

# MINUTES

OF THE

## Twelveth Annual Session

OF THE

MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION

OF

# FREE WILL BAPTIST

WHEN CONVENED WITH

*Martin Hill*

*Free Will Baptist Church*

## GREENVILLE, MISSISSIPPI

*November 12 & 13, 1976*

**THE NEXT SESSION WILL BE HELD**

WITH THE

# FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

## GREENVILLE, MISSISSIPPI

**FRIDAY AFTERNOON AND NIGHT AND SATURDAY  
BEFORE THE FIRST SUNDAY  
IN NOVEMBER, 1977**



**Mississippi State Association**

**Of Free Will Baptists**

**1976-1977**

**MODERATOR.....REV. WILLIAM E. ADKINSON**  
Route 1, Smithville, Mississippi 38870

**ASSISTANT MODERATOR.....REV. LUTHER GIBSON**  
134 North Lake, Booneville, Mississippi 38829

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

**ASSISTANT CLERK.....REV. BILL ROBINSON**  
613 Browder Street, Columbus, Mississippi 39701

**TREASURER.....MR. A. V. ARMSTRONG**  
Route 1, Box 278, Smithville, Mississippi 38870

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

**BOARD OF MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION —**

Rev. Dwight Fletcher — 1977; Rev. Earl Langley — 1978; Bro. Berry Van  
Nowell — 1979; Rev. Wendell Walley — 1980; Rev. Bill Smith — 1981.

**BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION —**

Rev. Norman Nowell — 1977; Rev. Luther Gibson — 1978; Rev. Glen Shelby —  
1979; Rev. Paul Long — 1980; Bro. Larry Gunnoe — 1981.

**BOARD OF CONFERENCE AND ITINERATE MINISTRIES —**

Rev. Mark Daniels — 1977; Rev. Danny Dwyer — 1978; Rev. Jack Jones —  
1979.

**BOARD OF HISTORICAL COMMISSION —**

Rev. Curtis Briley — 1977; Rev. Russell Clouse — 1978; Rev. J. K. Walley —  
1979.

**BOARD OF CHILDREN'S HOME —**

Rev. Don Johnson

**GENERAL BOARD MEMBER TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION —**

Rev. Wendell Walley

**AUDITING COMMITTEE —**

Rev. Wayne Yarbrough — 1977; Rev. Herman McFadden — 1978; Rev. Don  
Taggart — 1979.

**DIGEST REPORT OF THE CHURCHES AND ASSOCIATIONS  
REPRESENTING AT THE MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE  
WILL BAPTISTS CONVENING AT THE MARTIN HILL FREE WILL  
BAPTIST CHURCH NEAR BOONEVILLE, MISSISSIPPI, NOVEMBER 12  
AND 13, 1976.**

**NAMES OF CHURCHES:**

Lee's Chapel (Wayne Co.); Pearce Chapel; McGregor Chapel; Corinth;  
Martin Hill; Victory; First, Philadelphia; Fawn Grove; New Gauley; Faith;  
Baton Rouge; Richton; Smith Chapel; Bethel; Pine Grove; Buckatunna;  
First, Pascagoula; Mt. Pisgah; First, Booneville; Jones Chapel; Bethlehem;  
Lee Memorial; Lee's Chapel (Jones Co.); New Lebanon; Damascus;  
Thompson Creek; Lovewell; Fellowship; Antioch, Burnsville; Little Brown;  
First, Iuka; Macedonia; Eggville; Fulton; First, Amory; Burgess Creek;  
Beech Springs; First, Columbus; Tupelo; Northside, Columbus; Main Street,  
Amory.

**NAME OF ASSOCIATIONS:**

South Mississippi; Little Brown Creek; Northeast.

**TOTAL FINANCES RECEIVED WITH CHURCH AND ASSOCIATIONAL  
LETTERS:**

State General Fund — \$423.93; Missions — \$245.00; Representative fees —  
\$470.00.

**STATISTICS AND FINANCIAL REPORT**

**STATISTICS —**

Number of Churches .....	55
Church Membership .....	4,883
Number of Parsonages .....	12
Number of Ordained Ministers .....	59
Number of Licensed Ministers .....	14
Number of Ordained Deacons .....	?
Sunday School Enrollment .....	3,021
CTS Enrollment .....	1,334
Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment .....	261
Master's Men Enrollment .....	52
Mid-Week Average Attendance .....	832

**FINANCIAL REPORT —**

**Spent for local causes:**

Pastor's Salaries .....	\$199,906.00
Misc. — Building and Repairs, other .....	\$515,339.04
Total spent for local causes .....	\$715,245.04

**Spent for outside causes:**

Cooperative Plan .....	\$478.00
Foreign Missions .....	\$14,843.76
Home Missions .....	\$10,889.93
Children's Home .....	\$1,311.80
Education and Bible College .....	\$7,495.37
Combined value of Church and Parsonage property .....	\$2,728,110.34

**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 Martin Hill F. W. B. Church  
Booneville, Mississippi**

**BIBLE CONFERENCE PROGRAM  
November 12, 1976**

**THEME: FAITH OF OUR FATHERS  
(Bicentennial)**

**Rev. Russell Clouse, Presiding  
Bro. Larry Gunnoe, Song Leader**

**FRIDAY MORNING**

9:30 a.m. Welcome .....Rev. Russell Clouse  
Hymn and Prayer  
9:40 a.m. Introduction .....Rev. Danny Dwyer  
10:00 a.m. Message  
The Christian and Government .....Rev. Billy Bevan  
Hymn  
10:40 a.m. Message  
The Christian and Life .....Rev. Milton Fields  
11:20 a.m. RECESS  
11:30 a.m. Joint Service (with Woman's Auxiliary)  
Message  
The Christian and Liberty .....Rev. William E. Adkinson  
12:30 p.m. LUNCH  
1:30 p.m. Hymn and Prayer  
1:35 p.m. Message  
The Christian and The Pursuit of Happiness ....Rev. Dwight Fletcher  
2:10 p.m. RECESS

**MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION MEETING  
FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION**

The Twelveth Annual Session of the Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists met at the Martin Hill Free Will Baptist Church near Booneville, Mississippi on Friday afternoon November 12, 1976 beginning at 2:30 p.m.

The session was opened with congregation singing, "Trust And Obey," led by Brother G. W. Harris. The meeting was called to order by the clerk, Rev. Daniel Gaskins. The clerk introduced the moderator, Rev. J. L. Gore.

The clerk gave the digest report of churches and Associational letters. Motion was made and carried to receive the partial report and seat the delegates.

Moderator appointed the Committee on Committees as follows; Rev. Earl Langley, chairman; Rev. Russell Clouse and Rev. Andy Hoehlich. Prayer of benediction was prayed by Rev. Luther Gibson.

#### FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

Congregation sang, "To God Be The Glory." Brother William Walden led in prayer. The Welcome address was given by the host pastor, Rev. Bill Smith.

The report of the Committee on Committee was given by Rev. Earl Langley. Motion was made and carried that we receive the report. (See report). The Moderator's message followed. Congregation sang, "He Keeps Me Singing," and "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart." Brother Gore led in prayer. G. W. Harris sang a solo, "Lovest Thou Me."

Rev. Joe Haas, Missionary to France brought the message. He gave a very challenging report of the work in France. He read from I Cor. 15:1-11. His subject was "Freedom Through the Gospel." He emphasized that there are things that need to be nailed down to further the Gospel. It is our responsibility to make this gospel known throughout the world. He closed the message with prayer. The invitation hymn was "Just As I Am."

Worship offering was received in the amount of \$209.85 to be earmarked to the Joe Haas Missionary account. Benediction was prayed by Rev. Herman McFadden.

#### SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Prayer meeting began with congregation singing, "My Faith Looks Up To Thee." Rev. Paul Long read Jeremiah 33:3. Chain of Prayers followed in behalf of the State Association. Congregation sang, "Praise Him, Praise Him."

The report of the Executive Committee was given by Rev. Daniel Gaskins. Motion was made and carried to accept the report and adopt item one and table item two until afternoon session. (See report).

Report of the National Laymen's Board was given by Brother Lloyd Olden, Director. He gave a challenging report relative to the Master's men, laymen's Auxiliary of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. He emphasized the need of more local chapters in the local churches. This report was given for information.

Report of the State Woman's Auxiliary was given by Mrs. Luther Gibson. Motion was made and carried that this report be accepted. (See report).

Report of the Conference and Itinerate Ministries was given by Rev. Danny Dwyer. Motion was made and carried this report be adopted. (See report).

Report of the Free Will Baptist Bible College was given by Rev. Robert Crawford as information.

Partial report of the Nominating Committee was given by Rev. Paul Long. Motion was made and carried to receive this report and vote on recommendations item by item. (See report).

Partial report of the Resolutions Committee was given by Rev. Danny Dwyer. Motion was made and carried to accept this report. (See report).

Report of the Board of Christian Education was given by Rev. Herman McFadden. Motion was made and carried that report be accepted and vote on recommendations item by item. (See report).

Report of the Board of State Missions and Church Extension was given by Rev. Wendell Walley, Chairman. He gave both State Missionaries, Rev. J. L.



Gore and Rev. Steve Nichols the opportunity to give a personal report of their work. Motion was made and carried that report be accepted. (No written report).

### **MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE**

Congregation sang, "Call For Reapers." Rev. Earl Langley, State Mission Board member preached the message. He began with prayer. He read I Thess. 2:19-20. His subject was "Crown of Rejoicing in Witness." He preached a very challenging message. He closed with prayer. The offertory prayer was prayed by Brother Charles Walden. Worship offering for State Missions was received in the amount of \$100.28. Rev. Wendell Walley prayed the benediction prayer.

### **LUNCH**

### **AFTERNOON SESSION**

The afternoon session began by congregation singing, "Where He Leads, I'll Follow." Prayer by Brother Ewell Wright.

Report of the National Foreign Missions Board was given by Rev. Joe Haas as information.

Report of the Historical Commission was given by Rev. Russell Clouse. Motion was made and carried to receive this report. (No written report).

The Auditing Committee report was given by Rev. Herman McFadden. Motion was made and carried to adopt the report. (See report).

Motion was made and carried to rescind previous motion relative to inviting one National Department to the State Association each year and using the representative from that department as one of the speakers, and that we extend an invitation to each department to attend our State Association each year.

Final report of the Nominating Committee was given by Rev. Paul Long. Motion was made and carried to accept the report. (See report).

Motion was made to nominate Senator to the National Layman Board. Brother B. V. Nowell and Brother Gerald Stafford was nominated. Motion was made and carried that nomination cease and vote. Brother Stafford was elected.

Motion was made and carried to adjourn. Benediction.

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

### **REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES**

We, your Committee on Committees submit the following recommendations for:

Nominating Committee — Paul Long, Chmn., Wayne Yarbrough, Al Hamm;  
Resolution Committee — Danny Dwyer, Don Johnson, Don Taggart.

Submitted by Earl Langley, Andy Haflicle, Russell Clouse.

### **REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Executive Committee and the Board of Conference and Itinerate

Ministries of the Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists met at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Amory, Mississippi September 11, 1976 at 8:00 a.m. to plan the program for the Annual Bible Conference and the Mississippi State Association. Members present were Rev. Danny Dwyer, Rev. Jack Jones, Rev. J. L. Gore, Rev. Daniel Gaskins, and Brother A. V. Armstrong. Meeting was opened with prayer led by Rev. Dwyer.

We recommend:

- 1. We planned the Bible Conference and State Association programs.
- 2. We recommend a Constitutional amendment. Article VIII—Representative Fees: This body requests that each Association holding membership in this Association give a representative fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00) per year and each local church give a representative fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) per year. We recommend that the Association fee be changed from \$20.00 to \$30.00 per year and that the church fee be changed from \$10.00 to \$15.00 per year.

**REPORT OF MISSISSIPPI STATE  
WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION**

We praise the Lord for a great year in the Lord. Knowing that records do not reveal all the good that has been done, we do feel that our record does show that progress has been made. We submit the following record with praise to God for His rich blessings.

Active members .....	271
Home missions offerings and projects .....	\$1,053.37
Foreign Missions offerings and projects .....	673.79
Bible College .....	1,893.10
Co-Laborer offerings .....	349.19
Children's Home .....	221.00
Retired Ministers .....	10.00
Youth Camp and project .....	158.90
Local church activities .....	1,578.40
Auxiliary Literature and Supplies .....	318.40
Other Special offerings .....	329.26

**CASH SENT DIRECTLY:**

Foreign Missions .....	\$28.00
Home Missions .....	40.00
Children's Home .....	98.55
Youth Camp projects .....	294.40

**NON CASH GIFTS:**

Children's Home .....	379.38
Missionary provision closet .....	195.45

**GRAND TOTAL DISBURSED .....**\$8,059.49

A great Prayer Retreat August 27-28 was held at Morganwood Youth Camp with Mrs. Laverne Miley as our guest speaker.

1976 Project was — “Books for a Better Bible College” — \$1,764.84.

1977 Project: “Wheels for the Haases” — \$2,000.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mrs. Luther Gibson, Pres.  
Mrs. Kimble Crossley, Treas.

The Board of Conference & Itinerate Ministries submits this report to the State Association of the work planned and performed this past year by the grace of our Lord.

#### I. Itinerate for Bro. Steve Nichols

With the good co-operation of our churches throughout the State we were able to schedule Bro. Nichols in 39 churches with his traveling about 7,000 miles.

Due to some conflicts which were unavoidable we were not able to schedule services in all our churches, but the response was good. Our appreciation is extended to each church and Pastor who contributed to the success of this work.

#### II. Pastor's and Layman's Retreat.

For the first time a Pastor's and Layman's Retreat was planned and carried out this past year. It was scheduled in May at the Morganwood Youth Camp of the Northeast Association. Thirteen Pastors and one Layman registered to enjoy the refreshing and relaxed atmosphere of inspiration and recreation. The program was planned to involve qualified men from our own state and hearts were blessed as the Lord spoke through the practical workshops and messages preached in spite of the unseasonably cold weather.

Steps have been taken toward planning next year's retreat and it promises to be a real time of refreshing from the Lord.

Our thanks are extended to Eva House and Hilma Marlin for their good help in planning and preparing the meals for the Retreat.

#### III. Executive Committee Meeting.

The Board of Conference & Itinerate Ministries met Saturday, September 11, with the Executive Committee in planning the program for the State Meeting. After much discussion the program was agreed upon and the meeting adjourned.

Jack Jones  
Danny Dwyer

### REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We, your Nominating Committee submit the following names for nomination: Moderator—Rev. Bill Adkinson; Assist. Moderator—Rev. Luther Gibson; Clerk—Rev. Daniel Gaskins; Assist. Clerk—Rev. Bill Robinson; Treasurer—Mr. A. V. Armstrong; Editor—MISSISSIPPI MESSENGER—Rev. Daniel Gaskins.

Board of Missions and Church Extension to fill the expired term of Bro. Charles Walden—Rev. Bill Smith (1981); and to fill the unexpired term of Rev. W. H. Bostic—Rev. Dwight Fletcher (1977).

Board of Christian Education to fill the expired term of Rev. Bill Gardener—Mr. Larry Gunnoe (1981).

Board of Conference and Itinerate Ministries to fill the expired term of Rev.



Jack Jones—Rev. Jack Jones (1979); and to fill the unexpired term of Rev. Glen Batten—Rev. Mark Daniels (1977).

Board of Historical Commission to fill the expired term of Rev. J. K. Walley—Rev. J. K. Walley (1979).

Member of Board of Children's Home to fill the expired term of Rev. Tillis Walley—Rev. Don Johnson.

General Board Member to the National Association to fill the expired term of Rev. Wendell Walley—Rev. Wendell Walley.

Auditing Committee to fill the expired term of Rev. Bill Robinson—Rev. Don Taggart (1979).

### **RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT**

1. Whereas, the Alabama State Association meets the same time as the Mississippi State Association, and Whereas, many of our pastors desire fellowship with the Alabama State Association, and Whereas, representatives of the National offices may more easily attend both the Mississippi and Alabama State Association by having different meeting times, Be it, therefore, resolved that the Mississippi State Association move its meeting time to the Friday and Saturday before the first Sunday in November. (Adopted).

2. Whereas, the Martin Hill Free Will Baptist Church has most graciously provided facilities and services to host this Mississippi State Association, Be it therefore resolved that this body give a rising vote of thanks to the pastor and congregation of the Martin Hill Free Will Baptist Church and those other churches assisting in hosting the Mississippi State Association in 1976. (Adopted).

3. Whereas, the Greenville Free Will Baptist Church has requested the State Association to meet with them in November of 1977, Be it therefore resolved that the State Association accept this invitation for next year's meeting place. (Adopted).

Submitted by,  
Danny Dwyer  
Don Johnson  
Don Taggart

### **AUDITING COMMITTEE REPORT**

On November 11th, 1976, at 8:00 a.m., the Auditing Committee met in Smithville, Mississippi and examined the Financial Records of the State Association. We found them to be in order and correct. We commend our treasurer for his time and labor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Herman McFaddin, Chairman  
Bill Robinson  
Wayne Yarborough

### **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

I. Your Board of Christian Education is more than CTS Rallies.

1. Assist in special church education courses.
2. Be available for local E.T.T.A. classes.
3. Help organize Sunday school Rallies and Conferences.

**II. Begin early for the CTS Competition.**

- 1. Bible memory — Grades 1-3.
- 2. Sword Drill — Grades 4-6.
- 3. Bible Tic Tac Toe — Grades 7-9.
- 4. Bible Bowl — Grades 10-12.
- 5. Music and Arts.

**III. We will be your Sounding Board to National or other groups.**

**RECOMMENDATIONS — Financial Policy**

- 1. Each participant in State CTS Competition pay the fee as set by the National CTS.
- 2. That the fees to the National Competition for those who are winners to be paid by State.
- 3. Any excess be reserved for each succeeding year.
- 4. Any deficit be paid by State treasurer from General Fund..

**STANDARDS:**

- 1. Only Christian Free Will Baptist be allowed to participate.
- 2. Boys hair should be off the ears and collar and apparel should be masculine in appearance.
- 3. Girls apparel should be modest and feminine and that which would become a Christian testimony and virtue.

**TIME:**

- 1. State CTS Competition should be on the second Saturday in June.
- 2. All participants in CTS competition must pre-register.
- 3. Any church or individual who does not pre-register should be considered by the Director as to where they should be able to participate or not.

**DOCUMENTATION:**

We recommend that the Christian Education Board be authorized to draw a By-laws for the State CTS Rally containing these recommendations as adopted.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptist for year beginning October 1, 1975 and ending September 30, 1976. All gifts to missions, designated, etc. are listed as a total.

**MISSION FUND RECEIPTS:**

Amory Fed. Saving and Loan - Interest on savings .....	453.14
Antioch F.W.B. Church - Burnsville .....	174.06
Antioch F.W.B. Church - Randolph .....	147.00
Beech Springs F.W.B. Church .....	377.50
Bethel F.W.B. Church .....	130.41
Bethlehem F.W.B. Church .....	173.15
Buckatunna F.W.B. Church .....	77.30
Corinth F.W.B. Church .....	405.00
County Line F.W.B. Church .....	189.00
Davis Chapel F.W.B. Church .....	50.00

Eggville F.W.B. Church .....	158.26
Fawn Grove F.W.B. Church .....	407.76
Fellowship F.W.B. Church .....	443.50
First F.W.B. Church — Amory .....	979.00
First F.W.B. Church — Booneville .....	1,008.50
First F.W.B. Church — Columbus .....	1,163.00
First F.W.B. Church — Greenville .....	727.13
First F.W.B. Church — Jackson .....	104.04
First F.W.B. Church — Pascagoula .....	390.00
First F.W.B. Church — Philadelphia .....	310.00
First F.W.B. Church — Smithville .....	198.00
First F.W.B. Church — Iuka .....	127.00
First F.W.B. Church — Oxford .....	100.00
First F.W.B. Church — West Memphis .....	10.00
First F.W.B. Church — Richton .....	50.00
Fulton F.W.B. Church .....	355.00
Jones Chapel F.W.B. Church .....	152.52
Lees Chapel F.W.B. Church — Jones County .....	190.00
Lees Chapel F.W.B. Church — Wayne County .....	601.69
Little Brown F.W.B. Church .....	306.25
Main Street F.W.B. Church — Amory .....	426.64
Martin Hill Free Will Baptist Church .....	627.88
McGregor Chapel F.W.B. Church .....	125.00
Mount Pisgah F.W.B. Church .....	262.54
New Gauley F.W.B. Church .....	123.10
New Lebanon F.W.B. Church .....	86.66
North Side F.W.B. Church .....	179.75
Pearce Chapel F.W.B. Church .....	1,796.26
Pine Grove F.W.B. Church .....	46.00
Tupelo F.W.B. Church .....	2,217.60
Victory F.W.B. Church .....	279.93
North East Miss. Assn. Of F.W.B. ....	186.11
Miss. State Assn. — Offering .....	112.00
Little Brown Creek Assn. Of F.W.B. ....	158.15
Smith Chapel F.W.B. Church .....	50.00
Mary An Daniel .....	5.00
Janice Bennett .....	40.00
Dean Harris .....	20.00
Maeline Hall .....	30.00
Judy McCoy .....	10.50
Wendell Brown .....	20.00
Rev. Danny Short .....	33.21
Mrs. Francis Wilson .....	30.00
Rev. Steve Nichols .....	10.00
Bobby Whittemore .....	6.00
Rachel Livingston .....	10.00
Mr. Luther Lee .....	75.00
Fay Nixon .....	6.00
Hubert W. Davis .....	15.00
Rev. Glenn Jones .....	10.00
D. C. Jones .....	36.00

Mrs. Alma Walden .....	10.00
Rev. Glen E. Shelby .....	50.00
North East Miss. Sunday School Conv. ....	78.00
Anonymous Gifts .....	251.54
Receipts .....	17,382.08
Transferred From Savings .....	5,000.00
Rev. Steve Nichols — Loan Payment .....	800.00
Balance Brought Forward .....	3,727.99
Total Receipts .....	26,910.07
Savings Acct. Balance .....	5,000.00
Total available cash .....	31,910.07

**MISSION FUND**

**MISSION FUND DISBURSEMENTS**

National Home Mission Board-Rev. Gore Acct.....	7,500.00
National Home Mission Board-Rev. Nichols Acct. ....	11,500.00
Adv. Project No. 4 .....	202.50
Designated to Bldg. Funds - Persoanl-Etc. ....	1,429.71
Rev. Steve Nichols — Phone.....	56.44
Rev. Steve Nichols — Travel .....	848.17
Rev. Steve Nichols — Loan for House .....	2,500.00
Rev. Steve Nichols — Moving Exp. ....	187.86
Moving Mobile Chapel .....	875.00
Rev. J. L. Gore — Phone .....	291.85
Rev. J. L. Gore — Social Security.....	238.38
Mission Board — Travel .....	215.37
Mission Board — Phone .....	85.32
Total Disbursements .....	25,930.60
Total Available Cash .....	31,910.07
Less Disbursements .....	25,930.60
Checking Acct. ....	979.47
Savings Acct. ....	5,000.00
Mission Fund Balance — Sept. 30, 1976 .....	5,979.47
Submitted By	
A. V. Armstrong,	
Treasurer	

**MISSISSIPPI MISSION BOARD—JACKSON PROJECT  
NATIONAL HOME MISSION BOARD ACCOUNT**

<b>RECEIPTS:</b>	
Mississippi Mission Fund .....	\$7,500.00
Direct Church and Individual Gifts .....	482.07
Total Receipts .....	7,982.07



Bal. Brought Forward .....	2,980.74
Total Available Cash .....	10,962.81

**DISBURSEMENTS:**

Rev. J. L. Gore—Salary .....	8,640.00
Rev. J. L. Gore—Christmas Gift .....	150.00
Total Disbursements .....	8,790.00

Total Available Cash .....	10,962.81
Less Disbursements .....	8,790.00
Balance—September 30, 1976 .....	2,172.81

Submitted by  
A. V. Armstrong, Treasurer

**MISSISSIPPI MISSION BOARD—GREENWOOD PROJECT  
NATIONAL HOME MISSION BOARD ACCOUNT**

**RECEIPTS:**

Mississippi Mission Fund .....	\$11,500.00
Direct Church and Individual Gifts .....	543.12
Total Receipts .....	12,043.12

**DISBURSEMENTS:**

Rev. Steve Nichols—Salary .....	\$9,025.00
Rev. Steve Nichols—Expense to Nat. Assoc. ....	225.00
News Letter—Printing, Mailing .....	35.54
Total Disbursements .....	9,285.54

Total Available Cash .....	\$12,043.12
Less Disbursements .....	9,285.54
Balance—September 30, 1976 .....	2,757.58

Submitted by  
A. V. Armstrong, Treasurer

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

**MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST FOR YEAR  
BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 1975, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1976.**

**GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS:**

Antioch F.W.B. Church .....	30.00
Blach Springs F.W.B. Church .....	30.00
Bethel F.W.B. Church .....	58.82
Corinth F.W.B. Church .....	353.34
County Line F.W.B. Church .....	60.00
Damascus F.W.B. Church .....	15.00
Fawn Grove F.W.B. Church .....	26.96
First F.W.B. Church—Amory .....	250.00
First F.W.B. Church—Iuka .....	10.00
First F.W.B. Church—Columbus .....	395.00
First F.W.B. Church—Greenville .....	60.00
First F.W.B. Church—Jackson .....	15.00
Fulton F.W.B. Church .....	25.00

Mr. Letcher Fields.....	15.00
Little Brown Creek Assoc. ....	25.00
Lees Chapel F.W.B. Church—Jones County .....	67.09
Lees Chapel F.W.B. Church—Wayne County .....	152.85
Main Street F.W.B. Church—Amory .....	102.26
Mrs. Noel Lambert .....	10.00
New Gauley F.W.B. Church .....	301.93
A. F. Ferguson .....	2.00
New Lebanon F.W.B. Church .....	350.29
Pearce Chapel F.W.B. Church .....	428.26
Rev. Clyde W. Cox .....	2.00
Tupelo F.W.B. Church .....	527.23
Miss. State Association—Offering .....	87.27
North East Miss. Assoc. of F.W.B. ....	30.00
South Miss. Assoc. of F.W.B. ....	20.00
Hudson Bible and Church Supplies .....	13.68
Gifts sent to State Meeting .....	265.00
State Delegate Fees .....	410.00
State CTS .....	150.00
Victory F.W.B. Church .....	15.93
National Assoc. refund of Delegate Fee—Overpayment .....	30.00
Total Receipts .....	4,334.91
Balance Brought Forward .....	578.42
Total Available Cash .....	4,913.33

**DISBURSEMENTS:**

Treasurer—Envelopes, Postage, Expense allowance .....	212.73
Printing .....	2,310.11
Clerk and Messenger Expense allowance .....	410.00
Messenger—Postage, Phone .....	531.71
Moderator—Travel .....	75.56
Delegates Fees to National Assoc. ....	185.00
Executive Board—Travel .....	60.40
State Church Training Service .....	164.09
Designated to Outside Ministries .....	660.54
Total Disbursements .....	4,610.14

Total Available Cash .....	4,913.33
Less Disbursements .....	4,610.14

General Fund Balance—Sept. 30, 1976 .....	303.19
---	--------

Submitted by  
A. V. Armstrong, Treasurer

**CONSTITUTION OF THE MISSISSIPPI  
STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST**  
**Article I— Name**

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

## **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 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 — Board 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 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 of 3 members with terms up to three years, with a member going off each year.

Section 7. The Auditing Committee is a standing committee composed of 3 members with terms up to three years, with a member going off each year. It shall be the duty of this Board to meet with the treasurer for the purpose of auditing treasurer's books prior to the State Association and give annual report to the State Association.

## **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 thirty (\$30.00) per year and each local church give a representative fee of fifteen (\$15.00) 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 either 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.

6. Board of Conference and Itinerate Ministries: It shall be the duty of the 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 ten (10) 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 \$30.00 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 30.