



Minutes

OF THE

Fifteenth Annual Session

OF THE

Mississippi State Association

OF

Free Will Baptists

WHEN CONVENED WITH

**First Free Will Baptist Church of Booneville
Booneville, Mississippi**

November 3 & 4, 1979

**THE NEXT SESSION WILL BE HELD
WITH THE**

**First Free Will Baptist Church of Amory
Amory, Mississippi**

**FRIDAY AFTERNOON AND NIGHT AND SATURDAY
BEFORE THE FIRST SUNDAY
IN NOVEMBER, 1980**





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**MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

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

ASSISTANT MODERATOR **REV. ROBERT COOPER**
Tupelo, Miss.

CLERK **REV. GLEN E. SHELBY**
Route 3, Box 793, Waynesboro, Miss. 39367

ASSISTANT CLERK **REV. WAYNE HALE**
Route 5, Box 440, Waynesboro, Miss. 39367

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

EDITOR - MISSISSIPPI MESSENGER **REV. GLEN E. SHELBY**
Route 3, Box 793, Waynesboro, Miss. 39367

BOARD OF MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION--

Bro. John Pake, 1980; Rev. Bill Smith, 1981; Rev. Dwight Fletcher, 1982; Rev. Bill Robinson, 1983; (The Executive Board replaced Bro. Robinson, who moved from the state, with Rev. Al Hamm), Bro. Jimmy Byrd, 1984.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION--

Rev. Paul Long, 1980; Rev. Dwight Whitworth, 1981; Rev. Eddie Vincent, 1982; Bro. Sam Postlewaite, 1983; Rev. Phil Ange, 1984.

BOARD OF CONFERENCE AND ITINERATE MINISTRIES--

Rev. Andy Hoeflich, 1980; Rev. Al Hamm, 1981; Rev. Jack Jones, 1982.

BOARD OF HISTORICAL COMMISSION--

Rev. Floyd C. Barber, 1980; Rev. Larry Reynolds, 1981; Rev. Tony Hollfield, 1982.

BOARD OF CHILDREN'S HOME--

Bro. Charles Walden

GENERAL BOARD MEMBER TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION--

Rev. Luther Gibson

AUDITING COMMITTEE--

Rev. Wayne Yarbough, 1980; Rev. Steve Nichols, 1981; Rev. Terry Booker, 1982.

MASTER'S MEN SENATOR--

Bro. Charles Henderson

**DIGEST REPORT OF THE CHURCHES AND ASSOCIATIONS REPRESENTED AT THE
MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS, CONVENING AT THE
FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF BOONEVILLE, AT BOONEVILLE,
MISSISSIPPI, ON NOVEMBER 3 AND 4, 1979.**

CHURCH	PASTOR	DELEGATE
ANTIOCH-BURNSVILLE	Rev. Glen Jones	Clifford Marlon, Jr.
ANTIOCH-PONTOTOC	Rev. John E. Warren	
BEECH SPRINGS	Rev. Robert G. Cooper	Mr. Marcell Mann
BETHEL	Rev. Norman Nowell	
BETHLEHEM	Rev. Melvin Hunter	Sis. Vonda Hunter
BUCKATUNNA	Rev. Tom Diamond	Mrs. Ella Pittman
BURGESS CREEK		Deborah Sholt
COMMUNITY	Rev. Malcolm L. Garrett	Charles South
CORINTH	Rev. Andy Hoeflich	Marlon Palmer
COUNTY LINE	Rev. Frank Henderson	
DAMASCUS	Rev. H. L. Warren	
EGGVILLE	Rev. Charles F. Davis	
FIRST-AMORY	Rev. Eddie L. Vincent	
FIRST-BOONEVILLE	Rev. Luther Gibson	Bro. Ewell Wright
FIRST COLUMBUS		
FIRST-IUKA	Rev. Dallas Jack Jones	Sis. Virginia Jones
FIRST-OXFORD	Rev. George Crowder	Charles Burnes
FIRST-PASCAGOULA	Rev. Milton B. Fields	
FIRST-PEARL	Rev. J. L. Gore	
FIRST-PHILADELPHIA	Rev. L. E. Winter	Mrs. H. G. Cooper, Sr.
FIRST-RICHTON	Rev. Carter L. Brewer	
FIRST-SMITHVILLE	Rev. Donald C. Holland	Brenda Holland
FAWN GROVE	Rev. J. V. Mills	
FELLOWSHIP	Rev. Dwight Fletcher	Helen Ray Walley
FULTON	Rev. Jerry Smith	Bobby Hargett
JONES CHAPEL	Rev. Paul Long	Nita Jones
LEE'S CHAPEL-Jones Co.	Rev. Robert E. Dykes	Tony Hollfield
LEE'S CHAPEL-Wayne Co.	Rev. Wayne Hale	Wanda Hale
LITTLE BROWN CREEK	Rev. Floyd C. Barber	Myrtis Mayo
LOVEWELL	Rev. Truman Freeman	
MACEDONIA	Rev. J. T. Prince	
MAIN STREET-AMORY	Rev. Billy R. Smith	Harold Wigginton
McGREGOR'S CHAPEL	Rev. Lester Cahoon	Mrs. Darlene Cahoon
MIDWAY		
MOUNT PISGAH	Rev. Hollis Southerland	G. L. Walker
NEW GAULEY	Rev. Wayne Yarbough	
PEARCE CHAPEL	Rev. William E. Atkinson	Hattie Duncan
PINE GROVE-Waynesboro	Rev. Glen E. Shelby	Roy Hollfield
PINE GROVE-West Point	Rev. Leander McAdams	Mrs. Wilda McAdams
SMITH CHAPEL	Rev. Curtis Briley	Jewel Reeves
TUPELO	Rev. Dwight Whitworth	
VICTORY	Rev. Al Hamm	
WHITE HILL	Rev. Larry Reynolds	Bro. Billy M. Truell

NAMES OF ASSOCIATIONS

South Mississippi; Little Brown Creek; Northeast

TOTAL FINANCES RECEIVED WITH CHURCH AND ASSOCIATIONAL LETTERS:	
STATE GENERAL FUND	\$772.53
MISSIONS	255.00
REPRESENTATIVE FEES	780.00

STATISTICS AND FINANCIAL REPORT

STATISTICS

Number of Churches Reporting	42
Church Membership	4261
Number of Parsonages	16
Number of Ordained Ministers	63
Number of Licensed Ministers	6
Number of Deacons at Quarterly Meetings	
Sunday School Enrollment	2900
C.T.S.	978
Women's Auxilliary Enrollment	240
Master's Men Enrollment	58
Mid Week Prayer Meetings	43

FINANCIAL REPORT

Total Income of All Member Churches	\$692,918.08
Total Local Expenditures	\$404,793.06
Co-operative Plan	
National Executive Office	
Foreign Missions	\$10,469.65
Laymen's Board	
Church Training Service	
Free Will Baptist Bible College	\$8,125.93
Retirement and Insurance Board	
Home Mission and Church Extension	\$10,369.97
Other National Ministries	\$250.00
District and/or State Ministries	\$16,058.44
Other Causes	
Total Outside Giving	\$57,361.16

PROCEEDINGS
BIBLE CONFERENCE
BOARD OF CONFERENCE AND ITINERATE MINISTRIES
AND
OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
CONVENING AT FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF BOONEVILLE
BOONEVILLE, MISSISSIPPI

BIBLE CONFERENCE PROGRAM

November 3, 1979

Rev. Al Hamm, Presiding

Rev. Eddie Vincent, Song Leader

- 9:30 a.m. - Welcome and Introduction Rev. Bill Smith
 Hymn and Prayer
- 10:00 a.m. - Message Rev. Terry Booker
- 10:40 a.m. - Message Rev. Tom Diamond
- 11:20 a.m. - Recess
- 11:30 a.m. - Message Rev. Phil Ange
 (Joint Service with Woman's Auxillary)
- 12:30 p.m. - Lunch
- 1:30 p.m. - Hymn and Prayer
- 1:35 p.m. - Message Rev. Jack Jones
- 2:10 p.m. - Recess

MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION MEETING
FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The fifteenth Annual Session of Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists met at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Booneville, Mississippi, on Friday afternoon and Saturday, November 2 and 3, 1979.

The session was opened with congregational singing led by Rev. Eddie Vincent. The meeting was called to order by the Clerk, who introduced the moderator, Rev. William T. Atkinson.

The Clerk gave the digest report of churches and associational letters. Motion was made and carried to receive the report and seat the delegates.

The Executive Committee Report was given by the Clerk. Motion was carried to receive the report. (See Report.)

The Committee on Committees was appointed as follows: Rev. J. L. Gore, Chairman; Rev. Paul Long, Rev. Bob Cooper, Bro. Jerry Smith, and Rev. Larry Reynolds.

A report on the Greenwood Mission was given by Rev. Steve Nichols. Motion was made and carried to receive as information.

The Christian Education Report was given by Bro. Sam Postlewalte. Motion made and carried to accept report. (See Report.)

The report of the Committee of Conference and Itinerate Ministries was given by Rev. Al Hamm. Motion made and carried to accept report. (See Report.)

The report of the Board of Retirement and Insurance was given by Bro. Burt Yeates. Motion made and carried to accept as information.

The Auditing Committee replacements were appointed by the Moderator as follows: Rev. Curtis Briley and Rev. Don Holland.

FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

The Friday night session was opened at 7:00 P. M. with congregational singing led by Bro. Sam Postlewaite. Prayer by Bro. D. W. Jones.

The Report of Committee on Committees was given by Rev. J. L. Gore. Motion was made and carried to accept the report. (See Report.)

Special Choir singing was led by Bro. Sam Postlewaite. The offering, totaling \$155.25, was taken for the General Fund. Special singing was rendered by the Dwight Whitworths and Rev. Luther Gibson introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Laverne Miley. Dr. Miley's text was taken from Deut. 6:6-9.

Dismissed by prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The Saturday morning session began at 9:00 A. M. with a devotional by Dr. Joseph Ange, who replaced Rev. Floyd Barber, at his request. Congregational singing was led by Bro. Sam Postlewaite.

The report of the Children's Home was given and a motion was made and carried to accept the report as information.

The report of the State Mission Board was given by Rev. Al Hamm. A motion was made and carried to accept report. (See Report.)

The report of the Woman's Auxillary was given by Mrs. Elizabeth Gibson. Motion was made and carried to accept. (See Report.)

A partial report of the Nominating Committee was made by Rev. Dwight Fletcher. Motion was made and carried. (See Report.)

Letters were received from churches who reported Saturday.

The report of the Resolutions Committee was given by Rev. Jack Jones. Motion made and carried to accept item by item. (See Report.)

The Treasurer's Report was given by Bro. A. V. Armstrong. Motion made and carried to accept. (See Report.)

The Foreign Missions and the Executive Committee Reports were given by Dr. Melvin Worthington. Motion was made and carried to accept as information.

The report of Free Will Baptist Bible College was given by Dr. Laverne Miley. Motion was made and carried to accept as information.

The Sunday School and Church Training Service reports were given by Dr. Malcolm Fry. Motion was made and carried to accept as information.

The Layman's Board Report was given by Bro. Lloyd Olson. Motion was made and carried to accept as information.

The Auditing Committee report was given by Rev. Terry Booker. Motion was made and carried to accept the report. (See Report.)

Completion of the Nominating Committee was given by Rev. Dwight Fletcher. Motion was made and carried to vote them item by item. (See Report.)

A motion was made for the new Moderator to appoint five (5) delegates for the National Association before or at the National Association. It was carried.

A report was given for Birch Construction by Bro. Birch. He announced that he is available to assist churches in building needs. Motion made and carried to accept as information.

Motion made and carried to adjourn.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

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, on September 8, 1979, at 10 a.m. to plan the program for the annual Bible Conference and the Mississippi State Association.

Members present were: Rev. William E. Atkinson, Moderator, Rev. Luther Gibson, Assistant Moderator, Rev. Glen Shelby, Clerk, Bro. A. V. Armstrong, Treasurer, and members of the Board of Conference and Itinerate Ministries, Rev. Jack Jones and Rev. Al Hamm. Moderator opened the meeting with a devotional and prayer by Brother Hamm.

We submit the following recommendations:

1. We planned the annual Bible Conference and State Association programs.
2. The Executive Committee voted to designate Friday night's and Saturday morning's offering to State General Fund.
3. The Executive Committee voted to ask for monthly support from each church for the State General Fund.

The Committee's statement reads as follows:

We believe the Mississippi Messenger is indeed a blessing. In light of the fact this paper costs about \$250.00 a month and in light of the fact that only a very few churches across the state support the general fund regularly, we therefore recommend that each church of this body include in their budget \$10 to \$15 a month to the State General Fund.

4. The Executive Committee voted to print 750 programs.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. William E. Atkinson
Rev. Luther Gibson
Bro. A. V. Armstrong
Rev. Jack Jones
Rev. Al Hamm
Rev. Glen Shelby

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Music and Arts Festival was held at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Columbus during the first week of June. All three associations were represented in the competition. Participants were allowed to go on to the national competition in the following categories: vocal solo, vocal ensemble, keyboard, declamation, creative arts, Bible memorization, sword drill, and Tic-Tac-Toe.

We appreciate the participation and would like to encourage more participation in the future.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Paul Lone
Rev. Glen Shelby
Bro. Sam Postlewaite

BOARD OF CONFERENCE AND ITINERATE MINISTRIES

The Board of Conference and Itinerate Ministries submits this report to the Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists for the year 1978-79.

1. Executive Committee Meeting

The Board met on September 8, 1979 at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Amory in conjunction with the members of the Executive Committee to plan the State Associational meeting. The program was completed and our meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully,

Jack Jones

Al Hamm

BOARD OF MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION REPORT TO THE MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION

FINANCES:

This year's giving to State Missions was up about \$3700.00 over last year. However, with inflation as it is and in order to begin another work within the near future, we must continue to give generously and consistently. With a good March for Missions offering and perhaps a special drive in the fall of 1980, we should be financially able to begin our next work.

GOALS FOR MARCH FOR MISSIONS:

Little Brown Creek	\$2500.00
Northeast Mississippi	5000.00
South Mississippi	<u>3500.00</u>
	\$11,000.00

FUTURE PLANS:

The Mission Board is considering presently the possibility of starting a new work in the state and is working toward a target date of the fall of 1980. Possible sites and the man for the job will be under consideration during the next few months. Hopefully a decision will be reached and a special drive can be made financially to get this work off to a good start. Please join the board in prayer for God's direction in this very important next step for our State Missions.

Respectfully,

Al Hamm, Chairman

Bill Smith

Jimmie Byrd

Dwight Fletcher

FINANCIAL STATEMENT **FOR OCTOBER 1, 1978 - SEPTEMBER 30, 1979**

RECEIPTS

Churches:	Amount
Amory F.W.B. Church	\$ 133.50
Antioch F.W.B. Church (Burnsville)	435.00
Antioch F.W.B. Church (Randolph)	67.00
Beech Springs F.W.B. Church	1,324.77
Bethel F.W.B. Church	448.82
Bethlehem F.W.B. Church	394.96
Buckatunna F.W.B. Church	703.18
Burgess Creek F.W.B. Church	200.00
Community F.W.B. Church	100.00
Corinth F.W.B. Church	963.33
County Line F.W.B. Church	260.53
Damascus F.W.B. Church	37.00
Eggsville F.W.B. Church	451.08
Fawn Grove F.W.B. Church	737.98
Fellowship F.W.B. Church	1,565.44
First F.W.B. Church, Booneville	726.63
First F.W.B. Church, Columbus	2,709.00
First F.W.B. Church, Greenville	346.14
First F.W.B. Church, Iuka	590.00
First F.W.B. Church, Pearl	166.00
First F.W.B. Church, Philadelphia	375.00
First F.W.B. Church, Smithville	428.35
Fulton F.W.B. Church	200.00
Greenwood F.W.B. Mission	191.92
Hattiesburg F.W.B. Mission	64.00
Jones Chapel F.W.B. Church	332.61
Lee's Chapel F.W.B. Church - Jones County	100.00
Lee's Chapel F.W.B. Church - Wayne County	477.19
Little Brown F.W.B. Church	375.50
Lovewell F.W.B. Church	100.00
Main Street F.W.B. Church	215.80
Macedonia F.W.B. Church	155.00
Martin Hill F.W.B. Church	1,492.36
Mount Pisgah F.W.B. Church	1,342.25
New Lebanon F.W.B. Church	420.00
North Side F.W.B. Church	120.00
Pearce Chapel F.W.B. Church	2,440.94
Pine Grove F.W.B. Church, South Mississippi	286.80
Smith Chapel F.W.B. Church	400.00
Tupelo F.W.B. Church	6,403.09
Victory F.W.B. Church	878.00
White Hill F.W.B. Church	150.00

Individuals, Gifts from	201.00
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Miscellaneous Receipts [alphabetically]:

Amory Federal Savings and Loan (Interest)	\$ 90.63
Anonymous Gift (At S.Ms. Fellowship Meeting in May)	3.18
Antioch F.W.B. (Randolph) Ladies Auxillary	63.50
Church Gifts sent to State Association with letters	95.00
Fawn Grove F.W.B. Ladies Auxillary	25.00
Fellowship F.W.B. Ladies Auxillary	200.00
Fellowship F.W.B. Master's Men	313.30
Fellowship F.W.B. Primary Sunday School Class	7.31
Little Brown Creek Association	120.00
Little Brown Creek Association - Youth Rally	30.00
Little Brown F.W.B. Church - Sunday School	60.00
Little Brown F.W.B. Church - Sunday School VBS	91.39
New Gauley F.W.B. Church - Sunday School	64.95
North East Mississippl Assoc. of F.W.B.'s	300.00
South Mississippl District Master's Men	10.00
South Mississippl Youth Rally	25.00
State Association Offering - Friday P. M.	85.10
State Association Offering - Saturday A. M.	134.23
Steve Nichols (had miscomputed his 1978 SS, return exc.)	63.43
Steve Nichols - Loan Payment	<u>50.00</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$31,342.19

* * * * *

DISBURSEMENTS

To National Home Mission Board:

For J. L. Gore's Account	\$3,020.00
For Steve Nichols' Account	7,500.00

To Missionary J. L. Gore:

One-half 1978 Social Security	254.76
Christmas Gift	150.00

To Missionary Steve Nichols:

One-half 1978 Social Security	
(see note in miscellaneous receipts)	330.51
Christmas Gift	150.00
Mileage, meals, lodging	150.73
National Association expense	200.00
Phone	13.00

Spent for State Mission Board Expenses:

Mileage and meals	919.02
Phone	21.00
Postage	30.55
Misc. (Journal, pictures & stationery)	83.57
Treasurer's Honorarium	10.00

To Greenwood F.W.B. Mission (Land Payoff)	10,000.00
To Greenwood F.W.B. Building Fund	91.39
To First F.W.B., Pearl Building Fund	300.00
To Richton Bank & Trust Company:	
(Deposited in Golden Savings)	9,500.00
To Steve Nichols' Family (Personal Gift)	<u>63.50</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$32,788.03

* * * * *

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE (Sept. 30, 1978)	\$ 5,329.25
TOTAL RECEIPTS (Oct. 1, 1978 - Sept. 30, 1979)	
less \$90.63 deposited to Golden Savings	<u>\$ 31,251.56</u>
Total available for checking	\$ 36,580.81
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS (Oct. 1, 1978-Sept. 30, 1979) .	<u>\$ 32,788.03</u>
Balance	\$ 3,792.78

SAVINGS ACCOUNT INFORMATION

Amory Federal Savings & Loan Assn. (10/29/79)	\$ 5,372.48
Richton Bank and Trust Company	
Golden Passbook Savings (9/30/78)	\$ 5,210.81
Deposits of	9,590.63
Interest Earned	<u>542.56</u>
	\$15,344.00
Richton Bank and Trust Company	
Passbook Savings (9/30/78)	\$ 3,022.50
Interest Earned	<u>137.55</u>
	\$ 3,160.05
Total Amount on Savings	<u>\$23,876.53</u>

* * * * *

This Board's support to our two (2) missionaries for the past year was as follows: Bro. Gore received six hundred-seventy (\$670.00) per month for the months of October 1978 through March 1979. The mission was organized into a church in March and the Board's financial support of the Gores ceased. (Total salary from the board for these six months was \$4,020.00)

The Board's salary support to Bro. Nichols was \$800.00 per month for October-December. Beginning in January, the church assumed \$100.00 per month additional support of Bro. Nichols so the Board's salary support was reduced to \$700.00 per month. This was through May, 1979, when the Board deemed it our responsibility to give Bro. Nichols a raise due to the increased cost of living at which time we gave him a \$100.00 per month raise. (The mission was to continue with their increased support.) Therefore, Bro. Nichols' salary support from the Board was \$800.00 per month for June through September, 1979. (Total salary from the Board for Bro. Nichols for this Associational Year was \$9,100.00.)

PRAISE ITEMS:

THE GREENBACKS FOR GREENWOOD CAMPAIGN RECEIVED WONDERFUL SUPPORT WITH THE TOTAL RECEIPTS BEING \$9,792.51!!!!!!! (\$1,837.05 of this was received 1977-1978 associational year.)

THE 1979 MARCH FOR MISSISSIPPI MISSIONS GOAL WAS \$9,000.00 TOTAL RECEIPTS WERE \$10,551.28!!!!!!! All three associations went over their assigned goals. Let us THANK THE LORD for His bountiful blessings.

E. DWIGHT FLETCHER
Clerk/Treasurer

TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT

1979

Local _____
District _____
State X

NAME OF AUXILIARY, DISTRICT, OR STATE: Mississippi
TREASURER Mrs. Kimble Crossley, P. O. Box 1346, Columbus, Ms. 39701
NUMBER ACTIVE MEMBERS ON ROLL 240

MEMBERSHIP FEES ENCLOSED \$ 240.00

OTHER DISBURSEMENTS:

Home Missions:
 Pre-Thanksgiving Offering \$ 363.91
 State Missions 1,254.45
 Special Projects:
 State
 District 1,638.55
Foreign Missions:
 Pre-Easter Offering 250.32
 Special Projects:
 State
 District 1,443.62
Bible Colleges:
 General Fund 55.00
 Student Loan Funds 118.40
 Special Projects:
 State
 District 100.00
Woman's National Auxillary
 WNAC General Fund (Emphasis Month) 359.74
 Co-Laborer Offerings 570.28
 Special Projects

Children's Homes	1,179.63
Retired Ministers	52.00
Youth Camps and Projects	307.44
Local Church Activities	2,732.95
Auxiliary Literature and Supplies	561.00
Other Special Offerings	800.35

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS \$12,027.94

Non Cash Gifts (evaluate):

Children's Homes	\$ 872.56
Missionary Provision Closet	135.74

TOTAL NON CASH GIFTS \$ 1,008.30

GRAND TOTAL DISBURSED \$13,036.24

The local treasurer sends the duplicate report to the district treasurer at least ten days preceding her respective auxiliary convention. She encloses the amount of representation fees specified by her district.

The district treasurer compiles the reports sent to her by the local auxiliary treasurers and sends a copy to the state treasurer including the amount of representation fees approved by her state.

The state treasurer compiles the district reports and sends a copy to the national treasurer by May 20 (the end of WNAC's fiscal year) enclosing the proper representation fee.

1977-78 We gave \$4,676.08 to our church in Pearl.

1978-79 We gave between \$3,100.00-\$3,200.00 last year to the Fred Herseys to help send them back to Japan. We adopted for our State Project this year--1979-80--a State Project--to give \$4,000.00 to our Greenwood mission to help build the church.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your nominating committee submit the following names:

FOR NOMINATION:

Moderator	Rev. Luther Gibson
Assistant Moderator	Rev. Robert Cooper
Clerk	Rev. Glen Shelby
Assistant Clerk	Rev. Wayne Hale
Treasurer	Rev. A. V. Armstrong
Editor -- Mississippi Messenger	Rev. Glen Shelby

Board of Missions and Church Extension:

To fill the expired term of Bro. Jimmie Byrd - 1979: Jimmie Byrd - 1984

To fill the unexpired term of Rev. Wendell Walley - 1980: (Moved from state). John Pake - 1980.

Board of Christian Education:

To fill the expired term of Rev. Luther Gibson - 1979: Rev. Phil Ange - 1984.

To fill the unexpired term of Bro. Randy Sawyer - 1982: (Moved) Eddie Vincent - 1982

Board of Conference and Itinerate Ministries:

To fill the expired term of Rev. Jack Jones - 1979: Rev. Jack Jones - 1982.

Board of Historical Commission:

To fill the expired term of Rev. J. K. Walley - 1979: Bro. Tony Hollifield - 1982.

Member of Board of Children's Home:
Bro. Charles Walden Charles Walden -
Auditing Committee:
To fill the expired term of Rev. Terry Booker - 1979: Terry Booker - 1982.
General Board Member fo the National Association:
Rev. Luther Gibson
Master's Men State Senator:
Bro. Charles Henderson

E. DWIGHT FLETCHER, Chairman
HAROLD WIGGINGTON
CHARLES F. DAVIS

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

1. WHEREAS: The First Free Will Baptist Church of Pascagoula has requested the State Associational meeting for the year 1981; BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED That we accept this invitation.
2. WHEREAS: The First Free Will Baptist Church of Iuka has requested the State Associational Meeting for the year 1982: BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED That we accept this invitation.
3. WHEREAS: The First Free Will Baptist Church of Booneville has most graciously provided their facilities and services to host this State Association: BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED That we give a rising vote of thanks and appreciation to Bro. Luther Gibson and the congregation of the Booneville Church for their gracious hospitality during this State Meeting.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE
BRO. JACK JONES
BRO. ROY HOLIFIELD
BRO. LESTER CAHOON

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

**Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptist
for Year Beginning October 1, 1978 and Ending September 30, 1979**

FENERAL FUND RECEIPTS:

Bethel F.W.B. Church	137.83
Corinth F.W.B. Church	682.59
County Line F.W.B. Church	120.00
Damascus F.W.B. Church	30.00
Fawn Grove F.W.B. Church	71.41
First F.W.B. Church - Booneville	36.51
First FIW.B. Church - Columbus	180.00
First F.W.B. Church - Greenville	10.00
First F.W.B. Church - Iuka	80.00
Fellowship F.W.B. Church	60.00

Lovewell F.W.B. Church	145.40
Lees Chapel F.W.B. Church - Jones County	106.29
New Gauley F.W.B. Church	681.83
Pine Grove F.W.B. Church	597.56
Pearce Chapel F.W.B. Church	485.20
Individual Gifts	2.00
Tupelo F.W.B. Church	674.70
Ms. State Association - Mission Fund	95.00
North East Ms. Association of F.W.B.	25.00
Gifts Sent to State Meeting	249.20
State Delegate Fees	455.00
State Church Training Service	140.00
State Association District Fees	90.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$5,155.52
BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD	916.58
TOTAL AVAILABLE CASH	\$6,072.10

DISBURSEMENTS:

Treasurer (Envelopes-Postage-Expense Allowance)	\$ 90.00
Printing	3,168.06
Clerk and Messenger Expense Allowance	510.00
Messenger (Postage-Phone)	734.31
Designated to Mississippi Mission Board	155.00
Delegates Fees to National Association	95.00
Executive Board - Travel	165.60
State Church Training Service	203.42
Designated to Outside Ministeries	791.02
Bank Service Charge	4.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 5,916.41

TOTAL AVAILABLE CASH	\$6,072.10
LESS DISBURSEMENTS	5,916.41

GENERAL FUND BALANCE - SEPTEMBER 30, 1979 \$ 155.69

DESIGNATED DISBUSEMENTS NOT MADE
DUE TO INSUFFICIENT FUNDS \$ 791.22

Submitted by:

A. V. ARMSTRONG
Treasurer

AUDITING COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Auditing Committee, after meeting and examining the records of both the State Home Missions Treasurer and the State Association Treasurer, find all the records correct and in order.

Respectfully submitted,
TERRY BOOKER
CURTIS BRILEY
DONALD HOLLAND

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 memberships 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) This Board shall have the authority to select its Treasurer from among its members.

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 three (3) members with terms up to three (3) years, with a member going off each year.

Section 7. The Auditing Committee is a standing committee composed of three (3) members with terms up to three (3) 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 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 seventy-five dollars* (\$75.00) 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 disburse same as authorized by the Association.
(b) The Treasurer shall be paid seventy-five dollars* (\$75.00) 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 Rallies 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 fifteen (15) 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.

*See Report of The Executive Committee in 1977 Minutes.

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.