

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE
55th SESSION OF THE
MISSISSIPPI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST
APRIL 24 -27 2019
COURTYARD MARRIOT
COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI**

Dr. Larry Reynolds, Moderator

Rev. Paul Bryant, Assistant Moderator

Bro. Bob Birmingham, Clerk

Rev. Billy Trull, Assistant Clerk

Rev. Dennis Kizzire, Director of Communications

Rev. Steve Nichols, Director of Finance

On April 24, 2019 Mississippi Free Will Baptist gathered at the Courtyard Marriot in Columbus, MS for the 55th Annual Session of the Mississippi Association of Free Will Baptist. 23 Ministers, 7 Deacons, 7 Delegates and 22 Guests registered for a total of 58. The speakers for the 55th Annual Session was Dr. Danny Dwyer, Administrator of ReKindle, a church revitalization ministry of the Executive Department of the National Association of Free Will Baptist, Rev. Thomas Lloyd, New Albany Missionary, and Rev. Rick Bowling, Histamonic North American Ministry.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE CONFERENCE

The Thursday morning Bible Conference began with worship leader Rev. Rich Dilling, Pastor of Springdale FWB, reading from Psalms 100:8. Service continued with Rev. Dilling leading congregation in singing, "Heavens Jubilee". Dr. Larry Reynolds, Moderator, welcomed all to the state association meeting and entertained that we have a time of fellowship, then introduced our speaker Rev. Thomas Lloyd. Bro. Ryan Lewis led the conference in prayer. Rev. Rich Dilling led congregation singing "Dwelling in Beulah Land" and "Joy Unspeakable". Dr. Gerald Gann, Pastor Eggville FWB, introduced Special Music, "Another Soldier Coming Home" sung by Sis. Brenda Gann. Rev. Lloyd preached from Psalms 133:1. Unity.

A. When everyone does their part there is harmony.

B. The Holy Spirit can accomplish His work through the unity of church members.

C. Christians that are in unity can accomplish much.

Closing prayer led by Bro. Harris. Dr. Reynolds introduce Bro. Ryan Lewis from National Office. Gave information on National Association meeting in Cincinnati, OH in July 21-24, 2019.

The second service resumed with Worship Leader Rev. Rich Dilling sharing scripture from Psalms 150. He then led congregation singing "Oh Say But I'm Glad/I'm So Glad". Dr.

Reynolds welcomed everyone. Rev. Ryan Smith led in prayer. Congregation singing continued

with "Oh I Want To See Him" and "When We All Get To Heaven". Special music was presented by Dr. Rich Dilling. Rev. Van Dale Hudson introduced our special speaker Dr. Danny Dwyer. His message was from Genesis 18. Humanity of Jesus. Abram and Sarah as examples.

- a. Nothing is too hard for God.
- b. All things are possible with God.
- c. There is nothing that I will face that is too hard for God.
- d. God fights our battles.
- e. How are pastors dealing with their own children.
- f. God came with a purpose.
- g. God honors His promise.
- h. God provides every need.
- i. Is anything too hard for God.

Dr. Reynolds called on Bro. Ryan Lewis to give update on National Convention in Cincinnati, OH.

The Thursday afternoon session began with Moderator Reynolds welcoming all to this session. Motion was made by Dr. Dilling, second by Rev. Hudson and passed to call this business session into order. Moderator Reynolds then seated the delegates for the 55th Session of the Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptist. A motion was made and passed to receive the morning report as information. The session proceeded by Moderator Reynolds recognizing the National Association representatives and Mississippi boards to share their respective reports:

- National Executive Office – Bro. Ryan Lewis
- International Missions – Bro. Steve Torrison
- Women National Active for Christ – Diane Bryant
- Board of Retirement – Rev. Terry Pierce
- Foundation and Estate Planning – Rev. Terry Pierce. Bro. Richard Davis
- Welch College – Bro. Todd Parish
- Youth Ministry Board – Rev. Thomas Holloway
- Director of Communication – Rev. Dennis Kizzire
- Director of Finance – Rev. Steve Nichols
- MS Mission Board – Rev. Terry Booker, Bro. George Kimbrow, Rev Thomas Lloyd
- Master's Men – Bro. George Kimbrow
- Disaster Response Team Board – Bro. Bob Birmingham
- Free Will Baptist Children's Home – Sis Mandy Mitchell
- Hispanic Ministry – Rev. Rick Bowling
- ReKindle – Dr. Danny Dwyer
- MS WAC – Sis. Suzzette Stallings

Dr. Reynolds called for cessation of business for the day.

THURSDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

The evening service began with Worship Leader, Bro. Tanner Stahl and praise band from Connect Church, led the congregation in singing of "Jesus Messiah". Dr. Larry Reynolds welcomed everyone to the Worship Service and led in prayer. Bro. Tanner Stahl then led song "More Than Amazing". Special Music was presented by Bro. Tanner Stahl and Praise Band

from Connect Church, "Draw Me Nearer". Dr. Danny Dwyer brought the message from Acts 3:1-13, "Genuine Relationship with God".

- a. Make it happen – Force feed.
- b. Wait on the Holy Spirit.
- c. Count on the power of the ministry.
- d. Depend on the fullness of the Holy Spirit
- e. Ask for power every day
- f. Bow before the Lord before doing work for others.
- g. It should be a Joy to talk with God.
- h. Focus should be on the inner man.
- i. Understand what the love of God is.

Dr. Dwyer closed in prayer.

FRIDAY MORNING BUSINESS SESSION

The session began with Bro. Tanner Stahl, Worship Leader, and Connect Church Praise Band leading us singing "How Great Thou Art" and "All Hail the King". Bro. Stahl led in prayer. Moderator Reynolds welcomed all, acknowledging appreciation for the national offices, visitors, and all involved with music for the meeting. He then shared the Moderator's Moment. Reports continued.

- a. Obituary Report – Bro. Bob Birmingham. Rev. Paul Bryant led in prayer.
- b. Resolution Report – Rev. Terry Pierce. Be it resolved that the Mississippi Executive Board take the MAP designations for Rev. David Outlaw and redirect them to the account of Missionary to Uruguay, Rev. Steve Torinson. Approved
- c. Nominating Report given by Bro. Lavelle Braddock. Approved except for Auditing Committee. Executive Board to meet on September 17, 2019 to change bylaws to restructure Auditing Committee. Approved
- d. Mission Board – Bro. George Kimbrow. (1) What is value of Madison property? To determine. (2) Mission building church plans were donated from Trinity FWB church. (3) Recommendation was made to separate budget for pastor salary and building cost. (4) Amend budget to present a line item budget to Executive Board minus building cost. Approved

Moderator Reynolds asked if there were any more items of business. Motion to adjourn. Approved. Rev. Rick Dilling dismissed in prayer.

FRIDAY MORNING WORSHIP SESSION

The concluding service began with Rev. Rich Dilling leading Victory in Jesus. Rev. Ryan Smith led in prayer. Moderator Reynolds welcomed everyone to the service, asking everyone to stand for the offering. Rev. Larry Reynolds led in prayer. Worship Leader, Bro. Tanner Stahl led the congregation singing, "Revive Us Again". Special Music "For the Cause of Christ" was provided by Bro. Tanner Stahl. Bro. Tanner led in prayer. The concluding message from Bro. Rick Bowling was from 2 Corinthians 1:8, "Troubles of Life", Pray through them.

- a. The Lord is concerned about you.
- b. Its not about us, It's about Him.
- c. God has to teach us at times to help us relax.
- d. Storms of God to make us more mature.
- e. Sometimes Satan caused storms.
- f. God has promised to supply all our needs.
- g. His Grace is Sufficient. Stand fast.
- h. God is faithful.
- i. Believe in Jesus and be saved.
- j. Always trust God.
- k. Believe in the Word of God. It's the inspired Word.

**Minutes of the Mid-Atlantic District Association
Of Free Will Baptists Annual Meeting
Meeting at the New Castle FWB Church in New Castle, DE
November 2, 2019**

The meeting began with Rev. Wayne Hale, pastor of the New Castle FWB Church welcoming the congregation to their church and to this annual meeting. He then led the congregation in prayer.

Dr. Allen Hall called the business portion of the meeting to order and seated the delegates. The business portion was opened for business by Dr. Hall. The minutes were read by Rev. Wayne Hale. Motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the minutes. Rev. Hale then gave the treasurer's report. Motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept this report.

Visitors from the Free Will Baptist National Offices were recognized and the following reports were given. Elizabeth Hodges gave a report on the WNAC. David Brown gave a report on the Free Will Baptist Foundation. Brad Ransom gave a report on the North American Ministries. Derek Altom gave a report on Welch College. A video report was then shown from the Board of Retirement.

Under Old Business, everyone was reminded to sign in on the sign-up sheets. The churches were reminded to pay their dues to the clerk/treasurer. The Executive Committee reminded all of the rotation of churches to host the annual association meeting. Townsend—November 7, 2020, Christ Total Solution—November 6, 2021, and Cross Keys Fellowship—November 5—2022. These are followed by the Good News Church in York, PA, the Mt. Calvary Church in Aberdeen, MD, and the new Castle Church in New Castle, DE. It was noted that the dates and locations are subject to change. When it is your church's turn to host the association, please be sure that you are prepared.

Under New Business, the following people were nominated by the Executive Committee and were elected to the following offices: Moderator, replacing Dr. Allen Hall, Rev. Alan Hines for a three-year term; Assistant moderator, replacing Rev. Sandy Adams, Jr., Dr. Allen Hall for a two-year term; Clerk/Treasurer, replacing Rev. Wayne Hale, Rev. Wayne Hale for a two-year term; Assistant Clerk/Treasurer, replacing Rev. Alan Hines, Rev. Shane Thompson for a two-year

term; General Board Representative for the National Association, replacing Rev. Wayne Hale, Rev. Wayne Hale for a three-year term.

The Executive Committee recommended the following change to the Constitution and By-Laws: "That Article VI – Meetings Section A be amended to read: This District Association shall convene at 9:30 A.M. on the first Saturday of **December** for fellowship and the conducting of such business as deemed necessary. The **December** Business Session will be considered the Annual District Association Meeting in which officers will be elected and committees elected and appointed." This recommendation was received and tabled until the next Association meeting (whether regularly scheduled or called by the moderator).

A standing vote of thanks was given to the New Castle Church and pastor Wayne Hale for hosting this meeting of the Mid-Atlantic District Association.

The worship portion of the meeting was begun with the congregation being led in two songs, Chain Breaker and Amazing Grace My Chains Are Gone. Rev. Shane Thompson then led in prayer. An offering was received which was to be sent to North American Ministries. The speaker, Rev. Brad Ransom from North American Ministries, then spoke on Keys to Practice for Transformation from Acts 1:8-14. He said that The Keys are Commission (verse 8), Unity (verse 14), and Prayer (verse 14).

The meeting was then adjourned with prayer and the blessing was asked on the food. Lunch was then served by the members of the New Castle FWB Church.
Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Wayne Hale, Clerk/Treasurer