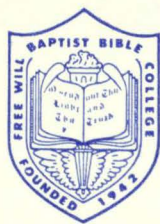


**THE
MISSION ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

1949

**Proceedings of The
FIRST ANNUAL SESSION**

**CONVENED AT
MOUNTAIN GROVE CHURCH**



FREE WILL BAPTIST
BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

Rev. Glen Lewis

MINUTES

FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

OF

MISSION ASSOCIATION

OF

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Held With The

Mountain Grove Church, Mountain Grove, Missouri beginning on Thursday morning, August 11, 1949.

Officers

Moderator.....	Rev. G. W. Scott Jr.
Ass't. Moderator.....	Rev. A. W. Brooks
Clerk-Treasurer.....	Rev. Homer Smith
Ass't. Clerk.....	Lloyd Walls

Executive Board

Rev. Fred Wynn.....	1954
Rev. Homer Smith.....	1953
Rev. Howard Barr.....	1952
Dea. John Hickman.....	1951
Dea. Burl Halliburton.....	1950

The next session of this Association will be held with the Wolf Creek Church, south of Hartville, beginning on Thursday, 9:00 o'clock a. m. before the 2nd Sunday in August, 1950.

Rev. Guy Hutsell to bring the Associational message, with Rev. G. W. Scott, alternate.

ORGANIZATION

The meeting for the organization of the Mission Association of Free Will Baptists was held at the Mtn. Valley Church, December 14, 1948.

Opened by singing

Prayer by Rev. Fred Wynn

Purpose of meeting explained (see Preamble and Article No. 2 of Constitution)

Temporary officers elected

Moderator.....Rev. O. T. Allred

Ass't. Moderator.....Rev. F. C. Zinn

Clerk.....Rev. Harry Beatty

Moderator appointed committees

Divine—Burl Halliburton, W. K. Nickle, Riley Hutsell.

Credential and Resolutions—G. W. Scott, Neal Moore,

A. W. Brook, H. B. Smith, John S. Hickman.

Registration for membership: 19 ministers, 23 deacons, six church clerks, nine ministers' wives, 25 church delegates.

Dismissed by prayer

11:00 O'clock

Divine services opened by singing

Prayer by Rev. Floyd Roberts

Sermon by Rev. Henry Long

Dismissed for noon with prayer by Rev. Ezra Butts

1:30 O'clock

Opened by singing

Prayer by Bro. Amos Fagan.

Moderator called for committee reports

The Credential and Resolutions Committee reported as follows:

We, your Committee, submit the following report.

Item 1. We find that the following named Churches have voted, while in conference, to withdraw from Union Association and form a new Association, for the purpose, herein stated in the Constitution, and pray that the Union Association grant letters of dismissal to the following

Churches: Number One, Mtn. Valley, Pleasant Home No. 1, Mountain Grove, Happy Ridge, Wolf Creek, Pleasant Hill, Faith and Hope, Mtn. Zion No. 2, New Home, Pleasant Grove.

Item 2. Be it resolved that the elected and standing delegates from the above named Churches, and also the Hartville Free Will Baptist Church, be organized into a permanent organization to be known as Mission Association of Free Will Baptists.

Item 3. Be it resolved that this Association endorse the original ordination Certificates and that each minister coming into this Association, as a Charter Member, be granted a Yearly Certificate.

Item 4. Be it resolved that the Ministers and Churches of this Association meet on Thursday at 9:00 a.m. before the 2nd Sunday in February, 1949, for the purpose of organizing a Quarterly Meeting, and that all Churches belonging to this Association elect delegates to meet on above date with the Mtn. Grove Church.

Item 5. Be it resolved that this Association ask the members present on the Executive Board of the Missouri State Association, to receive this body into the Missouri State Association.

Committee	{	G. W. Scott
		A. W. Brooks
		John S. Hickman
		Neal Moore
		H. B. Smith

Motion carried to adopt Item 1

Motion carried to adopt Item 2

Motion carried to adopt Item 3

Motion carried to adopt Item 4

Motion carried to adopt Item 5

Motion carried to approve petitionary letter to the State Association.

Motion carried to adopt the Constitution presented by the Committee.

Motion carried to adopt the By-Laws presented by the Committee.

Officers Elected as Follows:

Moderator.....G. W. Scott Jr.

Ass't. Moderator.....A. W. Brooks
 Clerk-Treasurer.....B. R. Scott
 Executive Board: Fred Wynn—5 years; H. B. Smith—
 4 years; H. G. Barr—3 years; John S. Hickman—2 years;
 Burl Halliburton—1 year.
 Associational message.....Rev. Lester Lawler
 Alternate.....Rev. Fred Wynn
 Ordaining Council Appointed.

Motion carried to accept the invitation from the Mtn.
 Grove Church for the first session of Mission Association.

Offering—\$82.77

Presbytery proceeded to ordain Jess Young as deacon
 in the Pleasant Hill Church.

Fellowship hand shake.

Prayer by Rev. Mark Lewis.

PROCEEDINGS

The Mission Association of Free Will Baptists convened with the Mountain Grove Church in its First Session Thursday morning, August 11, 1949.

Tuesday, 9:00 A. M.

Meeting was called to order by Moderator, Rev. G. W. Scott.

Singing led by Burl Halliburton.

Hymn, "Send the Light."

Prayer by Rev. Floyd Roberts.

Hymn, "Stepping in the Light."

The Clerk being absent, Rev. H. B. Smith was elected Clerk-Treasurer, and Lloyd Walls was elected Assistant Clerk-Treasurer.

Hymn, "Love Lifted Me."

Moderator read a portion of the 9th chapter of Luke's Gospel. After appropriate remarks by the Moderator, a call for registration of standing delegates was made. Standing delegates seated.

A welcome of registration of visiting ministers, deacons, and their wives was given at this time, giving them all the rights and privileges of the Association except that of voting.

A Committee on Credentials was appointed by the Moderator as follows: Deacons John Hickman, W. D. Robinson and Oscar Yeager. Call for Church letters to be turned to this committee.

Call for the reading of previous minutes. Minutes read by the Clerk, and approved.

Call for reading of financial report. Report read and received.

Call for reading of the Constitution and By-Laws. Constitution read by the Clerk. By-Laws read by the Assistant Clerk.

Hymn, "When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder," sung by congregation.

Call for report of Credentials Committee.

The Committee reported favorable on the following Churches: Pleasant Hill, Mountain Grove, Pleasant Grove, Mt. Zion No. 2, Faith and Hope, Wolf Creek, Pleasant Home No. 1, Mountain Valley, Pleasant Ridge, Hartville.

Motion carried that report be received.

Motion carried that petitionary letter from Mt. Pis-

gah Church be received and that this Church be welcomed into this Association. Delegates were given the right hand of fellowship and seated in the Conference.

The presence of the "Holy Spirit of God" was graciously felt in this service.

Adjourned for the 11:00 o'clock Divine Service with prayer led by Rev. Archie Hogue.

11:00 O'clock Worship Hour

Singing led by Agnes Smith.

Hymns, "Revive Us Again" and "Whosoever Meaneth Me."

Prayer led by Bro. T. F. England.

Hymn, "I am Thine O Lord."

Scripture lesson, second chapter of First Corinthians, read by Eld. Lester Lawler. Bro. Lawler brought a very able and fitting message based on the 10th verse of the Scripture read. Text—"The Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." Many timely thoughts for Christian people were brought to our minds in this message.

Hymn, "Amazing Grace," sung by congregation.

Prayer by Eld. G. W. Scott Sr.

Thursday Afternoon, 1:30 P. M.

Singing led by Burl Halliburton.

Hymns, "Blessed Assurance" and "Beautiful Garden of Prayer."

Scripture: Psalms 96.

Prayer led by Eld. Willie Atherton.

Committees previously appointed were given their charge at this time.

Business Committee—Floyd Roberts, Leonard Keys, A. A. Hogue, Amos Fagan, Herbert Vandevort.

Divine Service Committee—G. W. Scott, Lewis Moody, Austa Reaves.

Temperance Committee—Rolla Smith, Chas. Franklin, H. G. Barr.

Sunday School Committee—Letha Franklin, Bessie Vandervort, Verba Smith.

Obituary Committee—Pearl Barr, Mildred Butts, Iva Brook.

League Committee—Burl Halliburton, Ezra Butts, Lee Maxwell.

Observance of Sabbath Committee—Willie Atherton, Raymond Smith, Floyd Walls.

Call for Ministers written reports.

Request granted the Mountain Grove Church that this Association extend an invitation to the State Association to meet with them in its 1950 session.

Request granted that this Association give Rev. Ben R. Scott a Letter of Dismission from this body, recommending him as a Minister in regular standing.

Request granted that this body send Rev. Neal Moore a letter of recommendation as an evangelist, as he is now doing evangelistic work in California.

Motion carried that the Clerk have 500 Minutes printed.

Offering taken at this time amounting to \$25.71.

Request granted the Mountain Grove Church to examine Rolla D. Smith for ordination. The Presbytery proceeded to examine and ordain Bro. Smith. Rev. Leonard Keys was appointed chairman, Rev. Lee Maxwell led the ordination prayer, and Rev. Homer Smith gave the charge.

Dismissed until 7:30 o'clock Divine Services with prayer by Rev. Henry Long.

Thursday Night, 7:30 P. M.

Singing led by Burl Halliburton.

Hymns, "Brethren, We Have Met to Worship" and "The Light of the World Is Jesus."

Prayer by Rev. Amos Fagan.

Hymn, "Bringing In the Sheaves."

Offering taken—amount \$19.55.

Praise service led by Rev. George Scott.

Hymn, "The Lilly of the Valley."

Special numbers by Rock Springs quartet, "In the Courts of Glory" and "No Hiding from Jesus."

Solo by Gene Collins, "It Pays to Serve Jesus."

Rev. O. T. Allred was introduced as a guest speaker. Scripture lesson read from the 6th chapter of I Timothy.

Prayer led by Rev. A. W. Brook and continued by Bro. Allred.

An inspiring and timely message was rendered. Subject text: "Fight the good fight of faith," I Tim. 6:12.

Services concluded by Moderator.

Benediction by Bro. Emmit Freeman.

Friday Morning, 9:00 A. M.

Service opened by singing.

Hymns, "There is Power in the Blood" and "Make

Me A Channel of Blessing."

Moderator read Scripture from 1st chapter of Psalms.

Prayer led by Rev. Guy Hutsell.

Call for Committee reports.

Credential Committee reported petitionary letter from Union (Gladden) Church.

Motion carried to receive the Church into full fellowship and the delegates were seated in council.

Motion carried that this Association instruct the Clerk to send \$40.00 to the State entertainment fund; \$15.00 of this amount coming from the Quarterly Meeting fund. Individual Churches were instructed to send their offerings directly to the State.

Call for Committee reports.

Reports given on: "Observance of the Sabbath," "Sunday School," and "League."

Helpful talks were given on each of these reports as they were submitted and the committees commended.

Motion carried to receive each report.

Adjourned for 11:00 o'clock worship.

Prayer led by Rev. Leonard Keys.

11:00 O'clock Worship Hour

Singing led by Burl Halliburton.

Hymns, "Wonderful Words of Life" and "Are You Washed in the Blood?"

Prayer by Bro. Lewis Moody.

Hymn, "Blessed Assurance."

Moderator presented Rev. Fred Wynn to bring the message. Bro. Wynn read for a Scripture lesson, a portion of the 4th chapter of I Peter. Sermon theme: "Doing the Will of God."

Prayer by the Moderator.

Friday Afternoon

Songs, "What A Friend We Have in Jesus" and "I Must Tell Jesus."

Prayer by Rev. Stanley Letterman.

Song, "His Way With You."

Call for Committee reports.

Motion carried to adopt report of Business Committee

Motion carried to adopt report of Temperance Committee.

Motion carried to adopt report of Obituary Committee.

Committees were commended and released.

Call for requests.

Wolf Creek Church requested the next session. Request granted.

Corresponding delegates were elected as follows:

To Missouri Association of General Baptists—G. W. Scott and Chas. Franklin.

To Little Vine Association of General Baptists—Rev. and Sis. A. A. Hogue.

To Cave Springs Association—Bro. and Sis. Lewis Moody.

To Liberty Association—Amos Fagan and Leonard Keys.

To Indian Creek Association—H. B. Smith and A. W. Brook.

To Missouri State Association—Ona Mitchell, Oscar Leighty, Lawrence Ballard, Linda Vandevort.

Officers for coming year elected as follows:

Rev. Homer Smith.....Moderator

Rev. Fred Wynn.....Ass't. Moderator

Lloyd Walls.....Clerk-Treasurer

Rev. Guy Hutsell.....To bring the Associational message

Rev. G. W. Scott.....Alternate

Vote of thanks given Mountain Grove Church for entertaining the Association.

Closing prayer by Rev. Raymond Smith.

Adjourned to meet with Wolf Creek Church, near Mansfield, on Thursday, 9:00 o'clock a. m., before the 2nd Sunday in August, 1950.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Observance of the Sabbath:

We, your Committee, recommend that we observe the Sabbath in that we are taught in God's Word to remember the Sabbath Day to keep it Holy and abstain from all appearance of evil. I Thes. 5:22.

That we forget not the assembling of ourselves together on this day to worship God.

Committee	{	W. L. Atherton
		Floyd Walls
		Raymond Smith

Sunday School:

We, your Committee on Sunday School, recommend the use of King James Version of the Bible, and urge

that all Schools use the F. W. B. literature. It is imperative that all teachers and officers be Christians.

We do earnestly beg that all children be "taken" rather than "sent" to Sunday School.

We ask the full co-operation of every Pastor and Minister in the furtherance of the Sunday School work.

Committee	{	Letha Franklin
	{	Bessie Vandevort
	{	Verba Smith

League:

We, your Committee on League, beg to submit the following report:

After carefully considering the importance of League work in the Church, we urge that all Pastors encourage and assist in every way possible in organizing and maintaining a League in every Church.

Committee	{	Burl Halliburton
	{	Lee Maxwell
	{	Ezra Butts

Business:

We, your Business Committee, wish to submit the following:

Whereas, it has not yet been definitely stated as to when the Associational Year of Mission Association should begin;

It is the opinion of the Business Committee that a set time is feasible for the best interest of the work.

We recommend that we adopt the 1st Sunday in August as the beginning of the Associational year.

Committee	{	Floyd Roberts
	{	Leonard Keys
	{	Herbert Vandevort
	{	A. A. Hogue

Temperance:

We, your Committee on Temperance, submit the following recommendations:

1. That we as a body of Free Will Baptists abstain from the use of intoxicating beverages in any form.

2. That we do not patronize firms which sell liquor or intoxicating beverages in any form.

3. That all Ministers, parents and Sunday School teachers make every effort possible to keep our youth away from the influence of drink.

4. That we be temperate in all things and total abstainers from all evil things.

Committee

{ Rolla Smith
 { Chas. Franklin
 { H. G. Barr

Obituary:

We, your Committee on Obituary, submit the following report: Whereas it has pleased our Heavenly Father to call from labor to reward, since our last Association, the following named Brethren and Sisters, to-wit:

Bro. Huse Moore—Mtn. Valley Church,
 Sis. Melda Hickman—Pleasant Hill Church,
 Sis. Laura Denton—No. 1 Church,
 Sis. Christana Butts—No. 1 Church,
 Dea. Wm. Nickle—Hartville Church,
 Sis. Maggie Wood—Pleasant Grove Church;

While they are greatly missed in our Churches and in our homes, we submit our will to our Heavenly Father, who doeth all things well.

Committee

{ Pearl Barr
 { Mildred Butts
 { Iva Brook

MINISTERS AND WIVES PRESENT

Lester Lawler	— — — — —	Hartville
Amos Fagan	— — — — —	Mansfield
Lee Maxwell	— — — — —	Huggins
A. W. Brooks,	Iva Brooks.....	Mtn. Grove, R. 3
Floyd Roberts	— — — — —	Cabool
Ezra Butts,	Mildred Butts.....	Huggins
W. L. Atherton,	Rosa Atherton.....	Huggins
Herbert Vandevort,	Bessie Vandevort.....	Cabool, R. 3
Leonard Keys,	Bessie Keys.....	Mansfield
G. W. Scott Sr.,	Maud Scott.....	Mtn. Grove
G. W. Scott Jr.,	Oma Scott.....	Mtn. Grove
A. A. Hogue,	Bessie Hogue.....	Cabool
H. G. Barr,	Pearl Barr.....	Cabool
Raymond Smith,	Ermal Smith.....	Huggins
J. B. Easter,	Julia Easter.....	Mtn. Grove
Rolla Smith,	Agnes Smith.....	Mtn. Grove
Ben R. Scott,	Genell Scott.....	4238 Swan, St. Louis
Stanley Letterman	Martha Letterman.....	Huggins
H. B. Smith,	Verba Smith.....	Mtn. Grove

Guy Hutsell,
Fred Wynn,

Leona Hutsell.....Mtn. Grove
Gladys Wynn.....Mtn. Grove

DEACONS PRESENT

Mont Huff
Burl Halliburton
Oscar Yeager
Lewis Moody
Riley Hutsell
Charley Franklin
W. T. Wynn

Clifford Mole
W. D. Robinson
Austa Reeves
John S. Hickman
Rolla Ballard
Lee Stilly
Floyd Walls

DELEGATES PRESENT

Ottie Draper
Viola Draper
Sadie Ellington
Reta Moody
Mahala Smith
Lula McCoy
Lula Hutsell
Gertrude Elliott
Effie Savage
Maud Brown
Margaret Yocum
Maxine Eden
Garlen Garner

Earn Williams
Margaret Walls
Carla Marie Adom
Marie Maxwell
Pearl Reed
Harold Price
Martha Price
Verla Bittick
Ralph Black
Wayne Hunter
Janet Kelsay
Della Findley
Sybel Garner

CHURCH CLERKS

Lloyd Walls
Amy Emerson
Mary Bittick
Dorothy Milsap
Pansy Lee Garner
Ermal Smith
Letha Franklin
Gillie Reeves
Ruth Hickman
Nola Williams
Martha Coffman
Nolan Neal
Ivy McCoy

Mt. Pisgah
Pleasant Grove
Pleasant Home
Wolf Creek
Mt. Zion No. 2
No. 1
Mtn. Valley
Faith & Hope
Pleasant Hill
Hartville
Mtn. Grove
Union
Pleasant Ridge

Cabool
Hartville
Cabool
Mansfield
Hartville
Huggins
Mtn. Grove
Willow Springs
Hartville
Hartville
Mtn. Grove
Success
Embree

VISITORS

Rev. Henry Long	Lola Long
Rev. O. T. Allred	
Dea. T. F. England	Lena England
Dea. J. T. Robertson	Lula Robertson
W. M. Green	Pearl Green

CHURCH REPORT

Name of Church	Church Sunday	Budget Money	Membership	Members Re'ed.	Members Dismissed	Members Died	Paid Pastor	Paid Evangelist
Mt. Pisgah	1-3	\$2.00	53	1			\$235.18	\$ 83.00
Pleasant Grove	2-4	1.50	48	2	3	1	137.46	41.06
Pleasant Home	3	1.50	37	3	1		65.64	154.67
Wolf Creek	1-3	5.00	55	18				
Mt. Zion No. 2	1-3	2.00	59	8	3			101.55
Number One	F t	2.00						
Mtn. Valley	F t	5.00	118	10	8	1		
Faith & Hope	F t	2.00	67	7	9		591.25	230.00
Pleasant Hill	1	2.00	153	6	6	1		
Hartville	4	5.00	40	11		1	220.00	175.00
Mtn. Grove	F t	5.00	166	11	13		1715.00	333.06
Union	1-3						240.00	130.00
Pleasant Ridge	2	2.00	37		4		95.00	

TREASURER'S REPORT

Forward	\$ 20.73
Offerings	47.09
Rec'd. from Quarterly Meeting.....	15.00
Budget Money.....	35.00
Total	\$117.82

MINISTER'S REPORT

Received	Miles Traveled	Baptized	Rec'd into Church	Professions	Sermons	Churches Pastored	Revivals	Funerals	Name
Herbert Vandevort	1	3	2	96	9	5	5	2,978	\$ 264.00
Lester Lawler	5	2	2	97	12	12	9	1,316	473.60
W. L. Atherton		1	1	43				880	37.85
G. W. Scott	31	2	1	156	22	11	3		1,715.00
Raym'd. Smith		1	1	38				650	125.00
Rolla D. Smith		2		52	13			5,713	498.61
Amos Fagan				49	42			1,766	73.15
Leonard Keys	1	6	3	134	35	10	10	4,270	402.04
H. G. Barr	1			9			1		6.10
Lee Maxwell		2	1	105	9	2	3	1,006	640.00
Guy Hutsell		2		80	5		3	3,871	314.00
A. W. Brook	3	3	2	100	14	4	6		321.27
Archie Hogue	2	2		42	8		2	2,747	66.50
Ezra Butts	4	2	1	65	40	19	19		335.02
H. B. Smith	7	4	3	108	14	14	8		991.00

CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE—From experience, we the Free Will Baptist Churches, in order to form a more perfect union and that we may affiliate ourselves with other Free Will Baptist Bodies, have come together and organized into an Association.

1. This association shall be called Mission Association of Free Will Baptists and shall be composed of such well regulated Quarterly Meetings and Churches as may embody themselves under this constitution.

2. It shall be the purpose of this organization to co-

operate with the Missouri State and National Associations in their efforts to combine and direct the energies of the Free Will Baptist Church, for the promotion of Home and Foreign Missions, Christian Education, Sunday School, Free Will Baptist League, and Ladies Auxiliary, and for the extension of the kingdom of God in general.

3. The acting members of this association shall be two delegates from each church, chosen by the members while in conference, together with all ministers, ministers wives, deacons, and church and Associational clerks belonging to any church composing this body; also three members from each Quarterly Meeting under the Association, two to be chosen by each Quarterly Meeting, and the other shall be the Clerk of the Quarterly Meeting. shall be the Clerk of the Quarterly Meeting.

4. The officers of this association shall consist of a Moderator, an Assistant Moderator, a Clerk and Treasurer, (who shall superintend the printing of the minutes) each of whom shall be elected at the closing of each regular session and shall hold their offices until their successors are elected. The Clerk shall receive Ten (\$10.00) for his or her service.

5. An Executive Board composed of five members, consisting of three ministers and two deacons, whose duty shall be to transact the business of this Association when this Body is not in session, whose term of office shall be as follows: One for 1 year, one for 2 years, one for 3 years, one for 4 years, and one for 5 years, and at the expiration of each of these terms one shall be elected for a term of 5 years, who shall hold office until his successor is elected, further; if any vacancies occur between sessions of this Association the Board shall fill such vacancy or vacancies until the next session of this Association.

6. Any regularly organized Free Will Baptist Church or Quarterly Meeting, maintaining Gospel order, agreeing with the denomination in doctrine, in favor of benevolent enterprises, such as Sunday Schools, Missions, Temperance and Education, may be received into this association by presenting a petition asking to be received, and by a majority vote of the Association.

7. This Association shall have power to discipline its churches, exclude them for disorderly conduct, if labor

proves unsuccessful, ordain deacons, to license or ordain ministers, such as give evidence of being qualified and called of God, by request of the church to which such members belong; to settle questions of discipline and doctrine as the Churches or Quarterly Meetings may refer to it; to make any rules and by-laws necessary to its regulations and not inconsistent with its constitution, but in no case shall this Association reverse a decision of one of its churches or Quarterly Meetings, nor in any way interfere with its internal regulations, nor hold any ecclesiastical authority over the Churches or Quarterly Meetings composing the Association.

8. Each session of this Association shall convene annually beginning on Thursday at 9:00 a. m. before the 2nd Sunday in August and adjourn at 4:00 p. m. on Friday, and shall be held with only such churches as call for it by vote of the church while in conference, and this shall be decided by a majority of all votes cast.

9. The Moderator or Assistant Moderator shall call the Association in session, and in their absence the chairman of the Executive Board shall take charge, and in his absence any member of the Executive Board shall take charge until a Moderator is elected.

10. This Constitution may be amended or changed at any regular session of this body, by a two-thirds vote, after notice of contemplated change has been read and placed on the table one day previous to the time the vote is taken.

BY-LAWS

1. All business meetings shall be opened by singing, reading a portion of God's word and prayer, and shall be closed with prayer.

2. Seven members from three or more churches shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

3. Any ruling of the Moderator may be over-ruled by a majority vote of the members present.

4. This Association may correspond by messenger or otherwise with other religious bodies.

5. This Association shall sit with open doors except when it shall go into committee as a whole.

6. Any member of this body may appeal from the decision of the Moderator to the Association, and by a majority vote thereon, the objection shall be sustained or rejected.

7. The Moderator shall stop all discussion when not carried on in a Christian spirit.

8. No member of this Association shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes nor more than twice on the same subject without permission of the Moderator.

9. Anyone desiring to speak shall rise to his feet and address the Moderator by the appellation, "Brother Moderator," but shall not speak further until recognized by the Moderator.

10. All business, except routine, shall be brought before the body by committees, but should any committee refuse or fail to present to this body any business given to it by any member of this Association, then such business may be presented to the body by any member, but cannot be discussed by a vote of this body.

11. All officers of this Association shall be nominated from the floor and elected by a vote.

12. All committees shall be appointed by the Moderator, but any appointment may be changed by a majority vote of this body.

13. A majority of all votes cast shall be final upon all subjects except the Constitution and By-Laws, then it shall require a two-thirds majority.

14. Churches of the Mission Association shall not call a pastor who does not have a yearly certificate.

15. Each minister in good standing shall be given a yearly certificate.

16. These By-Laws may be amended or changed at any regular or adjourned session of this Association by a vote of the Association.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. THE BIBLE—The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. GOD—There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Gov-

error of the universe; and in the Scriptures as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore, and obey.

3. CHRIST—Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified, He is now risen and glorified, and is our ever present Saviour and Lord.

4. THE HOLY SPIRIT—The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God.

5. THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD—God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of men requires.

6. THE SINFULNESS OF MAN—Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherit a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability sin, and become guilty before God.

7. THE WORK OF CHRIST—The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

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

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

10. FREEDOM OF THE WILL—The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.

11. SALVATION FREE—God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with

all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.

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

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

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

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

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

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

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

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

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in

reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and 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.

