#### The

# Morning Star Association

of

# Free Will Baptists

1942

Proceedings of the 36th Annual Session

Convened at
Union Chapel Church
Walker County Alabama



# FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

the daughters of

Rev. G. W. Million

in his memory

## MINUTES

OF THE

#### THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

### MORNING STAR ASSOCIATION

OF

## Free Will Baptists

#### HELD WITH

Union Chapel Church, Walker County, Alabama September 19-20-21, 1942

#### OFFICERS

Moderator, Ass't. Mod. Clerk, Evangelist, Rev. Mack Wade, Route 2, Oakman, Ala. Rev. John Smith, R. 1, Bankston, Ala. D. B. Davis, Route 1, Cordova, Ala. Rev. W. M. Bevan.

Singing Evangelist, Silvester Hamilton, Carbon Hill, Ala. The next session of this association will convene with Willis Chapel Church, Saturday before the third Sunday in September, 1943. Rev. S. P. Roberts will preach the introductory sermon.



#### PROCEEDINGS

The thirty-sixth annual session of the Morning Star Association of the Free Will Baptists met with the Union Chapel Church, September 19-20-21, 1942.

The house called to order by the former moderator,

Rev. T. M. Mullinax.

Association opened by singing hymn, "Watching You" Prayer by Rev. S. P. Roberts.

Former clerk being absent, the moderator appointed

Rev. John Smith, clerk pro tem.

Scripture reading by moderator, 1st chapter Psalms. Rev. Arthur Barker preached the introductory sermon. Luke 17:26, "As it was in the days of Noah so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man."

Adjourn for lunch.

#### SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

House called to order by the moderator.

Opening song "When the Redeemed are Gathering In" Prayer by Vester Burket.

Farmer and austen deslare

Former moderator declared house in order for business. Roll call — 10 churches present; 2 absent (Sulpher Springs and Dilworth).

Appointed reading clerks: Bro. D. B. Davis and Sister

Irene Sanford.

Call for letters; letters read and delegates seated. Appointed Finance Committee: Bro. A. M. Hood, E. G. Tidwell, Sister Alice Johnston.

Call for minute funds money received by committee. Appointed Devotional Committee: Bro. E. B. Johnston,

J. D. Ernest, and the deacons of Union Chapel Church. Election ordered for moderator and clerk, whereupon

Rev. Mack Wade and D. B. Davis was elected.

Call for report of Devotional Committee. The committee reported that Rev. Vester Burket and Rev. N. Wright to preach Saturday night. Sunday: T. M. Mullinax. Sunday night: W. M. Bevan and Rev. Mack Wade. Monday: John Honeycutt. Committee thanked and dismissed.

#### Appointment of Committees

Document and Order of Business—Rev. W. M. Bevan, Rev. N. Wright, Rev. Arthur Barker.

Sabbath School — Bros. J. E. Tittle E. B. Johnston, Alford Dutton.

Literature — Rev. J. M. Harbin, Rev. S. J. Hamilton, Rev. John Honeycutt.

Temperance — Rev. R. M. Moncriet, Rev. Vester Burket. Rev. John Smith.

Deceased — Sister Lela Willis, Lula Bridgeman, Bro. K. D. Phillips.

Resolutions — Rev. T. M. Mullinax, Bro. Ed. Sanford, Bro. J. R. Morris.

Placing of different church delegates in various homes. Closed by song and prayer, to meet Saturday night.

#### Names of Delegates

Davis Chapel — D. B. Davis, Irene Sanford, and Lizzie Baldwin.

Cum Springs — Hargrove Earnest, Unice Earnest, and Connor Davis.

Willis Chapel—Bro. J. E. Tittle, E. T. Tidwell, and Sister Lela Willis.

Beach Grove — Olen Guthrie, Curt Cooner, Mary H. Files, Mary J. Files.

New Shady Grove - Vivion Harrell.

Union Chapel — Sister M. S. Wright, Sister Jannie Hamilton, Bro. K. D. Phillips.

New Liberty — Bro. Grady Harbin, Burnice Smith, Aaron Whitson.

Boley Springs — Bro. Calvin Bevan.

Dilworth — Lenord Lively, Ed Aycock, Lewis Phillips. Brookside — Sister Robert Moncriet, Sister Collie Conn. Sister Parvin.

Pleasant Ridge—Bro. Alford Dutton, Sister Lula Bridgeman, Sister Lue Bridgeman.

#### SATURDAY NIGHT SESSION

Met promptly at 7:30 o'clock.

Opened by singing hymn, "Some Day."

Prayer by Rev. John Honeycutt.

Vester Berket brought a wonderful message. St. Peter 6:11, "What manner of persons ought ye to be." Concluded by Rev. N. Wright.

Dilworth reported to moderator.

Motion carried to receive their letter and seat the delegates. Letter read by reading clerk.

Minute fund received by finance committee.

Closed by song and prayer, to meet Sunday at ten a. m.

#### SUNDAY MORNING SESSION

Met promptly at 10 o'clock.

Opened by singing hymn, "Blessed Hope."

Prayer by Rev. H. E. Cobb.

Rev. T. M. Mullinax brought a wonderful message, St. Luke 6:46, "And why call ye me Lord Lord and do not the things I say."

Concluded by moderator, by taking the Lord's Supper and washing the saint's feet. A great wave of salvation

swept over the entire body.

Closed by taking parting hand.

Song and prayer.

#### SUNDAY NIGHT SESSION

Met promptly at 7:30 o'clock.

Opened by singing hymn, "Oh Who Shall Be Able to Stand."

Prayer by W. H. Bridgeman.

After devotional Rev. W. M. Bevan brought a wonderful message from Revelation 8:1, "And there was silence in heaven for the space of one half hour"; concluded by Rev. Mack Wade.

Closed by song and prayer to meet Monday at eight o'clock a. m.

#### MONDAY MORNING SESSION

Met promptly at eight o'clock.

House called to order by moderator.

Opened by singing hymn, "If I Could Hear My Mother Pray Again."

Liayer by Bro. J. D. Earnest.

Scripture reading, Joshua 4th chapter.

House called to order by moderator.

Roll call; all present except Dilworth and Brookside churches.

Being present, order of business.

Appointment of assistant moderator by moderator. Rev. John Smith appointed.

Call for the report of various committees.

After the recommendation of said committee: Art. 3—The delegates voted for the next session to convene with Willis Chapel Church. Art, 9—Rev. W. M. Bevan was elected assistant evangelist; Rev S. I. Hamilton, singing evangelist.

Dismissed for ten minutes.

House called to order actor song and prayer.

Rev. John Honeycutt brought a wonderful message from Mark 6:50 (latter clause), "It is I, be not afraid."

Rev. Mack Wade, Moderator. Bro. D. B. Davis, Clerk.

Call for report from clerk of the previous work and handling of funds which was read and found satisfactory.

I am proud of the confidence that the delegated body of the association showed by electing me as their clerk and treasurer for another year. I will do my best to respect and hold that confidence by the help of the Lord.

- D. B. Davis, Clerk.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### DOCUMENT AND ORDER OF BUSINESS -

- 1. That Art. 3 in rules of decorum be replaced with Art. 5 in church discipline.
- 2. That Art. 5 in constituțion be replaced with Art. 5 in the church discipline.
- 3. We recommend that the delegated body of the next association convene with Willis Chapel Church.
- 4. We recommend that Rev. S. P. Roberts preach the next introductory sermon.
  - 5. We recommend we pay our clerk \$5.00 for his service.
- 6. We recommend that this association affiliate with the State Association.
- 7. We recommend that Rev. Houston Brand and Rev. T. R. Laboone names be dropped from our minutes for disertion, also that the moderator call for their licenses.
- 8. We recommend that ministers speaking evil or using repreach against any one be dealt with by this association.
- 9. We recommend that this body elect an evangelist; also a singing evangelist.

- Rev. W. M. Bevan, Chairman.

SABBATH SCHOOL — We, your committee, beg leave to submit the following:

- 1. We find some churches without Sunday School.
- 2. We urge these churches to organize at once.
- 3. We recommend two Sunday school conventions each year to convene in April and August 8.

- 4. We recommend the use of Christian teachers.
- 5. We recommend that each church make a report in their letters to the association regarding their Sunday school; also to send delegates to the Sunday school convention.

- J. E. Tittle, Chairman.

LITERATURE - We, your committee, beg leave to submit:

- 1. We recommend the study of the Bible.
- 2. We recommend religious literature for our homes.
- 3. We recommend that we use Free Will Baptist litrature in our Sunday school.

- J. M. Harbin, Chairman,

TEMPERANCE — We, recommend that our members abstain from strong drink.

- 2. We recommend that this association do all in their power for the National Prohibition law. In doing so, it will promote cleaner lives and forward Christianity.
  - 3. We urge we guard against the unruly member, the tongue.

     J. M. Harbin, Chairman.

DECEASED — We, your committee, beg leave to submit the following:

We find in Davis Chapel and New Shady Grove letters that the death angel has called from our presence:

Bro. Mancie Morris, age 52, from Davis Chapel,

Sister Stochia Lou Brown, age 70.

Bro. William Brown, age 53.

Bro. Marion Blackston, age 53, from Shady Grove.

It's our loss and heaven's gain. We pray God's blessings on the breaved.

— Sister Lela Willis, Chairman.

RESOLUTION — We, your committee, beg leave to submit the following:

- 1. We wish to thank Union Chapel and community for their kindness while in their midst.
- 2. We recommend that the different churches furnish the clerk the names of deceased ministers so we can carry them on an Honor Roll.
- We recommend that each pastor follow our church dicipline in their churches.

- Rev. T. M. Mullinax, Chairman

FINANCE - We, your committee on finance, report as fol-
lows:
Paid in from different churches
Free will offering
Total\$41.00
ORDAÎNED MINISTERS AND THEIR ADDRESSES
Rev. T. M. Mullianx Route 1, Corona, Alabama
Rev. N. Wright Route 1, Oakman, Alabama
Rev. John Smith Route 1, Bankston, Alabama
Rev. John Pinkerton Route 1, Samantha, Alabama
Rev. John Honeycuttj Corona, Alabama
Rev. W. M. Bevan Route 2, Berry, Alabama
Rev. Mack Wade Route 2, Oakman, Alabama
Rev. H. C. Moore Cordova, Alabama
Rev. Foster Bonnor Route 1, Corona, Alabama
Rev. S. I. Hamilton Route 1, Carbon Hill, Alabama
Rev. Marvin Harbin Sayree, Alabama
Rev. Vester Burket Route 1, Townley, Alabama
Rev. J. G. Ivey Route 1, Empire, Alabama
Rev. S. P. Roberts Route 1, Navuoo, Alabama
Rev. Arthur Barker Eldridge, Alabama
DEACONS AND THEIR ADDRESSES
DAVIS CHAPEL —
W. G. L. Moore Route 1, Berry, Alabama
Ed. Sanford Route 1, Berry, Alabama
Raymond Grey Route 1, Berry, Alabama
E. T. Jenkins Route 1, Kennedy, Alabama
Will Savage Route 2, Cordova, Alabama
GUM SPRINGS —
J. D. Earnest Route 2, Berry, Alabama
Grady Davis Route 1, Cordova, Alabama
Dock Swindle Route 2, Berry, Alabama
J. R. Morris Route 2, North Port, Alabama
SULPHUR SPRINGS —
Not present.
NEW SHADY GROVE —
A. A. Dawkin Helena, Alabama
A. M. Hood Route 2, Oakman, Alabama
Murray C. Wade Route 1, Siluria, Alabama

John Handley Route 2, Oakman,	
W. C. Williams Route 2, Oakman,	Alabama
WILLIS CHAPEL —	
Elzie Johnson Route 2, Carbon Hill,	Alabama
Charlie Johnston Route 2, Carbon Hill,	Alabama
UNION CHAPEL —	
W. B. Cook Route 2, Carbon Hill,	Alabama
Warren Garmer Route 2, Carbon Hill,	Alabama
BEACH GROVE —	
Jack Rownines Route 1, Townley,	Alabama
NEW LIBERTY —	
T. L. Fowler Route 1, Bankston,	Alabama
Olen Fowler Route 1, Bankston,	Alabama
Marion Nairmore Route 1, Bankston,	Alabama
David Smith Route 1, Bankston,	Alabama
W. J. Worthy Route 1, Bankston,	Alabama
Charleston Fowler Route 1, Bankston,	Alabama
PLEASANT RIDGE —	
W. H. Bridgeman Route 1, Nauvoo,	Alabama
Tom Stifford Route 1, Nauvoo,	Alabama
BOLEY SPRINGS —	
J. W. Hall Route 2, Berry,	Alabama
DILWORTH —	
Jack Roberts Route 1, Empire,	Alabama
Clarence Devaniney Route 1, Empire,	Alabama
BROOKSIDE —	
M. C. Gamn Garbon Hill,	Alabama

#### CHURCH COVENANT

1st. To watch over each other in love, to pray for each other as members for a common faith, ever striving to keep the unity of the spirit in bonds of peace.

2nd. We will not speak evil, one to another, nor will we prosecute or expose the faults of the weaker members of our church, but will endeavor to be governed by Paul's instructions to Timothy that we reprove, rebuke and exhort each other as members of a common brotherhood.

3rd. We are commanded to do good unto all men, especially to those who are of the household of faith, but we should remember that our relations to each other are closer and the

obligations more binding than that of a common bond of Christian charity. In adopting this covenant, we become as a family

and assume in Christian sense the care and responsibility that the members of a family should feel for each other.

4th. We will attend the stated meetings of our church unless we are providentially hindered or uncontrolable circumstances prevent us. And we will contribute of our means as the Lord has prospered us for the support of our pastor and other necessary expenses of our church, and we will prefer the services of our own church to that of any other and will pray for our pastor while he is preaching the Word to us.

5th. We will not injure our influence in the horse of the Lord by occupying seats among the ungodly and sinners, but will occupy seats near the pulpit and use the natural power which the Lord has given us to praise His holy name. We will sing with those who sing and pray with those who pray.

6th. We will not be guilty of Sabbath breaking by making Sunday visits to our neighbors, which is a double sin against the law of God for in so doing, we fail to attend the house of the Lord and hinder others who might wish to do so. Let us remember the law of Moses which condemns Sabbath breaking and the word of the inspired Apostle which says, "Forsake not the assembling of yourself together as the manner of some is."

7th. We will not neglect the secret and public prayers and those of us who are heads of families will strive to dedicate our household to the service of God by teaching our children the great necessity of Christian religion as the only hope of happiness after death. We will adopt the covenant of Joshua, the servant of the Lord and say, "But as for me and my house we will serve the Lord."

#### CONSTITUTION

- Art. 1. This Association shall be known as the Morning Star Free Will Baptist Association of Alabama, being composed of delegates from the different churches forming the same, each church being entitled to three delegates.
- Art. 2. This body shall be considered an Advisory Council, but having no authority over the affairs of the churches.
- 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.
- Art. 4. All questions of doctrine and matters of general interest shall be settled by two thirds vote of the Association, and the election shall be final.
- Art. 5. The moderator and clerk shall be elected for a term of two years. Election to take place one year prior to entering into office.

- 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 this Association must adopt its Articles of Faith and conform to its usages.
- Art. 8 We agree as churches of this Association to use our best influence to promote the interest of all moral and benevolent institution, such as the temperance cause, Sabbath Schools and Missionary work, etc.
- Art. 9. No member of this Association shall be eligible to the office of Moderator more than two successive sessions, unless no other member be competent to act in that capacity.
- Art. 10. Any church failing to send representatives for two years in succession, its name shall be dropped from our minutes

#### RULES OF DECORUM

- Art. 1. This 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 elected for a term of two years; election to take place one year prior to entering into their office.
- Art. 4. The names of the delegates from the different churches shall be enrolled and called for as often as necessary during the session.
- Art. 5. A majority of delegates shall rule in all cases except in the reception of churches, then it shall be unamious.
- Art. 6. The moderator shall not be entitled to a 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 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 arise and address the Moderator, and after recognition by the moderator he shall proceed.
- Art. 8. No brother 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.

#### ARTICLES OF FAITH

- Art. 1. We believe there is one and but one living, true God. who is in personality the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, equal and harmonious in every divine perfection. "For there is one God and one Mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus."—1st Tim. 2:5.
- Art. 2. We believe that God is the author of the Holy Bible and that His teachings constitute the only infallible doctrine for the government of His church. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."—2nd. Tim. 3:16.
- Art 3. We believe that Adam was created holy but by voluntary transgression fell into depravity, and consequently involved his posterity in sin. "And when the woman saw the tree was good for food and pleasant to the eye, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took the fruit thereof and did eat and gave also unto her husband with her and he did eat."—Gen 3:6.
- Art. 4. We believe that the grace of God comprehended all spiritual blessings, that the gospel is the power of God unto salvation, that the Holy Spirit not only reproves the world of sin, but is the means whereby sinners are converted and made wise unto salvation. "For there is no difference between the Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him."—Romans 10:12.
- Art. 5. We believe that Christian faith is belief in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and redeemer of the world, and in the divinity of the holy scriptures that faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life, and he that believeth not on the Son, shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him."—John 6:36.
- Art. 6. We believe that repentance is sorrow for sin and the kind of sorrow which constitutes godly repentance must be preceded by effectual conviction for sin. "For Godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of, but the sorrow of the world worketh death."—2 Cor. 7:8-10.
- Art. 7. We believe that the human will is free, and that it has ability to accept or reject the conditions of salvation as they are revealed in the Holy Scriptures. "He hath shown thee, oh man, what is good, and what doth the Lord require of thee but to do justly and to love mercy and walk humbly with thy God."—Micah 6:8.
- Art. 8. We do not believe under the gospel dispensation that any soul is elected to eternal life unconditionally, but that those who by faith preserve to the end will be saved that it is possible for men who have been converted to make shipwrecks of their faith, turn again to sin and be finally lost. "And Jesus said unto him, no man, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."—Luke 9:62.

Art. 9. We believe that good works is the result of faith,

and that those who have faith will do works of righteousness, while those who have no faith cannot do anything pleasing or acceptable to God. "Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire." — Matt. 7:16

Art. 10. We believe that Christian Baptism is the emmersion in water with a believer in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost; that baptism cannot be scripturally administered without faith in the subject who receives it. "Therefore, we are buried with him in baptism into death that like as Christ was risen from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also walk in newness of life."—Romans 6:4.

Art. 11. We believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted by our Savior as a commemorative ordinance: that the bread and wine represent His body and blood, that it was instituted for Christians and that all Christians should unite in observing the sacred service, regardless of names or denominational distinction. "But let a man examine himself and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."—1 Cor. 11:28-29.

We believe it is the duty of the disciples of Jesus Christ to wash each other's feet. "If I then your Lord and Master have washed your feet, ye also ought to wash one another's feet."

— John 13:14

Art. 12. We believe that man is a living soul; that the body will die but the soul is immortal; that death is the separation of the mortal and the immortal parts of human beings, "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul."—Gen. 2:7.

Art. 13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead. When the resurrection shall take place the soul and body will reunite and form an immortal being; that the righteous will be received into a state of everlasting happiness to reign with God forever and ever, but the wicked will be bound hand and foot and cast into outer darkness. The wicked are driven away in their wickedness, but the righteous have hope in their death. "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming in which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation."—John 5:28-29

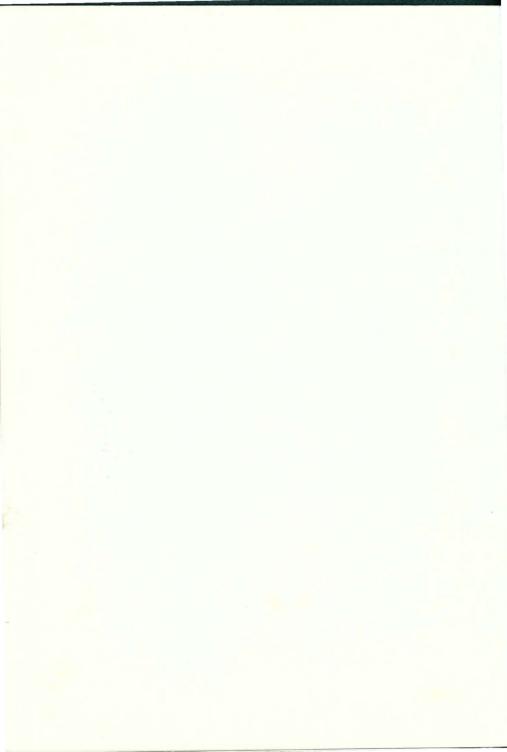
#### FORM OF LETTER OF DISMISSAL

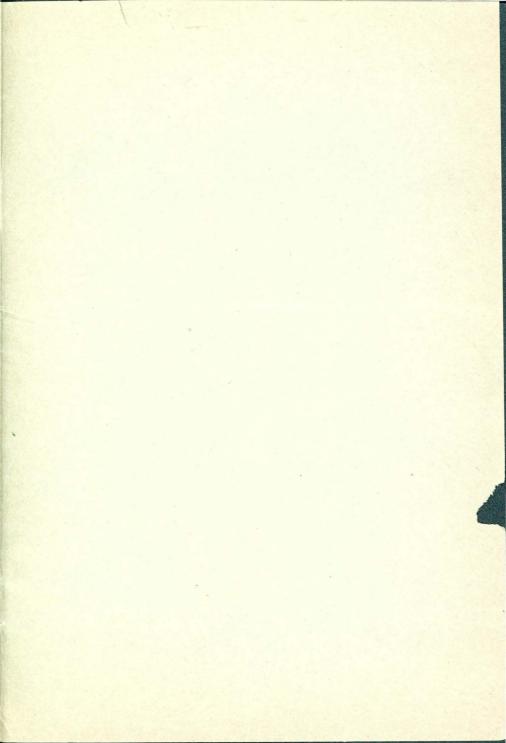
This is to certify that is a
member of the Free Will Baptist Church and
$a_{\mathbf{S}}$ such we recommend to the fellowship of all good people.
Done by order of the church in Conference on theday
of, 194
Rev, Moderator
Clerk

#### FORM OF CHURCH CONFERENCE

The State of Alabama,
County.
day of after divine service
by Rev
1. Call for peace and fellowship of the Church.
2. Invite brothers to seats with us.
3. Call for acknowledgments.
4. Reading of Minutes of last conference.
5. Extending invitation for members.
6. Are pastors faithful in the discharge of their duties?
7. Are the officers faithful in the discharge of their duties?
8. Is there any brother or sister sick or in distress?
Done by order of the church in conference on the
day of, 194
Rev
Church Clerk

	STATISTICAL TABLE,	1942	Received	Received		Deceased	Minute Fu	of
PASTORS	CLERKS AND ADDRESSES	CHURCHES	by Baptism	by Letter		постантр	te Funds	Meeting
Davis Chapel	Irene Sanford, Berry, Rt. 1 Rev.	Mack Wade		1	1	1 17	6 \$5.2	5 1st
Gum Springs	Ella Ernest, Berry, Rt. 2 Rev.	W. M. Bevan				. 2	8 4.0	0 1st
Beech Grove	Ruth Files, Townley, Rt. 1 Rev.	T. M. Mullinax		1		. 7	8 5.0	0 1st
Sulphur Springs	Not Present				.			
New Shady Grove	Elnor Brown, Oakman, Rt. 2 Rev.	T. M. Mullinax	6	2 1		3 11	1 4.0	0 2nd
Willis Chapel	E. Y. Tidwell, Townley, Rt. 1 Rev.	T. M. Mullinax	2	2 2		. 5	6 3.2	5 4th
New Liberty	Pearl Fowler, Bankston, Rt. 1 Rev.	Vester Burket	1		.	. 13	9 3.0	0 3rd
Pleasant Ridge	Alford Dutton, Nauvoo, Rt. 1 Rev.	T. M. Mullinax			2 .	. 3	4 2.0	0 2nd
Boley Springs	Esther Hall, Corona, Rt. 1   Rev.	W. M. Bevan				. 2	0 2.5	0 2nd
Dilworth	Nell Cook, Empire, Route 1   Rev.	J. G. Ivey	4 .	. 5		. 5	0 3.0	F.T
Brookside	Margie Powell, Carbon Hill Rev.	Harvey Cobb	1	3		. 4	2 2.1	5 2nd
Union Chapel	Ila Studdard, Carbon Hill, R.1 Rev.	Vester Burket	.		.	. 3	0 5.2	1 2nd
					7	6	1	





10 +02 chs 76 7 my