

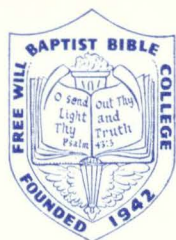
THE
MISSION ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

1950

Proceedings Of The
SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

CONVENED AT
WOLF CREEK CHURCH

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM—MONETT, MO.



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented by

Rev. John H. West

MINUTES
SECOND ANNUAL SESSION
OF
MISSION ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Held With The

Wolf Creek Church, near Mansfield, Missouri beginning
on Thursday morning, August 10, 1950.

OFFICERS

Moderator.....	Rev. H. B. Smith
Ass't. Moderator.....	Rev. Fred Wynn
Clerk-Treasurer.....	Lloyd Walls
Ass't. Clerk.....	Mary Haliburton

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dea. Burl Haliburton.....	1955
Rev. Fred Wynn.....	1954
Rev. Homer Smith.....	1953
Rev. Howard Barr.....	1952
Dea. John Hickman.....	1951

The next session of this Association will be held with the Faith and Hope Church, east of Cabool, beginning on Thursday, 9:00 o'clock a.m. before the second Sunday in August, 1951.

Rev. Otho Means to bring the Associational message, with Rev. Amos Fagan, alternate.

PROCEEDINGS

The Mission Association of Free Will Baptists convened with the Wolf Creek Church in it's Second Session, Thursday morning, August 10, 1950.

Thursday, 9:00 A.M.

Meeting was called to order by Moderator, Rev. H. B. Smith.

Singing led by Rev. A. A. Hogue.

Hymn, "I'll Live in Glory."

Moderator read Isaiah, 55th chapter for Scripture reading.

Prayer by Rev. Ezra Butts.

Mary Haliburton was appointed Assistant Clerk.

Call for registration of standing delegates was made. Standing delegates were seated.

A Committee on Credentials was appointed by the Moderator as follows: Deacon Oscar Yeager, Rev. Ezra Butts and Rev. Guy Hatsell. Call for church letters to be turned to this committee.

Corresponding letter from the Liberty Association was read. Motion carried to accept letter and seat delegates.

Call for the reading of the last minutes. Minutes read and approved.

Hymns, "Blessed Assurance," and "Lord Send Me."

Singing led by Rev. Johnnie Postlewaite.

Pulpit Committee appointed as follows: Rev. Ray Letsinger, Deacons Ed Fagan and Chas. Franklin.

Call for report of Credentials Committee.

The committee reported favorable on the following churches: Wolf Creek, Mt. Pisgah, Mtn. Valley, Pleasant Home No. 1, Mtn. Grove, Faith and Hope, Union, Number One, New Home, Mt. Zion No. 2, Union Chapel, and Pleasant Hill.

Motion carried that report be received.

Call for registration of delegates.

Motion carried for the Business Committee to form an outline of routine business to be printed in minutes.

Call for second report of Credentials Committee.

The committee reported favorable on the following churches: Dutch Chapel, Pleasant Grove, Hartville and Happy Ridge No. 1.

Motion carried that report be received.

Call for registration of delegates.

Delegates were given the right hand of fellowship and seated in conference.

Adjourned for the 11:00 Divine Service with prayer led by Rev. Ray Letsinger.

11:00 O'Clock Worship Hour

Singing led by Rev. Johnnie Postlewaite. Hymns, "His Way with Thee," and "Standing On the Promises."
Prayer by Rev. Lester Lawler.

Scripture lesson, first four verses of third chapter of Colossians read by Rev. Guy Hutsell. Rev. Hutsell brought a very good and helpful message using as a text, "Be ye faithful until death and I will give you a crown of life."

Hymn, "Amazing Grace," sung by the congregation.
Stood adjourned until 1:30 o'clock.

Thursday Afternoon, 1:30 P. M.

Singing led by Rev. A. A. Hogue. Hymns, "There's An Eye Watching You," and "When the Saints Go Marching In."

Scripture reading, St. John 10, by Ass't. Moderator.

Prayer by Sister Vesta Crewse.

Hymn, "Some Glad Day."

Call for report of Credentials Committee. Committee reported one petitionary letter.

Petitionary letter from the Rock Springs Church read.

Motion carried that petitionary letter from the Rock Springs church be received and that this church be welcomed into this association. Delegates were given the right hand of fellowship and seated in conference.

Committees appointed as follows:

Business Committee—Geo. W. Scott, John S. Hickman, Lee Maxwell and A. W. Brook.

Temperance Committee—A. A. Hogue, Charley Skinner, Ernest Maxwell and John Bates.

Sunday School Committee—Lea May Postlewaite, Mildred Butts and Bessie Hogue.

Obituary Committee—Ruth Hickman, Dorothy Mill-sap and Bessie Keys.

League Committee—Johnnie Postlewaite, Amos Fagan and Leanord Keys.

Observance of Sabbath Committee—Everett Kelsey, Vencie Long, Ed Fagan and Jim Coffman.

Call for report of Business Committee. Committee report as follows:

Resolution No. 1—We your Business Committee having been informed by Rev. Otho Means, that he has lost his ordination papers, we recommend that this association restore Bro. Means his ordination papers, indorsed by this association.

Resolution No. 2—We, your Business Committee, recommend that this association appoint an Entertaining Committee to make necessary preparations for caring for the State Association when convened with the Mtn. Grove Church, and this committee be granted power to appoint any additional committees needed.

Committee	{	Geo. W. Scott
		John S. Hickman
		Lee Maxwell
		A. W. Brook

Motion carried to adopt both resolutions.

Call for ministers written reports. Yearly certificates were given to ministers present.

Committee, mentioned in Resolution No. 2, was appointed as follows: Geo. W. Scott, Chas. Franklin, Guy Hutsell, A. W. Brook and Emmett Freeman.

Financial report read.

Motion carried to send \$30.00 to entertainment fund and \$10.00 for budget to the State Association.

Offering taken amounting to \$26.50.

Delegates to Missouri State Association elected as follows: Luther Cravens, Verla Bittick, Ava Freeman, Bertha Dennis, Raymond Helsey, Pearl Reed, Vesta Crewse, Hassie Moles, Margaret Walls, Lura Cash, Earn Williams, Nola Yeager, Iva Curtis, Roy Huff, Effie Savage and Martha Hickman.

Call for report of Committee on Leagues. Committee report as follows:

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

Item 1—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.

Item 2—We further recommend that an effort be

made to reorganize our Associational League Rally, and that a committee be appointed by this body to secure a place, prepare a program and fix a suitable date.

Committee { Johnnie Postlewaite
 { Amos Fagan
 { Leonard Keys

Motion carried to adopt Item 1.

Item 2 was discussed and a committee nominated as follows: Johnnie Postlewaite, Herbert Vandevort, Chas. Franklin, Cinda Vandevort and Betty Sullivan. It was carried over until Friday morning for any further discussion and final vote.

Dismissed until 7:30 o'clock Divine Services with prayer by Rev. Otho Means.

Thursday Night, 7:30 P. M.

Song service led by Rev. Ray Letsinger. Hymns, "There's A City" and "Pray, My Brother, Pray."

Prayer by Rev. Henry Long.

Special song by Craven family, "There'll Be No Shadows in Heaven."

Scripture reading, I Kings 39:43 by Rev. Ezar Butts.

A challenging message was delivered on the subject, "Lost Opportunities," by Rev. Ezra Butts followed by Rev. George W. Scott.

Benediction by Rev. Jordon Bogart.

Friday Morning, 9:00 A. M.

Service opened by singing led by Rev. A. A. Hogue. Hymn, "Send the Light."

Moderator read scripture from 1st chapter of St. John.

Prayer by Rev. Willie Atherton.

Call for registration of delegates.

Discussion of Item 2 by the League Committee was reopened. After being discussed motion carried to adopt Item No. 2 and elect the committee.

Rev. Amos Fagan appointed Assistant Moderator in the absence of Rev. Fred Wynn.

Motion carried to accept report of Sunday School Committee.

Motion carried to accept report of Observation of Sabbath Committee.

Motion carried to accept report of Temperance Committee.

Motion carried to accept report of Obituary Committee.

Moment of silent prayer, closed by Rev. H. B. Smith, in remembrance of the ones gone to meet their reward.

Motion carried to accept report of Executive Board.

Motion carried to re-elect Deacon Burl Haliburton as a member of the Executive Board for a period of 5 years.

Motion carried to accept report of Business Committee.

Report of Indian Creek Association given by Rev. A. W. Brook.

Report of Little Vine Association of General Baptists given by Rev. A. A. Hogue.

Report of Liberty Association given by Rev. Leonard Keys.

Report of State Association of General Baptists given by Rev. Amos Fagan.

Adjourned for 11:00 o'clock worship.

Prayer by Rev. Otho Means.

11:00 O'Clock Worship Hour

Singing led by Rev. Amos Fagan. Hymns, "My Redeemer" and "I'm not Ashamed."

Prayer by Rev. Raymond Smith.

Hymn, "Oh I Want to See Him."

Scripture lesson, Exodus 16:29, was read by Rev. Lee Maxwell.

A very inspiring message was given by Rev. Lee Maxwell followed by Rev. Johnnie Postlewaite, using "Out of Place Christians" as a text.

Fellowship handshake.

Adjourned until 1:30 o'clock.

Friday Afternoon, 1:30 P. M.

Called to order by the Moderator.

Singing led by Luther Cravens. Hymns, "He Bore It All" and "Where He Leads I Will Follow."

Psalms 37 was read for a scripture reading by the Assistant Moderator.

Prayer by Rev. A. W. Brook.

Hymn, "Hold to God's Unchanging Hand."

All committees were commended and released.

Motion carried to elect Rev. A. W. Brook as Statistician.

Faith and Hope requested the next session. Granted.
Corresponding Delegates elected as follows:

To State Association of General Baptists—Rev. Amos Fagan and Deacon Ernie Millsap.

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

To Cave Springs Association—Rev. Herbert Vandevort and Rev. Leonard Keys.

To Liberty Association—Bro. and Sis. John Hickman.

To Indian Creek Association—Rev. Johnnie Postlewaite and Rev. Raymond Smith.

Officers for coming year elected as follows:

Rev Johnnie Postlewaite.....Modreator

Rev. Stanley Letterman.....Assistant Moderator

Lloyd Walls.....Clerk-Treasurer

Rev. Otho Means.....To bring Associational message

Rev. Amos Fagan.....Alternate

Minutes of this session read and approved.

Vote of thanks given Wolf Creek Church.

Vote of thanks given the Association by Wolf Creek Church.

Vote of thanks given the Moderator, Assistant Moderator and Clerk.

Closing paryer by Bro. Lewis Moody.

Adjourned to meet with Faith and Hope Church east of Cabool on Thursday, 9:00 o'clock a.m., before the Second Sunday in August, 1951.

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 and keep it holy, and to 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 { Everett Kelsey
 { Venice Long
 { Ed Fagan
 { Jim Coffman

Sunday School:

We, your committee on Sunday School, recommend the use of King James version of the Bible and that all Sunday Schools use Free Will Baptist literature. We also believe it is necessary for all teachers and officers to be Christians.

We urge all parents to take their children to Sunday School rather than send them.

We desire the full co-operation of every pastor and minister in the furtherance of Sunday School work.

Committee { Lea May Postlewaite
 { Bessie Hogue
 { Mildred Butts

Temperance:

We, your committee on Temperance, submit the following:

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

Committee { A. A. Hogue
 { Ernest Maxwell
 { John Bates
 { Charles Skinner

Obituary:

We, your committee on Obituary, submit the following report:

Whereas it has pleased the Heavenly Father to call from labor to reward since our last Association, the following Brothers and Sisters, to wit:

Bro. Ahart Reeves, Mtn. Valley Church
Sis. Lula Hutsell, Mtn. Grove Church
Bro. George Upshaw, Mtn. Grove Church
Sis. Maud Smart, Mtn. Grove Church
Bro. Ben Davis, Pleasant Hill Church
Sis. Stella Young, Pleasant Hill Church
Sis. Nancy Garner, 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 { Ruth Hickman
 { Dorothy Millsap
 { Bessie Keys

Report of Executive Board:

The Executive Board of Mission Association met on February 10, 1949 and organized.

Rev. Homer Smith was elected president and Burl Haliburton, Secretary and Treasurer.

This Board, on February 10, 1949, received Rev. Herbert Vandevort and Rev. Guy Hutsell as ministers of Mission Association.

Executive Board

{ Rev. Fred Wynn
Rev. Homer Smith
Rev. Howard Barr
Dea. John Hickman
Dea. Burl Haliburton

MINISTERS AND WIVES PRESENT

Fred Wynn	Gladys Wynn	Mtn. Grove
H. B. Smith	Verba Smith	Mtn. Grove
A. W. Brook	— — — — —	Mtn. Grove, R 3
Geo. W. Scott	Oma Scott	Mtn. Grove
Ezra Butts	Mildred Butts	Huggins
Lee Maxwell	Laverne Maxwell	Huggins
A. A. Hogue	Bessie Hogue	Cabool
Leonard Keys	Bessie Keys	Mansfield
Amos Fagan	— — — — —	Mansfield
Johnnie Postlewaite	Lea May Postlewaite,	Willow Springs, R 3
Guy Hutsell	— — — — —	Mtn. Grove
Lester Lawler	— — — — —	Hartville
Herbert Vandevort	— — — — —	Cabool, R 2
Otho Means	— — — — —	Cabool
Stanley Letterman	Martha Letterman	Huggins
Willie Atherton	Rosa Lea Atherton	Huggins
Raymond Smith	— — — — —	Huggins

DEACONS PRESENT

Oscar Yeager	Ernest Maxwell	J. E. Adamason
John S. Hickman	Ed G. Fagan	Burl Haliburton
John Bates	Charles Skinner	Oscar Leighty
Chas. Franklin	E. H. Freeman	Austa Reeves
Everett Kelsey	C. E. Pembroke	Luther Cooper
Venice Long	Lewis Moody	Jess Young
Ernie Millsap		

DELEGATES PRESENT

Vincie Long	Hazel Means	Doris Calhoun
Herman Keith	Patricia Ann Huff	Effie M. Savage
Luther Cravens	Milladean Bates	Bertha Adamson
Fern Bass	Virginia Hill	Joretta Pointer
Jean Helsey	Clesta Butts	Ava Freeman
Rubye Chandler	L. E. Reed	Ralph Robinson
Kathleen Chandler	Grace Kelsey	Otis Hickman
Verla Bittick	John Rufus Crewse	Edna Carder
Lucinda Vandevort	Vesta Crewse	Ivan Kelsey
Mary Wagner	Mary Haliburton	

CHURCH CLERKS

Ivy McCoy,	Dutch Chapel.....	Embree
Gillie Reeves,	Faith and Hope, Willow Springs R 3	
Pansy Skinner,	Happy Ridge No. 1.....	Norwood
Mrs. Roy Broyles,	Hartville	Hartville
Martha Coffman,	Mtn. Grove.....	Mtn. Grove
Letha Franklin,	Mtn. Valley.....	Mtn. Grove
Lloyd Walls,	Mt. Pisgah.....	Cabool R 2
Pansy Lea Garner,	Mt. Zion No. 2.....	Hartville R 3
Addie Long,	New Home.....	Hartville
Blanche Hutsell,	Number One.....	Huggins
Amy Emmerson,	Pleasant Grove.....	Hartville R 1
Ruth Hickman,	Pleasant Hill.....	Hartville
Mary Bittick,	Pleasant Home No. 1, Cabool St. Rt.	
Hershel Freeman,	Rock Springs.....	Bendavis
Nolan Neal,	Union	Huggins
John Hutsell,	Union Chapel.....	Graff
Dorothy Millsap,	Wolf Creek.....	Mansfield

CHURCH CLERKS PRESENT

Dorothy Millsap	Ruth Hickman
Martha Coffman	Letha Franklin
Gillie Reeves	Lloyd Walls

VISITORS

Rev. Ray Letsinger,	Hazel Letsinger.....	Mansfield
Rev. H. P. Long,	Lola Long.....	Springfield
Rev. A. J. Kelsey		
Dea. Jim Coffman,	Sister Coffman	

TREASURER'S REPORT

Forward	\$ 23.10
Offering	26.50
Received from Quarterly Meeting	35.79
Budget Money	58.74
Total	<u>\$144.13</u>

CHURCH REPORT

Name of Church.....	Church Sunday.....	Budget Money.....	Membership	Members Received...	Members Dismissed..	Members Died.....	Paid Pastor.....	Paid Evangelist.....
Dutch Chapel	2	\$2.00	36		1		\$ 113.00	\$ 8.00
Faith & Hope	Ft	2.00	71	4			928.95	114.00
Hap Ridge - 1	2-4	2.00	29		4		111.83	29.55
Hartville			52		2			
Mtn. Grove	Ft	5.00	156	1	11	3	1820.00	120.00
Mtn. Valley	Ft	5.00	117		2	1	600.00	
Mt. Pisgah	1 3 4	2.00	64	9			375.00	75.86
Mt. Zion No. 2	1 3	2.00	53		7			14.00
New Mome		3.00	50			1	221.50	189.00
Number One	1-3	4.00	121	4			250.78	98.95
Pleasant Grove		1.00	48		1	1	129.87	
Pleasant Hill		2.00	150		1	2		
Pleas Home - 1		1.50						
Rock Springs								
Union	2 4	2.00	83	2			210.00	167.11
Union Chapel	Ft	1.50	32					
Wolf Creek	1-3	5.00	53	1	2		320.07	200.00

MINISTER'S REPORT

Received	Miles Travelled	Baptized	Rec'd. into Church...	Professions	Sermons	Churches Pastored...	Revivals	Funerals	Name
\$ 87.00					42	1			W. L. Atherton
131.00		1		17	50	1	3		Lee Maxwell
394.41	4,330	3	3	6	70	1	2		G. E. Hutsell
138.87	1,690				45	1	1		S. Letterman
769.00	1,600			8	128	1	1	4	Fred Wynn
518.95	1,857			23	91	2	3	4	Lester Lawler
185.00	886			2	60	2	3		Raym. Smith
390.90		2	2	7	75	1	3		Ezra Butts
1 820 00			1	19	192	1	4	23	Geo. W. Scott
948.44		15	10	13	119	2	3	18	H. B. Smith
203.39	9,2546			13	46		2		Amos Fagan
733.76	10,467	7	4	84	163	2	9	1	Leonard Keys
680.65		1		2	92	1	2	3	A. W. Brook
267.01	2,561		2		82	1	2	2	A. A. Hogue
176.33	2,520			2	110	1	2		Floyd Roberts
1,550.46	3,086	3	4	30	172	1	6	2	Johnnie Postlewaite

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. This Association shall open at 9:00 o'clock, Thursday before the 2nd Sunday in August.
2. Moderator calls Association together.
3. Registration of standing delegates.
4. Appointment of Credentials Committee.
5. Call for report of Credentials Committee.
6. Seating of delegates.
7. Invite all Christians to sit in council.

8. Call for corresponding letters and registration of visiting ministers.
9. Call for report of Executive Board.
10. Elect one member on Executive Board.
11. Call for minister's written report.
12. Miscellaneous business.
13. Call for report of corresponding delegates.
14. Call for report of all committees.
15. Select place for next annual session.
16. Elect officers.
17. Adjourn with prayer.

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.

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 regu-

lar 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 this 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 reconized 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 unless 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, Perserver, and Righteous Governor 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 Savior 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, suffering, 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."

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.

