

MINUTES

Of The

One Hundred and Twenty Seventh

Annual Session

Of The

MOUNT MORIAH ASSOCIATION

Of

FREE WILL BAPTIST

Held With

MT. ZION FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

McShan, Alabama

October 8, 1977

OFFICERS

Rev. Roy Gene Plymon Moderator
Rev. J.L. Lavender Assistant Moderator
Rev. Raymond Tilley Clerk
Mrs. Vaudine Lancaster Assistant Clerk

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

W.N. Joyner
Ganus Gray

M.P. Gore
L.B. Koon

J.B. Tucker

The next session of the Association
will meet with Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church
of Millport, Alabama, on the Saturday
before the Second Sunday in October at 9:30 o'clock.

The one hundred and twenty-seventh session of the Mount Moriah Association convened with Mount Moriah Church in McShan, Alabama on October 7, 1977. Bro. Lando McAdams led the opening song after which Rev. Byron Meyer led in prayer.

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. Roy Gene Plymon who used the words of Ezekiel and compared this scripture to people of today. He urged the christians of today to be as men ready to stand in the gap. His challenge was to be the kind of man God is looking for.

It was moved and seconded to go into the business of the Association.

Delegates were listed as per role. Bro. W. N. Joyner and Bro. Lando McAdams were appointed as Reading Clerks. The Moderator asked that Sis. Vaudine Lancaster be seated as Clerk in the absence of the Clerk.

The following were items of interest in the letters from the churches to the Association:

Mount Moriah - Organized a Woman's Auxiliary; also erected an Alabama Historical Marker commemorating the church as the oldest Free Will Baptist Church in Alabama.

Macedonia - Asked for the Association next year and gave God the thanks for a good year

Shiloh - Requested that Rev. Tony Latham's name be added to the ordained ministers list.

Holman - Asked that Bro. Jerry Parker's name be added to the licensed ministers list.

Tabernacle - Asked for the Association for next year and stated that their summer revival gave them new strength in the Lord.

Phillips Chapel - Submitted some helpful corrections to contribute to the accuracy of the statistics in the minutes.

Ethelsville - Asked for a letter of dismissal.

Terminal For Christ - Showed an increase from 12 members to 49 this year. Elected 5 deacons, organized a youth choir and added 3 new Sunday School classes for the young people.

Our visiting ministers were asked to stand. Rev. Byron Meyer was recognized from Eastside Free Will Baptist Church as a delegate from the Vernon Association.

Rev. Roy Gene Plymon was elected as Moderator with Rev. J. L. Lavender, Assistant Moderator.

Rev. Raymond Tilley was elected as Clerk, and Sis. Vaudine Lancaster as the Assistant Clerk.

The roll call of churches was given and churches who did not have a full representation of delegates were given the opportunity to fill in the absentees.

The following are delegates who attended:

DELEGATES ATTENDING ASSOCIATION

Mt. Moriah - Henry Kirkland, Gene Lowe, Dan Turnipseed
Macedonia - Frank Sims, James Wharton, Leon McAdams
Shiloh - Marlin Burkhalter, Wilson Connell, Ola Latham
Tabernacle - Buddy Sturdivant, Lewis Montgomery, Cleburn Wylie
Union - Morris Gray, Lindsey Watkins, Horace Watkins
Phillips Chapel - Dan Logan, Stanley Sanford, Robert Smith
Mt. Zion - James South, Gilford Winters, Chester South
Union Hill - George Perrigin, R. D. Reynolds, Ed Perrigin
Holman - Eula Parker, Jimmy Oden, Merle Duren
Sardis - G. D. Skelton
Glen Echo - Tim Fulgham, Luther Noland, Burn Brown
Big Sandy - Katie Harbin, Cindy Harbin
Hubbard Springs - James Epperson, Frances Epperson
Carolwood - Brady Montgomery, Addie Montgomery, Douglas Galloway
Terminal For Christ - Isaac Jones, Malone Williams, Everett Lockridge

The Moderator appointed the delegates to serve on the following committees:

Documents and Order of Business

Lewis Montgomery, Dan Turnipseed, Malone Williams and George Perrigin with the Moderator and Clerk.

Deceased

Isaac Jones, Everett Lockridge and Brady Montgomery

Temperance

Stanley Sanford, Morris Gray, Frances Epperson, Tim Fulgham and Wilson Connell

Moral and Reform

Dennis Sanford, Robert Smith, Ola Latham and James Wharton

Education, Publications and Literature

Chester South, Lindsey Watkins, Frank Sims, Burns Brown and Merle Buren

Sabbath School

Gene Lowe, Henry Kirkland, Horace Watkins & Cleburn Wylie

Children's Home

Marline Burkhalter, Douglas Galloway, Katie Harbin and Gilford Winters

Finance

R. D. Reynolds, Luther Noland, Addie Montgomery, Leon McAdams

Resolutions and Appreciation

James South, Buddy Sturdivant and Eula Parker

AFTERNOON SERVICE

After song and prayer a devotional was given by Rev. Byron Meyer. Using the sixteenth chapter of Matthew he showed how this scripture issues to us a challenge of decision, denial, dedication and determination.

The ordinance of the Lord's Supper was given. Assisting the Moderator were deacons - Searcy Mullenix, Burns Brown, Wilson Connell and S. D. Gray.

The Rules of Decorum were read by the Clerk, Rev. Raymond Tilley, by the request of the Moderator.

The Moderator asked that we then go into the reading of the committee reports. Each report was read and approved. The committees were discharged with the exception of the Credentials Committee. Bro. J. B. Tucker was elected to serve on the Credentials Committee to replace Bro. Herman Sanford who had completed his five year term.

The committee reports were read and approved as follows:

Documents and Order of Business

We, your committee, recommend that the next session be held at Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church. We recommend the introductory sermon at 9:30 a.m. be preached by Rev. Tony Latham and his alternate be Rev. Jerry Montgomery.

We also recommend that the runner-up be the assistant in the offices of Moderator and Clerk.

We further recommend that the Moderator and Clerk can serve only four consecutive years, in the event they are not voted out before this time.

Dan Turnipseed, Chairman

Education, Publications and Literature

We, your committee, report as follows: We think the basic fundamental teaching of our children starts in the home. If your church does not have C.T.S. (Church Training Service) and Sunday School, we recommend you to start this.

We should be careful in choosing all our literature and let our Holy Bible be our guide.

Burns A. Brown, Chairman

Deceased

Mt. Moriah - Sis. Lillie Brandon, Sis. Hattie Fant

Macedonia - Bro. Ervin Dawkins

Tabernacle - Sis. Rosie Dubose, Bro. Felton Wicker, Bro. Perry Montgomery
Bro. Jerry S. Woods, Rev. Riley Sullivan

Union - Bro. Hugh Pool, Bro. Lee Goodman, Sis. Salley Goodman

Phillips Chapel - Sis. Charlsey Bigham, Sis. Sarah Rogers,
Sis. Ethel Lacy, Sis. Alma Sanford, Rev. Lonnie Lynn,
Sis. Ida Rogers, Sis. Nancy Latiner

Mt. Zion - Sister Minnie Brown

Union Hill - Bro. Claud Robinson, Sis. Artie Perrigin

Holman - Bro Milton Tilley, Bro. Early Hood, Bro. Grover C. Wilburn

Sardis - Bro. Dewey Sullivan

Glen Echo - Sister Rozie Pearl Harless

Hubbard Springs - Bro. Frank Parker

Isaac Jones, Chairman

Temperance

We, your committee on Temperance, feel that each christian should take part in teaching temperance, starting at home and continuing throughout all phases of our community.

We feel that taking this stand in our homes and in our churches, the world will see our daily lives for Christ, thus teaching temperance through example.

Wilson Connell, Chairman

Moral and Reform

We recommend that as parents we should have a family devotion; thereby setting a christian example for our children to follow. We, as parents, should provide love, care and discipline for our children so that they might grow up to be christian parents also.

We feel that as christians if we practice what we teach this will raise the morals of the world.

James Wharton, Chairman

Sabbath School

We, your committee, feel that each church member should take more interest in Sunday School. We feel that Sunday School is the beginning of christian growth in Christ. We also feel that Sunday School is not just for children but for every christian.

We encourage each of you to attend Sunday School and express your view on what is being taught.

Henry Kirkland, Chairman

Children's Home

We, your committee, report as follows: that the Free Will Baptists of our Association support our Children's Home and that each church send an offering each month since the Home does have an increase in expenses. We also ask each member to visit the Home when possible.

We ask that this Association take up a love offering for the Home.

Douglas Galloway, Chairman

Finance

We, the Finance Committee, report a collection of \$253.00 at the one hundred and twenty-seventh session of the Mount Moriah Association for the Minute Fund.

Leon McAdams, Chairman

Credentials Committee

We, your committee, report as follows: We find our preachers in good standing, so far as we know.

We recommend that Rev. Tony Latham's name be added to the ordained ministers list.

We recommend that Bro. J. W. Archer, Bro. Leland Hagger and Bro. Jerry Parker's names be added to the licensed list.

We recommend that the First Free Will Baptist Church of Ethelsville be dismissed from the Mount Moriah Association by their request.

We recommend that the First Free Will Baptist Church of Reform be dismissed from the Mount Moriah Association.

We recommend that Rev. Dennis Kizzire be granted a letter of good standing from the Mount Moriah Association.

W. N. Joyner, Chairman

(Credential Committee Status - W. N. Joyner - 1 year, M. P. Gore - 2 years, Gamus Gray - 3 years, L. B. Koon - 4 years, J. B. Tucker - 5 years)

Resolutions and Appreciations

We, your committee, report as follows: We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Mount Moriah Church for the manner in which they have made us welcome at this Association.

We would like to ask each church to continue steadfast in prayer for one another that our Association might continue to grow and that we might have a greater love for one another.

We would also like to thank the ladies for the nice lunch that was served. May the Lord bless and be with each of you.

Buddy Sturdivant, Chairman

A memorial to Rev. J. L. (Lonnie) Lynn was read by Vaudine Lancaster. It was approved to place this memorial in the minutes. "Precious Memories" was sung in memory of all the deceased members. Prayer was given by Rev. Doug Tilley.

A love offering of \$144.50 was received after the reading of the Children's Home report. Rev. J. L. Lavender, a board member of Eldridge Children's Home, gave a report on the Home which now has 24 children.

After much discussion and consideration it was approved by the body that Mount Moriah Association would unite the efforts of the Fifth Sunday Meeting, Preachers and Deacons Meeting, and Association Youth Meeting into one quarterly meeting.

The quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday before the 2nd Sunday in January, April and October at 9:30 a.m. In July the meeting date will continue to be on the regular Union Meeting date which is Saturday before the 4th Sunday.

January and April is designated as a time of fellowship. Business will only be attended to at the July and October meeting. Churches are urged to send delegates to each of these quarterly meetings.

The Moderator appointed a devotion committee to plan our programs for these meetings. They are:

Waymon Fields
Lester Koon
W. N. Joyner
J. B. Tucker
Lewis Montgomery

The schedule for the Quarterly Meeting is:

January 8 - at Phillips Chapel
April 9 - to be announced
July 22 - at Union Hill
October 7 - at Macedonia

The treasury of the Preachers and Deacons Meeting is to be transferred to the Associational Quarterly Meeting to be used as needed.

At the close of the business session a parting handshake was given to all the ministers as the song, "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" was sung. With this, the one hundred and twenty-seventh session was ended with a bright outlook as we saw God open new horizons to the Mount Moriah Association.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Name	Address	Union Meeting	Attended Association
W. R. Adams	308 48th Ave. Northport, AL		
Lewis Cooley	Golden Acres Cottondale, AL	X	X
H. E. Crawford	2321 9th Northport, AL	X	X
Edgar Jones	Greensboro Hwy Tuscaloosa, AL		
Donald Keasler	Rt. 2 Box 20B Reform, AL	X	X
Anthony Latham (Tony)	Rt. 5, Gordo, AL	X	X
J. L. Lavender	Aliceville, AL	X	X
Ben Logan	Rt.3, Northport, AL	X	X
Arlie Lynn	3 Williamson Drive Northport, AL		
W. L. Lynn	Rt. 3, Mormon Road Northport, AL	X	X
Albert Montgomery	2213 27th Ave. Northport, AL		
Jerry Montgomery	Rt. 3 Northport, AL	X	X
Willis Montgomery	Berry, AL	X	X
Clyde Oswalt	Gordo, AL	X	X
G. P. Perkins	Star Rt. Box 201 Columbus, MS	X	X
Willard Fless	Rt. 1, Ethelsville, AL	X	X
Roy Gene Plymon	Box 427, Millport, AL	X	X
Dewey Thomas	Rt. 3, Northport, AL	X	X
Douglas Tilley	3212 41st E., Alpine Hills Tuscaloosa, AL	X	X
Raymond Tilley	Rt. 1, Ethelsville, AL	X	X
Earnest White	Rt.4, Gordo, AL	X	X

LICENSED MINISTERS

Bro. J. W. Archer, Bro. Leland Hagger and Bro. Jerry Parker

DECEASED MINISTERS

Reverends: Ellis Gore, J. T. Nabors, W. W. Pool, J. S. Hinton, W. R. Latham, O. M. Archey, E. W. Harbin, T. V. Wheat, J. E. Mathis, W. R. Robertson, Thomas Malloy, W. J. Coward, W. B. Montgomery, Wood Springfield, W. F. Pool, J. D. Byars, J. M. Pinkerton, W. J. Harbin, J. M. Spencer, Amon Kelley, S. R. Lee, Clint Hallman, Monroe Hallman, J. E. Tilley, T. L. Walker, John Moore, N. M. Sanford, Murk Montgomery, T. A. Springfield, J. L. Lynn

MEMORIAL TO REV. J. L. LYNN

"Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee;"...The words of this hymn seem to give the testimony of Bro. Lonnie's life. An earthly body with the Holy Spirit abiding was the secret of his consecrated life. As a man he was so kind and humble and showed his concern for those about him. As a preacher he seemed to pray the words, "Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from Thee." He did not preach for the glory of men but to please God.

Bro. Lonnie could be called 'part of the "backbone" of the Association. He was not one to be in charge or assume leadership, but would always be faithful and cooperative in each facet of the Association.

He had such a gentle disposition it was a joy to be with him. There was a look of love and deep concern when he talked with you. He preached from the pulpit, but his most effective sermons were from his Godly life which he lived daily.

One would have to know Bro. Lonnie personally to know the many great qualities he possessed. He was one who shared your joys and sorrows. Although it was with sorrow we said good-bye to him in this world, we are assured Bro. Lonnie Lynn is now at a place where no sorrows come and he will be forever rejoicing.

As a memorial to Bro. Lonnie we close with the words of the hymn which further reflect his life - "Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee."

HISTORY OF CHURCHES

Church	Year Organized	Organized by
Mt. Moriah	1846	Rev. Ellis Gore
Macedonia	1847	Rev. Ellis Gore
Shiloh	1874	Rev. Ellis Gore & Rev. Thomas Malloy
Tabernacle	1875	Rev. Ellis Gore & Rev. W. H. McGee
Union	1891	Rev. Wood Springfield
Phillips Chapel	1893	Rev. W. J. Harbin, Rev. J. W. Moore, Rev. C. J. Blake & Rev. J. S. Hinton
Mt. Zion	1902	Rev. W. J. Harbin & W. B. Montgomery
Union Hill	1908	Rev. Wood Springfield
Holman	1912	Rev. Wood Springfield
Sardis	1930	Rev. W. J. Harbin
Glen Echo	1936	Rev. T. L. Walker
Big Sandy	1958	Rev. Edgar Jones & Rev. Albert Montgomery
Hubbard Springs	1960	Rev. V. R. Lay
Carolwood	1970	Rev. Dewey Thomas
Terminal For Christ	1975	Rev. Douglas Tilley

Church	Pastor	Clerk & Address	Paid Pastor	Paid Helper	Baptised	Rec'd. by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Restored	Deceased	Excluded	Meeting Days	No. of Members	Minute Fund	Paid Children's Home	Paid to Missions
MOUNT MORIAH	Willard Pless	Mrs. Searcy Mullenix Rt. 2, Gordo, AL	\$5,610.00	\$300	12	19	9	0	2	0	FT	102	\$15	\$360	\$360
MACEDONIA	R. G. Plymon	J. L. McAdams Rt. 3, Millport, AL	\$8,579.70	\$650	11	13	9	0	1	0	FT	142	\$25	\$571.23	-
SHILOH	J. L. Lavender	Wilson Connell Rt. 1, Gordo, AL	\$4,200.00	\$315	0	3	0	0	0	0	FT	136	\$25	\$200	\$100
TABERNACLE	H. E. Crawford	Lewis Montgomery Rt. 3, Tusc., AL	\$2,349.00	\$200	1	1	1	0	5	0	FT	150	\$15	\$ 62	-
UNION	Earnest White	Ganus Gray Rt. 1, Gordo, AL	\$1,500.00	\$175	1	0	1	0	3	0	FT	85	\$10	\$100	\$118.25
PHILLIPS CHAPEL	Jerry Montgomery	Stanley Sanford Star Rt., Elrod, AL	\$5,993.74	\$166	9	3	0	0	0	0	FT	336	\$50	\$672	\$590
MOUNT ZION	Ben Logan	James South Rt. 3, Northport, AL	\$1,059.37	\$121	0	2	1	0	1	0	FT	100	\$20	-	-
UNION HILL	Anthony Latham (Tony)	W. N. Joyner Box 62, Carrollton, AL	\$1,665.00	\$325	0	1	0	0	2	1	FT	89	\$25	\$215	\$100
HOLMAN	R. E. Tilley	William Quimby Rt. 2, Gordo, AL	\$1,316.15	\$125	1	0	0	0	3	0	FT	93	\$10	\$166.07	-
SARDIS	Donald Keasler	Fred Johnson Rt. 1, Gordo, AL	\$1,703.50	\$200	0	0	3	0	1	0	FT	68	\$15	\$150	-
GLEN ECHO	Ottis Jacobs	Thelma Hill Rt. 2, Carrollton, AL	\$3,940.91	\$150	4	2	0	0	1	0	FT	68	\$10	\$240	\$240 \$43.09
BIG SANDY		C. H. Harbin Rt. 1, Tusc., AL	\$ 490.00	\$105	0	0	0	0	0	0	FT	39	\$10	-	-
HUBBARD SPRINGS	Clyde Oswalt	Frances Epperson Rt. 1, Duncanville, AL	\$ 525.00	\$ 94	0	0	0	0	0	0	FT	29	\$ 8	-	-
CAROLWOOD	Dewey Thomas	Mrs. Eloise Robertson Rt. 3, Box 483, N'port, AL	\$6,000.00	\$350	2	7	8	0	0	0	FT	133	\$15	\$285.75	\$325
TERMINAL FOR CHRIST	Douglas Tilley	Mary T. Hardy Tusc., AL 1501 McFarland Blvd.	\$1,650.00	\$300	11	13	0	0	0	0	FT	49	-	-	-
TOTALS					52	64	32	0	19	1		1,619	\$253	\$3,021	\$1,555

UNION MEETING

The eighty-sixth session of the Union Meeting convened with Carolwood Free Baptist Church. After the opening song prayer was led by Rev. Leander McAdams.

Rev. Jerry Montgomery brought the introductory sermon using the topic of "Love" from St. John, chapter 21.

It was moved and seconded to place delegates where any were absent. The Reading Clerks appointed were Bro. Lewis Montgomery and Bro. Wilith Cook.

Letters from the churches were handed in and read. Big Sandy was represented by an oral report from the pastor, Rev. Willis Montgomery.

Rev. J. L. Lavender was elected as Moderator and Rev. R. E. Tilley as Clerk.

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

Documents and Order of Business

James Driver, S. E. Sturdivant, Tullie Boswell, Leon McAdams, Dwight Tilley, and Robert Smith with Moderator and Clerk.

Devotion

Wilith Cook, Morris Gray, Alver Free, David Jones, James South, Brady Montgomery, J. B. Tucker and Bobby Crowe

Temperance

W. N. Joyner, Burns Brown, James Wharton, Frank Sims, C. O. Wylie, J. T. Baggett, Tina Hardy and Bobby Jones

Sabbath School

Lewis Montgomery, R. D. Reynolds, Vernice Tilley, Dan Turnipseed, Wilford Barrentine, Mrs. Earnest White

Children's Home

Marlin Burkhalter, Gene Lowe, Luther Noland, Lewis Perrigin, Frances Epperson and Lindsey Watkins

Resolutions and Appreciation

Robert Tilley, Thomas Tilley, Terry Moore, Malone Williams, Eula Parker and Florea Sansing

Two visiting ministers from Mississippi were present. They were Rev. O. L. Fields and Rev. Leander McAdams.

Three churches asked for the next session of the Union Meeting. They were Tabernacle, Union and Union Hill.

The following reports were submitted and approved:

Documents and Order of Business

We recommend the next session of the Union Meeting convene with Union Hill in Pickens County. We recommend that Rev. Roy Gene Plymon preach the introductory sermon at 9:15 a.m. and that Rev. Ben Logan be his alternate.

We recommend that Bro. Leon McAdams be in charge of the singing. We recommend that this committee elect the singing director for the singing each year.

We recommend that the Sunday services of the Union Meeting be discontinued after this year.

James S. Driver, Chairman

Devotion

We your committee recommend that services be conducted as follows:

Rev. Willis Montgomery preach at 10:00 a.m. with Rev. H.E. Crawford, alt.

Rev. Tony Latham preach at 11:00 a.m. with Rev. Ben Logan, alternate

Rev. G. P. Perkins preach at 2:00 p.m. with Rev. Roy Plymon, alternate.

Wilith Cook, Chairman

Children's Home

We your committee on the Children's Home report as follows:

The scripture teaches that it is more blessed to give than receive. Christ has taught that if a cup of water is given in His name to one of these children He will in no way lose his reward.

We recommend that an offering be taken at this session and that every church in the Association make a pledge to send an offering to the Children's Home each month and be faithful in the pledge. We also recommend that the pastor of the church support this cause.

Gene Lowe, Chairman

Sabbath School

We your committee feel that more study of the Word would prove to be of great help in fulfilling the needs of all the churches.

We recommend that each Sunday School teach and encourage each person in his Sunday School class to read the Bible along with the printed lesson and to practice reading the Bible at home.

We recommend that each home keep clean and wholesome literature for their children to read.

Lewis Montgomery, Chairman

Temperance

We your committee on temperance feel that each christian should take part in teaching temperance to others. Also, our churches should take a firm stand on temperance and we should let our voices be heard through the community.

We feel that the best way to teach temperance to the world is to live what we teach. People see our daily lives and we should live for Christ each day.

W. N. Joyner, Chairman

Resolutions and Appreciation

We your committee report as follows: We wish to thank the brothers and sisters of Carolwood Free Will Baptist Church for their hospitality and the christian manner in which we have been received. We also wish to thank the ladies of the church for the wonderful lunch they prepared.

May God richly bless each of you.

Thomas Tilley, Chairman

DELEGATES ATTENDING UNION MEETING

Mount Moriah - Gene Lowe, Dan Turnipseed and Florea Sansing
Macedonia - Leon McAdams, James Wharton and Frank Sims
Shiloh - Alver Free, Marlin Burkhalter and Wilith Cook
Tabernacle - Buddy Sturdivant, Lewis Montgomery, Cleburn Wylie
Union - Alice White, Lindsey Watkins, and Morris Gray
Phillips Chapel - Stanley Sanford, Robert Smith
Mt. Zion - David Jones, James South and Thurmon Baggett
Union Hill - W. N. Joyner, R. D. Reynolds and Lewis Perrigin
Ethelsville - Vernice Tilley, Robert Tilley and Terry Moore
Holman - Dwight Tilley, Tullie Boswell and Eula Parker
Sardis - James Driver
Glen Echo - Luther Noland, Burns Brown
Big Sandy - Oral (no delegates attending)
Hubbard Springs - James Epperson, Frances Epperson
Carolwood - Doug Galloway, Wilford Barrentine and J. B. Tucker
Terminal For Christ - Malone Williams, Bobby Jones and Tina Hardy

TREASURY REPORT

Balance brought forward	\$594.80
Received from Associational Minute Fund	\$253.00
Treasury from Preachers and Deacons Fund	<u>140.11</u>
Total Receipts	\$987.91
Total Expenditures- Clerk's Services . . .	\$ 50.00
Printing of Minutes	<u>\$252.29</u>
	\$302.29
Balance on hand	\$685.62

ARTICLES OF FAITH

ART. 1. We believe there is one true and living God, who is the Supreme Ruler of Heaven and earth, self existent Creator of all things, and revealed under the personal distinction of Father, Son and Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, and existing in distant but harmonious offices in the great work or redemption.

ART. 2. We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, truth for its matter and salvation for its end; that it reveals the principle by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions will be tried.

ART. 3. We believe that man was created holy under the law of the maker, but from voluntary transgression fell from that holy state, in consequence of which all mankind are depraved and wholly unable of their own free will and ability to recover from that fallen state in which they are by nature.

ART. 4. We believe that God has not fixed the future state of mankind by any absolute and unalterable decree; but salvation is offered in the Gospel free to all, and if sinners are lost forever it will be their own fault.

ART. 5. We believe that Christ by His death and suffering, made an atonement for the sins of mankind in general, and every individual in particular; however, that none but those who believe in Him can be partakers of the divine benefits.

ART. 6. We believe that true faith cannot proceed from the exercise of our natural facilities and powers, or from the force and operation of the free will since man in consequence of his natural corruption is incapable of either thinking or doing anything spiritually good.

ART. 7. We believe in the general application of the Grace of God for fallen man, sufficient to enable him morally and actually to obey the requirements of the law of liberty — James 1:25, this is to act saving faith; John 1:9, however, none but those who believe or acquiesce in Christ will be saved thereby; Acts 17:32; Romans 2:9; John 3:19.

ART. 8. We believe in the free and moral agency of man, by the Grace of God, before and after conversion that he is under no invincible necessity, by his Creator, to act in a given

way that if he lives after the flesh he shall die, but if he through the spirit, do mortify the deeds of the body he shall live, and therefore, man is always a proper subject of admonition and exhortation, Heb. 3:11-12-13; Rom. 13:14; Mark 13:33; Eze. 18:24; Rev. 2nd and 3rd chapters; Eze. 33:13-18; 1 Tim. 4:1; Heb. 3:6; 1 Cor. 10:12-22; 1 Peter 1:10.

ART. 9. We believe that the visible church of Christ is a congregation of believers, associated by covenant in faith and fellowship of the Gospel observing the ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His work; that its only proper officers are bishops, pastors and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistle of Timothy and Titus.

ART. 10. We believe that Christian baptism is immersion in water in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and that believers are proper subjects.

ART. 11. We believe the Lord's supper is a perpetual obligation, by which the members of the church in the use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying of Christ preceded always by solemn self-examination.

ART. 12. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and the general judgement and joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal upon principles of grace and justice.

ART. 13. We believe in open and mixed communion and the churches of our body are authorized, through their pastors, to invite Christians of all orthodox churches, who are in good standing in their respective churches to commune with us at the Lord's table.

RULES OF DECORUM

ART. 1. The Association shall be called to order by the Moderator, who presided at the last session, the former Clerk also officiating until the body is fully organized.

ART. 2. The Association shall be opened and closed by singing and prayer.

ART. 3. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by ballot at each session of the Association. A majority of votes, by delegates present, elect.

ART. 4. The names of the delegates from the different churches shall be enrolled and called for, as necessary, during the session.

ART. 5. A majority of the delegates shall rule in all cases except the reception of churches, then it shall be unanimous.

ART. 6. The Moderator shall not be entitled to vote except in case of a tie, and then he shall give the deciding vote. He shall be entitled to speak on all questions after all others have spoken, provided he appoints someone to the chair while he is speaking.

ART. 7. Only one person shall speak at a time and he shall rise and address the Moderator and after recognition by the Moderator, he shall proceed.

ART. 8. No member shall be interrupted while speaking unless he departs from the subject under discussion or uses words of personal reflection.

ART. 9. No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the Association, nor more than 15 minutes at a time.

ART. 10. No member shall laugh or talk while debates are going on.

ART. 11. No member shall absent himself from the Association without leave of the Moderator.

ART. 12. The Moderator shall have the power to call the Association together at any time upon a petition of two-thirds of the churches composing the Association over which he presides.

ART. 13. That the appointment of all committees by the Moderator be confined to ministers and delegates composing the Association.

CONSTITUTION

ART. 1. This Association shall be known as the Mount Moriah Free Will Baptist Association of Alabama, being composed of delegates from the different churches forming the same, each being entitled to three delegates.

ART. 2. The body shall be considered an Advisory Council, but have no authority over the affairs of other churches

unless they depart from the Articles of Faith of the Association. In case any church departs from the Articles of Faith and supports doctrines or heresy, or allows any minister of her body to teach doctrines not in keeping with our Articles of Faith, the same shall be dealt with by this Association as it may deem proper and right, according to the teachings of the Bible.

ART. 3. Each church in this Association shall be considered an advisory body, and shall control its own internal affairs in matters of discipline, etc. It may, however, in extreme cases, call aid from sister churches but the Association shall rule in all matters of doctrine and general interest.

ART. 4. All questions of Doctrines and matters of general interest shall be settled by a two-thirds vote of the Association and the decision shall be final.

ART. 5. The officers of the Association shall be a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be chosen at each session by a majority of votes.

ART. 6. This Association shall meet annually, at such time and place as may be agreed at a previous annual session, and shall not adjourn finally until all business is transacted.

ART. 7. Churches wishing to become members of the Association must adopt its Articles of Faith and conform to its usage.

ART. 8. We agree as churches of this Association to use our best influences to promote the interest of all moral and benevolent institutions, such as the temperance cause, Sabbath Schools, Missionary work, etc.

ART. 9. Any minister pastoring a church or churches in the Mount Moriah Association shall be a regularly ordained minister in good standing and become affiliated with this Association.

ART. 10. All ministers and deacons shall be standing delegates in this Association.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant.

We promise by His grace to love Him and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction and the use of intoxicating beverages and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions and social worship, and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and its benevolent works.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another with love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, to be careful of one another's business and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, promote the success of the church and of the Gospel."

We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society; constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come, and his will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sabbath Schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls and the conversion of the world.

And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.