. Bill Loftin led us in prayer. We then sang "I'll Fly Away". The business session resumed with Mrs. Edith Shiver, one of the members of the 100th Annual Session Celebration Committee, asking each church to send her information on the year that each church was formed, and any other information that they want included in the minutes at that meeting.

Mission Board Report: we recommend to give \$250.00 each to Debbie Griffin, Ron Wallace, and Nathan Snow. Submitted and moved by Bro. Bill Loftin. Motion, Second, and Carried.

Camping Board Report: Our Junior Camp is July 5-9. The theme is "Light of the World" at Kolomokie Mounds. The State Camp Board will help with camp expense of \$250.00. This was received as information. Motion, Second and Carried.

Ordaining Board Report: Met with Bro. Steve Faison and recommend that Brother Steve Faison be received as member into Midway Association pending letter of good standing from Cumberland Association in Nashville Tennessee. Motion, Second and Carried.

Treasurer Report: (Mrs. Eleanor stood in for Bro. Malcolm) The report for Jan. 1998 was read, received as information. Motion, Second and Carried. Bro. Rudy Woods made a motion to keep giving Bro. Dodd a gift (superannuates). Bro. Leron corrected him in the decorum, that he is no longer a member of Midway Association and can no longer receive a payment. Bro. Rudy declined his motion.

Resolution Report: To give a rising vote of Thanks to New Light for their meal and hospitality in hosting the meeting today.

Credential Committee Report: was given by Ruby Ethridge. (See Reports)

Bro. Leron then recognized Bro. William Smith and he presented some needs and burdens across our state. He said he appreciated Midway Association and we are ranked 3rd in total giving. Received good comments about the new Promotional Bulletin from the individuals. He talked about the Acts 1:8 plan. Dale and Sandra Bishop are coming home next year. Ron and Janice Wallace had 12 their first Sunday and 20 the next. He announced about the selling of the Atlanta work. They have 2 contracts, and are awaiting the checks. Bro. William said the city council (Fayette work) is fighting them due to the liquor issue. Had 35 in the church Sunday. All this was received as information.

Christian Education Board: We have sponsored the Ministers Retreat, and Couples Retreat. We will also have the State Competition in Baxley, Ga. May 15 & 16.

Woman's Auxiliary Report: The retreat at Norman Park was a blessing to all the ladies and we had a wonderful time. This was given by Mrs. Gary Smith and was received as information.

Sunday School Convention Report: The convention date has been changed to September 12, on Saturday and 10 a.m. at Patmos Free Will Baptist Church. Keith Kennemer to speak from the ETFA. We are to bring a covered dish, and \$25.00 dues.

Old business was called for, being none any new business was then called for delegates to National Association in Tulsa, OK July 12-16, 1998 are as follows: Lucy Hyman, Paula Gilbert, Nadine Blanton, Charles and Edwina Drinkwater

Bro. Leron then asked for prayer requests: Brother Melvin Moody to have heart catheterization, Janice Temples' husband not doing good. Bro. Leron asked for any announcements: The couples retreat, and senior citizens will be in October. The Pastors and Wives Retreat will be in September. Revival at Patmos June 20-24 with Bro. Billy Hanna as evangelist. Bro. Leron then called on Bro. Joe Murkerson to dismiss in prayer.

Rev. Chuck Walker then gave the noon meal instructions and then led in prayer and asked God's blessing upon the food. The assembly enjoyed a wonderful meal and a great time of fellowship.

Reports for Second Session

Credentials Committee Report Second Session, April 25, 1998

Church	Church Roll	Sunday School Enrollment	CTS Enrollment	WAC Enrollment	Master's Men Enrollment	Prayer Meeting Attendance	Dues
Albany, First	433	348	135	21	0	153	216.50
Bainbridge, First	30	10	0	0	0	4	15.00
Belview	120	115	35	12	0	35	60.00
Bethan	35	0	0	0	0	0	17.50
Blakely, First	82	28	17	7	0	12	41.00
Cedar Springs	100	55	12	12	0	12	50.00
Damascus	17	20	0	0	0	0	10.00
Enterprise	28	16	0	7	0	0	14.00
Hammock Springs	50	52	52	12	0	20	25.00
Macedonia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
New Enterprise	36	25	17	0	0	17	18.50
New Light	150	134	32	15	0	35	75.00
Palmas	57	40	21	9	7	24	28.50
Travelers Rest	90	60	7	0	0	40	45.00
White Plains	41	20	0	0	0	3	20.50
Totals	1269	923	321	95	7	355	\$ 636.50

Number of Churches reporting with Letters	14
Number of Churches reporting with delegates	14
Total dues from churches	636.50
Ministers present	17
Deacons present	9
Church Delegates present	23
Total Number of delegates	49
Lay members present	1
Visitors present	7
State Officers	1
Total Present	56

Financial Report January 24, 1998 - April 25, 1998

BEGINNING BALANCE	180.67
Received from Churches	636.50
Morning Offering	103.50
Received in the Interim	
Designated Offerings	
Other Interest	53.25
TOTALS TO ACCOUNT	973.92
PAYMENTS	
Moderator	30.00
Clerk	49.99
Mission Board	296.00
Camp Board	0.00
Minutes Account	
FWBBC Land / Relocation	
SUPERANNUATES	
Mrs Mathel Barnes	25.00
Rev. W. F. McDuffee	25.00
Mrs. Coy Watson	25.00
OTHER	
National Dues	
State Delegates	
TOTAL PAYMENTS	450.99
BALANCE	522.93

ACCOUNTS BALANCES

MINUTES ACCOUNT		
BALANCE		675.00
Received		
Expenditures		481.89
Balance		193.11
CAMPING ACCOUNT		
BALANCE		2,301.78
Received		
Expenditures		
Balance		2,301.78
MISSION ACCOUNT		
BALANCE		4,597.75
Received this Session		296.00
Expenditures	750.00	
Balance		4,143.75
FWBBC LAND FUND		
BALANCE		
Received		
Expenditures		
Balance		
ALL OTHER FUNDS		
BALANCE		
Received		
Expenditures		
Balance		
BALANCE TOTALS		7,161.57
		7,161.57

Respectfully Submitted, Ruby Ethridge
and Helen Gilchrist

Budget Report for April 25, 1998

Beginning Balance		
Received from Churches		636.50
Morning Offering		103.50
Designated Offerings		
Received during Interim		
Other: Interest		
TOTALS		740.00
PAYMENTS		
Moderator	30.00	
Clerk	49.99	
Mission Board		
Camp Board		
Minutes		
SUPERANNUATES		
Mrs. Melba Barnes	25.00	
Rev. W. F. McDuffee	25.00	
Mrs. Coy Watson	25.00	
STATE DUES		
NATIONAL DUES		
OTHER:		
TOTAL PAYMENTS	154.99	

MINUTES ACCOUNT		
Balance Brought Fwd		
Received		
Expenditures		
Balance Minutes		
CAMP BOARD ACCOUNT		
Balance Brought Fwd		
Received: Interim		
Expenditures		
Balance Camp Board		
MISSION BOARD		
Balance Brought Fwd		
Received		
Expenditures		
Balance Mission Board		
Ending Balance		

Third Quarterly Session, August 1, 1998

The Third Quarterly Session of the Midway Association opened with Curt Whittaker leading the congregation in "Let's Just Praise the Lord". David Still led in prayer. The Welcome was given by Bro. Joe Murkerson, pastor of New Enterprise Free Will Baptist Church.

The morning devotion was given by Rev. Rod Goodman. His text was taken from Acts 1:4. Sometimes we get too busy to do the things of the Lord. We forget to wait on the Lord, and we want to do it ourselves. Let us take advantage of the vast power of the Lord. Bro. Rod then led in prayer. The clerk, Rev. Gene Gilbert called the session to order and presented the Moderator Leron Clower. The moderator then welcomed everyone to the Association.

The clerk, Rev. Gene Gilbert, called the roll of ministers. The following ministers answered roll call the Reverends: John Amburgey, W E Brown, Joe Buttgen, J M Creech, Steve Faison, Gene Gilbert, Rodney Goodman, Billy Hanna, Melvin Moody, Joe Murkerson, M C Powell, Gary Smith, William Smith, Rudy Woods.

The moderator called for a vote on seating the delegates and the visitors were welcomed. The moderator then called for a partial report of the credential committee, then called for a motion and second to seat all the standing delegates. The clerk called the roll of boards to see if all were present, and we needed Bro. Brown to serve on the Mission Board in absence of one of the members. The moderator then called for a recess and asked all the boards to meet during this time.

Bro. Curt Whittaker led the congregation in singing "He Keeps Me Singing" and prayer was given by Bro. John Amburgey. The Boards and Committees were recognized:

Mission Board: Recommend to body to give each of missionaries \$100 each, they are: Debbie Griffin, Nathan Snow, Ron Wallace, Dale Bishop, and Paul Creech. Motion/Second / Carried.

Camping Board: It was noted by Bro. William Smith, that Bro. Rod Goodman was on this board, and will be leaving our association soon, but that he can serve until the state meeting in November. Bro. Rod then gave his report. Good Camps this year, the spirit of God was felt in each service and we had several first time decisions. We came out better financially by renting the camps with a surplus of funds over expenses. This was received as information. Bro. Leron asked us to give Bro. Rod a standing rise of thanks for the wonderful job he has done in our association on the Camping Board.

Ordaining Board: No business

Resolution:

1. Encourage churches to send to Acts 1:8 - Motion/Second/Carried
2. That we send a letter to Trent Lott our Senator for MS, stating our support of the stand he is taking against homosexuality. MSC
3. That we encourage - promote youth of our association to be an active part of our meetings. MSC
4. That we give a rising vote of thanks to the New Enterprise Church for their hospitality in hosting this meeting. MSC

Budget and Finance: Bro. Malcolm said the board recommended that \$200 be put into the minute account for expenses. Bro. Malcolm gave out these and then gave oral explanation of each. MSC

Bro. J M Creech suggested that we consider the possibility of the 40% that is going into the Mission Board account and supporting Acts 1:8 with these funds.

State Mission Board: We have sold the Fayetteville work near Atlanta. We are in the process of acquiring more land at this time. Received as information.

Credential Committee: With a total of 15 delegates. MSC to receive report.

Executive Secretary / Treasurer Report:

Brother William Smith gave a report concerning the good meeting we had at the National Convention, about the National being at Atlanta this next time, he stated an appeal for us to be in prayer for the training of our men as preacher boys, the fact that we have over 20 churches in our State at this time without a pastor. He expressed a deep concern over this. He also gave a report of the Camp facilities this year in that the rented one was better in every way. He also mentioned that there are some of the brethren that would like to see us build a camp to own ourselves. This would be an expensive and crucial decision we need to pray about before we do anything. Atlanta church is averaging about 25, and they have located some land in the country (zoning codes not as strict) almost 7 acres. He also told of a new church in Cordele, Ga. (not in our Association) but they are on the move for the Lord. They had 30 on a Thursday night prayer meeting. Received as information.

Our moderator then called for prayer requests, and Bro. Joe Buttgen asked for prayer for his new venture in the Spanish speaking Sunday School class he is to start for the migrate workers in his area. We were to have a short recess, Bro. Billy Hanna then led us in prayer.

We opened our worship service with congregational singing "Victory in Jesus" Our special music was given by Diana and Curt Whitaker. Our message was given by Rev. Steve Paison, pastor of the Cedar Springs Free Will Baptist Church. He spoke on "Building despite your battles" Nehemiah 1:1-4 was his text. Nehemiah was given some bad news. The walls of his home town were torn down, and he would be defeated. Nehemiah went straight to God in prayer and he receives his answer. God set up the details and he was to carry them out. There were four principles that he live by: He communicated with God's person (presence). He was consistent with God's purpose. He was cautious with God's persecutors. He was courageous with God's people. Nehemiah was an example of how the pastors should deal with the flocks, when you get down and discouraged, and keep on keeping on for the Lord. Ask God to help you. Bro. Steve then closed in prayer. An invitation song was then sung, and then we were given noon meal instructions from the host pastor Bro. Joe Murkerson. He dismissed us in prayer.

Reports for Third Session

Credentials Committee Report Third Session August 1, 1998

Church	Church Roll	Sunday School Enrollment	CTS Enrollment	WAC Enrollment	Master's Men Enrollment	Prayer Meeting Attendance	Dues
Albany, First	434	348	135	21	0	123	217.00
Bainbridge, First	30	15	0	0	0	5	15.00
Bellview	117	117	35	12	0	35	58.50
Berean	35	0	0	0	0	0	17.50
Blakely, First	81	40	12	7	0	12	40.50
Cedar Springs	100	50	25	9	0	15	50.00
Damascus	18	25	0	0	0	0	10.00
Enterprise	34	19	0	7	0	0	17.00
Hammock Springs	51	51	51	10	0	22	25.00
Macedonia	60	60	0	9	0	6	30.00
New Enterprise	36	25	17	0	0	13	18.00
New Light	150	135	75	15	0	25	75.00
Palmas	54	40	25	8	6	25	27.00
Travelers Rest	90	60	35	0	0	35	45.00
White Plains	41	12	0	0	0	0	20.50
Totals	1331	997	360	98	6	316	\$ 666.00
Number of Churches reporting with Letters					15		
Number of Churches reporting with delegates					15		
Total dues from churches					666.00		
Ministers present				14			
Deacons present				10			
Church Delegates present				22			
Total Number of delegates				46	46		
Lay members present					4		
Visitors present					5		
Total Present					55		

Respectfully Submitted, Ruby Ethridge and Helen Gilchrist

Financial Report August 1, 1998

BEGINNING BALANCE		522.93
Received from Churches		666.00
Morning Offering		106.50
Received in the Interim		6,724.38
Designated Offerings		0.00
Other Interest		0.00
TOTALS TO ACCOUNT		8,019.81
PAYMENTS		
Moderator	30.00	
Clerk	49.99	
Mission Board	247.00	
Camp Board	0.00	
Minutes Account	200.00	
FWBBC Land / Relocation		
SUPERANNUATE S		
Mrs Mathel Barnes	25.00	
Rev. W. F. McDuffee	25.00	
Mrs. Coy Watson	25.00	
OTHER		
National Dues		
State Delegates		
Interim paid out	173.78	
TOTAL PAYMENTS	775.77	
BALANCE		

ACCOUNTS BALANCES

MINUTES ACCOUNT		
BALANCE		193.11
Received		200.00
Expenditures		
Balance		393.11
CAMPING ACCOUNT		
BALANCE		2,301.78
Received		6,635.50
Expenditures	4,830.10	
Balance		4,107.18
MISSION ACCOUNT		
BALANCE		4,143.75
Received this Session		247.00
Expenditures	500.00	
Balance		3,890.75
FWBBC LAND FUND		
BALANCE		
Received		
Expenditures		
Balance		
ALL OTHER FUNDS		
BALANCE		
Received		
Expenditures		
Balance		
BALANCE TOTALS		

Annual Session, October 24, 1998

Annual Meeting held with Patmos Free Will Baptist Church, October 24, 1998, opened with singing "To God Be The Glory" led by Bro. John Amburgey. Opening prayer by Bro. M.C. Powell. Bro. John Amburgey, pastor, then had the welcome to the meeting. He then introduced the speaker for the devotion, Bro. William Smith, Executive Secretary/Treasurer for GA. Bro. William's text was Hebrews 4:14-16. The two points that he made were that our relationship Christ has to us, and that Christ being tempted in all points as we are, but greater than us for he never yielded. Bro. William also pointed out that our relationship to Christ be a conscience of spiritual possession, spiritual persistence, spiritual freedom, spiritual drawing of mercy, spiritual maturity.

The clerk then 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, along with the visiting staff of the National and State offices.

A quorum was then called for each board. The Moderator then appointed the following: Obituary, Martha Everson, Joy Brackin; Placement: Melvin Moody, Kenneth Corn. Our morning offering was taken by Bro. John Amburgey and Bro. Bud Shiver. Bro. Leron then asked Bro. Melvin Worthington to give us a short report about the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, TN, and Bro. Melvin stated that the college is on schedule to relocate the Campus and has an enrollment of 333 for this year. Bro. Leron then asked if there were any announcements: Bro. McDuffee day was to be held, revival at Bainbridge First Free Will Baptist with Chuck Walker, evangelist. A short recess was called in order for the various boards and committees to meet and refreshment time of coffee and doughnuts by the host church, Patmos Free Will Baptist.

The session then resumed with Bro. John Amburgey leading us in "Kneel At The Cross". Bro. Matt Pinson, Editor of the GA State Promotional Bulletin, and Pastor of Colquitt Free Will Baptist Church, gave a review of his book, A Free Will Baptist Handbook and Henrietta Brown told us that she had some tapes and CD's that she had for sale as well.

Our business session was opened, and the Mission Board recommended to give \$200.00 to the Paul Smith account and \$200.00 to Paul & Rhoda Creech account and \$500.00 to Free Will Baptist Bible College. MSC.

Camp Board: Director for Junior Camp would be Brother Chuck Walker and Bro. Mark Walker would serve as Assistant Director. They will send out letter requesting \$100 from each church of our association.

Resolution:

1. Vote Yes on Referendum on Nov. 3, Everyone please vote on November 3.

2. That we give rising vote of thanks to Patmos for the warm and gracious reception today.

Ordaining Board: Grant letter for Andy Merritt. MSC

The Moderator appointed a committee to recommend an amount to give Brother Melvin Worthington as an honorarium. The committee composed of William Smith, Billy Hanna, and J. M. Creech recommended giving \$400.00 and was approved by the body. MSC

Reports of the Annual Session

Obituary Committee Report:

The following churches reported their loss of members:

Church	Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death
Bellview	Myrtle Suggs	04-23-1906	02-05-1998
Bellview	Berta Duncan	03-16-1923	06-14-1998
Bellview	James Attabery		
Cedar Springs	Winona Georgia Young		03-01-1998
First Albany.	William H. Wilson	08-04-1918	12-15-1997
First Albany	Iona Gosa	12-15-1920	02-19-1998
First Albany	Bob Alton Cromer	02-18-1934	06-17-1998
First Albany	Inez Barthelemy	07-18-1922	07-07-1998
Macedonia	Virgie Tabb Henley	07-21-1909	11-13-1997
Macedonia	Audrey R. Ross	03-05-1920	07-10-1998
Macedonia	Flossie Phillips	07-28-1911	09-10-1998
New Enterprise	Nita Tyler	08-12-1907	08-02-1998
New Light	Cleo Morris	05-15-1915	12-17-1997
New Light	Eugene Morris	03-30-1906	11-19-1997
New Light	Maude Clower	09-05-1906	03-20-1998
Patmos	Alice Bodiford		08-20-1998
Patmos	Jimmy Holley	04-29-1905	07-06-1998
Travelers Rest	Wobdrow Parker	06-12-1929	02-20-1998
White Plains	Clifton McCorkle		

Reported by: Joy Bracklin and Martha Everson

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

Placement Committee Report:

The following list of meeting places for 1999 was suggested by Kenneth Corn and Melvin Moody:

First Session	White Plains	January 23, 1999
Second Session	Bellview	April 24, 1999
Third Session	Cedar Springs	July 31, 1999
Annual Session	Berean	October 23, 1999

(Reflects change requested by Berean Free Will Baptist Church)

Nominating Committee Report:

Edith Shiver gave the following suggestions for term of 1999:

Moderator -	Rev. W. E. "Bill" Brown	1998 -
Assistant Moderator --	Leron Clower	1998 -
Clerk -	Rev. G. Gene Gilbert	1996 -
Assistant Clerk -	Paula Gilbert	1997 -
Treasurer -	Pat Freeman	1998 -
Assistant Treasurer -	Malcom Freeman	1998 -

Boards and Committees For 1998-1999

Budget and Finance

Rev. Joe Murkerson - 1995
Janice Temples - 1998

Camping Board

Rev. Rudy Woods - 1985
Eddie Williams - 1998
Edwina Drinkwater - 1996
Bonnie Amburgey - 1997
Rev. Chuck Walker - 1998

Credentials Committee:

Ruby Ethridge - 1997
Virginia Sheffield - 1998

Mission Board

Bill Lofton - 1984
Joe Martin - 1985
Charles Drinkwater - 1985
Marshall Day - 1995
Mack Harrison - 1997

Nominating Committee

Rev. Melvin Moody - 1998
Mrs. Willie Clyde Henderson - 1998
Mrs. Doris Grant - 1998

Ordaining Board

Rev. Billy Hanna - 1986
Rev. Gary Smith - 1988
Rev. J. M. Creech - 1992
Rev. John Amburgey - 1998
Rev. Glenn Thomas - 1997

Resolution Committee

Hennetta Brown - 1998
Sturley Kimbrel - 1998

GA State Board Members

State Camp Board
Rev. John Amburgey - 1998

State Mission Board

Malcom Freeman

State Trustee Board

Edward Kimbrell - 1997

Christian Education

Bill Lofton

State Mission Board

Brother William Smith gave an update to the progress at South Atlanta Project. This was received as information.

The Moderator then asked for show of hands to be delegates to the State Meeting in Albany, GA at the First Free Will Baptist Church. The following volunteered to serve as delegates: Paula Gilbert, Ginny Gilbert, Edwina Drinkwater, Bonnie Amburgey, Edith Shiver.

Worship Service

Our theme, "Celebrating 100 Years of Christian Service".

Sister Henrietta Brown opened the worship service with the song "Stand Up for Jesus" assisted by Brother Danny Thomas and the Choir of First Free Will Baptist Church of Albany.

Our "Miss Free Will Baptist", Mrs. Edith Shiver, gave us a brief history of our Free Will Baptist Churches that have been a member of our association, though some have ceased to exist and those churches which are still active today. We had some funny antidotes as well as some serious moments during all of this time of reflection of our past. She reported the following concerning the churches:

Albany, First	September 5	1951	* Jakin - Open Pond		1849/1952
* Arlington	August 24	1966	* Live Oak		1884
Bainbridge, First	April 19	1952	Macedonia		1870/1875
Bellview		1875	~ Mt. Zion		1884
Berean		1974	New Enterprise	August 7	1888
* Bethlehem		1890	New Light	February 15	1890
Blakely, First		1947	~ Oak Grove		1891
Cedar Springs		1820	Patmos	July 30	1882
Damascus		1902	~ Pine View		1922
* Donalsonville	August 11	1968	Travelers Rest		1856
~ Emmanuel		1958	White Plains	May	1893
Enterprise	July 10	1883	* White Pond	June 22	1882
Hammock Springs		1906	* Zion		1880

Legend * = Churches withdrawn from Midway Association
~ = Churches that have closed and ceased to have services.

We then had a special in song by Mrs. Henrietta Brown, "Find Us Faithful", and then the choir from First Free Will Baptist Church of Albany sang a song "We Come To Do Your Will". This song was written by Reverend Danny Thomas to commemorate the 100th session of the Midway Association.

Then the highlight of our session came when we were blessed by a message by Dr. Melvin Worthington of Nashville, TN. who is our Executive Secretary of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. Dr. Worthington spoke of the "Message Which Distinguishes the Church", from Mark 16:14. Dr. Worthington stated that God gave us three institutions, The Family, The Government and The Church. The Church is Unique in its Source, born in the mind of God; Universal in its Scope and Undeniably Sufficient.

The host church, Patmos Free Will Baptist Church, blessed us with a wonderful meal prepared by their ladies. We all had an opportunity to be blessed spiritually and a time of sweet fellowship with fellow Christians of our various churches within our association.

Financial Report for Annual Session 1998

Financial Report October 24, 1998

BEGINNING BALANCE		664.92
Received from Churches		1,393.25
Morning Offering		127.26
Received in the Interim		
Designated Offerings		
Other Interest		
TOTALS TO ACCOUNT		2,185.43
PAYMENTS		
Moderator	30.00	
Clerk	49.99	
Mission Board	388.21	
Camp Board		
Minutes Account	200.00	
FWBBC Land / Relocation		
SUPERANNUATE S		
Mrs. Mathel Barnes	25.00	
Rev. W. F. McDuffies	25.00	
Mrs. Coy Watson	25.00	
OTHER		
National Dues	375.00	
State Delegates	75.00	
TOTAL PAYMENTS	1,171.20	
Acts 1:8	400.00	
Melvin Worthington	400.00	
BALANCE	214.23	

ACCOUNTS BALANCES

MINUTES ACCOUNT		
BALANCE		393.11
Received		
Expenditures		
Balance		393.11
CAMPING ACCOUNT		
BALANCE		4,107.18
Received		
Expenditures		
Balance		4,107.18
MISSION ACCOUNT		
BALANCE		3,890.75
Received this Session		
Expenditures		
Balance		3,890.75
FWBBC LAND FUND		
BALANCE		
Received		
Expenditures		
Balance		
ALL OTHER FUNDS		
BALANCE		
Received		
Expenditures		
Balance		
BALANCE TOTALS		8,391.04

Credential Committee Report for October 24, 1998

Church	Members	SS	CTS	WA C	MM	Received
Albany, First	450	348	135	19	0	\$362.50
Bainbridge, First	30	10	15	0	0	47.50
Bellview	117	113	35	12	0	112.75
Berean	35	30	25	7	0	51.25
Blakely, First	81	34	12	7	0	85.75
Cedar Springs	114	55	30	0	0	110.50
Damascus	18	20	0	0	0	39.00
Enterprise	23	18	0	7	0	39.25
Hammock Springs	57	57	57	12	0	67.00
Macedonia	60	50	0	6	0	70.00
New Enterprise	35	25	17	0	0	51.25
New Light	147	105	38	12	0	135.25
Patmos	57	40	25	8	6	67.75
Travelers Rest	96	60	35	0	0	97.00
White Plains	42	9	0	0	0	56.50
TOTALS	1362	974	424	90	6	\$1393.25

Number of Churches reporting with Letters		15
Number of Churches reporting with delegates		15
Total dues from Churches		1,020.75
Ministers present	19	
Deacons present	10	
Church Delegates present	35	
Total Number of delegates	64	64
Lay members present		11
Visitors present		29
State Office Representative		1
National Office Representative		1
Total Present		106

Respectfully Submitted, Ruby Ethridge and Helen Gilchrist

MIDWAY SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

September 12, 1998

The 1998 Sunday School Convention was held at Patmos Free Will Baptist, east of Arlington, GA, on Saturday, September 12. President Joe Buttgen opened the convention with a warm welcome and prayer. A nominating committee was appointed: Rev. Rudy Woods, Rev. John Amburgey, and Sister Ruby Ethridge.

Keith Kenemer, accompanied by his wife, was our guest speaker with an obvious commitment to Sunday School. He shared a vast knowledge of Sunday School: It's history, as an indicator of church health, and the primary means of church growth.

Our lunch was hosted by the Patmos Free Will Baptist Church, then we resumed our training after lunch. Brother Kenemer provided a practical formula for a growing Sunday School and strongly urged dividing classes rather than combining classes. Many Sunday School resources were available on display, provided by the Evangelical Training Association. Throughout the training Brother Kenemer challenged us to reclaim our children for Jesus and used the text John 17:15-20.

Lead by Brother Buttgen the necessary business was completed as follows: 1999 - 2000 Program Committee: Paula Cowart, Donald Brooks, Shirley Harting, Rudy Woods, Judy Brank
Nominating Committee: Bonnie Amburgey, Betty Day, Bill Brown
Officers: President - Rev. John Amburgey; Vice President - Rev. Rudy Woods; Secretary - Sis. Joy Brackin; Treasurer - Bro. Charles Drinkwater.

Respectfully submitted,
Joy Brackin

Churches in our Midway Association of Free Will Baptists of GA. represented at the 1998 Sunday School Convention were as follows: Bainbridge First, Bellview, Blakely First, Cedar Springs, Enterprise, New Enterprise, New Light, Patmos, Travelers Rest, and out of the Martin Association - New Salem Free Will Baptist.

Our attendance for the meeting was 45.

Treasurer's Report - Balance:	\$259.82
Lodging for the speaker	\$ 52.40
Dues:	\$275.00
Offering:	\$ 80.50
Love Offering for speaker: Bro. Kenemer	\$350.00
President: Joe Buttgen	\$ 30.00
Secretary: Joy Brackin	\$ 30.00

Balance on hand as of Sept. 98

\$150.92

Minutes of the MIDWAY DISTRICT GWAC held at New Light Free Will Baptist Church, October 3, 1998

The Midway District WAC (Women Active For Christ) Convention met at 9:30AM at New Light Free Will Baptist Church in Morgan, GA. The pianist was Martha Iverson and the song leader was Marie Glover.

The meeting opened with the singing of "Footsteps of Jesus" followed with prayer by Kathleen Thomas. In the absence of President Henrietta Brown, Shirley Kimbrel, Vice President, presided over the meeting. Shirley extended a warm welcome to everyone and reminded us of our theme for this year which is "Living Sacrifices" taken from Romans 12:1&2. The offertory prayer was given by Paula Walker followed with an offering taken by Paula Walker and Mildred Bowen. Special music was rendered by Pam Roberts, Mary Cox and Debra Middleton from New Home Church in the Martin District. They so beautifully sang "My House Is Full".

We were then called in to our business meeting. The Credentials Report (see Exhibit A) was given by Virginia Sheffield. This report indicated that all nine (9) Auxiliaries had properly reported and paid their fees. It was then MSC that all standing delegates and the appointed delegates be seated as well and be declared the voting body.

A report on the WNAC Convention held in July, 1998 in Tulsa, Oklahoma was given by Christine Daniel. She reported on the retirement of Mary Ruth Wischart, the Executive Secretary and Treasurer of WNAC, Marjorie Workman, from Nashville, Tennessee, will be her replacement.

Marie Glover gave a report on the WNAC Prayer Retreat. The speaker for the Retreat was Glenda Revell, who told of her life of abuse and of her unloving, alcoholic mother; however, the Lord led her to a church where she met her Christian husband. They raised their four (4) children in a wonderful Christian home---very much un-like the home in which she was raised. The theme for the Retreat was "Order My Steps, Lord" taken from Psalm 37:23.

The Committee Reports were given as follows: Mission Chairman - No report Study Chairman - No report Service Chairman - This report was given by Martha Jenkins. She handed out a list of items needed by the Children's Home in Eldridge, Alabama. She asked that each Auxiliary select some of these items, place them in a box, and bring the box to the GWAC Convention to be held in Albany in November. Willie Clyde Henderson also reported that she had visited the Children's Home in July.

Prayer Chairman - This report was given by Janice Temples. Janice stated that she was especially concerned and burdened for our MK's (Missionary Kids). She shared some specific needs and several prayers were offered at this time in behalf of the MK's. A silent prayer followed with prayer by Betty Creech was offered in memory of Mrs. Inez Barthelmy, a member of the Albany Auxiliary who died on July 7, 1998. Edwina Mathis, a very close friend of Mrs. Inez, told of their close friendship through the years and requested special prayer for her family at this time.

The Treasurer's Report (see Exhibit B) was given by Nadine Blanton. It was MSC that this report be accepted. The Registration Committee Report (see Exhibit C) was given by Alice Martin. She reported 41 members and 7 visitors present.

The floor was open for the selection of a Nominating Committee: those nominated and elected to serve on this committee are as follows: Marie Glover, Chairperson; Gloria Henley, Bonnie Amburgey, Pat Freeman, Edwina Mathis. The Nominating Committee was elected at this time in order to replace Nadine Blanton, Treasurer, and Darlene Buttgen, Study Chairman. Both of these officers will be moving soon.

Doris Grant, who serves on the Project Committee for the 1999 National in Atlanta, gave a report. She reminded all ladies to continue giving their \$5.00 per member toward expenses of the WNAC Convention/Banquet and to have it in by March of 1999 (the time of the State Prayer Retreat). We should also have our jellies made and brought to the Prayer Retreat in March. She went over the estimated expenses as well as the projected income for the 1999 WNAC Convention.

Delegates were appointed to the GWAC Convention to be held on November 12 at First Church in Albany. They are as follows: Bonnie Amburgey, Edith Shiver, Marie Glover, Mary Sue Durden, Edwina Mathis, Betty Creech, Virginia Sheffield, Willie Clyde Henderson, Edwina Drinkwater, Gloria Henley, and Pat Freeman.

Betty Creech was named to serve on the Nominating Committee of the GWAC. There was no old business or new business.

Following a brief break, the Resolutions Committee report (see Exhibit D) was given by Edith Shiver. It was MSC that we accept each resolution as given.

The Nominating Committee report was given by Marie Glover. Gloria Henley's name was submitted as Treasurer to replace Nadine Blanton. It was MSC that we accept this nomination. The study Chairman to replace Darlene Buttgen will be named at a later date.

The Financial Committee Report (see Exhibit E) was given by Nadine Blanton. It was MSC that we accept this report.

At the conclusion of the business meeting, another congregational hymn, "Here Am I, Send Me", was sung. Before the introduction of our special speaker, the New Home Church trio came and blessed us with another song, "I Surrender All".

Shirley Kimbrel then introduced our speaker, Gloria Jenkins. Gloria is a member of First Baptist Church in Colquitt, GA. She is a speaker, writer, as well as a counselor, in the Decatur County School System in Bainbridge, GA.

Gloria shared with us the condition of the world in which we live. She stated that we are where we are for a reason and a season. She reminded us that each one of us is a missionary and we are on a mission field. She challenged us to get into God's Word so we will be equipped to share it with others.

The minutes for the day (10/03/98) were read by the Secretary, Christine Daniel. A number of prayer requests were made known and Shirley Kimbrel dismissed with prayer. The ladies at New Light provided a wonderful meal for all who attended.

Respectfully submitted, Christine Daniel, Secretary

Dates to Remember

Midway District Meetings		
03-08-99 Workshop	Albany	Albany, GA
GA State Meetings and Retreats:		
03-26&27-99 Prayer Retreat	Norman Assembly	Norman Park, GA
WNAC National Meetings and Retreats		
07-20-99 WNAC Convention		Atlanta, GA

MIDWAY DISTRICT WAC OFFICERS FOR 1998-1999

COORDINATOR:	HENRIETTA BROWN
ASSISTANT COORDINATOR:	SHIRLEY KIMBREL
SECRETARY:	CHRISTINE DANIEL
TREASURER:	GLORIA HENLEY
STUDY CHAIRMAN:	DARLENE BUTTGEN
PRAYER CHAIRMAN:	JANICE TEMPLES
MISSION CHAIRMAN:	PATRICIA FITE
SERVICE CHAIRMAN:	MARTHA JENKINS
FIELD WORKERS:	KATIE ROGERS AND TERESA SMITH

Henrietta Brown

3156 Spring Creek Road
Brinson, GA 31725
912-243-0109

Janice Temples

Route 1 Box 34
Morgan, GA 31766
912-849-2491

Shirley Kimbrel

1525 Bellview Road
Colquitt, GA 31737
912-758-2587

Martha Jenkins

Route 1 Box 162
Blakely, GA 31723
912-723-5260

Christine Daniel

1900 Lullwater Road
Albany, GA 31707
912-435-0802

Katie Rogers

Route 3 Box 310J
Donalsonville, GA 31745
912-524-2367

Patricia Fite

30 Phillips Road
Colquitt, GA 31723
912-758-3555

Teresa Smith

Route 3 Box 319
Donalsonville, GA 31745
912-524-8693

Darlene Buttgen

115 Perry Avenue
Blakely, GA 31723
912-723-4516

Gloria Henley

439 Cooktown Road
Colquitt, GA 31737
912-758-3995

Exhibit A

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, (Rueher Tabb), New Light, Patmos.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shirley Kimbrel; Chairman,
Edwina Drinkwater, Virginia Sheffield

Exhibit B

Midway District Women Active for Christ, Annual Treasurer's Report

	1997 - 1998	
Balance on hand	10-01-97	323.36
Deposits		<u>7,188.42</u>
Total		\$7,511.78
Annual Convention	69.16	
Workshop	63.35	
Local Auxiliary	<u>7,055.91</u>	
Total	\$7,188.42	
Disbursements:		
WNAC Designated Funds		6,874.41
Christine Daniel		30.00
Marie Glover		25.00
Midway Association Minutes Account		75.00
Total		<u>6,999.41</u>
Balance on hand	10-01-98	\$512.37

(Continued on next page)

Exhibit B Continued Treasurer's Report**Designated**

Dues for 89 members	934.50
Co-Laborer	504.00
Emphasis Month Offering	257.00
Memorial Student Loan Fund	36.00
Foreign Student Scholarship	55.00
National Office Building	120.00
State Project	1,151.91
1999 Atlanta Convention	1,205.00
WNAC TOTAL	4,263.41

Paul Kettermann Memorial Fund	25.00
Dot Harvey Loan Fund	221.00
Alabama Children's Home	220.00

Foreign Missions	
Laura Bell Barnard Offering	362.00
Debbie Griffin	615.00
Bishops	240.00
Snows	10.00
Carlisle Hanna	60.00
Westfield Pastors	24.00
New Life Children's Home (Combs)	110.00
Spanish Literature	60.00
	1,481.00

Home Missions	
Lizzie McAdams Offering	531.00
Paul Smith	10.00
	541.00

Missionary Kids	123.00
TOTAL	\$6,874.41

Church	Additions in 1997	Members 1998
Albany	1	17
Bellview		12
Blakely		7
Cedar Springs		9
Enterprise		8
Hammock Springs		10
Macedonia		6
New Light		12
Patmos		8
Totals	1	89

Exhibit C Registration Committee Report

Albany	7
Bellview	5
Blakely	2
Cedar Springs	4
Enterprise	5
Macedonia (Ruber Tabb)	3
New Light	11
Patmos	4
Hammock Springs	0
Subtotal	41
Visitors	7
Total	48

Respectfully submitted, Alice Martin, Martha Jenkins

Exhibit D Resolutions Committee Report

We, the Resolutions Committee, submit the following:

Since the 1999 WNAC and the National Association of Free Will Baptists will be hosted by GA in Atlanta, GA,

1. We encourage every Auxiliary to try to send one or more women to the National Meeting.
2. We encourage women in our Midway District to volunteer to serve in some capacity at the National Convention and will let Mrs. Doris Grant know what you would like to do,
3. Be it resolved that we give Darlene Buttgen, Nadine Blanton, and Helen Gilchrist a rising vote of thanks for a job well done in our district,
4. Be it resolved that we give New Light Free Will Baptist Church a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality.

Respectfully submitted, Edith Shiver, Betty Creech, Mildred Bowen,
Willie Clyde Henderson

Exhibit E**Finance Committee Report**

Balance on Hand as of 10-01-98	\$512.37
Offering (taken on 10-03-98)	139.00
	651.37
Disbursements	
For 1999 Convention	500.00
For Gloria Jenkins (Speaker on 10-03-98)	<u>50.00</u>
	550.00
	-550.00
Balance	101.37

We, the Finance Committee, move to pay \$500.00 into the 1999 Convention (Atlanta) account, and to give our speaker, Gloria Jenkins, \$50.00.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nadine Blanton, Chairman
Anne Maude Sowell
Paula Walker
Doris Grant

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

FOR THE
MIDWAY DISTRICT WOMEN OF GEORGIA ACTIVE FOR CHRIST CONVENTION

ARTICLE I

NAME:

The name of this organization shall be the Midway District Women of Georgia Active for Christ Convention.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE:

The Purpose of this organization shall be: (1) to assist various women of the Midway District of Free Will Baptists in providing opportunities for them to understand and fulfill their place in the Great Commission through their responsibilities in the family, the church, the community, and around the world, and (2) to bring women of each local church together for fellowship, for sharing information, and for encouraging one another.

ARTICLE III

OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Section 1: The officers and executive members must be in good standing of a church in the Midway Association of Free Will Baptists. She must be a member of a local WGAC. Each officer shall perform the duties set forth for her office in the present manual.

Section 2: The officers shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Field Worker, Study Chairman, Mission Chairman, Prayer Chairman, and Service Chairman. These shall constitute the Executive Committee, five (5) of who shall be a quorum for transacting business.

ARTICLE IV

MEMBERSHIP:

Section 1: This Convention shall be composed of the officers of the Convention together with the local Co-ordinators and five (5) delegates from each local group in the Midway District which has paid in full its membership fee as required by the Midway District WGAC Convention.

Section 2: Any eligible WGAC group wishing to become a member of the Midway District WGAC Convention shall present a petitionary letter signed by the officers of the local group, a report of work done and its proportionate part of dues to the secretary who shall present this to the Credentials Committee. The Convention shall vote upon the recommendation of the Credentials Committee.

ARTICLE V

MEETINGS:

Section 1 – The annual meeting shall be held each year on the first Saturday in October or at such time as may be determined by the Executive Committee.

Section 2 – A workshop shall be held each year on the first Saturday in March, or at such time as may be determined by the Executive Committee.

Section 3 – Other meetings may be held at the discretion of the Convention.

Section 4 – The Convention and Workshop shall convene with the WGAC groups in the Midway District according to alphabetical order. If a local group is unable to serve as host, the group must notify the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI

AMENDMENTS:

This Constitution may be amended at any annual meeting of the Convention by a 2/3 vote of the members present.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

Duties of Officers:

Section 1: President – The President shall preside over all meetings and serve as Chairman of the Executive Committee, appoint such committees as may be needed, call a meeting of the Executive Committee, when necessary, be an ex-officio member of all committees, (with the exception of the Nominating Committee), see that reports are made promptly by the Secretary and Treasurer to the State and perform all duties usually pertaining to such an office.

Section 2: Vice President – The Vice-President shall preside in the absence of the President, or by her request and otherwise assist her in the overall tasks in general. She shall serve as chairman of the Credentials Committee.

Section 3: Recording Secretary – The Recording Secretary shall keep an accurate record of all proceedings of the Convention and Executive Committee meetings, preserve all valuable papers and turn them over to her successor. She shall compile a list of the local WGAC officers immediately

after the Convention. She shall send a copy to each local Secretary, a copy to each District officer, and a copy to each Committee chairman. She shall send the proper report to the State Secretary. She is responsible for sending appropriate minutes to the Midway Association Clerk to be published in the Annual Association Minutes.

Section 4: Treasurer – The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds belonging to this Convention, and shall disburse monies only when authorized by the Convention. She shall keep an accurate account and shall give a written report of all funds received and disbursed at each Convention. She shall send an annual report to the District Association Clerk to be published with the minutes in the Midway Minutes. She shall end the per-member dues as designated by the State WGAC to the State Treasurer. The Treasurer shall encourage support of missions through the WNAC Gift Plan and support of the Dot Harvey Loan Fund. She serves as Chairman of the Finance Committee. She shall secure a report of the Dot Harvey Loan Fund as well as a report of the State Project and report this information to the District.

Section 5: Field Worker – The Field Worker shall have charge of all Field work pertaining to or necessary for the promotion of the work of the District. She should visit each local WGAC and help in any way she can.

Section 6: Study Chairman – The Study Chairman shall work with the local WGAC groups' Study Chairmen through personal contact or correspondence. She shall recommend books for study in the local groups, and may even teach some study courses in the local groups. She shall plan, along with the Executive Committee, the District Workshop and be in charge of its activities. She shall encourage local Study Chairmen to have the following:

- 1) two (2) Mission studies a year
- 2) one (1) Christian living study a year
- 3) one (1) Prayer Study
- 4) Studies to prepare women for special ministries
- 5) A study of the WNAC Manual when needed

She shall be responsible for training local officers for their duties and leadership responsibilities.

Section 7: Prayer Chairman – The Prayer Chairman shall encourage Prayer Chairmen of local groups to promote family altar, special Seasons of Prayer, Prayer Retreats, and Prayer fellowships. She shall offer periodic suggestions for prayer requests.

Section 8: Service Chairman – The Service Chairman shall promote projects in the District for service to Missionaries, community needs, ministering to sick, aged, retired ministers, or the promotion of other Christian organizations.

Section 9: Mission Chairman – The Mission Chairman shall encourage the local WGAC groups to give through the WNAC Gift Plan, to the Provision Closet, to the Dot Harvey Loan Fund, and the State Project. She is to

encourage Mission Chairmen in local groups to learn missionaries' names, send needed gifts, get acquainted with Missionary Kids and find out their needs. She shall encourage locals to present a special program during WNAC Emphasis Month in August and send an offering to WNAC.

ARTICLE II

ELECTIONS:

The general offices and four (4) chairman of the Executive Committee shall be nominated by a Nominating Committee and elected every two (2) years by acclamation, unless there are other nominations. In the event of more than one nominee for any office, a vote will be taken on each one. All elections shall be held at the closing business session of the Annual Convention. Election of officers will be held on all uneven years.

ARTICLE III

EXPENSES:

The Treasurer's expenses, such as postage, stationary, telephone calls, may be appropriated by each local WGAC sending in \$1.00 a month. The Convention may decide when this fee needs to be increased. Other appropriations may be decided upon by the Convention.

ARTICLE IV

COMMITTEES:

Section 1: Executive Committee – The Executive Committee shall hold annual meetings for the transaction of needed business and to prepare the program for the annual Convention. It shall maintain an over-all view of the work at large, having authority to call extra meetings of the Committee when necessary, and act for the Convention concerning any matter. It shall also fill vacancies occurring between elections.

Section 2: Resolution Committee – The Resolution Committee, consisting of five (5) members, shall be appointed by the President. This committee shall serve for two (2) years.

Section 3: The Nominating Committee shall be composed of five (5) members who are delegates. They shall be nominated from the floor and elected by the body at its annual meeting on even years to serve for two years. They shall present a slate of officers for the body to vote on at the annual Convention on the uneven years.

Section 4: Credentials Committee – The Vice President shall be Chairman of the Credentials Committee. Two (2) other members may be appointed by the President. This Committee shall examine the reports of the

local WGAC groups to determine if fees are paid and if reports are in order. New local groups of WGAC that have been organized since the last Convention are examined by this Committee and voted upon. This Committee shall serve for two (2) years.

Section 5: Finance Committee – The Finance Committee is composed of the Treasurer and four (4) members appointed by the President. It is their duty to audit the financial records for the year and report on same to the Convention. They make recommendations to the body.

Section 6: Registration Committee – The Registration Committee consists of three (3) members who are appointed by the President. This Committee's responsibility is to register those in attendance. This Committee serves for one (1) year.

ARTICLE V

FEES AND REPORTS:

Section 1: Membership fee per member of this Convention shall be set in accordance with the State and National fees.

Section 2: The Minutes of the previous Convention shall be read as information at the beginning of the business session.

ARTICLE VI

GIFTS:

The desired financial programs for WGAC local groups are Mission Offerings following each special Season of Prayer, Co-Laborer Offerings, State WGAC projects, and annual gifts to WNAC general fund, the Dot Harvey Loan Fund, and other gifts designated by the Convention.

ARTICLE VII

These By-Laws may be amended at any Annual Meeting of the Convention by a 2/3 vote of members present.

Constitution and By-Laws

of the
Midway Association District Sunday School Convention

The Sunday Schools of the Midway Association of GA 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

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 of Original Free Will Baptist of the State of Georgia

Preamble

We, the Midway District Association of Original Freewill Baptist of the State of GA, 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 GA.

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.

BY-LAWS of the Midway District Association of Original Free Will 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 fifty (50) cents per quarterly session and seventy-five (75) 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:
- To supervise any and all mission's programs of this association and to coordinate their efforts with our state and national agencies.
 - 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.
 - 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:
- To examine all applicants for ordination to the ministry and all previously ordained ministers seeking membership in our association.
 - 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.
- 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.

Statistical Information

Midway Association of Free Will Baptists

Church Characteristics

Location city/town or rural	5 City 10 Rural Churches
Is your pastor full-time or part-time	11 Full-time 4 Part-time Pastors

Membership Information

Total Number of Baptisms	39
Total Members Added	74
Total Members Lost	52
Total Membership	1362

Stewardship Information

Budget	9-Budgets 6-No Budget
Receipts	\$ 784,175.13

Building Information

Parsonage	8 Parsonages
Total Value Property (Including Parsonage)	\$ 3,851,416.00

General Information

Total Number of Ordained Ministers	20
Total Number of Licensed Ministers	0
Total Number of Ordained Deacons	70

Does your church have a Sunday School	15 Sunday School
Does your church have a Church Training Service	10 CTS
Does your church have Woman's Auxiliary	10 Woman's Aux.
Does your church have Master's Men	2 Master's Men

Information by Church

Church	Baptisms	Added	Lost	Membership	Property Value	Ministers	Deacons
BelView	3	4	6	117	575,000.00	1	6
Berean	7	0	4	35	103,500.00	1	1
Cedar Springs	2	4	6	114	400,000.00	1	5
Damascus	0	0	0	18	30,000.00	0	0
Enterprise	0	0	0	23	35,000.00	2	1
First, Albany	11	43	12	450	1,737,916.00	5	26
First, Bainbridge	0	1	0	30	0	0	0
First, Blakely	2	0	7	81	385,000.00	3	3
Hammock Springs	0	6	0	57	0	1	4
Macedonia	1	3	3	60	0	1	5
New Enterprise	0	0	1	35	60,000.00	1	5
New Light	8	6	6	147	275,000.00	2	5
Patmos	0	0	2	57	250,000.00	1	6
Travelers Rest	4	5	4	96	0	1	2
White Plains	1	2	1	42	0	0	1
Totals	39	74	52	1362	\$3,851,416.00	20	70

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Jesus Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant.

We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to provide things honest in the sight of all men.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship, and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society; constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world.

And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.