

# **MINUTES**

of the

**EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION**

of the

# Free Will Baptists

When Convened With

**FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH**

IUKA, MISSISSIPPI

November 5 & 6, 1982

The Next Session Will Be Held

With The

**FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH**

Tupelo, Mississippi

Friday and Saturday

before the first Sunday

In November, 1983

**MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION  
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

Moderator..... Rev. Luther Gibson  
134 North Lake, Booneville, Miss. 38829  
Assistant Moderator..... Rev. Eddie Vincent  
504 9th Ave., North, Amory, Miss.  
Clerk..... Rev. Robert Dykes  
Rt. 2, Box 234A, Eupora, Miss. 39744  
Assistant Clerk..... Rev. Bobby Mills  
Rt. 7, Box 123B, Pontotoc, Miss.  
Editor-Mississippi Messenger..... Bro. Billy Tabb  
107 Maple, Ridgeland, Miss. 39157

**Board of Missions and Church Extension**

Rev. Al Hamm-1983, Bro. Jimmie Byrd-1984, Bro. John Pake-1985,  
Rev. Johnny Sexton-1986, Rev. J.L. Gore-1987.

**Board of Christian Education**

From the Little Brown Creek Association-Bro. Steve Jones-1985.  
From the Northeast Miss. Association-Rev. Don Holland-1983.  
From South Mississippi Association-Bro. Vernon Walley-1984.

**Board of Conference and Itinerate Ministries**

Rev. Bobby Martin-1983 (to replace Rev. J.L. Gore)  
1984 (to replace Rev. Al Hamm)  
1985 (To fill the unexpired term of Rev. Jack Jones)

**Board of Historical Commission**

Rev. Hollis Southerland-1983  
Rev. Leander McAdams-1984  
Bro. Tony Holifield-1985

**Auditing Committee**

Rev. Wayne Yarbrough-1983  
Rev. Steve Nichols-1984  
Rev. Malcolm Garrett-1985

# DIGEST REPORT OF THE CHURCHES AND ASSOCIATIONS REPRESENTED AT THE 1982 MISS. STATE ASSOCIATION

CHURCH and DELEGATE	PASTOR	CLERK
Antioch-Burnsville James Nichols	Rev. Glen Jones Rt. 6, Corinth, Ms. 38834 Ph. 462-5889	Doris Bray Rt. 2, Box 352 Iuka, Ms. 38852 Ph. 423-5873
Antioch-Randolph	Rev. Wayne Yarbrough Rt. 2, Saltillo, Ms. 38866 Ph. 489-3139	Zone Waugh Randolph, Ms. 38864
Beech Springs	Rev. Robert Hesselmeyer Rt. 2, Box 448 Saltillo, Ms. 38866 Ph. 842-4148	Suzanne Stamey Rt. 1, N.T. 18 Tupelo, Ms. 38801 Ph. 842-4490
Bethel	Rev. Norman Nowell Rt. 3, Waynesboro, Ms. 39367	Mrs. Troy E. Hinton 406 S. 23rd Ave. Hattiesburg, Ms. 39401
Bethlehem Robbie Mills	Rev. Bobby Mills Rt. 7, Box 123B Pontotoc, Ms. 38863 Ph. 489-4429	Helen Stubblefield Rt. 2, Box 421 Pontotoc, Ms. 38863 Ph. 489-4372
Buckatunna	Rev. Andy Hoeflich Rt. 2 Richton, Ms. 39476 Ph. 788-6517	Pauline Burgess Rt. 1, Box 146 Buckatunna, Ms. 39322 Ph. 648-2374
Burgess Creek Betty Helton	Rev. E.J. Pruitt Rt. 1 Dennis, Ms. 38838 Ph. 454-7109	Mara Nell Crowell Rt. 2, Box 45M Tishomingo, Ms. 38873 Ph. 423-5313
Community Steve Jones	Rev. Malcolm Garrett Rt. 2, Box 177 Michie, Tenn. 38357 Ph. (901) 239-9776	Pat Bonds
Corinth Mrs. Charles Henderson	Rev. J.K. Walley Rt. 3, Waynesboro, Ms. 39367 Ph. 735-3392	Mrs. B.V. Nowell Rt. 3, Box 522 Waynesboro, Ms. 39367 Ph. 735-9083
County Line	Rev. Carter Brewer Rt. 4, Box 141B Richton, Ms. 39476	Gay Dykes Rt. 2, Box 267 Richton, Ms. 39476 Ph. 788-6761

**CHURCH  
and  
DELEGATE****PASTOR****CLERK**

Damascus	Rev. H.L. Warren Rt. 1, Bailey, Ms. Ph. 737-8776	Mrs. C.C. McKee Rt. 1, DeKalb, Ms. 39328 Ph. 743-5344
Eggville	Rev. Gerald Gann Rt. 4, Box 316 Tupelo, Ms. 38801 Ph. 842-4196	Jewel Stephens Rt. 4, Box 348 Tupelo, Ms. 38801 Ph. 842-7870
First-Amory	Rev. Eddie Vincent 504 9th Ave. Amory, Ms. Ph. 256-5000	
First-Booneville Tommy Wright	Rev. Luther Gibson 202 N. Lake St. Booneville, Ms. 38829 Ph. 728-6004	Mary L. Bullard Rt. 3, Rienzi, Ms. Ph. 728-6051
First-Columbus	Rev. Milton Fields 613 Browder St. Columbus, Ms. Ph. 327-7724	
First-Iuka Donnie Welch	Rev. Leonard Casabella Rt. 3, Iuka, Ms. 38852 Ph. 423-9566	Betty J. Barnes Rt. 2, Box 523 Iuka, Ms. 38852 Ph. 423-9835
First-Philadelphia Mrs. H.G. Cooper, Sr.	Rev. Leander McAdams Rt. 2, Box 814 Columbus, Ms. 39701 Ph. 327-2872	Mrs. H.G. Cooper, Sr. P.O. Box 332 Philadelphia, Ms. 39350 Ph. 656-2342
First-Richton	Rev. John Booker P.O. Box 485 Richton, Ms. 39476	Vickie L. Kelly Rt. 1, Box 9A Richton, Ms. 39476 Ph. 788-9624
Fawn Grove Joan Davis	Rev. Phil Davis Rt. 1, Box 105A Mantachie, Ms. 38855 Ph. 282-7214	Miss Carolyn Franks Rt. 1, Box 187 Mantachie, Ms. 38855 Ph. 282-7428
Fellowship Helen Rae Walley	Rev. Dwight Fletcher Rt. 1, Box 96 Richton, Ms. 39476 Ph. 989-2167	Linda Little Rt. 1, Box 98 Richton, Ms. 39476 Ph. 989-2162
Fulton Jane Hargett	Rev. Jerry Smith 208 Farrar Dr. Fulton, Ms. 38843 Ph. 862-4500	Jane Hargett P.O. Box 668 Fulton, Ms. 38843 Ph. 862-9335

<b>CHURCH and DELEGATE</b>	<b>PASTOR</b>	<b>CLERK</b>
Jones Chapel Jerry Hooper	Rev. Paul Long	
Lee's Chapel-Jones Co. Howard Holifield	Rev. Bobby Martin Rt. 6, Box 85 Laurel, Ms. 39440	Sonja Taylor Rt. 4, Box 328B Laurel, Ms. 39440 Ph. 649-8144
Lee's Chapel- Wayne Co.		Nancy M. Anderson Rt. 5, Box 472 Waynesboro, Ms. 39367 Ph. 735-9735
Little Brown Creek Paula Gilbert	Rev. Gene Gilbert Rt. 1, Box 360 Booneville, Ms. 38829 Ph. 728-9284	Betty Akers Rt. 5, Booneville, Ms. 38829 Ph. 728-3081
Lovewell	Rev. Truman Freeman Rt. 1 Richton, Ms. 39476	Katherine Brewer Rt. 1, Box 105 Richton, Ms. 39476
Martin Hill	Rev. Johnny Sexton Rt. 5, Box 111-A Booneville, Ms. 38829 Ph. 728-9816	Peggie Griffin Rt. 5, Booneville, Ms. 38829 Ph. 728-7979
McGregor's Chapel	Rev. John Reed Rt. 5, Box 409 Pontotoc, Ms. 38863 Ph. 489-7855	Faye Moore Rt. 5, Box 438 Pontotoc, Ms. 38863 Ph. 489-5227
New Gauley	Rev. Bill Roberson Tupelo, Ms. 38801	Linda Doler Rt. 2, Box 182-A Calhoun City, Ms. 38916 Ph. 628-5777
Pearce Chapel Judy Runyon	Rev. Grady Runyon Rt. 1, Box 341 Smithville, Ms. 38870 Ph. 651-4196	Madgie Robison Rt. 1, Box 336 Smithville, Ms. 38870 Ph. 651-4192
Pine Grove- Wayne Co.	Rev. Wayne Walley Rt. 1 Richton, Ms. 39476 Ph. 989-2163	Betty Holyfield Rt. 1, Box 95C Buckatunna, MS. 39322 Ph. 648-2583
Smith Chapel Jewel Reeves	Rev. Benny McKinney Rt. 2 Tishomingo, Ms. 38873 Ph. 423-6619	Jewel Reeves Rt. 1 Booneville, Ms. 38829 Ph. 728-9376
Victory	Rev. Al Hamm 806 Belmont Dr. Columbus, Ms. 39701 Ph. 328-0977	

<b>CHURCH and DELEGATE</b>	<b>PASTOR</b>	<b>CLERK</b>
White Hill Shirley Dykes	Rev. Robert Dykes Rt. 2, Box 234A Eupora, Ms. 39744 Ph. 258-2513	Mrs. Elloyce Nelms Rt. 4, Box 220A Eupora, Ms. 39744 Ph. 258-6090
Thompson Creek	Rev. Marshall Walters Rt. 3, Box 518 Waynesboro, MS 39367 Ph. 735-9495	Janet Jones Rt. 1, Box 559 Waynesboro, Ms. 39367 Ph. 735-3231
Charity Samuel Blue	Rev. Jerrel R. Busby Rt. 5, Box 518-A Waynesboro, Ms. 39367 735-5185	Elizabeth Hammonds Rt. 6, Box 78-A Laurel, Ms. 39440 Ph. 425-2905
Macedonia		Ruby Whittemore Rt. 1, Box 222 Rienzi, Ms. 38865
New Lebanon		Vonda Hall Rt. 2 Tishomingo, Ms. 38873

### **NAMES OF ASSOCIATIONS**

Little Brown Creek, Northeast Mississippi, South Mississippi.

Total Finances Received With Church And Associational Letters:

State General Fund.....	\$ 251.10
Missions.....	\$ 210.25
Representative Fees.....	\$ 1880.00

### **STATISTICS:**

Number of churches 59	Combined total membership 5207
Number of baptisms 273	Total new members 457      Lost 226
Number of parsonages 24	Combined value of Parsonages \$235,750.00
Number of churches giving to Cooperative Plan 3	
Number of churches designating gifts to outside causes 13	
Number of churches participating in Retirement & Insurance Plan 0	
Number of churches providing insurance for pastor 7	
Number of ordained ministers 70	Licensed Ministers 11
Total no. of Mid-Week Prayer meetings	Average attendance 767
Number of ordained deacons in quarterly meeting 166	
Combined Sunday school enrollment 2986	Average attendance 2202
Combined CTS enrollment 967	Average attendance 834
Combined WNAC enrollment 378	Average Attendance 204
Combined Master's Men Enrollment 128	Average attendance 42



**FINANCES:**

Total income of all member churches \$310,143.00  
Total local expenditures \$116,463.68

Outside Giving as follows:  
Cooperative Plan \$1,412.87  
National Executive Office \$ -0-  
Foreign Missions \$8,912.40  
Layman's Board \$ -0-  
Church Training Service \$ -0-  
Free Will Baptist Bible College \$2,348.57  
Retirement & Insurance Board \$ -0-  
Home Missions and Church Extensions \$12,386.15  
Other National Ministries \$ -0-  
District or State Ministries \$16,365.87  
Other Causes \$2,187.29

These figures show only South Mississippi  
and Little Brown Creek Associations re-  
porting on finances.

**BIBLE CONFERENCE**  
**November 5, 1982**  
Rev. Al Hamm, presiding  
Rev. Milton Fields, Song Leader

9:30	Welcome.....	Rev. Leonard Casabella
	Hymn and Prayer	
10:00	Message.....	Rev. Robert Hesselmeyer
10:40	Message.....	Rev. Malcolm Garrett
11:20	Recess	
11:30	Message.....	Rev. J.L. Gore
12:30	Lunch	
1:30	Hymn and Prayer	
1:35	Message.....	Rev. Milton Fields
2:10	Recess	

## MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATIONAL MEETING

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The eighteenth Annual Session of Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists met at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Iuka, Mississippi, on Friday afternoon and Saturday, November 5 & 6, 1982.

The session was opened with congregational singing. The meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. Luther Givson.

The Clerk gave a partial report of the Digest Committee of church and associational letters. A motion was made and carried to receive the report and seat the delegates.

The Executive Committee Report was given by the clerk. A motion was made and carried to accept the report.

The Committee on Committees was appointed as follows: Rev. Robert Hesselmeyer, Rev. Steve Nichols, and Rev. Malcolm Garrett.

A report of the Itinerate Ministries was given. Motion was made and carried to accept this report.

Rev. Hughes Ellis gave a report on Home Missions. Motion was made and carried to accept this report as information.

Rev. Steve Nichols made a motion that we give the missions offering to be received to Rev. Ellis.

Dismissed by prayer.

### FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

The Friday night session was opened at 7:00 p.m. with the congregation singing, "Redeemed By the Blood of the Lamb" led by Rev. Eddie Vincent.

Special singing was presented by the Little Brown Creek Quartet. They sang "I Know A Man Who Can" and "If You Miss Heaven, You'll Miss It All."

The associational body was welcomed by Rev. Leonard Casabella.

A report of the Committee on Committees was given. A motion was made and carried to receive this report.

Congregational singing, "No, Not One."

Special singing by the Little Brown Creek Quartet, "One-Way Flight."

The Friday night offering was received by Rev. Leonard Casabella and a deacon.

The Friday evening message was brought by Rev. Hughes Ellis entitled, "The Sin of Sitting Saints" from I Samuel 16:11.

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. Melvin Worthington.

### SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The session opened with congregational singing "I Am Resolved" led by Rev. Frank Breeden.



The speaker for the prayer meeting time was Rev. Steve Nichols. He took his scripture from Matthew 6:5. It was a time for sharing needs that we could unite in prayer. The prayer was led by Rev. Leander McAdams.

Associational singing was led by Rev. Eddie Vincent, "Joy Unspeakable."

The report of the Children's Home was given by Rev. Ed Warren. Motion was made and carried to accept the report as information.

The report of the State Treasurer was given by Bro. A.V. Armstrong. Motion was made and carried to receive the report.

The report of the Woman's Auxiliary was given by Mrs. Elizabeth Gibson. Motion was made and carried to accept the report as information.

The report on Foreign Missions was given by Rev. Eugene Waddell. Motion was made and carried to receive this report as information.

The report of the auditing committee was made by Rev. Steve Nichols. Motion was made and carried to receive the report.

The report of the Master's Men was given. Motion was made and carried to receive the report as information.

A report was given from Free Will Baptist Bible College by Rev. Frank Breeden. Motion was made and carried to receive this report as information.

A partial report of the Nominating Committee was given. Motion was made and carried to receive the partial report and vote item by item.

The report of the Mission Board was given by Rev. Dwight Fletcher. Motion was made and carried to receive this report.

The report of the Sunday School and CTS was given by Bro. Green. Motion was made and carried to receive this report as information.

A partial report of the Resolutions Committee was given by Rev. Ralph Hester. A motion was made to receive the report and vote item by item. (See report)

A report was given by Rev. Ralph Hester and Rev. Steve Nichols on their progress in the individual mission work. Motion was made and carried to receive these reports as information.

The report of the Executive Secretary, Rev. Melvin Worthington, was given and accepted as information.

Motion was made and carried to send the Moderator and the Assistant Moderator to the Leadership Conference in December, 1982.

Dismissed for lunch.

## **SATURDAY AFTERNOON**

The Saturday afternoon session was opened with congregational singing and a most inspiring message was delivered by Rev. Al Hamm.

The remainder of the session was given to final committee reports.

## 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 of Columbus, Mississippi on September 11, 1982, at 10:00 a.m. to plan the program for the annual Bible Conference and the Mississippi State Association.

Members present were: Rev. Luther Gibson, Moderator, Rev. Eddie Vincent, Asst. Moderator, Rev. Glen Shelby, Clerk, Rev. Robert Dykes, Asst. Clerk, Bro. A.V. Armstrong, Treasurer, and members of the Board of Conference and Itinerate Ministries, Rev. Jack Jones and Rev. Al Hamm.

Rev. Al Hamm opened the meeting with a devotional and prayer.

We submit the following report:

(1) We planned the program for the annual Bible Conference and State Associational meetings.

(2) The Executive Committee voted to designate the Friday night offering to Greenwood Mission.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rev. Luther Gibson  
Rev. Eddie Vincent  
Rev. Robert Dykes  
Bro. A.V. Armstrong  
Rev. Al Hamm  
Rev. Jack Jones  
Rev. Glen Shelby

## COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES REPORT

We the Committee on Committees, submit the following recommendations:

Nominating Committee:

Rev. Al Hamm  
Bro. Tony Holifield  
Rev. Hollis Southerland

Resolutions Committee:

Rev. Ralph Hester  
Bro. James Nichols  
Rev. Hollis Warren

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Robert Hesselmeyer  
Rev. Steve Nichols  
Rev. Malcolm Garrett

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

We, the Nominating Committee, submit the following names for nomination:

Moderator: Rev. Luther Gibson  
Assistant Moderator: Rev. Eddie Vincent  
Clerk: Rev. Robert Dykes  
Assistant Clerk: Rev. Bobby Mills  
Treasurer: Bro. Tommy Wright

### **Board of Missions and Church Extension**

Rev. Al Hamm-1983 (To replace Rev. Phil Ange)  
Bro. Jimmie Byrd-1984  
Bro. John Pake-1985  
Rev. Johnny Sexton-1986  
Rev. J.L. Gore-1987 (To fill the unexpired term of Rev. Dwight Fletcher)

### **Board of Christian Education**

From the Northeast Miss. Association-Rev. Don Holland-1983.  
From the South Miss. Association-Bro. Vernon Walley-1984.  
From the Little Brown Creek Association-Bro. Steve Jones-1985.

### **Board of Conference and Itinerate Ministries**

To replace Rev. J.L. Gore, Rev. Bobby Martin-1983.  
To replace Rev. Al Hamm, 1984.  
To fill the expired term of Rev. Jack Jones, 1985.

### **Board of Historical Commission**

Rev. Hollis Southerland-1983.  
Rev. Leander McAdams-1984.  
Bro. Tony Holifield-1985.

### **Auditing Committee**

Rev. Wayne Yarbrough-1983.  
Rev. Steve Nichols-1984.  
Rev. Malcolm Garrett-1985.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rev. Al Hamm  
Bro. Tony Holifield  
Rev. Hollis Southerland

## RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Recommend that the Constitution of the Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists may be altered or amended at any yearly session of the association by two-thirds visible vote of the members present, provided that the change is recommended, in writing, to the delegates, at the yearly session and tabled until the next year. (Passed by body).
2. Recommend that Jackson, Miss., because of its central location to all the churches, and the facilities to properly accomodate the convention, become the permanent location for the future meetings of the Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists. (Defeated by body).
3. Request that the First Free Will Baptist Church of Columbus, Miss. be considered as the site for the next available Northeast Mississippi hosted state meeting. This will be in 1986. (Passed by body).
4. Be it resolved that the Mississippi State Association establish a Publications Committee of three members, including the Editor of our State newspaper, for establishing the priorities of the articles to be published in the state paper. (Passed by body). Rev. Eddie Vincent and Rev. Robert Hesselmeyer were appointed to serve on this committee with Bro. Billy Tabb.
5. Be it resolved that the State Association give a rising vote of thanks to the First Free Will Baptist Church of Iuka for their efforts in hosting this year's state associational meeting.

Respectfully,  
Rev. Ralph Hester  
Rev. Hollis Warren  
Bro. James Nichols

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS  
FOR YEAR BEGINNING  
OCTOBER 1, 1981 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1982.

### GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS:

Bethel F.W.B. Church.....	\$ 409.37
Bethlehem F.W.B. Church.....	60.00
Corinth F.W.B. Church.....	636.60
County Line F.W.B. Church.....	120.00

Damascus F.W.B. Church.....	25.00
Fawn Grove F.W.B. Church.....	136.81
Fellowship F.W.B. Church.....	60.00
First F.W.B. Church (Columbus).....	245.00
First F.W.B. Church - Iuka.....	20.00
Grace F.W.B. Church - Oxford.....	22.85
Fulton F.W.B. Church.....	68.50
Lees Chapel F.W.B. Church - Jones County.....	258.44
Little Brown F.W.B. Church Sunday School.....	102.50
Little Brown Creek Association of F.W.B.....	30.00
Lovewell F.W.B. Church.....	230.23
State C.T.S. Dues.....	140.00
Church Gifts Sent to State Meeting - General Fund.....	355.00
Church Gifts Sent to State Meeting - Mission Fund.....	100.00
Mississippi State Association - Offerings - General Fund.....	128.89
Mississippi State Association - Delegate Fees.....	1,049.97
New Gauley F.W.B. Church.....	726.68
Northeast District Association of F.W.B.....	320.00
Pearce Chapel F.W.B. Church.....	571.85
Pleasant Grove F.W.B. Church.....	60.00
South Mississippi Association of F.W.B.....	30.00
Tupelo F.W.B. Church.....	622.35
State Association Offering for Gulfport Mission.....	256.64
A.J. Cole.....	400.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS.....	7,186.68
BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD	<u>3,078.45</u>
TOTAL AVAILABLE CASH....	\$10,265.13

GENERAL FUND DISBURSEMENTS:

Treasurer - Expense Allowance.....	\$ 100.00
Clerk - Expense Allowance - Postage-Phone.....	165.08
State C.T.S. Supplies.....	297.56
State C.T.S. National Fees.....	170.00
State Boards Travel.....	171.20
National Association Delegate Fees.....	610.00
Mississippi Messenger Editor - Salary.....	1,130.00
Mississippi Messenger Editor - Travel-Phone.....	121.30
Mississippi Messenger - Postage-Supplies.....	891.46
Mississippi Messenger - Printing.....	2,465.90
State Association Speakers.....	150.00
Mississippi Missions - Designated.....	816.64
Outside Ministries - Designated.....	<u>978.71</u>

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS.....	\$ 8,067.85
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TOTAL AVAILABLE CASH. . . . . \$10.265.13  
LESS DISBURSEMENTS. . . . . 8.067.85

GENERAL FUND BALANCE -  
SEPT. 30, 1982. . . . . \$ 2,197.28

SUBMITTED BY: A.V. ARMSTRONG, TREASURER

**Financial Statement for October 1, 1981 thru September 30, 1982**  
**MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**  
**BOARD OF MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION**

**RECEIPTS FROM CHURCHES**

Amory F.W.B. Church. . . . .	\$ 115.00
Antioch F.W.B. Church (Burnsville). . . . .	700.00
Bethel F.W.B. Church. . . . .	733.82
Bethlehem F.W.B. Church. . . . .	551.60
Burgess Creek F.W.B. Church. . . . .	129.00
Charity F.W.B. Church. . . . .	100.00
Community F.W.B. Church. . . . .	300.00
Corinth F.W.B. Church. . . . .	690.07
County Line F.W.B. Church. . . . .	170.00
Damascus F.W.B. Church. . . . .	100.00
Eggville F.W.B. Church. . . . .	698.18
Faith F.W.B. (L. Br. Crk. Assoc.). . . . .	100.00
Faith F.W.B. Church - Jackson. . . . .	206.27
Fawn Grove F.W.B. Church. . . . .	520.04
Fellowship F.W.B. Church. . . . .	2,376.62
First F.W.B. Church - Booneville. . . . .	1.157.25
First F.W.B. Church - Columbus. . . . .	778.00
First F.W.B. Church - Greenville. . . . .	100.00
First F.W.B. Church - Iuka. . . . .	207.00
First F.W.B. Church - Pearl. . . . .	400.00
First F.W.B. Church - Philadelphia. . . . .	125.00
First F.W.B. Church - Richton. . . . .	100.00
Fulton F.W.B. Church. . . . .	100.00
Grace F.W. Mission. . . . .	94.94
Greenwood F.W.B. Church. . . . .	231.25
Gulf Coast F.W.B. Mission. . . . .	905.00
Jones Chapel F.W.B. Church. . . . .	300.00
Lee's Chapel F.W.B. Church - Jones Co. . . . .	179.90
Lee's Chapel F.W.B. Church - Wayne Co. . . . .	905.41
Little Brown F.W.B. Church. . . . .	300.00
Lovewell F.W.B. Church. . . . .	230.23



Main Street F.W.B. Church. ....	752.00	
Martin Hill F.W.B. Church. ....	1,765.02	
Mount Pisgah F.W.B. Church. ....	2,026.23	
Pearce Chapel F.W.B. Church. ....	2,189.49	
Pine Grove F.W.B. Church (S. MS. Assoc.). ....	560.00	
Smith Chapel F.W.B. Church. ....	80.00	
Victory F.W.B. Church. ....	932.29	
White Hill F.W.B. Church. ....	<u>125.00</u>	
		\$22,034.61

RECEIPTS FROM INDIVIDUALS. .... \$ 582.00

MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS:

Fellowship F.W.B. Master's Men. ....	\$ 495.44	
Fellowship F.W.B. Teen Sunday School Class. ....	110.93	
Jones/Jones/Jones (Seller's Pro-rata share '82 taxes). . .	8.50	
Little Brown Creek Assoc. ....	990.87	
Little Brown Creek Assoc. Youth Rally. ....	60.00	
Little Brown F.W.B. Ch. Sunday School. ....	40.00	
MS. St. Assoc. (Ch. gifts sent to the St. Assoc. Mtg.)	100.00	
MS. St. Assoc. (Offering at St. Mtg. for Gulfport). . .	256.64	
MS. St. Woman's Auxiliary. ....	788.51	
Nichols, Steve (Final Loan Payment). ....	25.00	
Northeast Association. ....	600.00	
Northeast Assoc. Woman's Auxiliary. ....	<u>710.53</u>	
		<u>\$ 4,186.42</u>

TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR OCTOBER 1, 1981 -	
SEPTEMBER 30, '82	\$26,803.03
+ Balance forwarded from September 30, 1981	<u>30,206.57</u>

\*\*\*TOTAL TO ACCOUNT FOR IN CHECKING = \$57,009.60

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DISBURSEMENTS:

To Missionary Ralph Hester:		
1) Christmas Gift. ....	\$ 150.00	
2) Mileage/Meals/Lodging. ....	874.89	
3) 1981 Social Security. ....	<u>1,076.73</u>	
		\$ 2,101.62

To Missionary Steve Nichols:

1) Christmas Gift. ....	\$ 150.00
2) Mileage. ....	117.00
3) 1981 Social Security. ....	837.00
4) Postage. ....	<u>10.80</u>

\$ 1,114.80

For Mission Board Expenses:

1) Mileage/Meals/Lodging. ....	\$ 398.88
2) Miscellaneous (Printing & Supplies). ....	66.08
3) Phone. ....	109.18
4) Postage. ....	8.00
5) Treasurer's Honorariums (\$10.00 per Month). ....	120.00

\$ 702.14

For Miscellaneous Items:

1) Gulf Coast F.W.B. Mission (Forwarding a gift). .	\$710.53
2) Jones/Jones/Jones (4 Acres of land & costs). .	<u>21,969.00</u>

\$22,679.53

To National Home Missions:

1) To the Ralph Hester Account. ....	\$ 9,000.00
2) To the Steve Nichols Account. ....	<u>10,500.00</u>

\$19,500.00

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS 10/1/81 – 9/30/82

\$46,098.09

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TOTAL RECEIPTS & BALANCE FORWARDED  
FROM 9/30/81 =

\$57,009.60

LESS DISBURSEMENTS TOTAL (Above). .... =

46,098.09

BALANCE FOR THE YEAR. .... =

\*\* \$10,911.51 \*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

SAVINGS ACCOUNT INFORMATION

Amory Federal Savings & Loan Association

(9/30/81)

\$6,202.75

+ Interest earned. .... 462.07

BALANCE 9/30/82. ....

\$6,664.82

Richton Bank & Trust Co. (9/30/81).....	\$	231.51
+ Interest earned.....		<u>13.60</u>
BALANCE 9/30/82.....	\$	<u>245.11</u>

TOTAL ON SAVINGS.....		\$6,909.93 **
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Free Will Baptists in Mississippi had two missionary families on the field this past associational year. Bro. Steve Nichols and his family continued their ministry in Greenwood while Bro. Ralph Hester got settled into a full schedule of work on the coast having begun services on August 30, 1981. This past year has been a time of fruitfulness in both works. Bro. Nichols has received six (6) new members into the fellowship of the Greenwood Church which saw a maturing of the congregation, along with two (2) conversions and six (6) rededications. On the coast at the Gulf Coast F.W.B. Mission, activity has been brisk. Bro. Hester has witnessed sixty-five (65) conversions, thirty-four (34) rededications, and baptized twelve (12). During the month of July, a friend of Bro. Hester made a trip to the coast from a northern state to spend a week of "knocking on doors." During the month, 650 homes were visited and 43 conversions and 17 rededications being witnessed—most of these taking place during that week of concentrated work!!! PRAISE THE LORD!!! During the past year the board purchased four (4) acres of land upon which construction of a building will have begun by the time you receive this report, the Lord willing! Your Home Missions Board wishes to express our appreciation to those who have stood by the missions efforts through the years. Thank You for the moral support which you have given along with the financial support. However, there is still a need for consistent monthly giving by all of our churches. Also, there needs to be renewed interest in March For Missions as we were under our goal by over \$6,800.00. For those who may support our missionaries by sending to their accounts with the National Home Missions Department, thank you for your support, but please understand that these gifts will not be reflected in this report unless they should be sent back to this office from Nashville.

### PRAISE ITEMS

- 1) Souls have been saved and revived.
- 2) Safe travel for our missionaries.
- 3) Improved health for Sis. Hester/  
Sis. Nichols
- 4) Land secured on the coast.
- 5) Greenwood progressed to point of coming out from under the board January 1, 1983.

### PRAYER REQUESTS

- 1) Souls to be saved. Believers to grow.
- 2) Safe travel/good health for missionary families.
- 3) Building project for the Gulf Coast congregation.
- 4) Wisdom and guidance for the board.
- 5) Faithful giving from all our churches.

## 1982 MARCH FOR MISSISSIPPI MISSIONS REPORT

N.E. ASSOC.		L. BR. CRK. ASSOC.		S. MS.	ASSOC.
Bethlehem	\$ 131.07	Antioch	\$ 700.00	Bethel	\$ 456.57
(1981	64.73	Burgess Creek	129.00	Charity	100.00
Damascus	100.00	Community	300.00	Corinth	241.00
Eggville	81.50	Faith	100.00	County Line	125.00
First - Greenville	55.00	First - Booneville	576.25	Faith	206.27
First-Philadelphia	125.00	First - Iuka	127.00	Fellowship Ch.	963.75
Fulton	100.00	Jones Chapel	300.00	" Master's Men	495.44
Grace F.W. Mission	26.39	L. Br. Crk. Assoc.	990.87	First - Richton	100.00
Greenwood	216.25	L. Br. F.W.B. Ch.	250.00	First - Pearl	400.00
Main Street	30.00	Martin Hill	589.82	Gulf Coast	130.00
Pearce Chapel	773.02	Mt. Pisgah	717.00	Lee's Chapel-Jones	77.50
Victory	334.29	Smith Chapel	80.00	" "-Wayne Co.	248.95
White Hill	<u>125.00</u>	Total	<u>\$4,859.94</u>	Pine Grove	<u>560.00</u>
Total	\$2,162.25			Total	\$4,104.48

### TOTAL MARCH FOR MISSIONS RECEIPTS

**\$11,126.67**

# **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 upon the receipt of a letter and upon the payment of the representative fee of fifty (50.00) dollars, plus (10.00) dollars per member church in the district association. All ordained ministers and deacons of qualified district associations shall be entitled to membership in this body. All missionaries under the auspices of the State Mission Board shall be entitled to membership in this body upon request by the State Mission Board.

Section 3. Any local Free Will Baptist Church whose association is not a member of the State Association, may represent with (1) lay delegate and the ordained ministers and deacons of that church upon receipt of a letter and the payment of the representative fee of twenty (20.00) (amended to read twenty-five (25.00)) dollars. Each local church holding membership in a qualified district association shall be entitled to one (1) lay delegate upon receipt of a letter and upon the payment of the representative fee of twenty (20.00) (amended to read twenty-five (25.00)) dollars.

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, an 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.

(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 of 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 three (3) members with terms of up to three (3) years, with a member going off each year. The Board of Christian Education is to be composed of a member elected from each of the district associations.

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**

**—Deleted by 1981 Association—**

### **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 one hundred dollars (100.00) 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 one hundred dollars (100.00) per year to cover his time, 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 twenty-one (21) cents per mile (amended to read "the same as or not to exceed the current rate set by I.R.S.") 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 fifteen dollars (15.00) 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 sixty dollars (60.00) per issue for his labor and personal expenses in preparing the MESSENGER. (Amended to read "shall be paid one hundred (100.00) dollars per issue.")
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.