

**MINUTES**  
OF THE  
**MISSION ASSOCIATION**  
OF  
**FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

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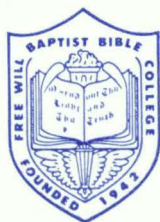
**— 1954 —**

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
**SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION**

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CONVENED WITH  
**WOLF CREEK CHURCH**



FREE WILL BAPTIST  
BIBLE COLLEGE

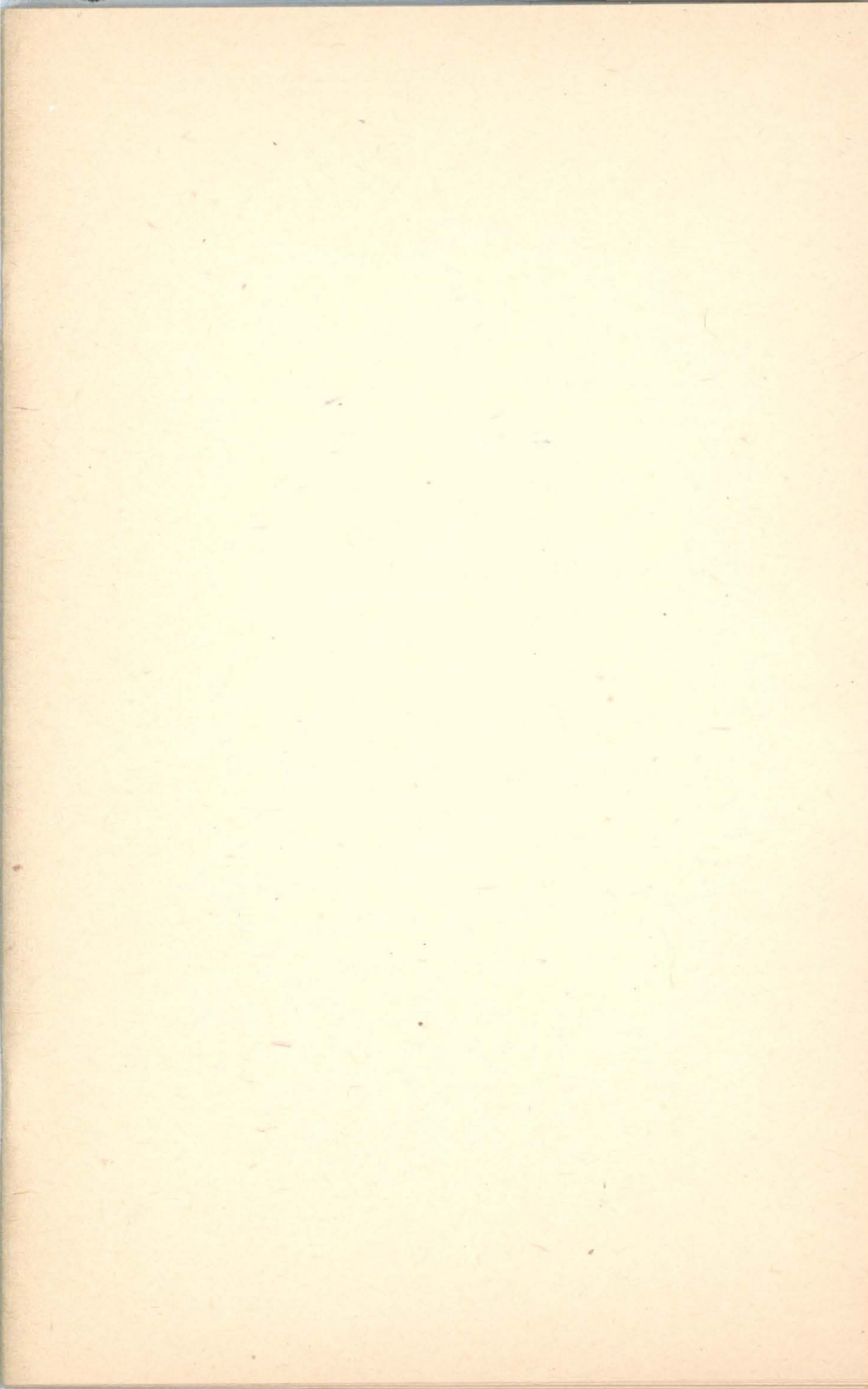
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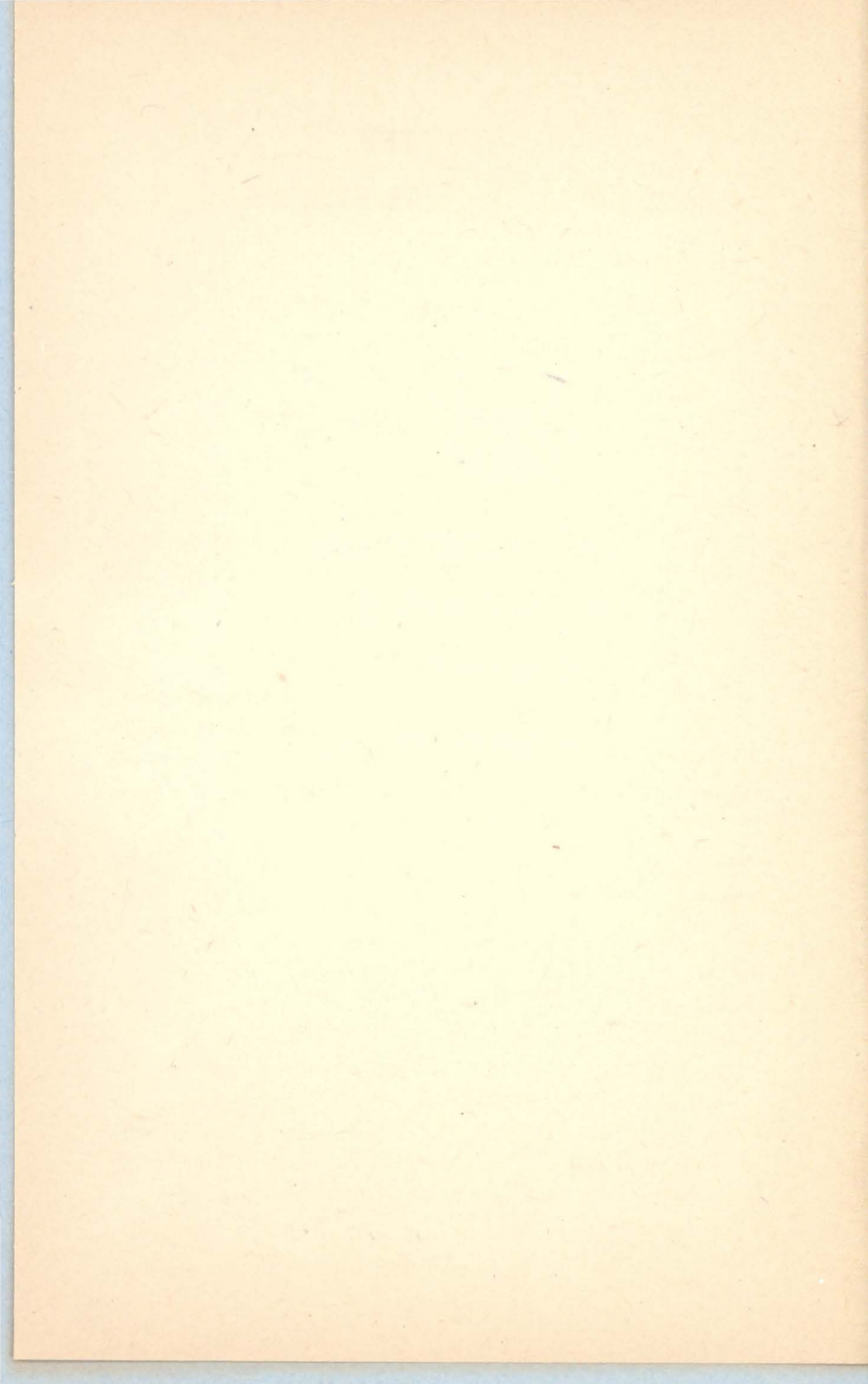
Rev. Glen Lewis

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# MINUTES

## SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION

### OF

## MISSION ASSOCIATION

### OF

## FREE WILL BAPTISTS

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HELD WITH THE  
WOLF CREEK CHURCH NEAR MANSFIELD, MISSOURI.  
BEGINNING ON THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 5, 1954

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### OFFICERS

Moderator.....	Rev. Homer Smith
Assistant Moderator.....	Rev. Lester Lawler
Clerk - Treasurer.....	Lloyd Walls
Assistant Clerk.....	Rev. A. W. Brook

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Deacon Ray Hutsell.....	1955
Deacon Charley Franklin.....	1956
Rev. H. G. Barr.....	1957
Rev. Homer Smith.....	1958
Rev. Raymond Smith.....	1959

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The next session of this Association will be held with the Mountain Grove Church, at Mountain Grove, Missouri, beginning on Thursday, 9:00 A. M. before the second Sunday in August, 1955.

Rev. John Silvey to bring the Associational message.

## PROCEEDINGS



Thursday—9:00 A. M.

Meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. Homer Smith. Congregational singing led by Rev. A. A. Hogue, with Bonnie Jean Reeves at the piano.

Scripture reading Psalms 1, by Moderator.

Prayer by Rev. E. E. Winfree.

Rev. A. W. Brook was appointed Assistant Clerk in the registration of delegates.

Registration of standing delegates.

A committee on credentials was appointed by the Moderator, as follows:

Rev. A. W. Brook, Rev. Ezra Butts and Deacon John Hickman.

Call for all church letters to be given to this committee.

Other committees appointed at this time, as follows:

Pulpit Committee—Rev. C. D. Findley, Sister Martha Hickman and Deacon Oscar Yeager.

League—Rev. Ernest Light, Rev. Herbert Vandivort and Rev. Willard C. Day.

Temperance—Deacons Oscar Yeager, Charley Franklin and Austa Reeves.

Obituary—Sisters Grace Royster, Laurine Maxwell and Bertha Findley.

Observance of the Sabbath—Sisters Margaret Walls, Amy Emmerson and Nola Yeager.

Sunday School—Rev. Leonard Keys, Deacon Ernie Mill-sap, Rev. Floyd Roberts, Sisters Martha Letterman, Ava Young, Bertha Gregory and Grace Kelsay.

Constitution and By-Laws read by the Clerk.

Motion carried to contact the Executive Board of the Quarterly Meeting about sending \$50.00 to the entertainment fund of the State Association.

Statistical report given by the statistician. Motion carried to accept the report.

The credentials committee reported favorable on the following sixteen churches:

Faith and Hope	Mt. Pisgah
Mt. Zion No. 2	Number One
Union	Pleasant Home No. 1
Mountain Valley	Dutch Chapel
Mountain Grove	Pleasant Hill
Hartville	Wolf Creek
Pleasant Grove	Happy Ridge No. 1
Union Chapel	New Rock Springs

Motion carried to accept the report and seat the delegates.

Registration of delegates, visiting ministers, minister's wives, deacon and deacon's wives.

Motion carried to adjourn until afternoon.

Benediction by Rev. Raymond Smith.

#### **11:00 O'clock Service**

Congregational singing.

Prayer by Bro. Oscar Yeager.

Message by Rev. Fred Wynn of Arvin, California. Scripture lesson I Cor. 3, 1-11. His text was, "For other foundations can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." He brought out very vividly, how necessary it was that we build our lives on the right foundation.

A period of Christian fellowship handshake closed this service.

#### **Thursday Afternoon**

Congregational singing led by Rev. A. A. Hogue, with Sister June Freeman at the piano.

Scripture reading Matthew 7, read by the Moderator.

Prayer by Rev. Willard Day.

The credentials committee reported favorable on the New Home church.

Motion carried to accept report and seat the delegates.  
Registration of delegates.

Call for report of Executive Board.

Motion carried to accept the work of the Executive Board  
in consolidating the Harmony and Mission Associations.

Vote of thanks, from the members present, from the Har-  
mony Association.

Call for requests.

The Mountain Grove church requested that Bro. Russell  
B. Spurgeon be licensed to preach the gospel.

Motion carried to grant request and give Bro. Spurgeon a  
license to preach the gospel for one year.

A Christian handshake was given the delegates from the  
Harmony Association. Bro. Spurgeon and also Rev. Willard  
Day who will be leaving our Association soon.

Benediction of business session by Rev. Charles Chamber-  
lain.

### **2:00 O'clock Service**

Special song by Rev. Harold Helsley and two boys, "I  
Shall Not Be Afraid To Go."

Solo by little Freddie Helsley, "Truest Friend I Ever Had."

Song by Mt. Pisgah quartet.

Message by Bro. Russell B. Spurgeon.

Scripture reading, a portion of Matthew 7.

He delivered a very inspiring message on "The Two  
Roads."

Yearly certificates were given to the ministers.

Stood adjourned until the evening service.

### **THURSDAY EVENING**

Congregational singing.

Prayer by Rev. A. A. Hogue.

Hymn.

Prayer by Bro. Ernest Box.

Scripture reading Matthew 2, 41-44, read by Rev. E. R.

Light.

Prayer by Rev. Fred Wynn.

Rev. Light brought the evening message, using for a text the letters C-H-R-I-S-T, followed by Rev. Leonard Keys.

Benediction by Rev. Lester Lawler.

### FRIDAY MORNING

Congregational singing led by Rev. A. A. Hogue with Sister June Freeman at the piano.

Scripture reading Psalms 37, read by the assistant Moderator, Rev. Lester Lawler.

Prayer by Rev. Lee Maxwell.

Registration of delegates.

Letter from Deacon Burl Halliburton, read by the clerk.

Motion carried to accept Deacon Halliburton's resignation as member of the executive board.

Deacon Ray Hutsell elected as member of the Executive Board for a period of one year to fill the vacancy left by Bro. Halliburton.

Rev. Raymond Smith elected as member of the Executive Board for a period of five years.

Motion carried to request the Quarterly Meeting Board to put an additional \$50.00 in the treasury of the Missions Association to help pay for the printing of the minutes and other expenses.

Motion carried to grant the clerk the privilege of getting the minutes printed wherever he thought was best.

Call for report of committees.

Motion carried to adopt report of Observance of the 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. All stood for a moment of silent prayer followed by prayer by Rev. H. B. Smith in remembrance of the ones passed on to their reward.

Call for requests.

The New Rock Springs Church requested that Bro. Ralph Robertson be licensed to preach the gospel.

Motion carried to grant request and give Bro. Robertson a license to preach the gospel for one year.

Christian fellowship handshake.

Benediction by Bro. Emmet Jones.

### 11:00 A. M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Congregational singing.

Prayer by Rev. E. R. Light.

Solo "The Old Rugged Cross," by Sister Ralph Robertson.

Scripture reading, St. John 14.

Rev. E. E. Winfree delivered a very good message on greater faith, followed by a Christian handshake.

Stood adjourned until afternoon.

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Congregational singing.

Prayer by Rev. John Silvey.

Scripture Isaiah 55.

Call for committee reports.

Motion carried to adopt report of Sunday School Committee.

Corresponding letter from the Cave Springs Association read by the clerk.

Motion carried to accept the letter and report to their Association by letter.

Corresponding delegates elected as follows:

To Liberty Association—Rev. H. B. Smith, Rev. Leonard Keys and Rev. C. D. Findley.

To Missouri Association of General Baptists—Rev. A. A. Hogue, Rev. E. R. Light and Rev. E. E. Winfree.

To Missouri State Association—Bro. Hershel Freeman, Sister June Freeman and Bro. Keith Walls.

Motion carried to give the delegates the right to add the names to the letter, as delegates of anyone attending from either of our Quarterly Meetings.

Motion carried to take no action on buying beds for the Youth Camp at this time.

Call for requests.

The Mountain Grove Church requested that the next sitting of the Mission Association meet with their church.

Motion carried to grant request.

Officers were elected for the coming year as follows:

Rev. H. B. Smith—Moderator

Rev. C. D. Findley—Assistant Moderator.

Rev. John Silvey—To bring Associational Message.

Rev. Herbert Vandivort—Statistician.

Lloyd Walls—Clerk-Treasurer.

Vote of thanks to the Wolf Creek Church for their hospitality.

Vote of thanks to the officers of the Association for fairness and work done.

Benediction of Business Session by Rev. Floyd Roberts.

Special song by Rev. Harold Helsley and son Freddie, "I've Got To Cross That Lonely River."

Rev. Wm. Mishler of Nashville, Tenn., brought the afternoon message, reading from John 14 and Luke 14. It was a very helpful message on counting the cost, followed by a Christian fellowship handshake.

Benediction by Rev. C. D. Findley.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### OBITUARY:

We, your committee on Obituary, submit the following:

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

Sister Viola Upshaw—Mountain Grove Church

Brother Dow Coffman—Mt. Zion No. 2 Church

Sister Reta Moody—Wolf Creek Church

Sister Marzetta Davis—Pleasant Hill Church

Brother Charley Teter—Pleasant Home No. 1 Church

Sister Alice Nichol—Hartville Church

Sister Maxwell—Number One Church.

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

Grace Royster  
Laurine Maxwell  
Bertha Findley

#### OBSERVANCE OF THE SABBATH:

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

We, recommend that all Christians remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy by abstaining from all worldly amusements and by taking our children to church services. If it was necessary for Jesus to go to the place of worship and read and take part, it is more necessary for His children today to do so. Christians are the light of the world and if we let our light shine the world will see it.

Committee

Margaret Walls  
Amy Emmerson  
Nola Yeager

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL:

We, your committee on Sunday School recommend the use of Free Will Baptist literature and the King James Version of the Bible, that all pastors, ministers, deacons and all church leaders co-operate in the furtherance of all Sunday School work and Daily Vacation Bible School, that all the teachers and officers be Christians and have as much teacher training as possible.

We also think if there ever was a time that we need to instruct our children and teach them in the work of the Lord it is now.

We recommend that parents teach their children at home and also take them to Sunday School.

Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it. Prov. 22-6.

We recommend that the parents study the word of God that they may be able to instruct the children in Christ.

Committee

Leonard Keys  
Ernie Millsap  
Floyd Roberts  
Martha Letterman  
Ava Young  
Bertha Gregory  
Grace Kelsay

LEAGUE:

We, your committee of 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

E. R. Light  
H. S. Vandivort  
Willard C. Day

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

Oscar Yeagle  
Charley Franklin  
Austa Reeves

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

The executive board of Mission Association met with two members of Harmony Association on September 12, 1953, when that Association was convened with the Lone Star Church.

The item of business considered was the consolidation of the two Associations, namely The Mission Association and The Harmony Association.

After a consideration by four members of Mission Association, namely Rev. Raymond Smith, Rev. H. G. Barr, Deacon Burl Haliburton and Rev. A. W. Brook and Rev. Archie Halford and Rev. Harry Johns of Harmony Association. A motion was made by Bro. Johns, seconded by Bro. Halford that the two Associations unite and assume the name "Mission Association." Motion carried.

A motion was made by Bro. Haliburton, seconded by Bro. Barr that we as the board of Mission Association receive Harmony Association, as was stated.

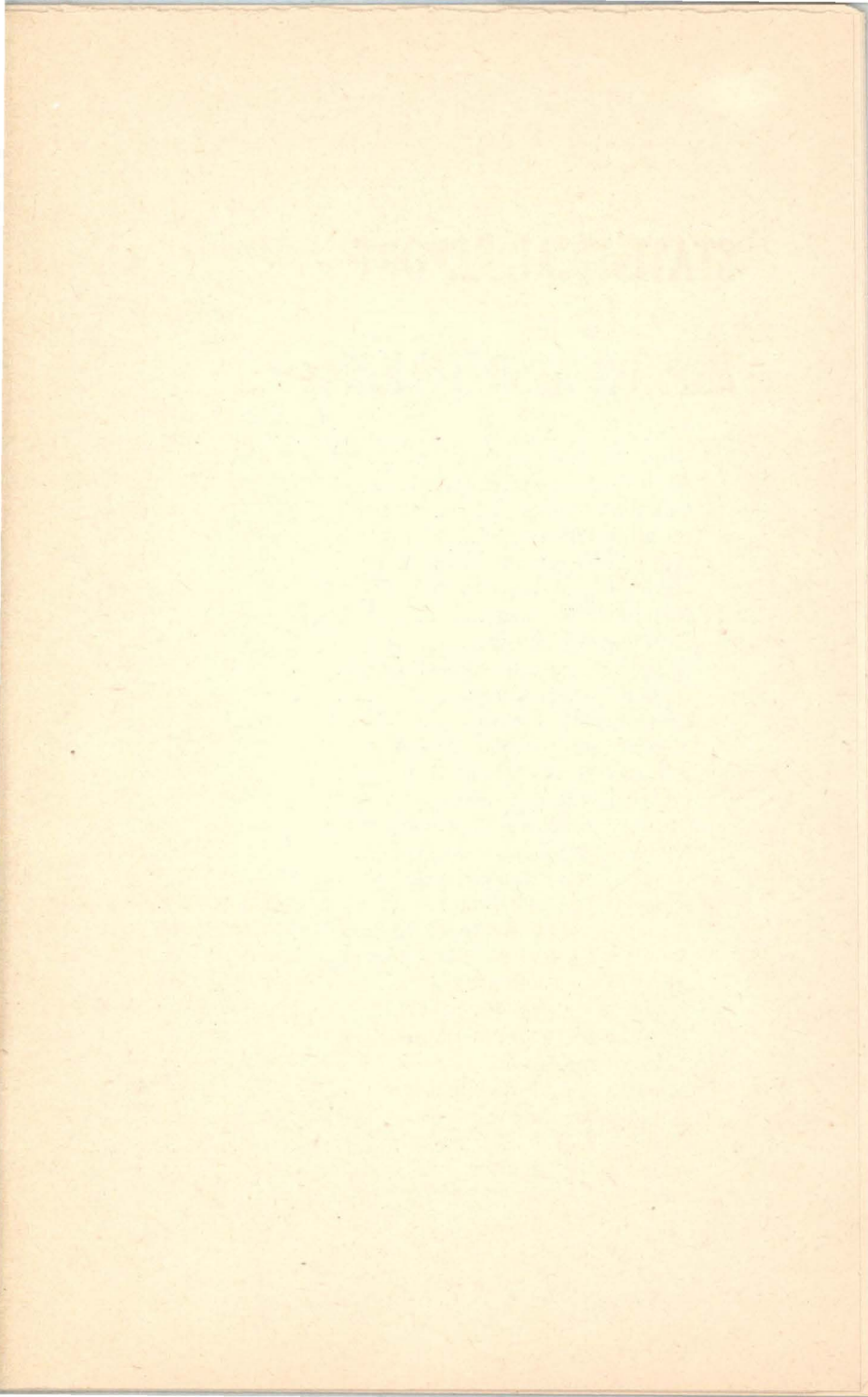
Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Signed

Rev. Raymond Smith  
Deacon Burl Haliburton  
Rev. H. G. Barr  
Rev. A. W. Brook

### CHURCH CLERKS

Mtn Valley—Letha Franklin .....	Mountain Grove, Rt. 3
Pleasant Home No. 1—Mary Bittick.....	Cabool, Rt. 3
Pleasant Grove—Amy Emmerson.....	Hartville, Rt. 1
Hartville—Nola Williams.....	Hartville.....
Mt. Pisgah—Lloyd Walls.....	Cabool, Rt. 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, Rt. 3
Union Chapel—Florence Maxville.....	Graff
Mtn. Grove—Artha Hutsell.....	Mountain Grove
Dutch Chapel—Ivy McCoy.....	Embree
New Rock Springs—June Freeman .....	Bendavis
Union—Nolan Neal .....	Success
New Home—Addie Long.....	Hartville, Rt. 5



# STATISTICAL REPORT OF MISSION ASSOCIATION

	Mt. Pisgah .....	New Home .....	Number One .....
Resident Members .....	41	55	61
Non-resident Members .....	37	10	31
Total Membership .....	78	65	92
Members Received .....	7	2	0
Number Baptised .....	2	1	0
Number Dismissed by Letter .....	1	0	5
Number Deceased .....	0	0	0
Number of Tithers .....			10
Number of Prayer Meetings .....	0	1	1
Number of Leagues .....	1	0	0
League Membership .....	35	0	0
Number of Sunday Schools .....	1	1	1
Average S. S. Attendance .....	50		48
Officers and Teachers .....	10	7	6
Number of Ordained Ministers .....	3	0	5
Number of Licensed Ministers .....	0	1	0
Number of Ordained Deacons .....	3	5	4
Amount Paid Pastors .....	\$ 531.09	\$ 422.00	\$ 360.00
Amount for Evangelistic Work .....	77.49	200.10	75.00
Amount for Building and Repair .....	138.00		
Amount for Incidentals .....	57.81	50.00	95.09
Value of Church Property .....	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,000.00
Amount for Foreign Missions .....			15.82
Amount for Home Missions .....	6.00		
Amount for Education .....		17.50	
Amount for Publications .....	75.00	70.75	24.34
Co-operative Plan .....	43.13		
Amount for Minutes .....	3.00	3.00	3.50

Mtn. Valley .....	Hartville .....	Pleasant Grove .....	Union Chapel .....	Pleasant Home No. 1.	Pleasant Hill .....	Wolf Creek .....	Happy Ridge No. 1 .....	New Rock Springs	Faith and Hope .....	Mt. Zion No. 2 .....	Union .....	Mtn. Grove .....	Dutch Chapel .....
81	70	32	24	20	104	59	20	43	41	47	38	174	25
31	15	16	9	17	34	4	4	10	40	11	4	55	8
112	85	48	33	37	138	63	24	53	81	58	42	229	33
0	17	0	1	0	0	3	0	2	8	0	1	10	0
0	11	0	9	0	0	3	1	0	8	0	1	4	4
0	0	1	3	1	4	0	0	2	2	2	0	4	0
0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
8													
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	0	30	85	0
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
40		25	25	35	15			46	40	20	50	198	50
6	7	8	5	7	5		5	7	9	7	7	23	8
1	2	2	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	4	1
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
3	5	3	4	3	4	3	3	3	3	4	4	8	1
600.00	\$ 745.00	\$ 28.68	\$ 370.00	\$ 196.81	\$ 524.51	\$ 761.00	\$ 312.25	\$ 865.00	\$ 710.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 1,040.00	\$ 3,120.00	\$ 394.92
75.00	170.00		177.00	111.36	103.93	44.21		100.00		82.00	100.00	150.00	35.00
				11.75				288.29	115.00		30.00	2,000.00	
47.50	254.80		16.62	77.26	59.98	12.00	25.00	31.28	40.78			800.00	
3,000.00				2,500.00	1,000.00	5,000.00	1,000.00	5,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	1,800.00	40,000.00	
99.80	83.86					60.00						50.00	
78.00					14.22			30.62	98.00		10 %	50.00	
71.02		25.00	14.00	53.80	16.96		20.00	42.48	82.00	10.00	70.00	380.00	
								60.74					
2.50	3.00	1.00	2.00	2.00	4.15	5.00	1.06	5.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	5.00	2.00



## MINISTER'S REPORT

	Funerals	Revivals	Churches Pastored	Sermons	Rec'd into Church	Professions	Baptised	Miles Traveled	Received
C. D. Findley.....	3	4	2	205	15	15	8	2,000	\$ 860.50
H. B. Smith.....	12	1	1	94	1	4	2		673.35
H. S. Vandivort.....	0	1	2	96	8	3	7	3,784	696.20
Raymond Smith.....	2	0	1	112	11	1	9		419.00
Lester Lawler.....	6	3	2	98	8		4	2,850	848.65
Lee Maxwell.....		1	1	105					1051.00
A. W. Brook.....		1	1	102		1		2,000	650.00
E. R. Light.....	0	3	0	123	17		1	2,500	480.00
A. M. Halford.....	8	1	2	163	1	4	4	3,931	1,115.60
E. E. Winfree.....	0	1	1	82	2	2	2	450	308.00
Ezra Butts.....	1	2	1	129	2	1	1		1,139.44
Charles Chamberlain.....	0	1	1	55				2,860	57.00
Stanley Letterman.....	0	2	1	114	17	17	16	2,675	835.00
H. F. Helsley.....	0	2	0	19	15	0	0	1,709	59.04
Leonard Keys.....	1	2	1	174	17	8	8	9,842	848.25
A. A. Hogue.....	1		2	127	2	0	0	3,461	573.88
O. L. Claxton.....	0	2	1	42	1	0	0	1,200	150.00
B. E. Watson, Jr.....	3	0	0	29	4	0	3	579	27.03
Mary Wester.....	0	3	2	106	6	0	6	3,000	500.00
Harry S. Johns.....									

### MINISTERS NOT REPORTING

A. W. Brook, Clifford Klingensmith, Grover Cravens, H. G. Barr, Floyd Roberts, Jeff Postlewaite, W. L. Atherton, George Scott, Sr., Willard C. Day, Don McCoy, Otho Means and Austin Robertson.

Ministers and Minister's wives present.

Ezra Butts—Mildred Butts.....	Huggins
Raymond Smith—Ermal Smith.....	Huggins
C. D. Findley—Bertha Findley.....	Hartville
H. B. Smith—Verba Smith.....	Mountain Grove
Lee Maxwell—Laurine Maxwell.....	Bendavis
Leonard Keys, Bessie Keys .....	Norwood
A. A. Hogue .....	Cabool
Willard C. Day .....	Mountain Grove
H. S. Vandivort .....	Cabool, Rt. 2
Floyd Roberts .....	Elk Creek
E. R. Light .....	Cabool
H. F. Helsley .....	Mansfield
A. W. Brook .....	Mountain Grove
Lester Lawler .....	Hartville
E. E. Winfree, Mildred Winfree .....	Seymour, Rt. 4
Charles Chamberlain, Sister Chamberlain .....	Mansfield
Archie Halford .....	Norwood
John W. Silvey .....	Ava
Martha Letterman .....	Graff
Grace Royster .....	Hartville
Rosa Lea Atherton .....	Huggins
Russell B. Spurgeon, Sister Spurgeon .....	Mountain Grove
Ralph Robertson, Sister Robertson .....	Bendavis

**CHURCH CLERKS PRESENT**

June Freeman	Dorothy Millsap
Troy McCleary	Amy Emmerson
Mary Bittick	Gillie Reeves

Lloyd Walls

### DEACONS PRESENT

Riley Hutsell	Ernie Millsap
Ray Hutsell	James Odom
Charley Franklin	Troy McCleary
Oscar Yeager	Austa Reeves
Floyd Walls	John S. Hickman
Elmer Ellington	Otis Helsley
W. T. Wynn	P. J. Grimes
E. H. Freeman	Macy Gregory
Charlie Skinner	Vencie Long
Jess Young	Sanford Boring

### DELEGATES PRESENT

June Freeman	Opal Cope
Julia Keys	Omer Cope
Bonnie Jean Reeves	Raymond Helsley
Margaret Walls	Chester Bennett
Keith Walls	J. R. Crewse
Hershel Freeman	Lula McCoy
Nola Yeager	Martha Coffman
Grace Kelsay	Clesta Butts
Clifford Dunn	Mrs. Ed Shannon
Emmett L. Jones	T. C. Butts
Verdie Jones	Sterling Huff
Versal Bittick	Lance Neal
Bill Sanders	Homer Raney
Virginia Loomis	Pansy Garner
Alice Sanders	Lottie Claxton
Lucy Keith	Helen Raney

Bessie Edwards

## DEACON'S WIVES PRESENT

Della Hutsell	Dorothy Millsap
Cinda Vandivort	Mrs. Ed Shannon
Mrs. Ed Fagan	Vinis McCleary
Nola Yeager	Gillie Reeves
Wilma Walls	Martha Hickman
Sister Ellington	Jean Helsley
Avis Freeman	Bertha Gregory
Pauline Long	Bertha Boring

## VISITING MINISTERS AND MINISTER'S WIVES

Fred Wynn, Gladys Wynn .....	Arvin, California
Wm. Mishler .....	Nashville, Tennessee
Alice Burney .....	Mountain Grove

## VISITING DEACONS AND DEACON'S WIVES

Jim Coffman .....	Minnie Coffman
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## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Balance brought forward	-	-	-	\$ 1.71
Amount sent in by churches	-	-	-	48.21
Amount received from Quarterly Meeting	-	-	-	100.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	-	-	<b>\$149.92</b>

## EXPENITURES

Sent to entertainment fund of State Association	-	\$ 50.00
Paid clerk	-	20.00
Printing of 500 minutes	-	60.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>\$130.00</b>
<b>BALANCE IN TREASURY</b>	-	<b>\$ 19.92</b>

## 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 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, 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 services.

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 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 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 his 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 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 in 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.



**MINUTES**  
**OF THE**  
**MISSION ASSOCIATION**  
**OF**  
**FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

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**— 1954 —**

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**PROCEEDINGS OF THE**  
**SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION**

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**CONVENED WITH**  
**NEW ROCK SPRINGS CHURCH**

40  
10  
130  
240  
40  
40  
10

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310

