

MINUTES
—of the—
Tenth Annual Session
—of the—
Muscle Shoals State Line
Association
—OF THE—
Free Will Baptist
Held With New Home Church,
Lauderdale County, Ala.
September 18, 19, 20, 1930.

REV. J. B. BLOSS, Moderator.

ALBERT MELTON, Clerk.

The next Association will meet with Cordova Church, at Cordova, Ala., on Thursday, before the Third Sunday in September, 1931, at 7:00 P. M. with Rev. J. B. Bloss, Moderator; Albert Melton, Clerk.

THURSDAY NIGHT SESSION

Opened by singing No. 131, "Amazing Grace" and No. 45, "While The Years Roll On." Prayer by Rev. O. C. Weaver. Sang 134, "I Need The Prayers Of Those I Love," prayer by Rev. A. L. Bowling. Sang No. 38, "If The End Of The World Were Today."

Preaching service, by Rev. Geo. Kelley, Text: John 14-6, Unity, Psalm 133.

Sang No. 141, "Glory To His Name," with handshake. An invitation was given to sinners, while No. 136, "Pass Me Not," was sung. No one responded to the call.

The service was very much enjoyed by all. Delegates were assigned to homes. Dismissed by Rev. J. B. Bloss to meet Friday morning at 9:00 A. M.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Opened by singing No. 42, "I'm Bound For Glory," No. 141, "Glory To His Name." Moderator Rev. Geo. Kelley read Col. 3. Prayer by Rev. D. D. Serrett. A reading clerk was then appointed. Rev. H. C. Killen was appointed reading clerk.

A committee for examination was appointed, Rev. J. D. Bloss, Chairman, Bro. Lewis Jones and Bro. Bell McGee.

Intelligence of Churches was then called for and received as follows:

East Florence Church—By letter and delegates, to-wit: Bros. Albert Melton, A. R. Brewer and Sister Bettie Staggs.

Cave Springs Church—By letter and delegates, to-wit: Bros. Wess Saint, Neal Fretwell and Clifton Kimbrough.

Fellowship Church—By letter, no delegates.

New Home Church—By letter and delegates, to-wit: Bros. Dee Wilson, Celia Couch and Annie McGee.

Iron City Church—By letter, no delegates.

Hickory Flat Church—By letter and delegates, to-wit: Sisters Chestina Smitherman and Lillie Smitherman.

State Line Grove Church—By letter and delegates, to-wit: Bros. B. L. Griffin, R. J. Mashburn and Ray Killen.

Union Hill Church No. 1.—By letter and delegate, to-wit: Bro. Emet Kirkpatrick.

Butler's Grove Church—By letter.

Cordova Church—By letter and delegates, to-wit: Bros. Earl Richardson, Lee McKay and O. H. Marlow.

Caanan Church—By letter and delegates, to-wit: Bro. Joe Lutts, and Sisters Rebecca Clay and Martha Crews.

Salem Church—No intelligence.

Elk River Chapel Church—No intelligence. Moved and seconded that we retain until settled.

Oak Grove Church—No intelligence. Moved and seconded that we retain and send Bro. Ed Caperton to revive same.

Rose Hill Church—By letter.

Gray's Chapel Church—By letter and delegates, to-wit: Bros. A. J. Rogars and W. J. Robinson.

East Huntsville Church—By petitionary letter and delegates, to-wit: Sisters Lula Blythe, Dora Michael and Eva Brantly.

Alabama City Church—By petitionary letter and delegates, to-wit: Sisters Betty White and Bulah Sanders.

A motion and second was made that we make Rev. O. C. Weaver as one of our board as a pastor of church of this association. Carried.

Sang No. 140, "Revive Us Again." Perpetuated the union by

handshake. Also sang No. 141, "Glory To His Name." Dismissed for preaching service.

Preaching service opened by singing No. 134, "I Need the Prayers Of Those I Love." Prayer by Rev. J. B. Bloss. Sang No. 45, "While The Years Roll On."

Rev. Ed Caperton preached, text: Gal. 6-10, followed by Rev. O. C. Weaver, text Ex. 3-5.

Sang, "I'm Bound For The Promised Land," with handshake and shouts of the saints. Dismissed for dinner by Rev. H. C. Killen.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Read rules of order. Sang No. 26, "At The Place Called Calvary." Prayer by Rev. A. J. Lambert. Read Tim. 4-1-8.

Roll called with 54 present. Then committees were appointed as follows: General Business—Bros. J. L. McGee, Geo. Kelley and Jess Mashburn with moderator and clerk.

Sunday School—Rev. Ed Caperton, Bettie White and Rev. A. J. Lambert.

Education—Rev. H. C. Killen, Bros. Bell McGee and O. H. Marlow.

Temperance—Rev. G. B. Wooten, Bros. Neal Fretwell and Will Palmer.

Obituary—Sisters Lillie Smitherman, Sanders and Bro. J. H. Daniels.

Finance—Bros. Lutts, Maddox with clerk.

Miscellaneous—Rev. D. D. Serrett, A. L. Bowling and Bro. A. J. Mashburn.

Resolutions—Sister Staggs, Bro. McKay and Bro. Dillard.

Next elected Assistant Moderator. Bro. Killen and Bro. Bowling nominated. Bro. Killen was elected. The election of clerk was next. Mrs. J. B. Bloss and Albert Melton were nominated. Albert Melton was elected.

At this time Brother Bloss became moderator, and asked all who appreciated the work of the officers for the past year to stand. Every one stood to their feet.

Reports were received from the preachers at this time, and will be found on a statistical page in these minutes. All reports were accepted.

The association adjourned until 9 A. M. Saturday for the Presbytery to meet and do its work. Proceedings of presbytery were as follows: Read minutes of the various fifth Sunday meetings held during the year. At the fifth Sunday meeting held at Hickory Flat Church in September, 1929, eight ordained ministers present, and seven ordained deacons. Bro. D. D. Serrett and Bro. W. Baggett were granted cards after sending in their reports. Three deacons from State Line Grove Church were ordained. Collecting \$2.50 for getting out the program.

The Fifth Sunday Meeting in December, 1929, was held at State Line Grove with five ordained ministers and five ordained deacons present. Bro. Caperton was given permission to ordain a deacon at Union Hill. One deacon from East Huntsville was ordained. Bro. E. M. Troglin asked for his license to be renewed. Collection for program was \$1.65.

In June the Fifth Sunday Meeting was held at Gray's Chapel Church. Eight ordained ministers and eight ordained deacons were present. One deacon from East Huntsville Church was ordained.

The Fifth Sunday Meeting in August was held with State Line Grove Church. There were seven ordained ministers present and

six ordained deacons present. Two deacons from the East Huntsville Church were ordained.

The meeting of the presbytery September 19, 1930, was ten ordained ministers and eleven ordained deacons present. Prayer by Bro. Geo. Kelley. Preachers were examined and given cards. Bro. Dillard asked that we give him a card after he gave in his report. Bro. Dillard was granted a card. Bro. Budashaw also of Alabama City was granted a card. Bro. Bloss was appointed to examine Bro. W. A. Poss of Alabama City, and grant him license after he is examined if he is found sound. Then two deacons from East Huntsville Church were ordained. One preacher of Cave Springs was given license to preach the Gospel. Bro. J. H. Daniels was elected Moderator of the presbytery for the ensuing year, and Bro. H. C. Killen, clerk. Next Fifth Sunday Meeting will be at East Florence Church in November.

FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

Service was opened by singing No. 46, "The Love Of Jesus In My Soul." Prayer by Rev. G. B. Wooten. Sang No. 42, "I'm Bound For Glory." Rev. A. J. Lambert conducted the Devotional service. Many good testimonies were given. Sang No. 58, "I Want To Do More For Jesus." Preaching by Rev. J. B. Bloss, text Ezek., 1-10. Bro. Weaver then appealed to the association for aid in the building of a church at Alabama City.

Homes were assigned to delegates not already having a place to stay.

Benediction by Rev. O. C. Weaver.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The association was called together by Moderator Rev. J. B. Bloss at 9 A. M. by singing No. 45, "While The Years Roll On." Read Titus second chapter. After the reading prayer by Bro. Marlow. Then roll call, 48 present. Rules of order were read by moderator.

Reports of committees were received as follows:

General Business

We, your committee on General Business, beg leave to make the following report: We recommend that we take up the regular line of business. We recommend that we retain a Home Mission Board. And that we put an evangelist out to do work within the bounds of the association, and also a field evangelist. That the two evangelists along with the tent and funds collected be under the control of the Home Mission Board. We further recommend that each pastor take up an offering once a quarter for the Home Mission Board. We recommend that we receive all members by right hand of fellowship. We recommend that preachers coming from other denominations be licensed for six months on trial, and must be recommended by the church of which he is a member. We recommend that article No. 1 and 2 of Church Rules be altered to read: (1) We agree to meet in conference quarterly or oftener if necessary to transact the business of the church. (2) The Moderator shall be chosen by the suffrage of the church in the absence of the pastor. We also recommend that each church revise the church book once a year, showing a list of active and inactive members. We recommend that we have 500 church letters to the association printed, and that these letters show the active and inactive members, also the amount given the helper, also have a space for Orphans' Home. Rev. Geo. Kelley, chairman. The report was received. Bro. Geo. Kelley was elected Associational Evangelist and Bro. Bloss Field Evangelist. Bros.

Ed. Caperton, J. M. Newman and W. R. Brewer were elected as the Home Mission Board.

Sunday School

We, your committee on Sunday School, beg leave to urge every church in this association that has not already a Sunday School to organize one as soon as possible.

We also heartily recommend the organization of the F. W. B. L. in every church that the young people be encouraged in all Christian work. We believe that the officers and teachers of our organization should be Christian men and women. We also recommend that our churches use only Free Will Baptist Literature. We believe that our churches ought to patronize the F. W. B. printing presses.

ED CAPERTON, Chairman.

The report was accepted.

Education

We, your committee on Education, beg leave to submit the following: Seeing the need of the age in which we live. We recommend our ministers to use every effort possible to obtain a literary education. And above all to have on the robe of righteousness, and his feet be shod with the preparation of the Gospel of peace. Then after having received the robe of righteousness that he be a God called preacher. And as Paul said, "My speech and my preaching were not with enticing words of man's wisdom but in demonstration of the Spirit, and of power. Which thing also we speak not in the words which more wisdom teaches, but which the Holy Ghost teaches. And as James said if any of you lack in wisdom let him ask of God that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not, and it shall be given him. We recommend that the ministers will not depend altogether on an education but stay on their knees before God, until they are endued with power from on high.

REV. H. C. KILLEN, Chairman.

Report was accepted.

Temperance

We, your committee on Temperance, beg leave to report as follows: That our preachers, deacons and lay members abstain from intoxicating liquors of every kind and teach our children of its evil. And bring them up in the way they should go, and that we as Free Will Baptists assist in the enforcement of the prohibition law that our country may become free of this awful evil. Prov. 20-1, "Wine is a wrecker, strong drink is a raging lion, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise. Therefore, let us not only be temperate but let us abstain from its evil in every form." Paul said in Titus, 2-7, "In all things showing thyself a pattern of good work so we should let our work show what we are." This is an awful evil, and let us pray that God will deliver us from its influence as it will wreck our homes, fill the jails and prisons and bring disgrace to the human race. St. John 16-26, "But when the comforter is come whom I send unto you from the Father, even the spirit of truth which proceeded from the Father he shall testify of me." We also recommend that we keep all evil things out of our churches.

N. C. FRETWELL, Chairman.

This report was accepted.

Obituary

We, your committee on Obituary, beg leave to report the following: That the tireless reaper of death which is no respecter of persons has entered our homes and taken from our midst eleven of

our beloved Brothers and Sisters: Sister Minerva Milford, and Sister Lizzie Joiner of New Home Church, Bro. J. E. Melton and Bro. Virgle Holt of Butler's Grove Church, Bro. F. G. Pruitt of State Line Grove Church, Bro. G. B. Kilburn and Sister Essie Horton of East Florence Church, Bro. J. W. Ricketts and Bro. Will Ray of Iron City Church, Sister Easter Brewer and Sister Della Brewer of Fellowship Church. The bereaved have our heartfelt sympathy. But as the Lord has appointed on to man once to die His will be done not ours, for precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

LILLIE SMITHERMAN, Chairman.

This report was accepted. Many fine talks were made in behalf of the deceased.

Finance

We, your committee on finance, beg leave to report \$35.50 as minute money. Realizing that nothing can be accomplished without funds we recommend that each church send at least \$3.00 as minute fund and more in proportion to membership. That a standing committee be appointed on finance to visit among the different churches membership, and others for the purpose of raising funds for Home Mission work.

C. R. MADDOX, Chairman.

Report accepted.

Adjourned for 11 o'clock service. Preaching by Rev. D. D. Serrett, text: Romans 1-14, followed by Rev. H. C. Killen. Sang No. 210, "When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder," and "Take It To The Lord In Prayer." Had old-time handshaking, there was much rejoicing. Dismissal by Bro. W. J. Wright, for the noon hour. A bountiful dinner was spread by the ladies of the church, and was enjoyed very much by every one.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Association was called to order by Moderator. Sang No. 45, "While The Years Roll On." Moderator read Psalms 95. Prayer by Bro. W. Baggett. Roll call 46 present.

Clerks report was given for year as follows:

Printing	\$35.00
Clerk	15.00
Mailing	1.44
Stationery25
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Paid out	\$51.69
Collection	\$50.92
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Indebtedness	\$.77

The report was accepted, and clerk authorized to pay Sister Bloss the seventy-seven cents.

Report Of Miscellaneous Committee

We, your committee on Miscellaneous, recommend that each pastor of our association take up an offering every six months for the orphans' home, and that it be sent by the clerk of the church to the orphans' home. Also that all the clerks give a write up with each offering.

REV. A. L. BOWLING, Chairman.

Report accepted.

Cordova Church being the only church which called for the association for another year. It was unanimously carried that the association be at Cordova Church, at Cordova, Alabama.

A motion was made and seconded that we endorse the action of the committee appointed by the presbytery.

Resolutions

We, your committee on resolutions, beg leave to report as follows: We, as a body, offer New Home Church and the entire community as a whole our sincere thanks for their entertainment and hospitality shown each of us during our stay in your homes, and may God bless and keep you is our prayer.

W. L. McKAY, Chairman.

Report accepted.

The union was perpetuated by singing No. 148, "The Promised Land." A motion was made and seconded that we adjourn to meet with Cordova Church, on Thursday before the third Sunday in September, 1931. So ended the best and most harmonious Association of the Muscle Shoals State Line Association.

SATURDAY NIGHT PREACHING SERVICE

The service was opened by singing No. 26, "At The Place Called Calvary." Prayer by Bro. G. B. Wooten. Devotional Service was conducted by Bro. Ed Caperton. Preaching service was rendered by Rev. A. L. Bowling, text: Matt. 27-22. Followed by Rev. J. H. Daniel. Dismissed by Rev. Ed. Caperton.

REV. J. B. BLOSS, Moderator,
REV. H. C. KILLEN, Assistant Moderator,
ALBERT MELTON, Clerk.

CHURCHES, PASTORS AND ADDRESSES

East Florence, A. L. Bowling	Huntsville, Ala.
Cave Springs, Geo. Kelley, R. 2.	Iron City, Tenn.
Fellowship, H. C. Killen, R. 3.	Lexington, Ala.
New Home, Geo. Kelley, R. 2	Iron City, Tenn.
Iron City, J. H. Daniel, R. 2.	Iron City, Tenn.
Hickory Flat, Geo. Kelley, R. 2.	Iron City, Tenn.
State Line Grove, Geo. Kelley, R. 2.	Iron City, Tenn.
Union Hill, Ed. Caperton, R. 2.	Iron City, Tenn.
Butler's Grove, Ed. Caperton, R. 2.	Iron City, Tenn.
Cordova, J. B. Bloss, 315 13th St.	Columbia, Tenn.
Caanan, J. H. Daniel, R. 2.	Iron City, Tenn.
Rose Hill, H. C. Killen, R. 3.	Lexington, Ala.
Grays' Chapel, H. C. Killen, R. 3.	Lexington, Ala.
East Huntsville, A. L. Bowling 59 10th Ave.	Huntsville, Ala.
Alabama City, O. C. Weaver	Millport, Ala.

CHURCHES, CLERKS AND ADDRESSES

East Florence, Albert Melton, 1101 Colorado St.	Florence, Ala.
Cave Springs, T. C. Fretwell	Landersville, Ala.
Fellowship, Mattie Kelley, R. 2.	Iron City, Tenn.

New Home, J. B. McGee, R. 5.	Florence, Ala.
Iron City, Baxter Lumpkins	Iron City, Tenn.
Hickory Flat, Lillie Smitherman, R. 1, Box 132	Killen, Ala.
State Line Grove, R. J. Mashburn, R. 4.	Loretto, Tenn.
Union Hill, L. C. McCreless, R. 3.	Haleyville, Ala.
Butler's Grove, Abbie Thompson, R. 2.	Iron City, Tenn.
Cordova, W. H. Ryland	Cordova, Ala.
Caanan, Dolph Crews, R. 1.	Ruppertown, Tenn.
Rose Hill, Clyde Helton, R. 1.	Wales, Tenn.
Grays' Chapel, J. T. Leavelle, R. 1.	St. Joseph, Tenn.
East Huntsville, Dellie Forrest, 1013 Spring St.	Huntsville, Ala.
Alabama City, Bulah White, Hinsdale Ave.	Alabama City, Ala.

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND ADDRESSES

J. B. Bloss, 315 13th St.	Columbia, Tenn.
Geo. Kelley, R. 2.	Iron City, Tenn.
Ed Caperton, R. 2.	Iron City, Tenn.
D. D. Serrett	Leoma, Tenn.
G. B. Wooten, 113 Spring St.	Huntsville, Ala.
J. S. Ricketts	Courtland, Ala.
A. J. Lambert	Cordova, Ala.
J. H. Daniels, R. 2.	Iron City, Tenn.
H. C. Killen, R. 3.	Lexington, Ala.
A. L. Bowling, 59 10th St.	Huntsville, Ala.
J. S. Dillard, 306 Sansom Ave.	Alabama City, Ala.
W. Baggett, 902 Park St.	Florence, Ala.

ORDAINED MINISTERS RETAINED

J. J. Warren	Collinwood, Tenn.
M. M. Summers	Leighton, Ala.

LICENSED MINISTERS

Cliff Kimbrough	Landersville, Ala.
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HOME MISSION BOARD

J. M. Newman	Iron City, Tenn.
Ed Caperton, Treas.	Iron City, Tenn.
W. R. Brewer	Iron City, Tenn.

EVANGELISTS

J. B. Bloss, Field—315 13th St.	Columbia, Tenn.
Geo. Kelley, Associational—R. 2.	Iron City, Tenn.

FORM FOR RECEIVING MEMBERS IN CHURCH

Inasmuch as you present yourself for admission into the church of the Free Will Baptist in Christ. We rejoice with you that through the Grace of God you have been brought to a knowledge of the truth and have been made partakers of the great salvation. The privileges you seek are above price and the duties enjoined are

solemn, it is proper that you publicly confess your faith and a vow your purpose by answering the following questions:

- 1 Q. Did you once find yourself a sinner in the sight of God?
A. I did.
- 2 Q. And you now believe that God has for Christ's sake pardoned and forgiven all your sins?
A. I do.
- 3 Q. And your desire is now to become a member of the Free Will Baptist Church at this place?
A. Yes sir.
- 4 Q. Are you willing to be governed by our church rules?
A. Yes sir.
- 5 Q. Are you willing to contribute to the support of the Gospel as God prospers you?
A. I am.
- 6 Q. Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and do you accept Him as your personal Savior?
A. I do.
- 7 Q. Do you believe the whole Bible is infallibly true and are you willing to take it as your guide?
A. I am.
- 8 Q. Do you believe in free and open communion. Let a man examine himself according to I. Cor. 11-28. Also in washing of the saint's feet, according to St. John 13?
A. I do.
- 9 Q. Have you been baptized by emersion?

FORM OF CHURCH CONFERENCE

1. Call the church to order.
2. Call for peace of church.
3. Invite brothers and sisters to seats in the council.
4. Reading of minutes.
5. Is there any reference?
6. Report of committees.
7. Unfinished business.
8. New business.
9. Opportunity for members.
10. Adjourned.

FORM OF CHURCH LETTER TO ASSOCIATION

We, the Free Will Baptist Church of Christ at
....., send greetings to the Ministers and
Messengers composing the Muscle Shoals State Line Association of
the Freewill Baptist, when convened with.....
.....Church. We send our beloved, to wit:
..... to sit with you in your deliberations
and help to transact any legal business that may come before your
Honorable Body. The statistics of our Church are as follows:

Received by experience.....; by letter.....; by con-
fession.....; by restoration.....; dismissed by letter.....;
expelled.....; dead.....; total active members.....;
inactive members.....; contributions \$.....

We have elected Elder.....to
pastoral care of our church for the ensuing year; No. of Deacons
.....; No. of Ordained Ministers.....; No. of Licentiate
.....; Church Property \$.....; Amount given Pastor
\$.....; Amount given Evangelist.....; Amount given
Helper.....; Amount given Home Mission \$.....; Amount
given Orphanages \$.....; Other expenses \$.....

Clerk's Address; Moderator's
Address; Our Meeting Days
.....; Pastor;
Clerk; Remarks:

FORM OF CHURCH LETTER OF DISMISSION

We, the Freewill Baptist Church of Christ at.....
.....do hereby certify that brother or sister
.....is a member in good standing with
us and is dismissed by us when joined to any other Church of their
choice. Moderator;
Church Clerk

CHURCH RULES

The following rules were adopted:

1. We agree to meet in conference quarterly or oftener if necessary, to transact the business of the church.
2. The Moderator shall be chosen by the suffrage of the church in the absence of the pastor. The moderator shall observe good order and explain all questions before he takes the voice of the church on them, and shall have the liberty of speech as any other, but no vote unless there be a tie, when he shall have the casting vote.
3. It shall be the duty of all male members to fill their seats in conference and bear their part of the expense of the church.
4. No male member shall leave his seat during conference without permission from the Moderator.
5. No member shall arrange another before the church for any grievance without first taking Gospel steps.
6. All business brought before the church by motion and second in Gospel-like order shall be attended to by the church unless withdrawn by the mover.
7. Any person wishing to speak shall arise from his seat and address the Moderator; and if two arise at the same time the Moderator shall decide who shall speak first; and no member while speaking shall cast any reflections on any person; but shall adhere strictly to the subject under consideration.
8. No member shall speak more than twice on any subject without permission from the church.
9. It shall be the duty of all church members to be present at any church meeting to vote on all questions before the church, called on by the Moderator or any member of the church who may desire to obtain the mind of the whole church.
10. If any member shall remain silent during the transaction of any business of the church and afterward complain of what was done, the same shall be deemed disorderly, and the member so offending shall be dealt with accordingly.
11. The members of the church shall not talk about one another slanderously; and shall not give any report or circulation that may arise against any church member, but shall make it known to the one the report is against and to no one else; and any member doing otherwise shall be dealt with accordingly.
12. We agree to do all business by a majority of the members present at any time.
13. We have but one mode of baptism and that is immersion, and will not accept any other as baptism.

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 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 of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully 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 the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling together for church conference, public worship and the observance of the ordinances of

the Gospel nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor and all its benevolent work. We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness and watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the spirit" in the bonds of peace; to be careful of one another's happiness 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 the Christian principles sacred and Christian obligations 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, support of missions, the success of the Sabbath Schools and evangelistic efforts for salvation of souls and 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.

RULES OF ORDER OF THE ASSOCIATION

1. The Association when met shall be opened and closed with singing and prayer.
2. Only one person shall speak at a time and he shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator.
3. A person shall not be interrupted by anyone except the Moderator until he is done speaking, nor shall the Moderator, unless he break the order.
4. The person speaking shall adhere to the subject in question and shall not cast any personal reflections on him who may have spoken before.
5. No person shall speak more than three times on any subject without leave of the Association.
6. No member shall laugh or whisper in the time of public speech.
7. No member shall address each other except by the appellation of brother or brothers.
8. No member shall absent himself from the Association without leave.
9. The names of the members of the Association shall be enrolled and called over as often as the Association may think necessary.
10. No person shall speak more than five minutes at any one time without leave from the Association.
11. Any person who shall knowingly break any of these rules shall be reproved by the Moderator according to the direction of the Association.
12. The Association shall vote by a ballot where the next Association shall be held until one Church gets a majority of votes cast.
13. Every member of this body shall vote for or against every move that comes before it. When they fail to do this they shall be reprimanded by the Moderator.

CONSTITUTION

Be it known that we, the Freewill Baptist Church of Christ, being in the states of Alabama and Tennessee, do believe in the doctrine of the general atonement; we have been baptized on a profession in Christ, and we are desirous of bringing about a reciprocal union, we propose to maintain the Order and Rules of our Association according to the following plan:

Article 1.—We believe the Churches of Christ are mutually independent of each other; that a congregational form of church government should be invariably preserved; yet we being convinced of the utility of friendly intercourse and pious counsel on principles of union advantage and Christian love hold it a duty of the churches to pay respect to principles with regard to the duty of the Association.

Article 2.—The Association shall be composed of all ministers and ordained deacons and not more than 3 delegates chosen by the different churches in our union, who producing letters from respective churches, certifying their appointments, shall be entitled to seats.

Article 3.—The letters so produced shall express the condition of these churches respectively—that is the number of members in fellowship, the number received, excluded and are only subject to the first death, brought to them by the fall, died since last Association.

Article 4.—The body shall have no conceived power to lord it over God's heritage or infringe on any of the internal privileges or rights by the churches in our union; but shall only be considered an advisory council is all things pertaining to the internal concerns of the church.

Article 5.—The Association is to give the best advice it can in all matters of difficulty. If the union be broken between any of the churches, said Association shall inquire into the cause of the breach and use its best endeavor to remove the difficulty, but if the breach cannot be removed, to withdraw from the churches which they may look upon as unsound in principle or disorderly in conduct or practice until they be reclaimed.

Article 6.—To take up no case of any kind in the Union without the consent of a majority of the churches and then only to give advice.

Article 7.—Any church may be admitted into the Association by letter and delegate, and if upon examination it is found orthodox and orderly, such admission shall be manifested by the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship to the delegate thereof.

Article 8.—The Association, when properly organized for business shall consist of Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen by the Suffrage of the members present. And the duty of the Moderator shall be to keep the Association in order, state questions fairly and take the minds thereon, to have no vote unless the Association be equally divided, in which he shall have the deciding vote. And the duty of the Clerk shall be to keep a fair record of the proceedings of the Association.

Article 9.—No query shall be received by the Association from any church unless it shall have been acted upon in said church and cannot be settled, in which case the Association shall take up the same and act upon it.

Article 10.—Every motion and second shall be attended to unless withdrawn by the mover.

Article 11.—We agree to settle all our business by a majority of the members present.

Article 12.—The Association shall have the power to sit as an

advisory council, give the churches all the necessary advice in matters of difficulty, to inquire into the cause of churches neglecting to represent themselves in the Association, to appoint any member or members with their consent to transact any business they judge necessary, to invite any visiting brethren in the ministry to a seat with the Association, to adjourn the Association at any place that may be deemed necessary, to exclude from his seat any member who will not conform to the rules and decorum and shall report his or her conduct to the church for which they were delegates.

Article 13.—This constitution may be altered or amended by a majority vote of any regular meeting if the proposed amendment shall have been presented at the last preceeding regular meeting and approved by that body and published in the minutes with notice that it will be acted upon at the next meeting.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe there is but one living, true eternal God, the Father of whom are all things from everlasting, to everlasting, glorious and immaculate in all His attributes.—Cor. 8-6, Isa. 40-28.

2. We believe that there is but one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, the only begotten Son of God, born to the Virgin Mary, whom God freely sent into this world because of the great love wherewith He loved the world; and Christ as freely gave Himself a ransom for all, tasting death for every man; who was buried and rose again the third day; and ascended into Heaven, from whence we look for Him the second time in the clouds of Heaven at the last day to judge both the quick and dead.—Tim. 2:5-6; Heb. 2-9; St. John 3-16; Rev. 1-7; Acts 24-15; 1 John 2-3.

3. We believe that there is one Holy Ghost, the Precious gift of the Father through His dear Son, unto the world, who quickeneth and draweth sinners home to God. St. John 16-7, 8; Acts 2-4; Eph. 4-4-6. Eph. 2-1.

4. We believe in the beginning, God made man upright, and placed him in a state of glory without the least mixture of misery from which he voluntarily, by transgression fell, and by that means brought on himself a miserable and mortal state, subject to death. Gen. 2-7; 3-19.

5. We believe that God is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance and the knowledge of truth, that they might be saved; for which end God hath commanded the Gospel to be preached among all nations and to every creature. Mark 16-15; Luke 24-17; John 3-15-17; I. Tim. 2-4.

6. We believe that no man shall suffer in hell for the want of Christ who died for him but as the Scripture has said, for denying the Lord that bought them; because they believed not in the name of the only begotten Son of God. Unbelief, therefore, being the cause why the just and righteous God of Heaven will condemn the children of men; it follows against all argument, that all men, at one time or other, are found in such capacity as that through grace of God they may be eternally saved. Acts 17-30; Mark 6-6; Heb. 3-10; I. John 5-10.

7. We believe the whole Scriptures are infallibly true, and that they are the only rule of faith and practice. 2 Tim. 3-16-17.

8. We believe in the doctrine of General Provision made of God in Christ for the benefit of all mankind, who repent and be-

lieve the Gospel. Luke 24-16-20; Matt. 28-19-20; Luke 13-3-5; Luke 24-47; Acts 3-19; Mark 1-5.

9. We believe that sinners are drawn to God, the Father, by the Holy Ghost, through Christ, His Son, and that the Holy Ghost offers His divine aid and to all the human family, so as they all might be happy, would they give place to His divine teachings; whereas, such who do not receive divine impressions of His Holy Spirit, shall at a future day, own their condemnation just, and charge themselves with their own damnation for willfully rejecting offers of sovereign grace. Matt. 11-27; St. John 6-45; Ps. 1 1-12; Jer. 22-20.

10. We believe that men, not considered simply men, but ungodly men, were of old ordained condemnation, considered who turn the grace of God to lasciviousness, denying the old Lord God our Lord Jesus Christ who bought them, and therefore, shall bring upon themselves swift destruction, but we observe that they, and such, the Apostle faith, because they receive not the love of truth, that they might be saved, therefore, the indignation and wrath of God upon every soul of man that doeth evil, living and dying therein; for there is no respect of persons with God. Jude 1-14; 2 Peter 22; 2 Thes. 2-11; 12; Rom. 2-9-11.

11. We believe that all children dying in infancy having not actually transgressed the law of God, in their own persons of the first Adam and not that any of them dying in that state shall suffer punishment in hell by the guilt of Adam's sin, "for of such is the kingdom of God." I. Cor. 15-22; Matt. 18-2-5; Mark 9-36; Matt. 19-23.

12. We believe that good works are the fruits of saving faith, and that in the use of the means of grace and not of those means as eternal life is promised to men. Rev. 22-14; Isa. 1-19-20; Matt. 7-8; Jer. 6-16; Luke 13-34-35.

13. We believe that no man has any warrant in the Holy Scriptures for justification before God through His own work, power or ability, which he has in and of himself only as he by grace is made able to come to God through Jesus Christ believing the righteousness of Jesus Christ to be imputed to all believers for their eternal acceptance with God. Rom. 4-24; Acts 8-20-21.

14. We believe all things are foreseen in the wisdom of God so that God knoweth whatsoever come or cannot come to pass upon shall supposed conditions; yet not as having decreed to any person to everlasting life, out of respect or mere choice, further than He hath appointed the godly unto life, and the ungodly, who die in sin, unto death. Heb. 4-13; Prov. 88-22-31; Matt. 25-31-16.

15. We believe as touching Gospel ordinances in believers' baptism, laying on of hands, receiving of the sacrament in bread and wine, washing of saint's feet, anointing the sick with oil in the name of the Lord, fasting, prayer, singing praise to God, and the public ministry of the Word, with every institution of the Lord we shall find in the New Testament. Mark 16-16; Acts 8-17; Acts 19-6; Luke 22-19-20; John 13-5-17; Jas. 5-14.

16. We believe the Gospel mode of baptism is by emersion, and that the believers are the only subjects for baptism. Matt. 3-16; Mark 1-9-10; Acts 2-38-39; Rom. 6-4; Col. 2-12.

17. We believe in a general resurrection of the dead and a final Judgment at the last day. John 5-28; 2 Cor. 5-10.

18. We believe the happiness of the righteousness is eternal and the torments of the wicked are endless. Matt. 25-45.

CONSTITUTION OF THE PRESBYTERY

1. Be it known that the ordained ministers of the Muscle Shoals Association, together with the deacons of the same, are the Presbytery of this Association, all of whom are ex-officio members.

2. This object of the Presbytery is the mutual improvement of the ministry, their protection against hostile influences, and their purification by casting out unworthy members.

3. The Presbytery has exclusive jurisdiction and control over the official character and standing of all ordained and licensed preachers under its control.

4. The Presbytery adopts a constitution by-laws and regulation, by the majority vote not inconsistent with Baptist principles and usages.

5. When a church desires the license of a preacher or ordination of a minister, it requests the Presbytery to examine the candidate and if it thinks proper, license and ordain him.

6. Before license or ordination the candidate is examined as to the gifts, grace and usefulness, including his personal piety, his call to the ministry, his adoption and devotion to the work, his doctrinal sentiments and his general acceptance with the public.

7. In ordination there is a presentation of the bible, a prayer of consecration a charge and a hand of fellowship given.

8. A minister from another denomination, having first been received by a local church and recommended by it, is examined in the same way, though with special care as to his doctrinal sentiments. But if he has been ordained by an evangelical church, his ordination is accepted as valid and a certificate given him to that effect.

CHURCHES:	Re'd by Exp.	Rec'd by Letter	Rec'd by Conf.	Rec'd by Rest.	Dis. by Letter	Expelled	Dead	Total Mem.	Contribution	No. Deacons	Ord. Ministers	Licentiates	Church Prop.	Am't Given Pas.	Evangelist	Home Miss.	Other Exp.	
E. Florence	7	0	0	0	6	2	2	30	2.25	4	1	0	4,500.00	94.21	4.30	.46	53.13	All Sunda
Cave Springs	0	7	12	0	0	0	0	108	4.40	7	0	1	2,500.00	39.45	.00	.00	10.00	1st Sund
Fellowship	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	29	1.00	3	3	1	600.00	12.00	.00	.00	5.00	2nd Sund
Iron City	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	27	1.50	4	3	0	2,000.00	45.46	12.00	2.15	30.00	2nd Sund
Hickory Flat	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	25	1.00	2	0	0	600.00	35.44	.00	.75	14.95	3rd Sund
State L. Grove.....	0	0	10	0	0	1	1	100	4.00	7	1	0	1,500.00	60.31	8.52	2.44	.00	4th Sund
Union Hill	6	0	0	0	5	0	0	80	3.00	4	1	0	2,000.00	55.67	.00	.40	15.66	4th Sund
Butler Grove	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	25	1.10	2	0	0	400.00	18.85	.00	.00	.00	3rd Sund
New Home	0	0	7	1	0	0	2	55	2.50	4	0	0	1,000.00	89.75	4.60	.00	50.75	2nd Sund
Cordova	9	6	20	5	1	4	0	122	5.25	9	3	0	5,000.00	478.21	87.00	12.20	110.07	1st-3rd Su
Caanan	0	2	5	0	0	0	0	27	2.25	1	0	0	375.00	35.80	.00	.30	45.00	3rd Sund
Rose Hill	14	0	8	0	0	0	0	23	1.50	1	0	0	.00	35.59	.00	.10	6.84	1st Sund
Gray's Chapel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	2.25	4	1	0	1,500.00	4.00	.00	1.00	.00	1st Sund
E. Huntsville	19	0	41	0	0	0	0	60	3.50	6	0	0	1,000.00	.00	.00	.00	1,000.00	All Sunda
Alabama City	20	30	100	0	0	0	0	150	.00	5	2	0	.00	60.00	.00	.00	.00	All Sunda
TOTAL	76	45	207	6	12	7	10	891	35.50	63	15	2	17,975.00	1,064.74	116.42	19.80	1,351.40	

PREACHERS	Sermons	Pub. Prayers	Rec'd in Church	Baptized	Vis. S. Homes	Funerals Preached	Ord. Deacons	Ord. Ministers	Pastor Churches	Com. Serv. Held	Cond. Pryr. Meet.	Attended S. S.	Revivals Held	Miles Trav.	Money Rec'd	Trav. Exp.	Couples Married	Org. Churches	Org. S. S.
J. B. Bloss	155	150	145	56	78	3	8	0	1	1	28	45	5	13,099	704.99	231.69	5	1	1
Geo. Kelley	151	188	44	39	—	5	9	0	4	4	—	—	11	3,108	318.14	61.50	0	0	1
Ed Caperton	90	110	10	7	15	0	5	0	3	3	5	25	4	2,595	113.66	50.00	0	0	0
D. D. Serrett	81	31	0	0	9	1	0	0	0	0	2	8	0	267	9.30	2.00	3	0	0
G. B. Wooten.....	80	50	5	12	15	1	2	0	0	1	30	35	2	845	20.90	25.82	1	0	0
J. S. Ricketts	30	32	2	0	3	0	5	0	0	0	5	17	0	720	22.61	10.54	0	0	0
A. J. Lambert	80	80	6	1	23	2	0	0	3	0	20	26	2	2,006	109.85	44.17	1	0	1
J. H. Daniel	59	81	8	5	10	4	5	0	4	3	5	10	5	1,375	82.60	19.26	2	0	2
H. C. Killen	61	88	15	6	13	2	5	0	2	2	20	21	3	2,650	96.60	50.45	6	0	1
A. L. Bowling.....	196	154	58	26	37	9	6	0	1	3	32	26	2	578	85.00	110.65	10	1	1
J. S. Dillard	50	60	35	0	—	1	7	0	0	0	5	5	5	—	.00	.00	0	0	0
W. Baggett	48	60	16	4	0	0	0	0	3	2	—	—	0	1,800	32.00	—	2	1	0
TOTAL.....	1,081	1,084	344	156	203	28	52	0	21	19	152	218	39	29,042	1,595.65	606.08	30	3	7

J. B. Bloss, Evangelistic Record

Churches Visited:	Amount Received	Condition of Church	Condition Sunday School
State Line Grove	8.52	Good	Good
Iron City	1.00	Weak	Good
Lopps' Chapel	1.86	Weak	
E. Florence	4.30	Weak	Good
Alabama City	33.00	Good	Good
New Home	4.60	Good	Good
	53.28		