

Go on to take members in page 11

MINUTES

—of the—

11th Annual Session

—of the—

**MUSCLE SHOALS
STATE LINE FREE WILL BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION**

—Held with—

**Cordova Church, Walker County, Ala.
Sept., 16, 17, 18,**

1931

—O—

OFFICERS:

REV. H. C. KILLEN, Moderator.
S. W. McCLUSKY, Clerk.

—O—

The next session of this Association will convene with Union Hill Church near Haleyville, Ala., on Thursday evening before the Third Sunday in Sept. 1932 at 7:00 P. M. with Rev. H. C. Killen, Moderator, and S. W. McClusky, Clerk.

PROCEEDINGS.

Thursday Evening Session, Sept., 16

Opened by singing Nos. 19, 118 and 98 in Victory Voices. Prayer by Rev. Ed Caperton Songs Nos., 140-35.

Testimony services conducted by Rev. Ed Caperton. Many fine testimonies were given Quartet by Misses Mary and Gertrude Gilbert, Dr. Freeman and W. H. Ryland.

Welcome by the Pastor, J. B. Bloss. Sermon by Rev. H. C. Killen, Lesson: John 14th chapter, Text; Numbers 13:30. Songs Nos. 134-55, with old time handshaking and much good feeling. Delegates and visitors were assigned to homes by Rev. J. B. Bloss and Bro. M. G. Carter. Adjourned to meet Friday morning. Dismissed by Rev. Geo. C. Barrer.

Friday Morning, 9 A. M.

Called to order by the Moderator Rev. J. B. Bloss. Song No. 43. The 3rd Chapter of St. John was read by the Moderator, prayer by Rev. J. L. Conner. Songs Nos. 69-57.

In the absence of the Clerk S. W. McCluskey was appointed Clerk pro tem.

Delegates Enroll'd.

East Florence church, Sister A. L. Bowling, D. M. Bromley and S. W. McCluskey.

Cave Springs church, Sister Addie Fretwell, Neal Fretwell, Thomas Kimbrough.

Fellowship church, Revs. D. D. Serrett, Geo; Kelley.

New Home church, Cecil Couch.

Iron City church, by letter.

Hickory Flat church, Sisters Mattie Goodman. Christina Smitherman, Ben Barnett.

State Line Grove church, Floyd Jones, Fayette Griffin.

Union Hill Church. Roy Waldrop, Earnest Haley, James Woodall

Butlers Grove church, by letter.

Cordova church, Luther Bailey, C. B. Ryland, Genie McKay

Cannan church, by letter.

Salem church, dropped

Elk River Chappel church, dropped. Voted that the Moderator and Clerk, from year to year, be trustees of the property belonging to this church.

Oak Grove church, no report, church retained. Rev. A. L. Bowling and Rev. Geo. Kelley be sent with the tent to hold a meeting and try to revive the church.

Rose Hill church, Sister Pearl Copeland, Clyde Hilton and Robert Pinkelton.

Grays Chappel church, by letter.

E Huntsville church, Joseph East and wife.

Alabama City church, Sister Betty White, A. J. Lambert. W. L. Crocker.

All letters received and delegates seated.

Petitionary letters none.

Visitors, Rev. J. L. Conner from the Jasper Association and Rev. T. J. Adair from the Morning Star Association, were recognized and invited to sit with us.

Adjourned for preaching

Sermon by Rev. A. L. Bowling, Text; Hebrew 16:11, followed by Rev. W. A. Wisner. Sermon was very much enjoyed by all. Songs, Nos 35-38 with handshake and good feeling. Dismissed until 1:30 by Dr. R. E. Freeman.

Friday, Afternoon Session

Song, No. 55. The 103rd Psalm was read by the Moderator, Rev. J. B. Bloss, prayer by Rev. G. W. Franks, Roll call 51 present.

Sister Lillie Smitherman was seated as a delegate by unanimous vote of the Association.

Rules of order read by the Moderator, Rev. J. B. Bloss, who then appointed the following committees;

General business—Rev. A. L. Bowling, Chairman, Dr. R. E. Freeman, Rev. Ed Caperton, D. M. Bromley, J. S. Ricketts with Moderator and Clerk.

Sunday School—M. G. Carter, Chairman, Alfonso McDonald, Sister Lillie Smitherman.

Education—Rev. Geo. C. Barron, Chairman, Neal Fretwell A. J. Mashburn.

Temperance—R. L. Wright, Chairman, J. L. McGee, and Rev. W. A. Wisner

Obituary—Rev. G. W. Franks, Chairman, Rev. D. D. Serrett and J. S. Barber.

Finance—Rev. P. J. Box, Chairman, Rev. J. S. Dillard with Clerk.

Miscellaneous Business—Rev. Geo. Kelley, Chairman, Rev. G. B. Wooten, J. N. Woodall.

Resolutions—J. T. Kimbrough, Chairman, O. McCreless and Sister Christina Smitherman.

Election of officers for the ensuing year. Dr. R. E. Freeman elected Assistant Moderator and S. W. McCluskey Clerk. Vote of appreciation was extended to the out-going officers, the newly elected officers taking their seats. Business was suspended for the meeting of the Presbytery until 7:00 A. M. Saturday morning.

Minutes of Fifth Sunday Meetings.

Met with East Florence church on Saturday, before the 5th Sunday in Nov., 1930, with 7 ordained ministers present and 3 deacons.

Received report of Bro. Bloss of the work he did at Alabama City.

Bro. Albert Melton, of East Florence, was licensed to preach. Three Deacons were ordained for the East Florence church.

On account of the Preacher's Meeting in March, voted to hold no meeting at that time.

The Fifth Sunday meeting in May was held with Rose Hill church, in Tennessee, with 4 ordained ministers and six deacons present.

Bro. Albert Melton, of East Florence, turned in his License and was dropped as a minister.

Rev. Geo. C. Barron of East Florence church, was ordained to the full work of the ministry. Two deacons were ordained for the East Florence church. Bro. Bowling was given permission to ordain one deacon for the East Florence church. Voted to give no more permits for ordination.

Bro. G. W. Franks of Cordova, was granted license to preach until the meeting of the Association at Cordova in September, 1931.

The East Huntsville church brought charges against Bro. G. B. Wooten. The Presbytery was called to meet at East Huntsville July 10, 1931, to investigate the charge.

The Fifth Sunday Meeting in August met with Iron City church, Iron City, Tenn., with 10 ordained Ministers and 15 Deacons present. Two Deacons were ordained for the E.

Florence church, The charges against Bro. G. B. Wooten were dropped.

The Presbytery met at the Association, Sept. 19, 1931, with 13 ordained Ministers and 13 Deacons present. Motion carried that we still carry the names of our deceased ministers. All licensed minister's license were extended till the next meeting of the Association. Bro. G. W. Franks, Dr. R. E. Freeman and P. J. Box, of Cordova and W. A. Wisner of Alabama City, were ordained to the full work of the Ministry. Two Deacons from Alabama City and one from East Huntsville were ordained. The Presbytery adjourned to meet with E. Florence church, 5th Sunday in Nov., 1931.

Friday Night Session.

Songs Nos. 50 and 115, prayer by Rev. G. B. Wooten. Quartet by Misses Pearl and Mary Gilbert, Dr. R. E. Freeman and W. H. Ryland. Song No. 108, prayer by Sisters Carter and Gilbert. Quartet by Dr. Freeman, Dan Perry and two Underwood brothers. Duet by Dr. and Mrs. Freeman. Prayer by Sister Thompson. Song No. 38, sermon by Rev. D. D. Serrett. Subject; "The Great Commission." Matt 28; 19-20, followed by Rev. George Kelly.

Adjourned till 9:00 A. M. Saturday.

Saturday Morning Session.

9 o'clock. Called to order by the Moderator, Rev. H. C. Killen. Song No. 55. The 23rd Psalm was read by the Moderator, prayer by Rev. J. J. Warren. Roll call 48 present.

Report of Committees.

General business—We, your Committee on general business, beg to submit the following report: We recommend that we follow the regular order of business.

We recommend that Articles 3 and 4 of our Church Rules be changed to read as follows: "It shall be the duty of all members to fill their seat in conference and bear their part of the churches expenses. No member shall leave their seat during conference without permission from the Moderator."

We recommend, that we retain the Home Mission as now constituted, to wit: J. M. Newman, W. R. Brewer and Rev. Ed Caperton to remain as Chairman of the Board.

We also recommend, that we elect a Home Mission work-

er within the bounds of this Association, for the purpose of strengthening the Free Will Baptist cause, and that he be under the direction of the Home Mission Board.

We also recommend that we place an Evangelist in the field for the Association. We further recommend, that each Pastor take an offering at least once each quarter for Home Missions, and instruct his church as to the need of Missions.

We recommend that we receive all members by the right hand of fellowship.

We recommend that Ministers coming from other denominations be licensed or ordained if properly recommended by the church of which he is at that time a member, if the Presbytery finds him worthy.

We also recommend that each church revise its church book once each year, keeping a list of active and inactive members.

We recommend that the Clerk have 750 copies of Minutes printed and that he be allowed \$10.00 for his services.

We recommend the printing of 500 church letters to the Association according to the form in the minutes for this year.

We recommend that each church take an offering once a year to assist Alabama City in building. Said funds to be sent to the clerk of the Association to be held by him till building gets under way.

We recommend that each church pay \$3.50 minute fund, the larger churches more if possible.

We recommend, that the Association send 3 delegates to the State Conference. Respectfully submitted,

A. L. Bowling, Chairman.

The report was adopted and Dr. R. E. Freeman was elected Mission Worker in the bounds of the Association.

Sunday School—We, your Committee on Sunday School, submit the following report: We feel that each Superintendent and all Teachers should be Christians.

We recommend that each superintendent hold a special meeting with his teachers at least once a month. Each superintendent should do pastoral work in his Sunday School. We urge the use of Free Will Baptist literature in all of our schools.

We urge that each church organize and maintain a Free Will Baptist League and encourage the young people in every way possible to do church work. We recommend the paper published by the Free Will Baptist, Ayden, N. C. to be read by all.

Gorman Carter, Chairman.

Report adopted.

Education—We your committee on Education submit the following report: Realizing that we are living in this progressive age of the world, with greater problems to solve than any preceeding generation has ever met and with greater forces of wickedness to combat, we therefore recommend that all of our people, especially our ministers, strive for all the education that is possible for them to attain. With the fact before us that Preaching is teaching in the highest sense of the word.

The education of a preacher consists of the following as the cases of the Apostles, especially Paul. Remember that the Apostles had the privilege of being students in the greatest institution and with the greatest teacher this world has ever known. Christ himself being the faculty of that School.

It seems as though I can almost see Him oftentimes taking his pupils aside from the multitude and teaching them privately.

With all of His teaching that our minds can comprehend without the spirit we will be a total failure. Above all let us remain students of His word which is a lamp to our feet and the Personal presence, Power and Divine leadership of the Holy Spirit.

Saul of Tarsus a graduate from the Seminary of Gamaliel a chosen vessel of God. By reason of his education he was prepared and qualified for any official position of his country. But after he became a student of the Holy Ghost he became one of the most cosmopolitan men the world has ever known.

Bear in mind that man is made up of three component parts; the Physical, Mental and Spiritual. The parents strive to develop the physical part and our Public Institutions to develop the mental part. Each of which will cease at death.

But we are endeavoring to teach and develop that part of man that will live beyond the dark chasm of human destiny. So dear Ministers of the Gospel do all in your power to

prepare yourself for this great work. Respectfully submitted
Geo. C. Barron, Chairman

Report Adopted.

Temperance—We your committee on Temperance submit the following: That our Preachers, Deacons and Members be temperate in all things as the scripture teaches in Titus 2:7.

We recommend: That none of our members indulge in intoxicating drinks.

We recommend that our Ministers be temperate not going beyond the teachings of the Bible.

J. L. McGee, Chairman.

Report Adopted.

Obituary—We your committee on Obituary submit the following: The Death Angel has claimed as victims since our last meeting Sister C. C. McGee of New Home Church; Sister Mary Wade of East Florence Church; Sister McGlen of Ala. City Church and Bro. Calvin Kerby of Cordova Church. We extend to the family of each our heartfelt sympathy, looking to the marriage of the Lamb, when we shall meet again.

G. W. Franks, Chairman.

Report Adopted. Many fine talks were made concerning the deceased.

Finance—We your committee on finance submit the following:

We have on hand Minute Fund \$36 23

Recognizing the fact that we must have some funds: We urge each Church to raise sufficient funds for the printing of Minutes and that each church send \$3 50; larger churches more in proportion.

J. S. Dillard, Chairman.

Adjourned till 1:30 P. M. for preaching. Song No. 48.
Prayer by Rev. J. S. Dillard.

Sermon by Rev. Geo. C. Barrom. Text Exodus 12:13 followed by Rev. R. E. Freeman. Dismissed by Rev. Geo. Kelly.

Saturday, Afternoon Session

Called to order by the Moderator, Rev. H. C. Killen.

Rev. Geo. Kelly, Associational Evangelist, rendered the following report; Visited East Florence church. Conditions good with good Sunday School. Received \$4 55

Grays Chappel church, conditions weak. Good Sunday School. Amount received \$1 44

Iron City church, conditions weak. Sunday School reasonably good. Amount received \$1.00

Geo. Kelly, Evangelist.

Field Evangelist Rev. J. B. Bloss, agreed to turn in his report later to the clerk.

The Home Mission Board reported a balance on hand of \$49.57.
Rev. Ed Caperton, Treasurer.

Miscellaneous Business.

We, your committee beg to submit the following report:

We recommend that the form of church letter of dismissal be changed to this form.

We, the Free Will Baptist Church of Christ, at _____ do hereby certify; that Bro. or Sister _____ is a member in good standing with us and is dismissed and commended to any church of their choice

Letter to be written with ink, to be void after 6 months.

We recommend that each church send delegates to the Association that will stay until all business is attended to.

We also recommend that all preachers and deacons stay till the close of the Association.

We recommend that the association, while in session, celebrate the Lord's Supper and Feet Washing on Saturday night of the meeting of the Association. We further recommend that each pastor take at least one offering each year for the Orphans Home.

We further recommend that the Assistant Moderator, Rev R. E. Freeman, preach the introductory sermon at the next Association with Rev. Geo. C. Barron as alternate.

W. H. Ryland, Chairman.

Report adopted,

State Line Grove and Union Hill churches, both asked for the Association next year. Vote was taken, voted that the Association meet with Union Hill church next year, near Haleyville, Ala.

Resolutions—We, your committee on Resolutions submit

the following; We, as a body, offer Cordova Church and the entire town as a whole, our sincere thanks for their entertainment and hospitality shown each of us during our stay in their midst, and may God bless and keep them true to Him is our prayer.

J. T. Kimbrough, Chairman.

Report adopted,

Clerk's Report For the Present Year.

Contributions	\$35.50
From Home Mission Board	\$ 5 00
Total received	\$40 50
Cost of printing	\$34.00
Wrapping	\$ 1 89
Paid to Sister Bloss	.77
To Albert Melton, Clerk	\$ 3.59
Total	\$40 25

Adjourned till 6:45 P. M. Dismissed by Rev Ed Caperton.

F. W. B. League Program

At 6:45 program rendered by F. W. B. League which was highly enjoyed by all, especially a recitation by Sister Thompson's little daughter on John 3:16. A number of Quartets, Duets and other parts were rendered by the members. The League seems to be very much alive.

Sermon preached by Rev. Ed Caperton. Scripture lesson Luke 14th chapter. Subject; "Excuses." After the song "Don't you want to go" was sung with handsnake and much rejoicing. Invatation for prayer was extended and responded to by many unsaved.

Ordination papers were tendered to the newly ordained Ministers by Rev. J. B. Bloss on behalf of the Presbytery. Adjourned to meet with Union Hill Church Thursday evening before the Third Sunday in Sept. 1932

Rev. H. C. Killen, Moderator.

S. W. McCluskey, Clerk.

On the following pages will be found Statistical Reports of churches and ministers. The Constitutions, Rules of Order, etc., will be found in back of Minutes.

Churches, Pastors and Addresses

East Florence, A. L. Bowling, Box 91, Rt 5, Florence, Ala.
Cordova, J. B. Bloss, 105 Church St, Mt. Pleasant, Tenn.

Cave Spring, Geo. Kelly, Rt 2, Iron City, Tenn.
 Fellowship, L. N. Butler, Rt 2, Iron City, Tenn.
 East Huntsville, G. B. Wooten, 113 Spring St, Huntsville,
 Ala. City, W. A. Wisner, Gadsden, Ala.
 Rose Hill, H. C. Killen, 26th St, Sheffield, Ala.
 Canaan, J. H. Daniels, Rt 2, Iron City, Tenn.
 Butlers Grove, J. H. Daniels, Rt 2, Iron City, Tenn.
 Union Hill, Ed Caperton, Rt. 1, Iron City, Tenn.
 State Line Grove, A. L. Bowling, Box 91 Rt. 5, Florence, Ala.
 Hickory Flat, Geo. Kelly, Rt. 2, Iron City, Tenn.
 Iron City, Geo. Kelly, Rt. 2, Iron City, Tenn.
 Grays Chapel, Geo. Kelly, Rt. 2, Iron City, Tenn.
 New Home, Geo. Kelly, Rt. 2, Iron City, Tenn.

Churches, Clerks and Addresses

E Florence S. W. McClusky, 221 Thompson, Florence, Ala.
 Cordova, W. H. Ryland, Cordova, Ala.
 Cave Spring, T. C. Fretwell, Landersville, Ala.
 Fellowship, Anne Kelly, Rt. 2, Iron City, Tenn.
 E. Huntsville, Dellie Forrest, 1013 Spring St, Huntsville, Ala.
 Ala. City, Frank Morris, No 5 Little St., Ala. City, Ala.
 Rose Hill, Clyde Hilton, Rt. 1, Wales, Tenn.
 Canaan, Dolph Crews, Rt. 1, Peppertown, Tenn.
 Butlers Grove, Abbie Thompson, Rt. 2, Iron City, Tenn.
 Union Hill, L. C. McCreless, Haleyville, Ala.
 State Line Grove, R. J. Washburn, Rt. 4, Loretto, Tenn.
 Hickory Flat, Lillie Smitherman, Rt. Killen, Ala.
 Iron City, Virgie Lumpkins, Iron City, Tenn.
 Grays Chappel, J. T. Leavell, Rt. 1, St Joseph, Tenn.
 New Home, J. B. McGee, Rt. 5, Florence, Ala.

Licensed Ministers

Cliff Kimbrough, Landersville, Ala.
 Geo. W. Tingle, Florence, Ala.
 Ordained Ministers who are not Pastors.
 W. Baggett, Park St, Florence, Ala.
 D. D. Serrett, Leonia, Tenn.
 J. J. Warren, Collinwood, Tenn.
 J. S. Dillard, 306 Samson Ave., Alabama City, Ala.
 J. S. Ricketts, Courtland, Ala.
 A. J. Lambert, Cordova, Ala.

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 baptised by immersion?

Form of Church Conference

- 1 Call the church to order.
- 2 Call for peace of church.
- 3 Invite the brothers and sisters to seats in the council
- 4 Reading of minutes.
- 5 Is there any references?
- 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 Free Will 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 confession _____, by restoration _____, dismissed by letter _____, expelled _____, dead _____, total active members _____, inactive members _____, contribution \$ _____.

We have elected Elder _____ to pastoral care of our church for the ensuing year. No. of Deacons _____, No. of Ordained Ministers _____, No. of Licentiates _____, 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 Free Will Baptist Church of Christ, at _____, do hereby certify, that Bro. or Sister _____, is a member in good standing with us and is dismissed and commended to any church of their choice.

Moderator.

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 churches expenses.
4. No male member shall leave their seat during conference without permission from the Moderator.
5. No member shall arrange another before the church or 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 reflection 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 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 Saviour 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 obligation supreme counting it our chief business to 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 any one 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 this 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 time without leave from the Association.

11 Any person who shall knowingly break any of these rules shall be reprovved 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 Free Will Baptist Church of Christ, being in the states of Alabama and Tennessee. do

believe in the doctrine of the general atonement; we have been baptised 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 council 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.

Art. 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.

Art. 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 onyl subject to the first death; brought to them by the fall, died since the last Association

Art. 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 on all things pertaining to the internal concerns of the church.

Art. 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.

Art. 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.

Art. 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.

Art. 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.

Art. 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 same and act upon it

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

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

Art. 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 thier 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.

Art. 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 be-

cause 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; I. 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 quickneth and draweth sinners home to God—St. John 16:7 8; Acts 2:4. Eph. 4:4-6; 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 4:10.

5. We believe that God is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance and 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 24:47; 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 believe the Gospel. Luke 24:47; Matt 28 19 20; Luke 13 3-5; Luke 24 47; Acts 3 19; Mark 1:15.

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 di-

vine impressions of His Holy Spirit, shall at a future day own their condemnation just, and charge themselves with their own damnation for wilfully rejecting offer of sovereign grace. Matt 11-27; St. John 6 44; Ps. 1-1; Jer. 22 20.

10. We believe that men, not considered simply men, but, ungodly men, were of old ordained to 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, any 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 2; 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 thier 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; Mat. 18-2 5; Mark 9-36; Mat. 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 Mat. 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. 8 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; 19:6; Luke 22:19-20; John 13:5-17 James 5:14.

16. We believe the Gospel mode of baptism is by immersion, 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 righteous 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, doctrinal sentiments and his general acceptance with the public,

7. In ordination there is a presentation of the bible, a prayer of consecration, 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

CHURCHES	By Experience	By Letter	By Confession	By Restoration	Dismissed by Letter	Expelled	Deceased	Total Members	Contribution	No. of Deacons	Ordained Ministers	Licensed	Value of Church Property	Paid to Pastors	Evangelist	Helper	Home Mission	Other Expenses	Orphan's Home	Meeting Days
East Florence	45	8	35		3	2	1	108	\$3 00	7	3	1	\$4500	\$443.30	\$ 4.55	\$ 8.20	\$ 2.25	\$ 130.40		1,2,3 S
Cordova	13	5	20	6	7	6	1	172	3.50	7	2	3	\$5000	\$398.72	\$ 4.50		\$17.90	\$160.76		1-3 S
Cave Springs	10		11		1			167	3.00	6	0	1	\$2500	\$ 68.69			\$10.00			1st S
Fellowship	3		1	1				34	1.43	3	4	1	\$ 600	\$ 1.50		\$10.00				2nd S
E. Huntsville		15	15			6		70	2.50	4	0	0	\$ 500	\$ 10.00				\$ 75.00		All S
Alabama City	4	15	54		5		1	153	3.00	2	2	1	\$	\$313.55		\$11.00		\$145.40		All S
Rose Hill	2		5					31	1.50	2	0	0	\$	\$ 28.00		\$ 6.75	\$.50			1st S
Canaan		4	10					41	3.00	1	0	0	\$ 400	\$ 40.00		\$ 6.75	\$.80			3rd S
Butlers Grove			3	1				64	1.80	2	0	0	\$ 400	\$		\$ 2.00				
Union Hill	62	1		3	6			141	5.05	4	1	0	\$2000	\$ 64.55		\$15.31	\$.60	\$ 7.25		4th S
State Line Grove	3		6			2		157	2.25	6	1	0	\$1500	\$ 42.40			\$.88			4th S
Hickory Flat	2		4					31	2.00	2	0	0	\$ 600	\$ 31.50		\$ 2.25	\$.53			3rd S
Iron City			2		1			146	3.00	4	3	0	\$2000	\$ 26.28	\$16.00		\$.70			
New Home	2		2				1	53	2.00	4	0	0	\$1000	\$ 45.27						2nd S
Grays Chappel			2	1				30	1.25	3	1	0	\$1500	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.44	\$ 3.12	\$.70			3rd S

Report of Pastors and Preachers.

	Sermons Preached	Public Prayers	Recd. in Church	Baptized	Visited Sick Homes	Funerals Preached	Ordained Ministers	Ordained Deacons	Pastored Churches	Held Communion	Cond. Prayer Meeting	Attended S. School	Held Revivals	Miles Traveled	Money Rec'd	Traveling Expenses	Married Couples	Organized Churches	Organized S. Schools
Ed Caperton ---	81	130	79	49	15	1	6	--	2	2	20	15	3	2670	\$ 75.75	\$ 40.00	--	--	--
Geo. Kelly ----	130	140	47	20	13	3	4	--	4	5	25	35	5	2819	\$215.54	\$ 53.93	2	--	--
J. J. Warren --	14	60	--	--	10	1	2	--	--	--	5	30	--	2160	--	--	--	--	--
J. B. Bloss ----	155	146	88	36	91	2	4	--	3	2	31	43	6	19419	\$719.53	\$242.87	1	--	--
W. A. Wisner --	40	50	2	--	35	1	--	--	--	--	25	45	--	--	\$ 3.00	--	--	--	--
Cliff Kimbrough	45	87	9	--	3	--	--	--	--	--	15	30	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
Geo. W. Tingle --	25	200	--	--	50	--	--	--	--	--	35	50	1	400	--	\$ 6.50	--	--	--
G. W. Franks --	30	100	2	--	50	15	--	--	--	--	10	21	--	--	--	--	10	--	--
R. E. Freeman --	18	30	--	--	20	--	--	--	--	--	5	6	3	300	--	--	--	--	--
Geo. C. Barron --	49	63	--	--	31	1	--	--	--	--	23	16	6	690	\$ 12.00	\$ 8.00	14	--	--
Mrs. D. Stafford	150	175	--	14	50	2	--	--	1	4	30	50	5	15000	\$ 95.00	--	3	--	2
J. L. Arnold ---	14	23	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	205	--	\$ 2.65	--	--	--
W. Bagget ----	62	--	--	2	12	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	1600	\$150.80	--	2	--	--
J. S. Dillard ---	65	75	30	--	10	--	--	--	--	--	5	20	9	120	\$ 3.07	\$ 10.00	--	--	--
A. L. Bowling --	173	349	76	63	144	12	8	--	1	3	67	45	7	2103	\$531.08	\$ 49.38	11	--	1
H. C. Killen ---	54	91	8	7	11	1	9	4	1	3	10	24	1	1800	\$ 48.83	\$ 50.72	--	--	--
J. H. Daniel ---	54	81	16	10	15	--	6	--	2	2	18	17	4	908	\$ 89.74	\$ 21.00	--	--	1
J. S. Ricketts --	2	24	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	7	9	--	53	--	--	--	--	--
G. B. Wooten --	133	52	30	15	20	2	5	--	1	2	25	55	4	5725	\$ 50.75	\$ 30.10	1	--	--
D. D. Serrett ---	67	33	--	--	17	3	--	--	--	3	19	1	--	313	\$ 19.00	\$ 4.85	3	--	2