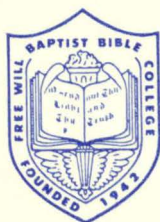


MINUTES
OF THE
MISSION ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

-1955-

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

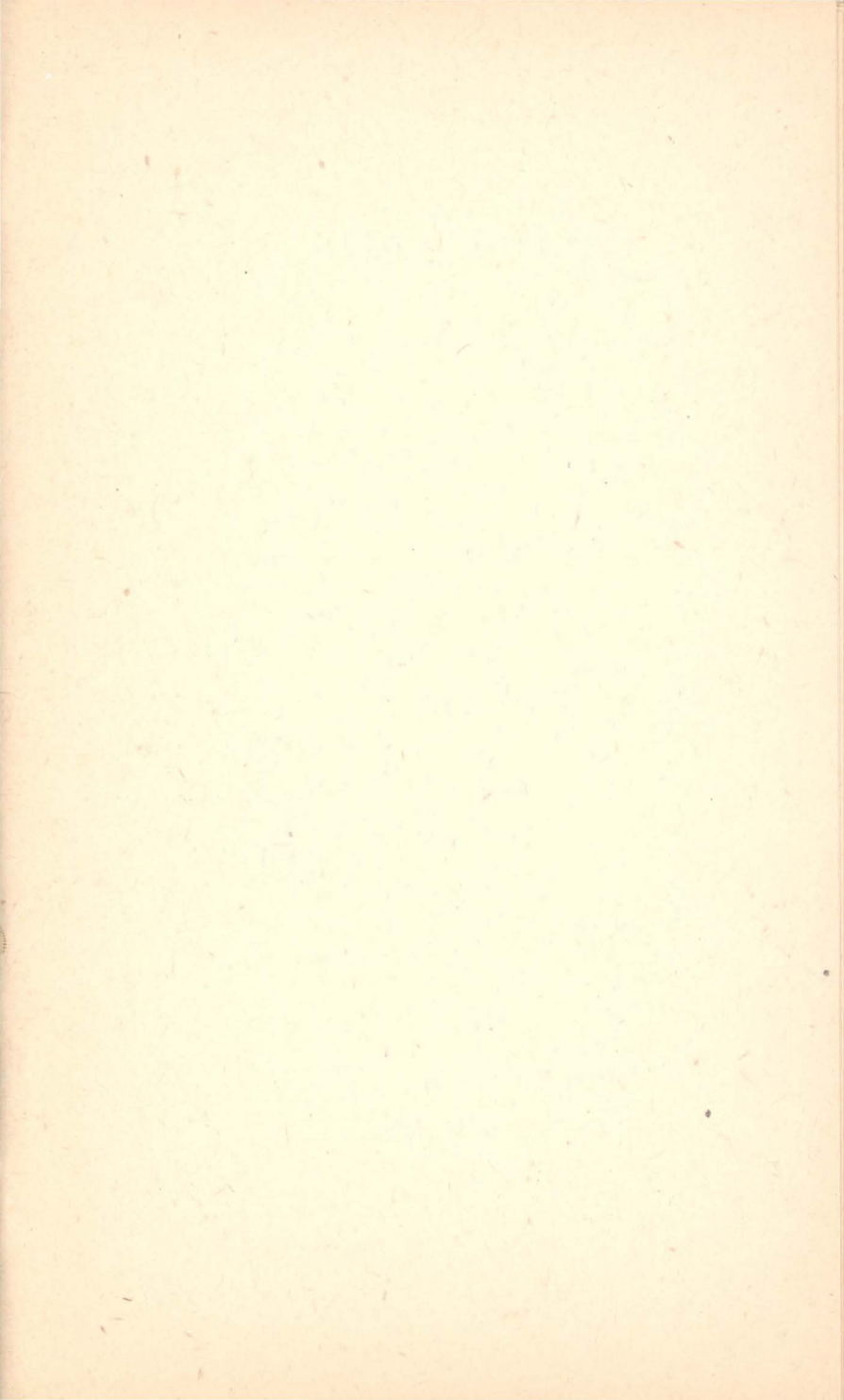
CONVENED WITH
MOUNTAIN GROVE CHURCH



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

Rev. Glen Lewis



MINUTES

OF

SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF

MISSION ASSOCIATION

OF

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

HELD WITH THE
MOUNTAIN GROVE CHURCH AT MOUNTAIN GROVE,
MO., BEGINNING ON THURSDAY MORNING,
AUGUST 11, 1955.

OFFICERS

Rev. Homer Smith	Moderator
Rev. Charley Findley	Assistant Moderator
Lloyd Walls	Clerk-Treasurer
Margaret Walls	Assistant Clerk

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Deacon Charley Franklin	1956
Rev. H. G. Barr	1957
Rev. Homer Smith	1958
Rev. Raymond Smith	1959
Deacon Ray Hutsell	1960

The next session of this Association will be held with the Lone Star Church, 3 miles east of Seymour, Missouri, beginning on Thursday, 9:00 A. M. before the second Sunday in August, 1956.

Rev. C. T. Dixon to bring Associational message.

Rev. A. W. Brook, Alternate.

PROCEEDINGS

Thursday—9:00 A. M.

Meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. Homer Smith with appropriate remarks. Congregational singing.

Scripture reading, a portion of I Cor. 12 by the Moderator.

Prayer by Rev. Archie Halford.

Short talk and friendly welcome by the host pastor, Rev. O. T. Dixon.

Sister Margaret Walls appointed assistant clerk.

Registration of standing delegates.

Committees appointed as follows:

Business—Deacon James Odom, Rev. Leonard Keys and Rev. Russell B. Spurgeon.

Pulpit—Deacons Ray Hutsell, Elmer Ellington and Oscar Yeager.

League—Rev. Lee Maxwell, Rev. Otho Means and Sister Bessie Vandivort.

Sunday School—Rev. Herbert Vandivort, Sister Wilma Walls and Sister Grace Kelsay.

Temperance—Rev. Clifford Klingensmith, Deacon Austa Reeves and Deacon Jim Coffman.

Observance of Sabbath—Deacon Troy McCleary, Sister Nola Yeager and Sister Gillie Reeves.

Obituary—Deacon Clifford Moles, Sister Bessie Hogue and Sister Mildred Butts.

Call for Church letters.

Constitution read by the clerk.

By-laws read by the assistant clerk.

Hymn.

Motion carried to receive Rev. O. T. Dixon into the Mission Association in full fellowship as a Minister.

Call for report of business committee.

Committee reported favorable on the following Churches:

Wolf Creek	Dutch Chapel
Hartville	Mt. Pisgah
Pleasant Hill	Union Chapel
Rock Chapel	Faith and Hope
Union	Mtn. Grove
Happy Ridge No. 1	
Mtn. Valley	Mt. Zion No. 2

Pleasant Home No. 1

Motion carried to accept report and seat the delegates.

Registration of delegates.

Registration of visitors.

Hymn.

Statistical report given by the statistician, Rev. Herbert Vandivort.

Motion carried to accept report.

Motion carried to adjourn.

Benediction by Deacon, Clifford Moles.

11:00 A. M. Service

Congregational singing.

Prayer by Rev. Geo. W. Scott.

Rev. A. W. Brook brought a good message, on the second coming of Christ. He read St. Mark 13 for a scripture reading.

Benediction by Rev. A. A. Hogue.

Thursday Afternoon

Congregation singing.

Scripture reading, a portion of Romans 8 was read by the Assistant Moderator, Rev. C. D. Findley.

Prayer by Rev. Archie Halford.

Call for Church letters.

Verbal report on Fairview Church, given by Rev. Archie Halford. Motion carried to accept report and seat delegates.

Business committee report favorable on the New Rock Springs and Pleasant Grove Churches. Motion carried to accept report and seat the delegates.

Registration of delegates.

Verbal report, on the executive board, given by the moderator.

Call for Ministers' annual reports.

Yearly certificates given to Ministers.

Call for requests.

The Faith and Hope Church requested the Association to examine Bro. Leonard Means for license to preach. Motion carried to grant their request and give him a license to preach the gospel for one year.

The Mtn. Grove Church requested the ordination of Bro. Russell B. Spurgeon. Motion carried to grant their request and ordain him as a Minister of the Gospel. Rev. Homer Smith acted as chairman of the ordaining council. Rev. O. T. Dixon gave the charge. Rev. Leonard Keys prayed the Ordination prayer.

A Christian handshake was given Bro. and Sister Spurgeon and Bro. Leonard Means.

The New Rock Springs Church requested the Association to extend the license of Bro. Ralph Robertson for one year. He could not be present at this time. Motion carried to grant request and extend his license.

Rev. C. D. Findley brought a very soul-stirring message on "The Day Shall Not Come Until the Day of Falling Away Shall Come".

An offering of \$25.00 was taken for the Happy Ridge Church to help on stuccoing the Church building.

Registration of visitors.

Benediction by Bro. Burl Haliburton.

Thursday Evening

Congregation singing.

Prayer by Sister Burney.

Hymn.

Prayer by Bro. Hurd.

Quartet number by the Mt. Pisgah quartet.

Solo, "Someone is Constantly Watching You" by Janice Smith of Mtn. Valley Church.

Rev. Geo. W. Scott, of Myrtle, Mo. brought the evening message, reading Job. 21; 14-15. It was an impressive and encouraging message, subject—"Why Should We Love the Lord".

Hymn.

Benediction by Rev. Lester Lawler.

Friday 9:00 A. M.

Congregational singing.

Moderator read a portion of Acts 17 for a scripture lesson.

Prayer by Rev. H. G. Barr.

Hymn.

Registration of delegates.

Call for report of business committee.

Committee reported favorable on the No. 1 Church.

Motion carried to receive report and seat the delegates

Report of Youth Camp board given by Rev. Leonard Keys

Motion carried to accept report and release committee. A balance of \$1.81 was given to the Association. A vote of thanks was given the committee.

Motion carried to accept report of business committee and send \$30.00 to entertainment fund of State Association.

Received a check for \$30.00 from Harmony Quarterly Meeting.

Registration of visitors and standing delegates.

Deacon Ray Hutsell elected as member of Executive board for a period of 5 years.

Letter read from Rev. Raymond Smith asking to resign as member of Executive board as he had left the state. Motion carried to table the matter until Bro. Smith is contacted as he has now returned to his home.

Financial statement read by the clerk.

Received a check for \$30.00 from the First Quarterly Meeting of Mission Association.

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

Talk by Rev. Leonard Keys, pertaining to a revival meeting at Houston.

Talk on Co-operative plan by Rev. Ben Scott.

Call for report of business committee.

The committee reported favorable on the New Prospect and Harmony Churches.

Motion carried to accept report and seat the delegates.

Registration of delegates.

Talk by Rev. O. T. Dixon pertaining to A Home Mission Board.

Motion carried to allow the Moderator the right to appoint a 3-man committee to work as a home mission board.

Corresponding letter from the Cave Springs Association read by the clerk. Motion carried to accept the letter and seat the delegates.

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

Motion carried to adjourn.

Benediction by Rev. Mary Wester.

11:00 A. M. Worship Service

Congregational singing.

Prayer by Rev. Marion Allsman.

Hymn.

Rev. O. T. Dixon brought a powerful message which stirred the hearts of everyone present. Subject, "For What Shall It Profit a Man, If He Shall Gain The Whole World, and Lose His Own Soul? Or What Shall A Man Give in Exchange For His Soul?"

Services concluded with an invitation hymn.

Benediction by the clerk.

Friday 1:30 P. M.

Singing.

Scripture reading, 1 Cor. 13 by the Moderator.

Prayer by Rev. Hershel Freeman.

The business committee reported favorable on the Lone Star, Liberty and Lead Hill Churches. Motion carried to accept report and seat the delegates.

Registration of delegates.

The Moderator appointed a home mission board as follows: Rev. Ezra Butts, chairman; Rev. Floyd Roberts and Rev. Russell B. Spurgeon.

Call for committee reports.

Motion carried to adopt report of Sunday School committee.

Motion carried to adopt report of League committee.

Motion carried to adopt report of Temperance committee.

Motion carried to adopt report of Observance of the Sabbath committee.

Motion carried to receive report of Obituary committee.

All stood for a moment of silent prayer in remembrance of the ones passed on to their reward. Prayer continued by the Moderator.

As no Church had requested the next session of the Association, it was voted to send it to the Lone Star Church.

Election of delegates as follows:

State Association—Sister Bessie Vandivort, Sister Effie Stillwell and Bro. Jesse Cameron.

National Association—Sisters Verba Smith, Hazel Hutsell, Margaret Dixon, Lorena Edwards and Della Hutsell.

Alternates—Bro. John M. Vandivort, Sisters Elaine Spurgeon, Artha Hutsell, Bessie Hogue and Agnes DeArmond.

Cave Springs—Bros. Elmer Ellington, Earl McDaris and Ray Hutsell.

Liberty—Revs. Homer Smith, C. D. Findley and Leonard Keys.

Missouri Association of General Baptists — Revs. A. W. Brook, Homer Smith and O. T. Dixon.

Little Vine Association of General Baptists—Revs. Leonard Keys, Archie Hogue and H. S. Vandivort.

Election of officers for the coming year as follows:

Rev. Homer Smith Moderator

Rev. C. D. Findley Assistant Moderator

Lloyd Walls Clerk-Treasurer

Rev. H. S. Vandivort Statistician

Rev. O. T. Dixon To Bring Association Message

Rev. A. W. Brook Alternate

Vote of thanks to the Mtn. Grove Church for their hospitality.

Motion carried to adjourn.

Benediction of business session by Deacon Oscar Yeager.

Singing by congregation.

A portion of the 20th chapter of Numbers was read for scripture reading.

Rev. Ben Scott of Oilton, Oklahoma brought a strong and inspiring message that filled our souls to an overflowing of rejoicing. Subject, "King's Highway". Services concluded with a Christian handshake.

Benediction by Rev. C. D. Findley.

Those who served during the session of the Association as song leaders and pianists are as follows:

Song leaders— Sister Wilma Walls, Rev. Archie Hogue, Sister Margaret Dixon, Rev. Hershel Freeman and Rev. O. L. Claxton.

Pianists—Sister Hazel Hutsell and Sister Shirley Francis.

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:

Brother Howard Baker—Number One Church.

Brother Carl McCoy—Dutch Chapel Church.

Brother Jim Long, Brother Coy Smith—Rock Chapel Church.

Sister Mary Davis, Sister Mary Raney, Sister Anna Long; Brother Joe Love, Brother Arthur Fletcher—Mtn. Valley Church.

Sister Mary Barr, Sister Rachel Curry—Mt. Pisgah Church

Brother Lewis Moody—Wolf Creek Church.

Brother Elmer Wright—Harmony Church.

Sister Bettie Perky, Sister Theora Summers, Brother Glenn Smith—Mtn. Grove Church.

Sister Orma Corder Palmer—Lead Hill Church.

Brother Harry Owens, Brother George Thompson—Hartville Church.

Committee

Mildred Butts

Bessie Hogue

Clifford Moles

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

We, your committee on Sunday Schools recommend the use of Free Will Baptist literature and the King James version of the Bible. We believe it necessary for all teachers and officers to be Christians. We urge all Ministers, Deacons and Church Workers to co-operate in the advancement of the Sunday School Work and Daily Vacation Bible Schools.

We believe in the promises of God; train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

The National Association Sunday School Department now offers a complete 6-point record system and should such material be needed. Rev. Wm. Mishler, promotional secretary should be contacted at our National Headquarters building 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville, Tenn.

Committee

Herbert Vandivort

Wilma Walls

Grace Kelsay

LEAGUE:

We, your committee submit the following report: We sincerely urge all our pastors and ministers to encourage and assist in every way possible in organizing and maintaining a League in every Church for spiritual training of our young folk.

We further recommend that all Leagues take an active part in the quarterly rallies and yearly League convention.

Committee

Lee Maxwell

Bessie Vandivort

Otho Means

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, including radio and television.

Committee

J. W. Coffman

H. C. Klingensmith

Austa Reeves

OBSERVANCE OF THE SABBATH:

We, your committee on the observance of the Sabbath submit the following:

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

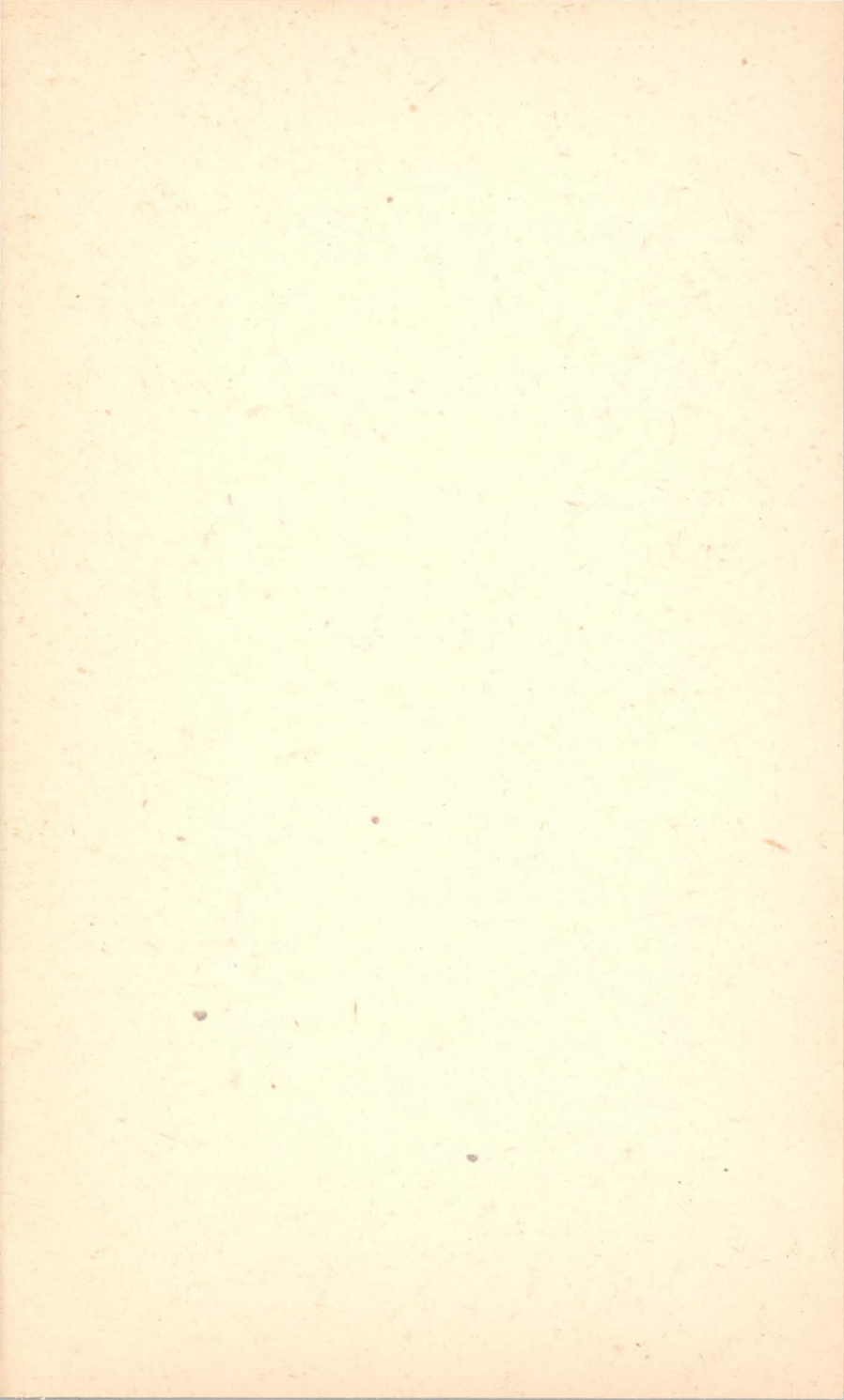
Troy McCleary

Nola Yeager

Gillie Reeves

CHURCH CLERKS

Pleasant Grove—Amy Emmerson	Hartville, Rt. 1
New Rock Springs—June Freeman	Bendavis
Hartville—Daisy Morton	Hartville
Mtn. Grove—Artha Hutsell	Mtn. Grove
New Home—Addie Long	Hartville
Union—Nolan Neal	Success
Mt. Zion No. 2—Troy McCleary	Hartville Rt. 1
Happy Ridge No. 1—Pansy Skinner	Norwood
Union Chapel—Florence Maxville	Graff
Wolf Creek—Dorothy Millsap	Mansfield
Mt. Pisgah—Lloyd Walls	Cabool Rt. 2
Mtn. Valley—Letha Franklin	Mtn. Grove
Pleasant Hill—Ruth Hickman	Hartville
Rock Chapel—Zona Smith	Norwood
Pleasant Home No. 1—Mary Bittick	Cabool Rt. 3
Faith and Hope—Gillie Reeves	Cabool
Dutch Chapel—Ivy McCoy	Embree
Number One—Pearl Reed	Huggins
New Prospect—Kathleen Chamberlain	Mansfield
Lead Hill—Emma Peterson	Mansfield
Lone Star—Agnes DeArmond	Seymour
Liberty—Marjorie Gardner	Seymour
Harmony—Florine Silvey	Seymour



STATISTICAL REPORT OF MISSION ASSOCIATION

Number One

Faith and Hope

Resident Members	59	38	163
Non-Resident Members	31	40	54
Total Membership	90	78	217
Membership Received	2	3	14
Number Baptised	4	1	9
Number Dismissed by Letter	2	6	4
Number Deceased	1	0	3
Number of Tithers	10	2	
Number of Prayer Meetings	1	0	1
Number of Leagues	0	1	1
League Membership		30	60
Number of Sunday Schools	1	1	1
Average S S. Attendance	50	38	177
Officers and Teachers	2	6	8
Number of Ordained Ministers	5	2	5
Number of Licensed Ministers	1	1	0
Number of Ordained Deacons	4	3	6
Amount Paid Pastors	\$ 360.00	\$ 805.00	\$ 3,380.00
Amount for Evangelistic Work	100.00	114.00	300.00
Amount for Building and Repair		110.00	1,108.00
Amount for Incidentals	88.60	65.00	350.00
Value of Church Property	2 000.00	4,000.00	45,000.00
Amount for Foreign Missions			100.00
Amount for Home Missions		18.00	
Amount for Education			350.00
Amount for Publications	28.58	72.00	
Co-Operative Fund	25.00	52.00	
Amount for Minutes	5.00	2.00	5.00
Auxiliary Membership			45

New Prospect	Lead Hill	Lone Star	Liberty	Harmony	Dutch Chapel	Pleasant Home No. 1	Rock Chapel	Pleasant Hill	Mtn. Valley	Wolf Creek	Union Chapel	Happy Ridge No. 1	Mt. Zion No. 2	Union	New Home	Hartville	New Rock Springs	Pleasant Grove	Mt. Pisgah
21	27	35	21	47	33	28	77	98	81		23	20	46	37	57	55	32	39	49
2	15	7	30	19	8	16	50	33	31		9	4	11	5	10	20	24	13	30
23	42	42	51	66	41	44	127	131	112	64	32	24	57	42	67	75	56	52	79
3	3	0	1	2	8	7	6	0	5	7	1	0	0	4	2	0	3	7	7
3	3	0	0	2	3	4	1	0	3	0	6	0	0	5	1	2	0	5	8
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0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	16	1	1
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0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	30	40	1	1	1	45
1	22	45	15	23	50	54	50		45	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	5	6	3	2	3	15	7	1	4	0	25	20	25	48	50		42	40	50
0	1	1	2	4	1	0	0	1	1	0	6	2	2	7	7	1	3	5	10
3	4	3	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	2
21.33	200.00	512.00	128.35	250.00	418.50	132.57	540.00	386.80	600.00	3	4	3	4	4	5	4	3	1	3
11.00	40.00	175.00	19.41		29.92	210.92	102.00		200.00										
		30.00	18.00	18.00		60.99	400.00		103.16					100.00					
2,800.00		5,000.00	2,500.00	2,000.00	53.18	2,500.00	6,000.00	1,000.00	5,000.00			1,500.00	1,000.00	4,000.00	1,800.00	2,500.00	5,000.00	10,000.00	3,000.00
							133.85	10.00								64.80			
	40.00			31.03		73.00	112.00	4.91			16.00	15.00		80.00	80.00		35.00	25.00	75.00
1.00	3.00	5.00	1.00	2.00	2.00	3.00	5.00	6.35	5.00	5.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	3.00	3.00	5.00	1.00	5.00

MINISTERS REPORT

	Funerals	Revivals	Church Pastored	Sermons	Rec'd into Church	Profession	Baptised	Miles Traveled	Money Received
Homer Smith	21	2	1	101	5	4	5		\$ 762.25
C. D. Findley		5	1	150	4	20	0	2,500	1,500.15
Lee Maxwell		1	1	112					1,284.20
Leonard Keys	4	1	1	183	17	8	4	14,298	903.00
Floyd Roberts		1	1	63	5	4	4	1,140	328.00
Lester Lawler	4	3	2	120	9	9	4	3,556	1,268.52
Ezra Butts	3	4	1	129	9	17	15		1,004.39
A. A. Hogue	1	4	1	118	5	12	7	6,392	1,374.31
Mary Wester		2	1	48		6		800	200.00
W. L. Atherton				7					
O. L. Claxton	1	1		25		2		288	
Harold Helsley			1	36		9	3	2,675	97.88
Herbert Vandivort		1	1	65	2	5	4	2,520	426.00
Charles Chamberlain	1	2	2	98		2	3	4,950	227.60
A. M. Malford	11		3	277	5	4	5	4,178	1,407.30
Clellia Duckworth		2		30		9			18.00

MINISTERS NOT TURNING IN ANNUAL REPORT.

Grover Craven, Ralph and Austin Robertson; H. J. Freeman Marion Allsman; G. W. Scott, Sr.; Ellis Cravens; Clifford Klingensmith; H. G. Barr; Otho Means; Don McCoy; Jeff Postlewaite; Raymond Smith; Emmett Hutsell; E. R. Light; Benny Watson; J. W. Silvey; A. W. Brook; Harry S. Johns; E. E. Winfree and Walter Cardwell.

MINISTERS AND MINISTERS WIVES PRESENT

O. T. Dixon—Margaret Dixon	Mtn. Grove
C. D. Findley—Bertha Findley	Hartville
H. F. Helsley	Mansfield
Geo. W. Scott, Sr.—Sister Scott	Mtn. Grove
Herbert Vandivort—Bessie Vandivort	Cabool Rt. 2
Homer Smith—Verba Smith	Mtn. Grove
A. M. Halford	Norwood
H. C. Klingensmith—Arizona Klingensmith	Bendavis
Charles Chamberlain	Mansfield
A. A. Hogue—Bessie Hogue	Cabool
Ezra Butts—Mildred Butts	Huggins
Leonard Keys—Bessie Keys	Norwood
Lee Maxwell	Bendavis
A. W. Brook	Mtn. Grove
Otho Means—Katie Means	Upton
Floyd Roberts—Elsie Roberts	Elk Creek
H. J. Freeman	Bendavis
H. G. Barr—Pearl Barr	Cabool Rt. 2
J. J. Postlewaite	Mtn. Grove
Mary Wester	Marshfield
O. L. Claxton—Mollie Claxton	Seymour
W. L. Atherton	Huggins
M. F. Allsman—Mrs. Allsman	Hartville
Russell B. Spurgeon—Elaine Spurgeon	Mtn. Grove

DEACONS AND DEACONS WIVES PRESENT

Raymond Smith	Ruby Smith
E. H. Freeman	Avis Freeman
C. E. Pembroke	Maud Pembroke
P. J. Grimes	
Austa Reeves	Gillie Reeves
James Odom	
	Wilma Walls
J. W. Coffman	
Oscar Yeager	Nola Yeager
Troy McCleary	Vinis McCleary
Ray Hutsell	Mattie Hutsell
Riley Hutsell	Della Hutsell
Noel Elliott	Gertrude Elliott
Will Elliott	
Rolla Ballard	
Clifford Moles	Hessie Moles
Charley Skinner	Grace Skinner
Ray Hutsell	Artha Hutsell
Macy Gregory	Bertha Gregory
Levi James	Mrs. James
Jesse Cameron	Ada Cameron
W. O. Wester	
Luther Cooper	Dola Cooper
J. M. Thurman	
Ernest Cantrell	
Ray Shimel	Mrs. Shimel
Clara Huff	

DELEGATES PRESENT

Leona Holt	Delta Neal
Finis Delcore	Herman Keith
Rose Helsley	R. E. Helsley
Leonard Means	Judy Cooper
Agnes Greenlee	Roy Barnes
Frona Earnes	Delpha Young
Troy Elliott	Bertha Dennis
Patricia Huff	Ivan Kelsay
Grace Kelsay	Helen Raney
Leonard Briggs	Edna Walls
Susie Dugger	Daisy Morton
Mable Hutsell	Otta Draper
Viola Draper	Ruth Owens
Ernest Anderson	Alice Robertson
Ruby Maxwell	Audrey Curtis
Loman Curtis	Fanny Foxworthy
Charles F. Silvey	Maggie Silvey
Carl Hatfield	J. M. Thurman
W. M. Dickson	Jasper McCormick
Chester D. Allman	Mrs. Ray Shimel

CHURCH CLERKS PRESENT

Troy McCleary	Daisy Morton
Gillie Reeves	Ruth Hickman
Lloyd Walls	Mary Bittick
Florine Silvey	Agnes DeArmond
Artha Hutsell	

VISITING MINISTERS AND MINISTERS WIVES

Geo W. Scott, Jr.—Oma Scott	Myrtle, Mo.
Ben Scott—Genell Scott	Oilton, Okla.
B. W. Freeman—Ethel Freeman	Norwood, Mo.
..... Alice Burney	Mtn. Grove

VISITING DEACON AND WIFE

Burl Haliburton —Mary Haliburton	Oklahoma
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FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Balance brought forward	—	—	—	\$ 39.92
Sent in by Churches	—	—	—	75.35
Received from Youth Camp Committee	—			1.81
Received from Quarterly Meetings	—	—	—	60.00
TOTAL	—	—	—	\$177.08

EXPENDITURES

Sent to entertainment fund of State Association	\$30.00
Printing of 500 Minutes	60.00
Paid Clerk	20.00
TOTAL	\$110.00
BALANCE IN TREASURY	\$ 67.08

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 call-

ed 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 Saviour and Lord.

4. The Holy Spirit. The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God.

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

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

7. The Work of Christ. The Son of God by His incarnation, life, 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." 1 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.

