

MINUTES

OF THE

*Ninth Annual Session*

OF THE

*MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION*

OF

**FREE WILL BAPTIST**

WHEN CONVENED WITH

*First*

*Free Will Baptist Church*

BOONEVILLE, MISSISSIPPI

*November 9 & 10, 1973*

THE NEXT SESSION WILL BE HELD

WITH THE

TUPELO FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI

FRIDAY AFTERNOON AND NIGHT AND SATURDAY

BEFORE THE SECOND SUNDAY

IN NOVEMBER, 1974

**Mississippi State Association  
Of Free Will Baptists**

**1973-1974**

**MODERATOR.....REV. J. L. GORE**  
905 Valencia Street, Jackson, Mississippi

**ASSISTANT MODERATOR .....REV. NORMAN RICHMOND**  
Fulton, Mississippi

**CLERK.....REV. DANIEL GASKINS**  
Box 353, Richton, Mississippi 39476

**ASSISTANT CLERK .....REV. BILLY ROBINSON**  
Buckatunna, Mississippi

**TREASURER .....MR. V. A. ARMSTRONG**  
Route 1, Smithville, Mississippi 38870

**EDITOR — MISSISSIPPI MESSENGER .....REV. DANIEL GASKINS**

**BOARD OF MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION —**

Bro. Berry Van Nowell — 1974; Rev. Wendell Wally — 1975; Bro. Charles  
Walden — 1976; Rev. Ron Neibruegge — 1977; Rev. Odell Harris — 1978.

**BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION —**

Rev. Norman Richmond — 1974; Rev. Paul Long — 1975; Rev. Bill Gardner —  
1976; Rev. Edd Mazingo — 1977; Rev. Luther Gibson — 1978.

**BOARD OF CONFERENCE AND ITINERATE MINISTRIES —**

Rev. Daniel Gaskins — 1974; Bro. Darrell Stafford — 1975; Rev. Jack Jones —  
1976.

**BOARD OF HISTORICAL COMMISSION —**

Bro. William Walden — 1974; Rev. Herbert Knight — 1975; Rev. Fred Hawkins  
— 1976.

**BOARD OF CHILDREN’S HOME — Bobby Mills**

**DIGEST REPORT OF CHURCHES**

Digest Report of Churches and Associations representing at the Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists convening at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Booneville, Mississippi Nov. 9-10, 1973

NAME OF CHURCH	MISSION MOBILE CHAPEL FUND	FEE	TOTAL
First, Philadelphia .....	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$20.00
New Gauley .....		10.00	10.00
Mt. Pisgah .....		10.00	10.00
Lee's Chapel (Jones County) .....	10.00	10.00	20.00
Smith Chapel .....	75.00	10.00	85.00
White Hill .....	20.00	10.00	30.00
Fellowship .....		10.00	10.00
First, Pascagoula .....		10.00	10.00
Corinth .....		10.00	10.00
Antiock, Randolph .....	100.00	10.00	110.00
Martin Hill .....		10.00	10.00
New Lebanon .....	25.00	10.00	35.00
Buckatunna .....		10.00	10.00
Jones Chapel .....		10.00	10.00
Pine Grove .....	10.00	10.00	20.00
West Point .....		10.00	10.00
Antiock, Burnsville .....	20.00	10.00	30.00
North Side .....	100.00	10.00	110.00
First, Booneville .....		10.00	10.00
County Line .....		10.00	10.00
Pearce Chapel .....		10.00	10.00
Thompson Creek .....		10.00	10.00
Fulton .....		10.00	10.00
McGregor Chapel .....	115.00	10.00	125.00
Bethel .....		10.00	10.00
Lovewell .....	5.00	10.00	15.00
Richton .....	25.00	10.00	35.00
Lee's Chapel (Wayne County) .....		10.00	10.00
Beach Springs .....	90.00	10.00	100.00
Tupelo .....		10.00	10.00
First, Columbus .....		10.00	10.00
Main St., Amory .....		10.00	10.00
GRAND TOTAL .....	\$605.00	\$330.00	\$935.00

**NAME OF ASSOCIATIONS**

Little Brown Creek .....	20.00	20.00
South Mississippi .....	20.00	20.00
North East .....	30.00	30.00

STATISTICS AND FINANCIAL REPORT

Statistics —

Number of Churches .....	49
Church Membership .....	5223
Number of Parsonages .....	11
Number of Ordained Ministers .....	61
Number of liscensed Ministers .....	18
Number of Ordained Deacons .....	180
Enrollment of Sunday School .....	3304
Enrollment of Church Training Service .....	1183
Enrollment of Woman’s Auxiliaries .....	309
Enrollment of Master’s Men .....	11

Financial Report —

Spent for local causes:

Pastor’s salaries .....	\$134,925.54
Evangelistic work .....	5,649.49
Building and repair .....	200,605.57
Literature .....	17,983.84
Other .....	98,138.70

Total spent for local causes .....	\$457,303.14
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Spent for outisde causes:

Cooperative Plan .....	\$481.00
Foreign Missions .....	11,838.69
Home Missions .....	3,986.58
Education .....	7,590.42
Orphanage .....	3,527.40
Superannuation .....	5.00
Associational projects .....	9,392.40
State and National projects .....	12,660.07

Total spent for outside causes .....	\$49,481.56
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Total expenditures .....	\$404,100.87
Value of Church property .....	\$1,585,300.00
Value of parsonage property .....	\$219,500.00

**— PROCEEDINGS —**  
  
**BIBLE CONFERENCE**  
  
**SPONSORED BY THE**  
  
**BOARD OF CONFERENCE AND ITINERATE MINISTRIES**  
  
**AND**  
  
**Of the Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists**  
  
**convening at the First F. W. B. Church**  
  
**Booneville, Mississippi**

**BIBLE CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

**November 9, 1973**

Rev. J. L. Gore, Presiding  
Rev. Bill Gardner, Song Director

10:00 a.m. — Worship in Song

Welcome Address — Rev. Daniel Gaskins

10:15 a.m. — Message — Rev. Norman Richmond

10:55 a.m. — Recess

11:00 a.m. — Worship in Song

Special Music — Rev. Bill Gardner

11:20 a.m. — Message — Rev. Ronald Niebruegge

12:00 Noon — LUNCH

1:00 p.m. — Call to Worship

1:10 p.m. — Message — Rev. Jack Jones

1:50 p.m. — Recess

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The ninth Annual Session of the Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists met at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Booneville, Mississippi on Friday afternoon November 9 at 2 p.m. with Moderator Rev. E. H. Brock, presiding.

The session opened with congregational singing led by Rev. Bill Gardner. The meeting was called to order by the Assistant Moderator, Rev. J. L. Gore who introduced the Moderator. Moderator's message followed. He used Matthew 7:12 as his text. He stressed the importance of using the Golden Rule in our State Association.

The Moderator appointed Rev. Norman Richmond to serve as assistant clerk. The clerk, Rev. Daniel Gaskins, gave the digest report of churches and associational letters. The delegates present were seated to conduct the business.

The Moderator appointed Rev. Buford Pierce, Rev. Bobby Mills, Rev. Paul Long to serve on the Committee on Committees. Appointed on the auditing committee were Rev. Carter Brewer, Rev. Fred Hawkins and Rev. Jack Jones.

The Executive Committee report was given by the clerk, Rev. Daniel Gaskins. Motion was made and carried to accept the report and vote on recommendations item by item. (See report.)

Report of Children's Home was given by Rev. Fred Hawkins. Motion was made and carried this report be adopted.

Oral report of the Conference and Itinerate Ministries Board was given by Rev. J. L. Gore, Chairman. Motion was made and carried the report be adopted.

Report of Retirement and Insurance was given by Rev. Herman Hersey.

Motion was carried to recess until the Evening Session. Benediction was prayed by Rev. E. B. Ledlow.

## FRIDAY EVENING SESSION

Congregation sang "Love Lifted Me" and "I Must Tell Jesus" led by Rev. Bill Gardner. Scripture reading by Quendell Pierce. He read from Job 14 and John 14:16. Prayer by Brother Pierce.

Welcome address was given by the host pastor, Rev. Luther Gibson.

The report of the Committee on Committees was given by Rev. Buford Pierce. Motion was made and carried the report be adopted. (See Report.)

Rev. E. H. Brock resigned off the State Board of Missions and Church Extension due to the fact he was leaving the State. Motion was made and carried to accept his resignation.

Worship offering was received in the amount of \$123.00 for the State General Fund.

Rev. Bill Gardener rendered a special song accompanied at the piano by Rev. Herman Hersey. Congregation sang "Power in the Blood." Solo by Rev. Bill Gardener. Piano solo was rendered by Rev. Herman Hersey, then another solo by Rev. Gardener.

Rev. Herman Hersey, Director of Retirement and Insurance, brought the evening message. He read 1 Chron. 29:1-3. He used as his text the 3rd verse, "I have set my affection to the house of my God." He pointed out (1) Why we-



should set our affection to the house of God; (2) How we can set our affection to the house of God — (a) Praise unto the Lord, (b) Give God glory, (c) By sacrificial giving. and (3) The result — Rejoicing Spirit. It was a very challenging message.

Congregation sang hymn of invitation, "I'll Live for Him."

Written reports of the National Departments were distributed.

Benediction was prayed by Dr. Doe Ange.

### **SATURDAY MORNING**

The Prayer Fellowship Breakfast was held at the Wagon Wheel Cafeteria. After breakfast Dr. Joe Ange, Director of Religious Activities, Free Will Baptist Bible College was the speaker. He brought a very challenging message.

### **SATURDAY MORNING SESSION**

The morning business session was opened by the congregation singing "At the Cross" led by Brother Gardener. Devotions were brought by Rev. Herman Pannell. He used Matthew 12:26 as his text. Prayer by Brother Pannell.

Report of the Nominating Committee was given by Rev. Bill Gardner. The report was adopted. (See report.)

Report of the Board of Christian Education was given by Rev. Norman Richmond. The report was adopted. (See report.)

Report of the Resolution Committee was given by Rev. Luther Gibson. Motion was made and carried to accept the report and table until the afternoon session the recommended resolutions. (See report.)

Report of the Board of Missions and Church Extension was given by the chairman, Rev. Odell Harris. Honor Roll Certificates were presented to 15 churches for giving regularly ten dollars or more per month to State Missions. Motion was made and carried to adopt the report. (See report.)

Prayer of Benediction by Rev. Paul Long.

### **RECESS**

Congregation sang "Bring Them In" and "There is a Name I Love to Hear." Worship offering for Mississippi State Missions was received in the amount of \$129.87.

Rev. J. L. Gore, our Missionary to Jackson, Mississippi preached the morning message. He read from Ephesians 3:13-21. He preached a very challenging message relating how God had dealt with him and provided the need in him going to Jackson. He pointed out reasons why he knew it was God Who was sending him to Jackson.

Rev. Wendell Walley presented a challenge to pay off the indebtedness on the Mobile Chapel.

Prayer of Benediction and Blessing on the Lunch was prayed by Rev. Al Mamm.

## **LUNCH**

Afternoon session was opened with congregation singing "Standing on the Promises." Prayer by Rev. Fred Hawkins.

The Auditing Committee report was given by Rev. Carter Brewer. The report was adopted by amendment. (See report.)

Charles Fields, Rev. Norman Richmond and Rev. Bobby Mills were elected to serve on the Auditing Committee according to the direction of the Executive Committee to audit Treasurer's Report prior to the next session of the State Association.

Treasurer's Report was given by the treasurer, Brother A. V. Armstrong. Motion was made and carried to adopt report. (See report.)

Resolution Committee report was reread by Rev. Luther Gibson. Motion was made and carried to take off the table the tabled motion. All resolutions were adopted. (See report.)

The State Woman's Auxiliary Convention report was given by Mrs. Luther Gibson. Motion was made and carried to adopt this report. (See report.)

Motion was made and carried that the clerk purchase a filing cabinet and that the other one be transferred to the chairman of the State Mission Board.

Motion was made and carried that we adjourn. Rev. Bill Gardner prayed the prayer of benediction.

## **REPORT OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

### **REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Executive Committee of the Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists met at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Columbus, Mississippi, September 15, 1973 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was opened with prayer led by Rev. Glen Shelby. All members were present. The following recommendations were made:

We recommend:

1. That we feature one National Department this year, the other departments to represent by letter or written report.

2. That the department heads be notified and request them to set up schedule.

3. That the representative of the department that is featured will be the keynote speaker on Friday night.

4. We recommend that we publish the Mississippi Free Will Messenger monthly.

5. We recommend that we purchase a 4-drawer filing cabinet to keep all issues of Mississippi Messengers and Mississippi State minutes. Amended to read that the filing cabinet that is the property of the State Association be used as a general use cabinet and the clerk be custodian of all State Association



records.

6. We recommend the form letter from the local church to District Association as recommended by the National Association be adopted by the District Associations to their local churches.

7. We planned State Association Program.

Rev. E. H. Brock, Moderator  
Rev. J. L. Gore, Assistant Moderator  
Rev. Glen Shelby, Assistant Clerk  
Brother A. V. Armstrong, Treasurer

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Rev. Bill Gardner  
Rev. Carter Brewer  
Rev. Jack Jones

### RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

Rev. Luther Gibson  
Rev. William Robinson  
Rev. Wayne Yarbrough

Submitted by —  
Buford Pierce, Chairman  
Paul Long  
Bobby G. Mills

Moderator — Rev. J. L. Gore

Assistant Moderator — Rev. Norman Richmond

Clerk — Rev. Daniel Gaskins

Assistant Clerk — Rev. William B. Robinson

Treasurer — A. V. Armstrong

Editor of Mississippi Messenger — Rev. Daniel Gaskins

Board of Missions and Church Extension to fill the expired term of Rev. Odell Harris — Rev. Odell Harris and to fill the term of Rev. Randy Cox who has resigned — Rev. Ron Neibruegge and to fill the term of Rev. E. H. Brock who has resigned — Rev. Wendell Walley.

Board of Christian Education to fill the expired term of Rev. Luther Gibson — Rev. Luther Gibson and to fill the term of Rev. Nick Hollis — Rev. Paul Long.

Board of Conference and Itinerate Ministries to fill the expired term of Rev. J. L. Gore — Rev. Jack Jones.

Board of Historical Commission to fill the expired term of Rev. J. K. Walley — Rev. Fred Hawkins.

Board of Children's Home to replace Rev. Fred Hawkins — Rev. Bobby Mills.

**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

The Christian Education Board met at First Free Will Baptist Church in Columbus on February, 1973. There were three members present. They were Luther Gibson, Bill Gardner, and Norman Richmond.

The main business of this meeting was to plan the state CTS Rally. This was planned for June 16 at Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church.

Also discussed at the meeting were plans for a teacher training course, however nothing definite was planned.

Submitted By—

\_\_\_\_\_  
Luther Gibson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Gardner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Norman Richmond

## **REPORT OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE**

1. Be it resolved that one Sunday of this next Associational year be set aside for a Free Will offering for Mississippi Messenger to help pay for publication.

2. Be it resolved that the next session of State Association meet with Tupelo Free Will Baptist Church.

3. Be it resolved that we recommend the following Constitutional change to the 1973 State Association assembly:

Re: Article VI Section  
Add as section B

MOTION: That the following items be adopted by this Board as Policy, and that these items be recommended to the 1973 meeting of the State Association for approval:

1. This Board will have the authority to approve:

- a. The organization of the Mission into a church.
- b. Purchase date, location, and price of property purchased by the church or mission until all financial support be terminated.

2. This Board shall have the authority to approve or disapprove the removal of a mission or church pastor, and to approve or disapprove the selection of a new pastor until all financial support be terminated.

3. This Board will have the right and authority for 5 years after financial support has terminated, in the event the work fails, or the church disbands or ceases to function, to recover any equity from the work in the form of property, securities, cash, or any other assets, and such recovered equity is to be used in future missions projects at the discretion of the Board. However, this does not mean that the Board will assume any liabilities of the church for any direct indebtedness at any time.

The State Association Treasurer shall be a non-voting member of this Board and will meet with the Board only at the request of the Board. All financial decisions made by the voting Board members of the Board of Missions and Church Extension regarding its assigned ministries are binding upon the state Treasurer.

4. We resolve to recommend as new ministers are licensed in the different associations, his name and address be published in the Mississippi Messenger and the Moderator keep a list of these names for the purpose of pastor fill-in and as a means of inter-action and fellowship between our association.

5. Be it resolved that we express by a rising vote of thanks to this church for their warm hospitality in serving this annual association.

6. Be it resolved that we give Brother Brock a rising vote of thanks for his faithful service as Moderator of this Association.

Rev. Luther Gibson, Chairman

Rev. Wayne Yarbrough

Rev. William Robinson

## REPORT OF STATE MISSION BOARD

### OBSERVATIONS —

“ . . . . Pray ye the Lord of the Harvest . . . . ” (Luke 10:2). Never has this verse of scripture so aptly described the need of State Missions and Church Extension than at this time. Many of you have known for some time that the Board of Missions and Church Extension has made the decision to go into Jackson, Mississippi for our next State Home Missions project. Inflation continues to eat away the purchasing power of the dollar and the cost of keeping a Missionary on the field is increasing constantly. We must have a tremendous increase in giving to State Missions if we are to be successful in building a church in the largest city in our state. We will either stand or fall in the area of State Home Missions with the Jackson project. Humanly speaking everything depends on our Pastors and Churches in standing with the Board in this work of faith.

The Board is convinced of God's will in adopting this project, with the faith that God will put it in the hearts of our people to supply the needed funds. We must have \$600.00 per month in regular support to continue the limited support to our Greenville project and pay the cost of the Jackson Mission. This amount is in addition to an exceptional good drive in our March for Mississippi Missions. Some one has said that Missions is the life of the Church, this being true, let us not die in Jackson but see to it that the light of the truth will continue to go forth to the lost and dying world through Mississippi Home Missions.

We have suffered a serious set back in Meridian, Mississippi, however, the Board has taken steps and is making recommendations to the State Association, if adopted, to prevent any such thing happening again in the future.

### ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD —

When the Church in Meridian disbanded the Board purchased the Mobile Chapel which they had set up on their property. They had made a down payment of \$1,500.00 on the Chapel plus three monthly payments on the total cost of some \$11,000.00. We feel this Chapel will be a real blessing to the total program of State Home Missions and this is already proving to be true. The Greenville Church was required to vacate the building they were using and had no place to go, therefore, it seemed to us that God had provided the Chapel at this critical period for use by the church in Greenville. The cost of moving the Chapel to Greenville was approximately \$700.00. The cost of installing a mobile central air conditioner was \$900.00. This the Board paid in addition to the first three monthly payments on the Chapel. The Church at Greenville is now making the monthly payments on the Chapel of \$130.00 per month.

The Mobile Chapel has proven a real blessing to the Greenville Church. Interest is growing, attendance is increasing and the Church is attracting new people to the services regularly. Several new converts have been baptized into the Church since they have had the use of the Chapel. The Greenville Church



will soon be self supporting, they have assumed another \$50.00 per month of their pastors support, effective November 1, 1973. They are also planning to begin their building program this coming spring or early summer as conditions permit. One condition is the preparation of their property for building by the city of Greenville.

The Board of Missions and Church extension met in Columbus March 6, 1973, and after much prayer and thought the decision was made to go into Jackson with our next effort in State Missions. Since that time the Board has held more meetings, traveled more miles, made more phone calls and spent more money than in any other year in its history. The search for a man, the man we felt God would have to go into Jackson has not been any easy task. We contacted a long list of prospective men and we have interviewed several of these men but in one way or another the results were always negative. We continued to work and pray as we knew that somewhere God has His man for this work. This required faith and patience on the part of the Board as it would have been so easy for the Board to just pick out a man and employ him for the work in the city of Jackson, thus avoiding the pressure of responsibility. We were able by the grace of God to restrain our eagerness to get things going, realizing the wisdom of God must be the guiding factor in this matter.

How we praise God that we allowed the Holy Spirit to lead in making this important decision. Almost by chance the Board contacted Brother J. L. Gore concerning the work in Jackson. He at once expressed his interest and an interview was arranged with the Board. From the very beginning it was apparent that this was God's man for the Jackson work. Brother Gore shared his passion for State Missions with the Board, how that he had been praying for some time that God would open the door for him to return to Mission work as this is his heart and the will of God for him.

The Board has employed Brother Gore for the Jackson project and he will be moving to Jackson in January of 1974. He has already met with the people there and plans are moving ahead to begin the work in Jackson. In a survey early in the year by the Board of the Jackson area, we were brought into contact with a fine group of people who are keenly interested in helping put a church in their city. Not only this but in becoming a part of the very fortunate to have this wonderful group of people in Jackson to work with Brother Gore in starting this work. When the need arises and other conditions permit the Mobile Chapel will be moved to the city of Jackson for use by the Mission there.

## **PRAYER POWERLINE**

### **PRAYER AND PRAISE FOR MISSISSIPPI MISSIONS**

Pray for the Walley family as they continue to labor with the work in Greenville. Pray for the health of this Missionary family, who labors under many handicaps and burdens. Medical expenses have been and still is a real burden on this fine family that stand with us in our State Mission work.

Pray for Brother Gore and his family as they prepare to assume the responsibilities in Jackson. Pray for the leadership of the Holy Spirit for them in finding a house and a place to begin services.

Pray for the Board of Missions and Church Extension that God will grant us strength both physically and spiritually to bear the responsibility that rest upon us in this growing work of State Home Missions.

Pray for the financial support needed to carry on this work, pray especially for our pastors and churches that they may catch the vision of Missions in Mississippi.

We praise God for the work in Greenville, there is not another church in our State comparable in number that is doing half of what this progressive young church is doing.

Praise God for the two wonderful men He has given us to serve as our State Missionaires. They are among the finest in the world. Praise God for their families who are so willing to sacrifice material gain and comforts to follow the will and work of God.

Praise God for the hour we will be moving into Jackson to begin establishing the First Free Will Baptist Church of that city. Praise God for the people who will be working with Brother Gore and his family in the project there.

Praise God for every church in the State that has given one dollar to State Missions this past year. Praise Him for all the churches who have earned the honor roll certificate in Mission support this year. Let us praise Him for an even greater year ahead that we believe He is going to give us in the ministry of Missions in the state of Mississippi.

Praise God for the faith to believe and trust Him to move upon our people to provide the money necessary to carry on this most important of all work, the winning of the souls of men and establishing churches across our state.

## **THINGS AHEAD**

The most challenging year in the history of our State Association. The greatest opportunities that God has ever provided Free Will Baptists in the state of Mississippi.

A state wide itinerate for the Jackson work to be arranged and carried out with the cooperation of our Pastors and Churches in the state. Go back to your home church and begin now to plan to be ready when you are asked to have a Mission service in your church or to support a Mission Rally in your area.

A campaign to pay off the Mobile Chapel withing one or two years. This campaign to be led and directed by Brother Wendell Walley with the help of Brother Gore and others who will give some time and effort to this project.



There is a real need for a dedicated layman in each church to work with their Pastors and these Missionaries in raising funds for the Mobile Chapel, and arranging a Missionary service in their church or planning a Mission Rally within their area.

**LITTLE BROWN CREEK ASSOCIATION**

**SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION**

**NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION**

**LOCAL CHURCHES  
PASTORS**

**INDIVIDUAL  
FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

# **Partners** For **Mississippi Missions**

**TOGETHER  
WITH**

**MISSISSIPPI STATE**

**BOARD OF MISSIONS**

**AND**

**CHURCH EXTENSION**

**Rev. Odell Harris, Chairman**  
**Mr. Charles Walden, Clerk**  
**Rev. Randy Cox**  
**Rev. E. H. Brock**  
**Mr. B. V. Nowell**



## REPORT OF THE AUDITING COMMITTEE

We the Auditing Committee spot checked Brother Armstrong's records of his totals, and found them to be accurate. We commend Brother Armstrong for his work and dedication.

Since the finances are increasing and the task is enlarging, we find it next to an impossibility of an auditing committee to sufficiently audit the books in such a short time as the annual meeting of our Association. Therefore, we recommend that the Executive Committee take under consideration of exploring the possibility of having a public accountant or a certified public accountant audit the books just previous to the annual State Association.

Amended by addition:

To elect an auditing committee now to act according to the direction of the Executive Committee.

Charles Fields, Rev. Norman Richmond and Bobby Mills were elected.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists for year beginning October 1, 1972 and ending September 30, 1973

### MISSION FUND RECEIPTS

Antioch F. W. B. Church — Burnsville .....	\$195.00
Beach Springs F. W. B. Church .....	299.50
Bethel F.W.B. Church .....	203.66
Buckatunna F.S.B.Church .....	10.00
Corinth F. W. B. Church .....	205.31
County Line F. W. B. Church .....	95.00
Eggville F. W. B. Church .....	468.29
Fawn Grove F. W. B. Church .....	150.00
Fellowship F. W. B. Church .....	240.00
First F. W. B. Church — Amory .....	107.20
First F. W. B. Church — Booneville .....	60.00
First F. W. B. Church — Columbus .....	583.25
First F. W. B. Church — Greenville .....	254.77
First F. W. B. Church — Pascagoula .....	125.00
First F. W. B. Church — Philadelphia .....	25.00
First F. W. B. Church — Richton .....	10.52
Fulton F. W. B. Church .....	252.00
Jones Chapel F. W. B. Church .....	80.00
Lees Chapel F. W. B. Church — Wayne Co. ....	262.33
Little Brown F. W. B. Church .....	58.35
Lovewell F. W. B. Church .....	50.00
Martin Hill F. W. B. Church .....	180.00
McGregor Chapel F. W. B. Church .....	141.60
New Gauley F. W. B. Church .....	96.35
New Lebanon F. W. B. Church .....	100.00
North Side F. W. B. Church .....	220.53
Pearch Chapel F. W. B. Church .....	1,817.18
Pearce Chapel F. W. B. Church — Mobile Chapel .....	100.00
Pine Grove F. W. B. Church .....	10.00
Tupelo F. W. B. Church .....	159.09
West Memphis F. W. B. Church .....	20.00
White Hill F. W. B. Church .....	52.00
North East Miss. Assn. of F. W. B. ....	200.40
Little Brown Creek Assn. of F. W. B. Youth Ralley .....	17.75
Miss. State Association — Offering .....	73.50
Mrs. Isom Walley .....	24.00
Mr. Charles Walden .....	13.50
Mr. C. R. Brasfield .....	10.00
Mr. E. S. Burrow — Mobile Chapel (100.00) .....	110.00
Mrs. C. L. Duncan .....	5.00
Mrs. Lona Bates — Mobile Chapel .....	10.00
Mrs. Trannie Sullivan .....	5.00
Rev. R. P. Ritch — Mobile Chapel .....	100.00

Rev. W. F. Clark .....	108.39
Mr. Felton Holifield .....	10.00
Tishomingo .....	5.00
Anonymous — Mobile Chapel .....	300.00
 SUB. TOTAL RECEIPTS .....	 \$7,684.47
INTEREST FROM SAVINGS ACCOUNT .....	261.61
TOTAL RECEIPTS .....	7,946.08
BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD — Checking .....	500.00
BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD — Savings .....	6,190.19
TOTAL AVAILABLE CASH .....	\$14,636.27

MISSION FUND DISBURSEMENTS

Nat. Home Mission Board — Greenville Project Acct. ....	\$600.00
Greenville Mission — Phone .....	168.97
Rev. Wendell Walley — Travel .....	323.75
Rev. Wendell Walley — Salary .....	520.00
Rev. Wendell Walley — Expense Allowance .....	240.00
Rev. Wendell Walley — Christmas Gift .....	50.00
Rev. Wendell Walley — Hospital Expense .....	100.00
Rev. Wendell Walley — Designated .....	90.00
Promotional Supplies .....	182.47
Mission Board — Phone, Postage .....	92.16
Mission Board — Travel .....	280.92
Missionary Expense — Meeting Board .....	46.40
Legal Fee .....	25.00
Mobile Chapel — Payments .....	389.22
Mobile Chapel — Moving Expense .....	655.26
Mobile Chapel — Air Conditioner .....	900.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS .....	\$4,664.15
 TOTAL AVAILABLE CASH .....	 \$14,636.27
Less Disbursements .....	4,664.15
Checking Acct .....	2,856.98
Savings Acct. ....	7,115.14
Mission Fund Balance	
September 30, 1973 .....	\$9,972.12

MISSISSIPPI MISSIONS GREENVILLE PROJECT  
NATIONAL HOME MISSION BOARD ACCOUNT

RECEIPTS	
Miss. State Mission Fund .....	\$600.00
Antioch F. W. B. Church .....	93.00
Tupelo F. W. B. Church .....	287.26
Out of State Gifts .....	63.00
W. N. A. C. ....	119.95
TOTAL RECEIPTS .....	\$1,163.21

DISBURSEMENTS

Missionary Salary .....	\$1,400.00
Missionary Retirement and S. S. ....	253.95
Missionary Christmas Gift .....	50.00
Missionary Expense Allowance to Nat. Assoc. ....	100.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS .....	\$1,803.95
 TOTAL RECEIPTS .....	 \$1,163.21
Bal. Brought Forward .....	867.96
TOTAL AVAILABLE CASH .....	\$2,031.17
LESS DISBURSEMENTS .....	1,803.95
 BAL. IN ACCT. SEPT. 30, 1973 .....	 \$227.22

Submitted by  
A. V. Armstrong  
Treasurer

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

GENERAL FUND

RECEIPTS

Beach Springs F. W. B. Church .....	\$25.00
Bethel F. W. B. Church .....	42.44
Corinth F. W. B. Church .....	78.32
County Line F. W. B. Church .....	70.00
Deprist Chapel F. W. B. Church .....	5.00
Eggville F. W. B. Church .....	120.00
Fawn Grove F. W. B. Church .....	25.00
First F. W. B. Church — Amory .....	50.00
First F. W. B. Church — Columbus .....	240.00
First F. W. B. Church — Greenville .....	61.28
Fulton F. W. B. Church .....	5.00
Grace Chapel F. W. B. Church .....	10.00
Lees Chapel F. W. B. — Wayne County .....	166.56
McGregor Chapel F. W. B. Church .....	15.00
Mt. Pisgah F. W. B. Church .....	8.00
New Gauley F. W. B. Church .....	42.40
New Gauley F. W. B. Church — Designated .....	381.60
Pearce Chapel F. W. B. Church .....	323.07
Tupelo Chapel F. W. B. Church .....	352.57
West Memphis F. W. B. Church .....	10.00
White Hill F. W. B. Church .....	32.00
Little Brown Creek Association .....	20.00
North East Miss. Association .....	30.00
South Miss. Association .....	47.35
State Association — Offering .....	70.81
State Association — Reg. and Delegate Fees .....	330.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS .....	\$2,561.40
BAL. BROUGHT FORWARD .....	572.54
TOTAL AVAILABLE CASH .....	\$3,133.94

## DISBURSEMENTS

Treasurer — Envelopes, checks, postage, phone .....	\$71.13
Treasurer — Expense Allowance .....	50.00
Moderator — Travel .....	51.40
Clerk — Expense Allowance .....	170.00
Clerk — Envelopes, postage, phone .....	167.41
Printing — Miss. F. W. B. Messenger .....	1,022.73
Printing — State Association Program .....	46.88
Printing — State Minutes (1971-1972) .....	272.79
Delegates Fee to Nat. Association .....	115.00
Executive Board — Travel .....	53.00
State C. T. S. Competition — Supplies .....	44.00
Free Will Baptist Bible College — Designated .....	105.99
National Home Mission Board — Designated .....	84.81
National Foreign Mission Board — Designated .....	84.81
Ala. Children's Home — Designated .....	63.59
Morganwood Youth Camp. ....	42.40
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS .....	\$2,445.94

TOTAL AVAILABLE CASH .....	\$3,133.94
LESS DISBURSEMENTS .....	2,445.94

General Fund Balance	
September 30, 1973 .....	\$688.00

SUBMITTED BY  
A. V. Armstrong  
Treasurer

## REPORT OF MISSISSIPPI STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

### STATE FIELD WORKER'S PERSONAL REPORT:

Local Auxiliaries organized .....	6
Total local auxiliaries .....	29
Total District auxiliary conventions .....	3
Total membership (1972) .....	241
Total membership (1973) .....	312
Local manual study taught .....	7
Local study on Missions taught .....	3
Local Auxiliary meetings attended .....	15
District meetings attended .....	6
State retreats .....	1
District Executive meetings attended .....	3
State executive meetings attended .....	2



Articles written for publication .....	1
Telephone calls on behalf of aux. work .....	42
Traveled on behalf of Auxiliary work .....	3200 mi.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

**MISSISSIPPI STATE WOMAN’S AUXILIARY**

<b>BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD .....</b>	<b>\$80.87</b>
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**Receipts**

Student Loan .....	\$174.90
Foreign Missions .....	107.75
Bible College .....	27.50
Koulango Translation (Sp. Project) .....	281.34
WNAC Emphasis Month and Sp. Project .....	605.76
Co-Laborer .....	214.65
National Home Missions .....	147.75
Miss. State Missions	
(Meridian, West Point, Greenville, Jackson) .....	533.31
Missionary accounts	
(Haas, Payne, Cousineau, Hale, McCoy) .....	256.00
Miss Barnard .....	14.50
Mrs. Purcell .....	16.50
Filkins Piano Account .....	145.00
Lizzie McAdams .....	5.00
Youth Camp (Sp. Project) .....	225.18
Membership Fees .....	231.00
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$2,986.14</b>

Sent to WNAC .....	\$2,928.39
.....	162.50
.....	\$3,090.89
Kept in Treasury from Membership Fees .....	57.75
Retreat Receipts .....	162.50
Expenses for retreat:	
Food & Lodging .....	55.84
Janie Aldridge .....	106.66
Total .....	162.50

Paid our for expenses of News Letter .....	7.40
Balance in Treasury .....	131.22

# **Constitution Of The Mississippi State Association Of Free Will Baptists**

## **Article I — Name**

This body shall be known henceforth as the Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists.

## **Article II — Purpose**

The object of this organization shall be to more thoroughly unify the work of the various Associations and Churches of Mississippi and to devise and execute measures for the extension of Christ's Kingdom in connection with the various Associations and Churches comprising this organization.

## **Article III — Treatise of Faith and Practice**

This body adopts the Treatise of Faith and Practice of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

## **Article IV — Membership**

Section 1. The membership of this Association shall consist of all Associations and Churches that from time to time, upon arrival of the State Association shall become members of this body.

Section 2. Representation: Each District Association holding membership in the State Association shall be entitled to five (5) representatives elected from the laity, with an additional representative from each church comprising the District Association. Furthermore, all Ordained Ministers and Deacons and all Missionaries under the auspices of the State Mission Board holding membership in churches within this State Association shall be entitled to membership in this body.

Section 3. Any local church whose Association is not a member of the State Association, may be represented with one lay delegate and the ordained ministers and deacons of that church.

Section 4. It is understood that the Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists and the area associations comprising its membership have no judicial authority over any local church.

Section 5. The Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists, the yearly associations comprising its membership and their local churches do not grant any judicial authority to any representative body to which they may belong.

## **Article V — Officers**

The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, and Assistant Moderator, a Clerk, an Assistant Clerk, and a Treasurer each of whom shall be nominated and elected by a standing vote from the floor at each regular meeting.

Election shall be determined by a majority vote of those present and voting. Officers thus elected shall hold their positions until their successors are elected and installed.

## Article VI — Boards and Committees

Section 1. The Executive Committee is a standing committee, composed of Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk, and Treasurer.

Section 2. This Association shall elect whatever boards and committees it deems necessary for its operation and shall state whether they are standing or temporary.

Section 2. This Association shall elect whatever boards and committees it deems necessary for its operation and shall state whether they are standing or temporary,

Section 3. Board of Missions and Church Extension:

A. The Board of Missions and Church Extension is a standing Board composed of five (5) members with terms up to five (5) years, with a board member going off each year.

B. Policy:

(1) This board will have the authority to approve:

a. The organization of the Mission into a church.

b. Purchase date, location, and price of property purchased by the church or mission until all financial support be terminated.

(2) This Board shall have the authority to approve or disapprove the removal of a mission or church pastor, and to approve or disapprove the selection of a new pastor until all financial support be terminated.

(3) This Board will have the right and authority for five (5) years after financial support has terminated, in the event the work fails, or the church disbands or ceases to function, to recover any equity from the work in the form of property, securities, cash, or any other assets, and such recovered equity is to be used in future mission projects at the discretion of the Board. However, this does not mean that the Board will assume any liabilities of the church for any direct indebtedness at any time.

(4) The State Association Treasurer shall be a non-voting member of this Board and will meet with the Board only at the request of the Board. All financial decisions made by the voting Board Members of the Board of Missions and Church Extension regarding its assigned ministries are binding upon the state Treasurer.

Section 4. The Board of Christian Education is a standing board composed of five (5) members with terms up to five (5) years, with a member going off each year.

Section 5. The Board of Conference and Itinerate Ministries is a standing board composed of three (3) members with terms up to three (3) years, with a member going off each year.

Section 6. The Board of Historical Commission is a standing board composed

Section 6. The Board of Historical Commission is a standing board composed of three (3) members with terms up to three (3) years, with a member going off each year.

## **Article VII — Meeting**

This Association shall hold its regular meetings annually at a time and place fixed by the last regular session and made known before adjournment. Special meetings may be called by the Executive Committee when extreme necessity demands, providing that the Clerk of the Association has been properly notified at least fifteen (15) days before the date set for the meeting. Fifteen (15) legal representatives shall constitute a quorum for any special meetings of this Association.

## **Article VIII — Representative Fees**

This body requests that each Association holding membership in this Association give a representative fee of twenty (20.00) per year and each local church give a representative fee of ten (10.00) per year.

## **Article IX — Amendments**

This Constitution may be amended at any regular session of the State Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided the change is recommended in writing and tabled in the morning session and voted during the afternoon session.

## **BY-LAWS OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

1. The Moderator or the Assistant Moderator shall call the Association to order at the hour designated by the program committee. When neither the Moderator or the Assistant Moderator is present, the Executive Committee shall elect a Moderator pro-tem, who shall call the Association to order.

2. (a) It shall be the duty of the clerk to record and have printed annually the minutes of the Association.

(b) To enroll the delegates to this Association who shall present themselves with the proper evidence of their rights to seats therein, and those enrolled by the Clerk shall compose the Association. In case of questionable representation however, the case under question shall be referred to a credential committee.

(c) The Clerk shall be given fifty dollars (\$50.00) per year for his time, effort and personal expenses in preparation of the State minutes.

3. (a) It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to hold all Associational funds and disperse same as authorized by the Association.

(b) The Treasurer shall be paid fifty dollars (\$50.00) per year to cover his time and effort and personal expenses in preparing monthly and yearly reports.

4. The Executive Committee shall act on behalf of the Association when the Association is not in session. Any action taken by this committee shall be submitted in report to the Association.

5. Board of Missions and Church Extension: It shall be the duty of this Board to:

(a) Receive and disburse money allocated them by the State and other



money.

- (b) To promote the organization of new churches.
- (c) To give complete report of all funds received, disbursements and progress made to the State Association.
- (d) To take care of travel and promotional expenses of Board members out of the Mission Fund.

6. Board of Conference and Itinerate Ministries: It shall be the duty of board to:

- (a) Work in conjunction with our National Departments in planning Itinerates and Conference speakers for the benefit of the local churches.
- (b) To plan programs for Bible Conference on a State level.

7. Board of Christian Education It shall be the duty of this Board to:

- (a) Promote all phases of educational work in the State Association.
- (b) To be a link from the local church to the National level.
- (c) Promote teaching materials and personnel for educational programs in the church.
- (d) Plan and Promote Sunday School and CTS Rallys on the State level. Expenses of promotional literature, such as correspondence, special Promotions etc., to be paid out of General Fund.

8. Board of Historical Commission: It shall be the duty of this Board to:

- (a) Obtain all possible information about the history of Free Will Baptists in Mississippi.
- (b) Maintain a current record of Progress.
- (c) Give a progress report annually at each session of the State Association.

9. Travel shall be paid by this Association at the rate of six (6) cents per mile plus compensation for food and lodging for all members of standing boards while transacting business authorized by, or in behalf of the Association, or promotional work over the State. The Treasurer shall pay such expenses when written claim is presented by each individual involved.

10. The Moderator when serving this Association in promotional services shall be paid \$4.00 for each service conducted in addition to mileage.

11. The Moderator shall appoint a committee on committees which shall present to the body nominations for such committees as necessary.

12. That we receive the letters and seat the delegates on the strength of the Credentials Committee report, and omit public reading of the letters; all letters to be mailed with the representative fee to the State Association Clerk by the first of the month in which meetings are to be held.

13. A Parliamentarian shall be appointed by the Moderator if he deems it necessary, and any questions as to Parliamentary procedure, Robert's Rules of Order shall be final authority on the subject.

14. The Editor of the Mississippi Messenger shall be paid \$20.00 per issue for his labor and personal expenses in preparing Messenger.

15. These By-laws may be amended at any regular session of the State Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided the change is recommended in writing and tabled in the morning session and voted on during the afternoon session.

16. The Mississippi State Associational Year will begin on October 1 and end on September.