

MINUTES
OF THE
MISSION ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

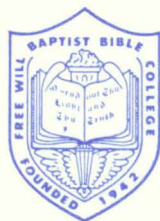
— 1953 —

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

CONVENED WITH

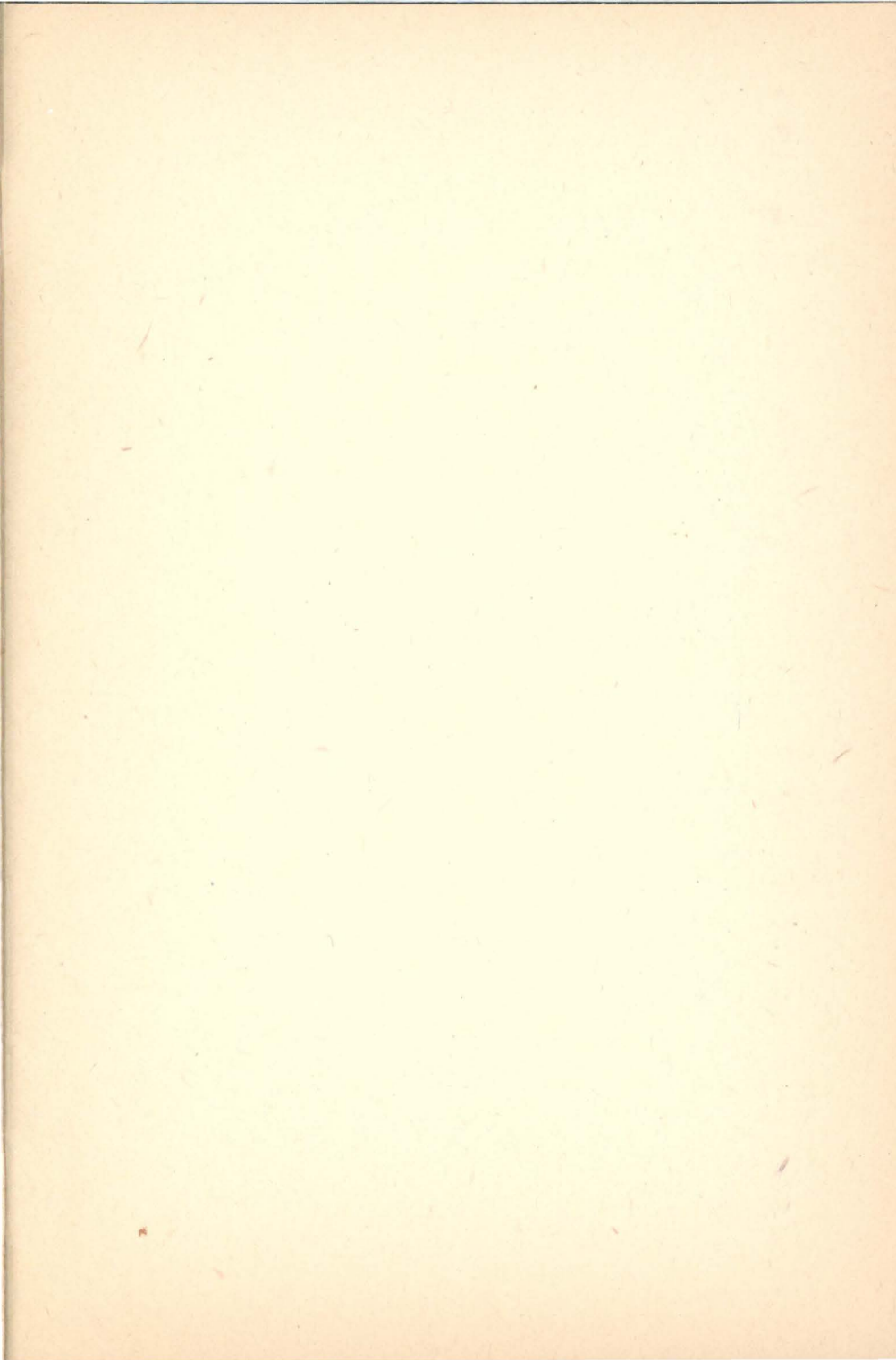
NEW ROCK SPRINGS CHURCH



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

Rev. Glen Lewis



PROCEEDINGS

Thursday—9:00 A. M.

Meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. Willard C. Day.

Singing led by June George with Shirley Day at the piano.

Hymns, "Standing On the Promises" and "The Glory-land Way."

Opening remarks by the Moderator.

Scripture reading, Romans 5, 1-10.

Solo, "Lord's Prayer" by June George.

Prayer by Rev. Ezra Butts.

Rev. Homer Smith was appointed assistant clerk.

Pulpit committee appointed as follows: Sister Laurine Maxwell, Deacons Burl Haliburton and Riley Hutsell.

A committee on credentials was appointed as follows: Rev. Albert Brook, Rev. Ezra Butts and Rev. G. E. Hutsell.

Registration of standing delegates.

By-laws read by the assistant clerk.

Constitution read by the clerk.

Hymn, "There Is a Fountain."

A few minutes were spent in testimony meeting.

Hymn, "Amazing Grace."

The credentials committee reported favorably on the following churches: Mtn. Valley, Pleasant Home, Union, Mt. Zion No. 2, Pleasant Hill, Union Chapel, Mt. Pisgah, Pleasant Grove, Dutch Chapel, Mtn. Grove, Number One, Faith and Hope, Happy Ridge No. 1, Hartville, Wolf Creek, New Rock Springs.

Motion carried to accept report and seat the delegates.

Delegates registered and given hand of fellowship.

Committees were appointed as follows: Temperance, Stanley Letterman, Leonard Keys and Willie Atherton.

Observance of Sabbath, Homer Smith, Martha Letterman and Warren Walls.

League, Margaret Walls, Martha Coffman and Fern Dooms

Obituary, Sister Riley Hutsell, Bessie Keys and Bessie Hogue.

Business, Luther Cooper, Lester Lawler, Charley Franklin, W. L. Atherton and Austa Reeves.

Financial report on Youth Camp cabin given by Bro. Albert Brook.

Donations were given to pay off the \$31.75 indebtedness on the cabin at the State Youth Camp.

Ministers conference discussed. Proposed by-laws were read. The discussion to be continued on Friday.

Motion carried for business session to stand adjourned until 1:00 p. m.

Benediction by Bro. Willard Day.

11:00 A. M. Worship Service

Hymn, "Where The Soul Never Dies."

Solo, "I'd Rather Have Jesus" by June George.

Prayer by Rev. George W. Scott.

Scripture reading, Isaiah 59, 1-12.

Rev. Lester Lawler brought a very fine message using for a text, "Christ the only escape from sin."

Benediction by the clerk.

Thursday, 1:00 P. M.

Hymn, "I'll Understand It Better By and By."

Scripture reading Matthew 6, 19-23 by assistant moderator.

Prayer by Bro. Stanley Letterman.

Pulpit committee reported that Rev. George W. Scott would bring the message at 2:00 p. m. and Rev. William Reeves would bring the evening message.

Registration of delegates.

Continuation of discussion on organizing a minister's conference. Motion carried to organize a minister's conference of Mission Association.

Committee appointed to formulate program and plans as follows: Homer Smith, Howard G. Barr and G. E. Hutsell.

Talk by Bro. William Reeves, supervisor of State Youth Camp.

Hymn, "I'd Rather Be An Old Time Christian."

Duet, "Old Fashioned Meeting" by Bro. and Sister Hogue.

Prayer by Bro. Ezra Butts.

A very inspiring message was rendered by Rev. George W. Scott, using for a text, "What Thing Ye of Christ?"

Call for report of business committee.

Item No. 1. To amend article No. 3 of constitution to include deacons' wives as standing delegates. According to Article No. 10 of constitution any contemplated change must be read and placed on table one day previous to the time the vote is taken. The vote to be taken on Friday.

Program and by-laws of minister's conference read by G. E. Hutsell, member of committee. Motion carried to adopt report.

Motion carried to appoint a committee to get beds for cabin at State Youth Camp. Committee appointed as follows: Leonard Keys, Lester Lawler and Elmer Ellington.

Motion carried to accept report of Executive Board.

Rev. Homer Smith was re-elected as member of Executive Board for a period of five years.

Motion carried to receive Rev. C. D. Findley as member of Mission Association and give him a yearly certificate.

Motion carried for business session to stand adjourned until 9:00 a. m. Friday.

Benediction by Bro. G. E. Hutsell.

Thursday, 7:30 P. M.

Singing led by Hershel Freeman, with Mrs. Hershel Freeman at the piano.

Hymns, "I Love My Savior Too" and "There'll Be Shouting."

Prayer by Bro. John Baker.

Hymn, "Home of The Soul."

Picture slides of State Youth Camp shown by Rev. William Reeves.

Hymn, "I'd Rather Have Jesus."

Scripture reading Mark 10: 17-22.

A good message was rendered by Rev. Williams Reeves using for a text, "What Shall I Do?"

Benediction by Rev. Homer Smith.

Friday, 9:00 A. M.

Singing led by Lois Freeman with Mrs. Hershel Freeman at the piano.

Hymns, "Some Glad Day" and "Anywhere Is Home."

Scripture reading, Ephesians 4, read by the Assistant Moderator.

Prayer by Rev. Ernest Light.

Call for committee reports.

Motion carried to adopt report of Observance of Sabbath committee.

Motion carried to adopt report of League Committee.

Motion carried to adopt report of Temperance committee.

Motion carried to accept report of Obituary committee.

Motion carried to accept Sunday School report.

Motion carried to receive Rev. Ernest Light into the Mission Association and give him a yearly certificate.

Statistical report by statistician. Motion carried to accept report.

Corresponding delegates elected as follows:

Cave Springs Association. Motion carried to report by letter.

Indian Creek Association. Motion carried to report by letter.

Liberty Association. Bro. and Sister Homer Smith.

Missouri Association of General Baptists. Bro. and Sister Riley Hutsell.

Harmony Association. Bro Homer Smith and Bro. Leonard Keys.

Missouri State Association. Motion carried for pastors to select delegates.

Call for requests.

No. 1. The Wolf Creek church requested that the next Association meet with their church. Request granted.

No. 2. That the Association get some letter forms printed. Motion carried for the clerk of the Association to get forms printed for all churches belonging to Mission Association.

The credentials committee reported favorable on New Home Church. Motion carried to accept report and seat delegates.

Registration of Delegates:

Motion carried for business session to adjourn until 1:00 p. m.

Benediction by Bro. Jim Coffman.

11:00 O'clock Worship Service

Hymns, "Lord Send Me" and "It Won't Be Very Long."

Prayer by Bro. Floyd Roberts.

Hymn, "Just Over IN The Gloryland."

Scripture reading St. John 10, 4-5.

Rev. Ezra Butts delivered a good spiritual message, using for a text, "Surely there is a vein for the silver, and a place for gold where they find it."

Hymn, "When The Redeemed Are Gathering In."

Assistant Moderator called for Christian handshake.

Benediction by Moderator.

Friday, 1:00 P. M.

Hymn, "I Guess I'm Just A Little Old Fashioned."

Scripture reading, II Timothy 4.

Prayer by the Moderator.

Item No. 1. Presented by the business committee the previous day was taken up at this time. Motion carried to adopt report.

Item No. 2. Presented by the business committee. After discussion, motion carried to adopt report.

Officers were elected for the coming year as follows:

Rev. Homer Smith	Moderator
Rev. Lester Lawler	Assistant Moderator
Rev. G. E. Hutsell	To bring associational message
Rev. C. D. Findley	Alternate
Rev. Herbert Vandivort	statistician
Lloyd Walls	Clerk-Treasurer

Hymn "O How I Love Jesus."

Scripture reading St. Mark 10 read by Rev. Ernest Light. Bro Light brought a very appropriate message for the closing of our Association using for a text, "Opportunity."

The delegation stood to show their thanks and appreciation to the New Rock Springs church.

Standing vote of thanks given to all officers of Association, song leaders and pianists.

Benediction by the clerk.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Sunday School:

We, your Committee on Sunday School recommend the use of Free Will Baptist literature and the King James version of the Bible.

We also believe it necessary for all teachers and officers to be Christians and if possible have some teacher's training.

We urge all parents to take their children to Sunday School rather than send them, and encourage them in the study of the Word of God.

To be prompt and on time at all services.

We desire all pastors and ministers to co-operate in the furtherance of Sunday School work.

Temperance:

We, your committee on Temperance, submit the following.

That we do all we can to discourage the sale and use of all intoxicating beverages and refrain from doing business with anyone who sells it. That we protest the advertising of intoxicating beverages in the newspapers and magazines that come into our homes. Also that we be "temperate in all things." and abstain from all appearance of evil in our daily lives.

Committee

W. L. Atherton
Stanley Letterman
Leonard Keys

Observance of the Sabbath:

We, your committee on Observance of the Sabbath submit the following report:

Since God commanded that we remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy, we recommend that all observe Sunday the Lord's day by assembling together in worship at His house, and that we abstain from all worldly amusements and do not permit picnicking, visiting and other pleasures to keep us from our church services, for He also said, "Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together."

Committee

Homer Smith
Warren Walls
Martha Letterman

League

We, your committee on League agree that all pastors should encourage and assist in every way possible in organizing and maintaining a League in every church.

We further urge every church to take an active part in quarterly rallies, yearly conventions and as many as possible attend our State League convention.

Committee

Margaret Walls
Fern Doods
Martha Coffman

Obituary:

We, your committee on Obituary, submit the following:

Whereas, it has pleased the Heavenly Father to call from labor to their reward since our last Association, the following members:

Opal Geisler, Zella Cooper, John Hill, Mrs. Joe Helms, Lewis Coble, Anna Tate, Dona Coxen and Sister Gale Kiser. While they are greatly missed in our churches and homes, we submit our will to that of our Heavenly Father, who doeth all things well.

Committee

Bessie Hogue
Della Hutsell
Bessie Keys

Executive Board:

The Executive Board of Mission Association met in call session at Howard Barr's home April 20, 1953.

With three members present: Rev. Howard Barr, Rev. Homer Smith and Deacon Charley Franklin.

License Certificate to preach the Gospel for one year was extended to Ellis L. Cravens, now of Chicago, Illinois.

Signed

Homer Smith
Charley Franklin
Howard Barr

The Executive Board met August 6, 1953 at New Rock Springs church, during annual session of Mission Association with all members present. Rev. Raymond Smith was appointed by the Executive Board to fill the vacancy of Bro. Fred Wynn who has left the State.

Signed

Burl Haliburton
Homer Smith
Charley Franklin
Howard Barr

Business:

Item No. 1. Resolved that Article No. 3 of constitution of Mission Association read as follows:

The acting members of this Association shall be two delegates from each church, chosen by the members while in conference, together with all ministers, minister's wives, deacons, deacon's wives, 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.

Committee

Luther Cooper
Lester Lawler
Charley Franklin

Item No. 2. That we as an Association take our stand openly against the Standard Revised Version of the Bible. That we would not admit any minister or member to join our body or churches who sanctioned it in the least and do all we can to instruct our youth and our churches against the danger of the Standard Revised Version of the Bible and its use.

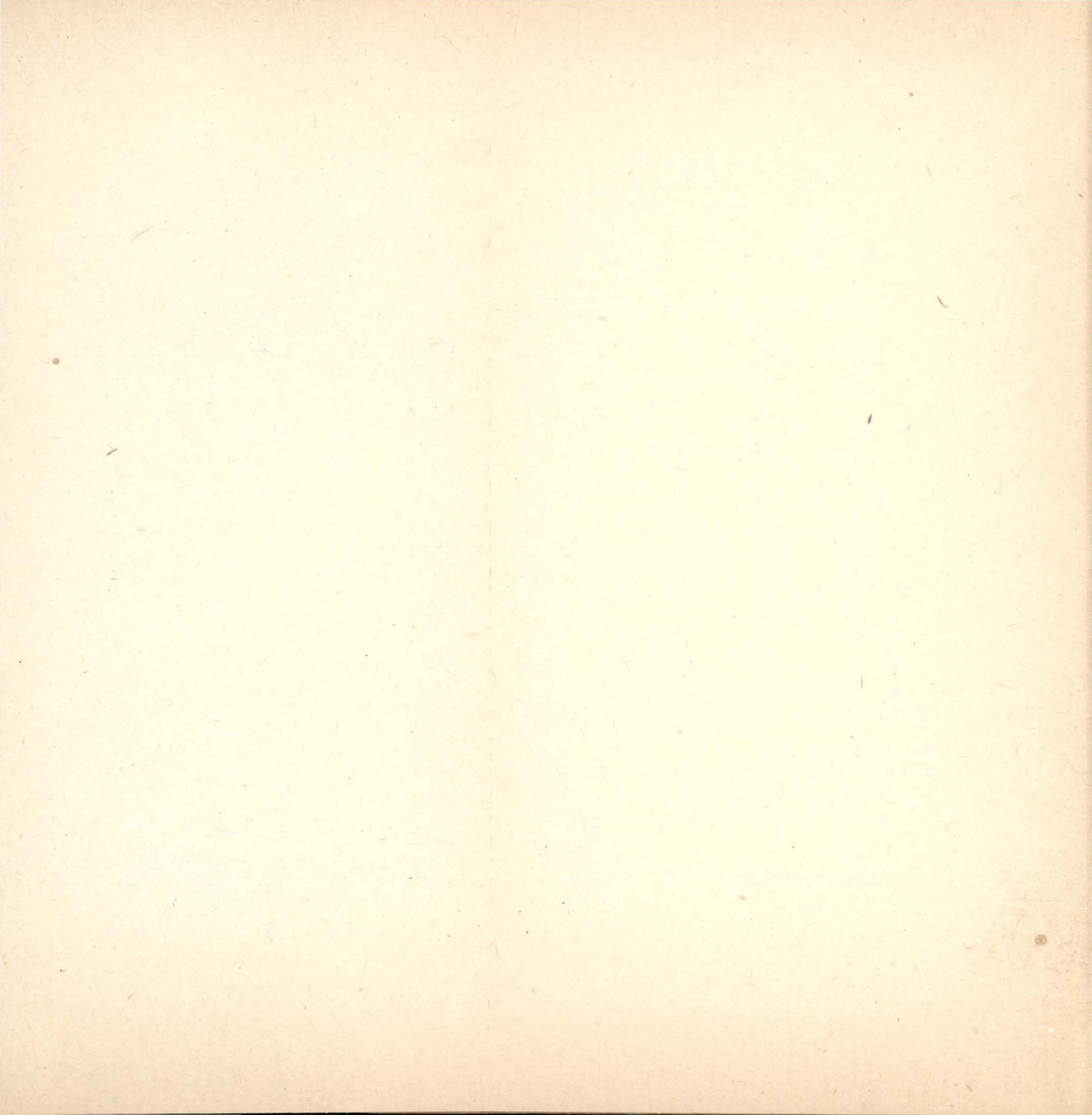
Committee

Lester Lawler
W. L. Atherton
Austa Reeves
Charley Franklin

STATISTICAL REPORT OF MISSION ASSOCIATION

	Mt. Pisgah	New Home	Number 1	Dutch Chapel	Pleasant Home No. 1
Resident Member	51	52	61	26	21
Non-Resident Member	27	10	31	7	19
Total Membership	78	62	79	33	40
Members Received	9	0	7	0	0
Number Baptised	4	0	3	0	0
Number Dismissed by Letter	0	0	0	0	0
Number Deceased	0	0	0	0	2
Number Tithers			10		
Number Prayer Meetings	1		1	1	10
Number Leagues	1				
League Membership	40				
Number Sunday Schools	1	1	1	1	1
Average S. S. Attendance	50	40	48	50	40
Number of Officers	4	3	2	4	3
Number of Teachers	6	3	4	4	4
Number of Ordained Ministers	3	0	6	0	0
Number of Licensed Ministers	0	1	0	1	0
Number of Ordained Deacons	3	5	4	1	1
Amount Paid Pastor	\$ 529.69	\$ 210.50	\$ 360.00	\$ 367.33	\$ 251.91
Amount Paid Evangelistic Work	\$ 73.07	\$ 200.00	\$ 190.00	\$ 23.13	\$ 115.06
Amount for Building and Repair	\$ 103.23				\$ 18.65
Amount for Incidentals	\$ 33.70	\$ 55.00	\$ 30.00		\$ 24.02
Value of Church Property	\$ 2500.00	\$ 1500.00	\$ 2,000.00		\$ 2,500.00
Amount for Foreign Missions	\$ 29.25	\$ 10.00	41.68	\$ 22.00	\$ 21.76
Amount of Home Missions	\$ 8.00				\$
Amount for Education					
Amount for Superannuation					
Amount for Publications	\$ 65.00	\$ 35.00			\$ 66.68
Amount for Budget	\$ 3.00				\$
Co-operative Plan	\$ 34.20				
Amount for Minutes	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.50	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00

Union Chapel	Pleasant Grove	Hartville	Mtn. Grove	Mtn. Valley	Union	Mt. Zion No. 2	Faith and Hope	New Rock Springs	Happy Ridge No. 1	Wolf Creek	Pleasant Hill
28		50	81	36	53			34	20	56	109
5		16	31	5	33			20	4	5	34
33	47	66	112	41	86			54	24	61	143
2	1	7	4	5	1				0	12	0
	3	1	2	7	4				0		0
	2		3	28	1		1	1	0	3	10
		1	0	1	1		1	1	0	0	0
			8				4	12			
		1		1	1		1				
			1				1				
			30	35			55				
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
25		55	40	60			35	65	20		35
		7	5	7	8		3	7			2
			3	4	3		3	4	4		3
	2	1	2		2		2	1			1
1											
4	3	4	3	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	4
\$ 311.50	\$ 165.49	\$ 480.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 656.18	\$ 20.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 420.00
\$ 173.80	\$ 86.00		\$ 300.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 70.00			\$ 260.02	\$ 63.56
			\$ 1,500.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 25.00		\$ 30.00				65.00
				\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 25.00		\$ 20.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 40.50
\$ 1,500.00			40,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
		\$ 41.75		\$ 116.21			\$ 25.00	\$ 65.00		\$ 60.00	
		\$ 30.73			\$ 10%		\$ 70.00			\$ 50.00	\$ 5.00
			\$ 200.00		\$ 164.23						
			\$ 175.00			\$ 8.00	\$ 66.84	\$ 20.00	\$ 15.00		\$ 18.70
											\$ 22.28
\$ 2.00	\$ 1.00	\$.300	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00



MINISTER'S REPORT

	Funerals	Revivals	Churches Pastored	Sermons	Profession	Rec'd into church	Baptised	Miles Traveled	Received
W. L. Atherton			11					150	4.50
A. A. Hogue			112		4	2	2,182		682.00
Willard C. Day	15	3	1	145	36	39	20	10,000	3,600.00
H. B. Smith	11	3	1	108	4	9	4		731.38
Leonard Keys	1	1	2	163	14			8,066	829.54
Raymond Smith		1	1	46					251.91
Lee Maxwell		1	1	123	4				780.68
Floyd Roberts		1	1	72	5	1	5	3,220	248.00
Lester Lawler	5	4	2	129	6	10	8	3,100	1,052.10
Ezra Butts		1	1	132	3	5	9		1,199.00
Stanley Letterman		1	1	75		1		3,288	483.17
A. W. Brook	1	2	1	119	4	4	2		635.00
Harold Helsley	1	3		24	4				
Herbert Vandivort			1	37	7		1	1,210	235.00
G. E. Hutsell		3	2	108	3	8	4	6,400	668.09

Ministers Conference:

We, your committee for the Ministers Conference recommend the following:

1. That we meet in the first session of the ministers conference with the Mtn. Grove church on Thursday and Thursday night before the second Sunday in April 1954.

2. That We, your committee, prepare and furnish each minister with a printed program at a later date.

3. We also recommend that all deacons be included in the membership of this conference.

4. That future meeting place be determined by request of various churches.

Committee

Homer Smith
Howard G. Barr
G. E. Hutsell

CHURCH CLERKS

Mtn. Valley	Letha Franklin	Mtn. Grove, R-3
Pleasant Home No. 1	Mary Bittick	Cabool, R-3
Pleasant Grove	Amy Emmerson	Hartville, R-1
Hartville	Nola Williams	Hartville
Mt. Pisgah	Lloyd Walls	Cabool, R-2
Mt. Zion No. 2	Troy McCleary	Hartville
Wolf Creek	Dorothy Millsap	Mansfield
Happy Ridge No. 1	Pansy Skinner	Norwood
Pleasant Hill	Ruth Hickman	Hartville
Number One	Pearl Reed	Huggins
Faith and Hope	Gillie Reeves	Willow Springs R-3
Union Chapel	Florence Maxville	Graff
Mtn. Grove	Artha Hutsell	Mtn. Grove
Dutch Chapel	Ivy McCoy	Embree
New Rock Springs	Lois Freeman	Bendavis
Union	Noland Neal	Success
New Home	Addie Long	Hartville R-5

MINISTERS AND MINISTER'S WIVES PRESENT

Willard C. Day	Mtn. Grove	
A. W. Brook	Mtn. Grove R-3	
Ezra Butts	Mildred Butts	Huggins
Raymond Smith	Ermal Smith	Huggins
G. E. Hutsell	Leona Hutsell	Mtn. Grove
Harold Helsley		Mansfield
C. D. Findley	Bertha Findley	Hartville
Lee Maxwell	Laurine Maxwell	Bendavis
Stanley Letterman	Martha Letterman	Huggins
A. A. Hogue	Bessie Hogue	Cabool
Leonard Keys	Bessie Keys	Mansfield
W. L. Atherton	Rosa Atherton	Huggins
Lester Lawler		Hartville
Howard Barr	Pearl Barr	Cabool R-2
Herbert Vandivort	Bessie Vandivort	Cabool R-2
Ernest Light	Virginia Light	Cabool
G. W. Scott Sr.		Mtn. Grove
Don McCoy		Embree
Floyd Roberts		Elk Creek
J. J. Postlewaite	Lucy Postlewaite	Mtn. Grove

CHURCH CLERKS PRESENT

Gillie Reeves	Mary Bitticks
Troy McCleary	Nola Williams
Lloyd Walls	Lois Freeman

DEACONS PRESENT

Riley Hutsell	Burl Haliburton
John Hickman	Austa Reeves
Luther Cooper	Frank Spencer
Elmer Ellington	Charley Franklin
Oscar Yeager	Troy McCleary
Ray Hutsell	C. E. Pembrook
J. A. Young	Clifford Moles
John Baker	Ernest Maxwell
P. J. Grimes	Vencie Long

Woodrow Lawler

DELEGATES PRESENT

Ursie Moore	Helen Raney
Hassie Moles	Lula McCoy
Della Hutsell	Martha Coffman
Vesta Crewse	Harmon McCart
Clara Huff	Delia Neal
Carol Smith	Otis Hickman
Fern Doods	Mary Bittick
Margaret Walls	John McCart
Warren Walls	Mamie Scott
Ada Yocum	Mattie Hutsell
Nola Williams	Daisy Morton
Chester Bennett	Imogene Bennett
Pansy Lee Garner	Frank Smart
Audry Curtis	Pauline Long

Francis Lawler

VISITORS

Rev. Geo. W. Scott	Sister Oma Scott
Rev. William Reeves	Rev. Earl Carty
Deacon Jim Coffman	Sister Coffman

FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance brought forward	\$26.21
Amount sent in to Association by churches.....	\$55.50
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Total	\$81.71

Expenditures:

Balance Printing of Minutes	\$52.50
Printing of 500 letter forms	7.50
Paid clerk	20.00
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Total	\$80.00
Balance in treasury	\$1.71

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. This Association shall open at 9:00 o'clock, Thursday before the Second 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 cooperate with the Mission 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, minister's wives, deacons, deacon's wives, 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 regular session and shall hold their offices until their successors are elected. The Clerk shall receive Twenty (\$20.00) 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 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 some 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 therein, the objection shall be sustained or rejected.

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

8. No member of this Association will 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 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, Preserver, 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 and 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 waters of life freely.

12. Perseverance. All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere 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 appearances 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 obligation 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, 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 in 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, the 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.

