

M I N U T E S

of the

FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

of the

MUSCLE SHOALS STATE LINE

FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION



Met with

FLATWOOD CHURCH

September 21, 22, 23, 1972

MINUTES **of the** **FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION** **of the** **MUSCLE SHOALS STATE LINE** **FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

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OFFICERS

Rev. Ronald Mashburn	Moderator
Rev. M. A. Stookesberry	Assistant Moderator
Lillie Smitherman	Clerk

The next session of the association will convene with the State Line Grove Church located three miles northwest of Lexington, Alabama, on Thursday night before the fourth Sunday in September, 1973, with the Rev. M. A. Stookesberry as moderator, the Rev. Carmack Gobbell as assistant moderator, and Lillie Smitherman as clerk.

CHURCHES, PASTORS, AND ADDRESSES

Burns' Chapel—Willie Daniel, Route 2, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450
Butler's Grove—Carmack Gobbell, Route 1, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450
Canaan—Willie Daniel, Route 2, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450
Collinwood—Arlo Peppers, Route 5, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee
Columbia—Wallace Paul, 321½ East 15th Street, Columbia, Tennessee
Community—J. O. Dixon, Route 1, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450
Cross Roads—Fredrick Rowden, 2116 Union Avenue, Florence, Alabama 35630
Cypress Oak Grove—Preston West, Route 3, Florence, Alabama 35630
Fellowship—James Austin, Route 4, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee 38464
Flatwood—Ernest Rich, Route 2, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450
Forty-Eight Bridge—W. V. Bailey, Route 1, Saint Joseph, Tennessee
Friendship State Line—Charles O. Marable, Route 2, Box 103, Toney, Alabama 35773
Gray's Chapel—Loyd Jones, Route 4, Loretto, Tennessee
Hickory Flat—Glen Bobo, 1620 Pinehurst Boulevard, Sheffield, Alabama
Hohenwald—Fred A. Creekmore, Route 2, Hohenwald, Tennessee
Iron City—Paul Story, Route 3, Leoma, Tennessee
Johnson Chapel—(no name submitted)
Mill Rock—Ronald Mashburn, Route 2, Leoma, Tennessee 38468
New Community—(no name submitted)
Oak Grove No. 2—(no name submitted)
Rose Hill—Alvin Stookesberry, Route 1, Iron City, Tennessee
Royal Avenue—D. A. Lindsey, 238 Roosevelt Avenue, Florence, Alabama
Saint Joseph—Doyle Wallace, Route 1, Loretto, Tennessee
State Line Grove—H. C. Killen Sr., 402 W. Tennessee Street, Florence, Alabama
Williams Chapel—James T. Turnbow, Route 2, Box 117-A, Collinwood, Tennessee

CHURCHES, CLERKS, AND ADDRESSES

Burns' Chapel—Yvonne Burns, Route 1, Box 163, Iron City, Tennessee 38463
Butler's Grove—Elenor Jackson, Collinwood, Tennessee
Canaan—Elaine McDonald, Route 6, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee 83464
Collinwood—Mrs. Floyd Bryant, Route 2, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450
Columbia—Mary Ann Tiller, Route 1, Pickard Lane, Mount Pleasant, Tennessee
Community—Ann Erwin, Route 5, Box 145, Florence, Alabama
Cross Roads—Eual Hooper, Route 3, Leoma, Tennessee
Cypress Oak Grove—Roy Butler, Route 1, Iron City, Tennessee 38463
Fellowship—Blanche Lester, Route 2, Box 151, Iron City, Tennessee 38463
Flatwood—Dewey Griffin, 317 Second Street, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee 38464
Forty-Eight Bridge—Sarah E. Martin, Route 2, Waynesboro, Tennessee 38485
Friendship State Line—Jean Ratley, Route 1, Taft, Tennessee 38488
Gray's Chapel—Exine Dickerson, Route 2, Killen, Alabama 35645
Hickory Flat—Lillie Smitherman, Route 1, Killen, Alabama 35645
Hohenwald—Lois McClain, Route 1, Hohenwald, Tennessee
Iron City—Virgie Lumpkins, Iron City, Tennessee
Johnson Chapel—(no name submitted)
Mill Rock—Yvonne Dixon, Route 1, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450
New Community—(no name submitted)
Oak Grove No. 2—Mrs. Richard McConnell, Route 1, Wales, Tennessee 38484
Rose Hill—Mrs. Dorothy Myers, Route 1, Wales, Tennessee 38484
Royal Avenue—Mrs. Lela Phillips, 609 East College Street, Florence, Alabama
Saint Joseph—Mrs. Junior Cook, Route 2, Iron City, Tennessee
State Line Grove—Andrew Killen, Route 2, Lexington, Alabama 35648
Williams Chapel—Mona Butler, Route 2, Iron City, Tennessee

ORDAINED MINISTERS, ADDRESSES, AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Adams, Theodore, Leoma, Tennessee 38468, Phone 852-2489
Adams, Wren, 121 W. Taylor Street, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee 38464, Phone 762-4862
Austin, James, Route 4, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee 38464, Phone 762-2042
Bailey, W. V., Route 1, Saint Joseph, Tennessee 38481, Phone 845-4161
Boswell, H. M., 210 Dirry Street, Columbia, Tennessee 38401
Brewer, Clovis, Route 1, Iron City, Tennessee 38463
Brown, James O. Jr., 105 Graves Drive, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee 38464, Phone 762-5168
Burns, J. M. Sr., Route 1, Iron City, Tennessee 38463
Caperton, Ed, P. O. Box 4, Iron City, Tennessee 38463, Phone 845-4562
Clanton, Elze, Route 5, Florence, Alabama 35630
Cook, L. O., Route 1, Iron City, Tennessee 38463, Phone 724-4754
Creecy, Dennis J., Route 1, West Point, Tennessee 38486, Phone 724-9355
Creekmore, Fred A., Route 2, Hohenwald, Tennessee 38462, Phone 796-5488
Daniel, Clice, Route 3, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee 38464, Phone 762-4067
Daniel, Nigle E., Route 2, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450, Phone 724-9333
Daniel, Willie, Route 2, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450, Phone 724-4742
Dixon, J. O., Route 1, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450, Phone 724-4341
Fields, Herman E., 420 Second Street, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee 38464
Gobbell, Carmack, Route 1, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450
Glover, Dee Jr., 501 W. Grand Avenue, Muscle Shoals City, Alabama 35660
Hollman, Cleve, P. O. Box 81, Saint Joseph, Tennessee 38481
Huggins, David, Route 2, Toney, Alabama 35773
Jones, Loyd, Route 4, Loretto, Tennessee 38469, Phone 853-6636
Kelley, George, Route 5, Waynesboro, Tennessee 38485, Phone 722-3432
Kelley, Raymond, Route 2, Iron City, Tennessee 38463
Killen, H. C. Sr., 402 W. Tennessee Street, Florence, Alabama 35630, Phone 764-0777
Lewis, John T., Route 2, Madison, Alabama 35758, Phone 837-4307
Lindsey, D. A., 238 Roosevelt Avenue, Florence, Alabama 35030, Phone 764-8289
Malone, M. J., Route 1, Iron City, Tennessee 38463, Phone 845-4188
Marable, Charles O., Route 2, Box 103, Toney, Alabama 35773
Mashburn, Ronald L., Route 2, Leoma, Tennessee 38468, Phone 852-2749
McConnell, Danny W., Zion Acres, Lot 68, Columbia, Tennessee 38401
McConnell, Richard, Route 1, Wales, Tennessee 38484
Norred, Theodore, Route 5, Florence, Alabama 35630, Phone 764-4005
Oliver, Johnnie F., 1914 Martin Street, Florence, Alabama 35630, Phone 764-6856
Paul, Wallace, 321½ East 15th Street, Columbia, Tennessee 38401, Phone 388-5890
Peppers, Arlo, Route 5, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee 38464, Phone Res. 762-5374, Bus. 762-3818

Prince, Dick, 110 Jackson Street, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee 38464, Phone 762-3517
Quillen, Floyd C. Sr., (no address submitted)
Rich, Ernest, Route 2, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450, Phone 724-4516
Roper, T. E. Sr., Route 2, Loretto, Tennessee 38469, Phone 853-6558
Rowden, Frederick, 1213 East Alabama Street, Florence, Alabama 35630
Royal, L. B., 423 Stranton Avenue, Florence, Alabama 35630, Phone 764-6037
Sanderson, Paul H., 1313 Sunnyside Street, Florence, Alabama 35630, Phone 764-6934
Speegle, Jessie L., 114 Colorado Avenue, Route 4, Tuscumbia, Alabama 35674, Phone 381-2888
Stookesberry, M. A., Route 1, Iron City, Tennessee 38463
Story, Paul C., Route 3, Leoma, Tennessee 38468, Phone 762-4806
Turnbow, James T., Route 2, Box 117-A, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450, Phone 724-9266
Wallace, Doyle, Route 1, Loretto, Tennessee 38469, Phone 853-6358
West, Preston, Route 3, Florence, Alabama 35630

LICENSED MINISTERS AND ADDRESSES

Beckman, Leo, Route 2, Toney, Alabama 35773
Creecy, Elbert, Route 5, Waynesboro, Tennessee 38485, Phone 722-2834
Davis, Johnny, Route 5, Florence, Alabama 35630
Glover, Earl (address unknown)
Handback, Talmage, Route 3, Florence, Alabama 35630
Riddle, Ralph, Taft, Tennessee 37383
Scott, Billy, Route 10, Florence, Alabama 35630

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND ADDRESSES WITH LIFETIME CARDS

Boswell, H. M., 210 Dirry Street, Columbia, Tennessee 38401
Burns, J. M. Sr., Route 1, Iron City, Tennessee 38463
Caperton, Ed., P. O. Box 4, Iron City, Tennessee 38463
Cook, L. O., Route 1, Iron City, Tennessee 38463
Creekmore, Fred A., Route 2, Hohenwald, Tennessee 38462
Daniel, Clice, Route 3, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee 38464
Daniel, Willie, Route 2, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450
Dixon, J. O., Route 1, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450
Kelley, George, Route 5, Waynesboro, Tennessee 38485
Killen, H. C. Sr., 402 W. Tennessee Street, Florence, Alabama 35630
Norred, Theodore, Route 5, Florence, Alabama 35630
Peppers, Arlo, Route 5, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee 38464
Royal, L. B., 423 Stranton Avenue, Florence, Alabama 35630
Sanderson, Paul H., 1313 Sunnyside Street, Florence, Alabama 35630
Story, Paul C., Route 3, Leoma, Tennessee 38468

DECEASED MINISTERS' NAMES RETAINED

Arnold, J. L., Cross Roads Church
 Arnold, Tom, Union Hill Church
 Dillard, J. S., Alabama City Church
 Dotson, J. M., Saint Joseph Church
 Fisher, Louis, Royal Avenue Church
 Freeman, R. F., Cardova Church
 Garren, William M., Iron City Church
 Martin, C. C., Forty-Eight Bridge Church
 Martin, T. H., Macedonia Church
 Mashburn, Roy, Iron City Church
 McGee, Ellie, Johnson Chapel Church
 Norred, John, Cypress Oak Grove Church
 Reyer, C. L., Friendship State Line Church
 Rowden, E. P., Royal Avenue Church
 Serrett, D. D., Flatwood Church
 Staggs, Eddie, Royal Avenue Church

FORM OF CHURCH CONFERENCE

1. Call the Church to Order
2. Call for Peace of the Church
3. Invite Brothers and Sisters to Seats in the Council
4. Call for Acknowledgements
5. Opportunity for Members
6. Reading of Minutes
7. Is There Any Reference?
8. Report of Committees
9. Unfinished Business
10. New Business
11. Adjourn

CHURCHES, DEACONS, AND ADDRESSES

Burns' Chapel—Nola Berry, Route 1, Cypress Inn, Tennessee 38552
 J. M. Burns Jr., Route 1, Iron City, Tennessee 38463
 Gene Cook, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450

Butler's Grove—Leonard L. Thompson, Iron City, Tennessee 38463
 Willie Ray Thompson, Iron City, Tennessee 38463

Canaan—Joe Eckert, Route 4, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee 38464
 Floyd Ray, Route 6, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee 38485

Collinwood—Floyd Bryant, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450, Phone 724-4734
 Delbert Gray, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450
 Ola Melson, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450, Phone 724-4597
 W. C. Smith, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450, Phone 724-4732

Columbia—Donald Paul, 1924 Paul Drive, Columbia, Tennessee 38401
 Phone 388-2995
 Douglas Paul, 304 Pleasant Drive, Columbia, Tennessee 38401, Phone 388-7896
 Elton Potts, 200 East 15th Street, Columbia, Tennessee 38401, Phone 388-5445
 David Sanders, 1709 Owens Avenue, Columbia, Tennessee 38401
 Frank Whitehead, 1717 Hillview Heights, Columbia, Tennessee 38401, Phone 388-0373

Community—Elvin Butler, Route 3, Iron City, Tennessee 38463
 J. L. Reatherford, Route 3, Florence, Alabama 35630

Cross Roads—Clarence Belew, Route 3, Leoma, Tennessee 38468
 Bonnie Hardiman, Route 3, Leoma, Tennessee 38468
 D. F. Peppers, Route 3, Leoma, Tennessee 38468
 Hubert Townsend, Route 5, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee 38464

Cypress Oak Grove—Roy C. Butler, Route 1, Iron City, Tennessee 38463
 Lewis Marks, Route 3, Florence, Alabama 35630

Fellowship—Jap Butler, Route 2, Iron City, Tennessee 38463
 Leslie Prince, Route 2, Iron City, Tennessee 38563
 J. W. Smith, Route 4, Waynesboro, Tennessee 38485

Flatwoods—Everett Griggs, 306 May Street, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee 38464, Phone 762-2150
 A. J. Talley, 228 Simpson Street, Route 3, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee 38464
 Odell Weems, Route 1, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee 38464, Phone 762-2735

Forty-Eight Bridge—W. H. Bowers, Route 1, Five Points, Tennessee 38457
 Elmer Hubbard, 111 Vine Street, Hohenwald, Tennessee 38462
 Joel O. Martin Sr., Carrier No. 2, Waynesboro, Tennessee 38485, Phone 722-3565
 Amos Staggs, Route 4, Waynesboro, Tennessee 38485

Friendship State Line—Troy Butler, Toney, Alabama 35773
 John Cross, Route 1, Taft, Tennessee 37383
 Malcolm Lewis, Route 1, Hazel Green, Alabama 35750
 Albert Malone, Route 1, Hazel Green, Alabama 35750
 Cecil Pigg, Route 2, Madison, Alabama 35758
 Lee Smith, Route 2, Madison, Alabama 35758

Gray's Chapel—W. S. Benningfield, Route 10, Box 72, Florence, Alabama 35630, Phone 746-5880
 Bill Curbow, Route 2, Killen, Alabama 35645
 Fay Dickerson, Route 2, Killen, Alabama 35645
 James L. Hamm, Route 1, Florence, Alabama 35630, Phone 757-2826

Hickory Flat—Hardie Beavers, Route 3, Box 170, Lexington, Alabama 35648
 Almon Gray, Route 3, Lexington, Alabama 35648
 Jesse Gray, Route 1, Rogersville, Alabama 35648
 Solon Gray, Route 3, Lexington, Alabama 35648

Hohenwald—Finnis L. Barber, Route 1, Summertown, Tennessee 38483

Iron City—Walter E. Daniel, Route 2, Iron City, Tennessee 38463
 Houston Johnson, Route 1, St. Joseph, Tennessee 38481, Phone 845-4261
 W. B. Lumpkins, Route 2, Box 134, Iron City, Tennessee 38463, Phone 845-4255
 Howard Perry Jr., Loretto, Tennessee 38469
 Howard Perry Sr., Iron City, Tennessee 38463, Phone 845-4383
 Beaumont Goobsey, Route 2, Iron City, Tennessee 38463

Johnson Chapel—none

Mill Rock—Calvin Daniel, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450
 Eldred Horton, Route 1, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450, Phone 724-4740
 Buford Ayers, Route 1, Collinwood, Tennessee 38450

New Community—Bill Kelley, Route 4, Box 73, Florence, Alabama 35630, Phone 766-3610

Oak Grove No. 2—Walter Lopp, Route 2, West Point, Tennessee 38486

Rose Hill—Billy Beets, Route 1, Wales, Tennessee 38484
 Herbert Foster, Route 3, Pulaski, Tennessee 38478
 Milas Myers, Route 1, Wales, Tennessee 38484

Royal Avenue—Grady Doyle, 213 North Richard Street, Florence, Alabama 35630
 Markham Hayes, 39 Auburn Street, Florence, Alabama 35630

Saint Joseph—Henry Hollman, Route 1, Loretto, Tennessee 38469
 George Pennington, Route 1, Box 237-A, St. Joseph, Tennessee 38481
 Doyce Springer, Route 1, Loretto, Tennessee 38469
 W. B. Wilson, St. Joseph, Tennessee 38481

State Line Grove—Elvin C. Garrison, Route 3, Lexington, Alabama 35648
 Andrew Killen, Route 2, Lexington, Alabama 35648
 Clarence Wisdom, Loretto, Tennessee 38469

Williams Chapel—Alfred Butler, Route 2, Iron City, Tennessee 38463
 J. D. Butler, Route 2, Iron City, Tennessee 38463
 Dell Moore, Route 2, Iron City, Tennessee 38463
 Rayford Moore, Route 2, Box 170, Iron City, Tennessee 38463

The session opened with the song "I Am a Child of God," followed by the offering by the Rev. J. O. Brown Sr. The song "Living by Faith" followed. In the absence of the assistant moderator the Rev. M. A. Stokelyberry, the Rev. Ernest Rich was appointed to serve as assistant moderator.

The welcoming address and the devotional service were by the Rev. Ernest Rich. He read for Scripture Matthew 5:1-12. The evening message was delivered by the moderator, the Rev. Ronald Mashburn. He read Acts 4:31 and Matthew 22:37-40 as scriptural basis for his sermon. This was a wonderful message.

The song "I Would Not Be Denied" was then sung, followed by an old-fashioned handshake.

Assignment to homes was made by the Rev. Ernest Rich. The congregation was dismissed by the Rev. Clavis Brown.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

The association was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by the moderator, the Rev. Ronald Mashburn.

The congregation sang "I Never Shall Forget the Day," followed with prayer by the Rev. Doyle Wallace.

The moderator read the twelfth chapter of Romans for his Scripture reading. This was followed with the singing of "Heavenly Sunlight."

The rules of order of the association were read by the moderator. A visiting minister, the Rev. J. B. Harper of the Tennessee River Association, and his wife were invited to sit with the body.

The congregation sang "Mansions Above."

Delegates present from the individual churches were as follows:

Burns Chapel—Sister Lisa Berry, Pearl Brown, and Jack Martin. Minute fund, \$10.

Butler's Grove—Brother Bobby Daniel, Sister Ivy Dean Daniel and Betty Butler. Minute fund, \$10.25.

Camden—Sister Barbara Ray, Alpha Hickert, and Minnie Crow. Minute fund, \$10.

Collinswood—Brother Martin Gunn, Harvey Brown, and Sister Nell Gagn. Minute fund, \$15.

Columbia—Brother Neil Sanders. Minute fund, \$15.

Community—Brother Orel Edwin and Toby Kibbey. Minute fund, \$10.

PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY NIGHT SESSION

The fifty-second annual session of the Muscle Shoals State Line Free Will Baptist Association met with the Flatwood Free Will Baptist Church at 7 p.m. on Thursday night before the fourth Sunday in September, 1972.

The session opened with the song, "I Am Thine, O Lord." Prayer was offered by the Rev. J. O. Brown Sr. The song, "Living by Faith," followed.

In the absence of the assistant moderator, the Rev. M. A. Stookesberry, the Rev. Ernest Rich was appointed to serve as assistant moderator.

The welcoming address and the devotional service were by the Rev. Ernest Rich. He read for Scripture Matthew 5:1-12.

The evening message was delivered by the moderator, the Rev. Ronald Mashburn. He read Acts 4:31 and Matthew 22:35-40 as scriptural basis for his sermon. This was a wonderful message.

The song, "I Would Not Be Denied," was then sung, followed by an old-fashioned handshake.

Assignment to homes was made by the Rev. Ernest Rich.

The congregation was dismissed by the Rev. Clovis Brewer.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

The association was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by the moderator, the Rev. Ronald Mashburn.

The congregation sang, "I Never Shall Forget the Day," followed with prayer by the Rev. Doyle Wallace.

The moderator read the twelfth chapter of Romans for his Scripture reading. This was followed with the singing of "Heavenly Sunlight."

The rules of order of the association were read by the moderator.

A visiting minister, the Rev. J. B. Harper of the Tennessee River Association, and his wife were invited to sit with the body.

The congregation sang "More About Jesus."

Delegates present from the individual churches were as follows:

Burns' Chapel—Sisters Elsie Berry, Pearl Burns, and Josie Martin. Minute fund, \$10.

Butler's Grove—Brother Bobby Daniel, Sisters Iva Dean Daniel and Betty Butler. Minute fund, \$10.25.

Canaan—Sisters Earlene Ray, Alpha Eckert, and Mamie Crews. Minute fund, \$10.

Collinwood—Brothers Martin Gann, Harvey Brewer, and Sister Nell Gann. Minute fund, \$15.

Columbia—Brother Neil Sanders. Minute fund, \$15.

Community—Brothers Oneal Erwin and Toby Kelley. Minute fund, \$10.

Cross Roads—Brothers Aaron Hooper, Monroe Peppers, and Neal Weavers. Minute fund, \$15.

Cypress Oak Grove—by letter. Minute fund, \$10.

Fellowship—Sisters Blanch Lester, Sandra and Minnie Jane Prince. Minute fund, \$10.

Flatwood—Brothers Horace Peppers, Marvin Daniel, and Lee Berryhill. Minute fund, \$20.

Forty-Eight Bridge—Sister Sara Martin. Minute fund, \$20.

Friendship State Line—Brothers Bobby Cross, Wendell Beverly, and Tommy Cross. Minute fund, \$15.

Gray's Chapel—Sisters Eugene Adams and Exine Dickerson. Minute fund, \$10.

Hickory Flat—Brother Houston Burbank and Sisters Augazell Oliver and Tessie Phillips. Minute fund, \$15.28.

Hohenwald—Sisters Winnie Creekmore and Mamie Keeton. Minute fund, \$7.

Iron City—Brother Beaumont Goobsly and Sisters Evelyn Stookesberry and Marple Chambers. Minute fund, \$10.

Johnson Chapel—retained.

Mill Rock—Brothers Bobby Holt, Joe Horton, and Ollie Holt. Minute fund, \$23.78.

New Community—retained.

Oak Grove No. 2—by letter. Minute fund, \$11.

Rose Hill—Sisters Lucille Huggens, Julia Shrader, and Dorothy Myers. Minute fund, \$10.

Royal Avenue—Sisters Alta Rowden and Doris Rowden. Minute fund, \$10.

Saint Joseph—Brother Mike Hollaway and Sisters Maggie Haygood and Shirley Wilcoxson. Minute fund, \$10.

State Line Grove—Brother Dave Johnston and Sisters Wanda Jones and Betty Joe Mashburn. Minute fund, \$10.

Williams Chapel—Brother Chester Gambrell, Sisters Sandra Butler and Mona Butler. Minute fund, \$15.85.

Petitionary letters were called for, but there were none.

The enrollment of ordained ministers, ordained deacons, and delegates was as follows: ordained ministers, 24; ordained deacons, 19; and delegates, 47.

The State Line Grove church asked for the next association. A motion was made, seconded, and carried that the next association be with the State Line Grove church.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to adjourn the association for the service of preaching and to reassemble at 1 p.m.

The congregation sang "Just Over in the Glory Land." The Rev. Dennis J. Creecy brought a message with Scripture taken from Hebrews 12:14; 1 Corinthians 13:2, Hebrews 9:22, 11:6, 12:8, and John 15. This was followed by a message by the Rev. J. M. Burns on the subject "Preach the Word," with Scripture from 2 Timothy 4:2.

The song, "O How I Love Jesus," was sung by the congregation, followed by an old-fashioned handshake and much rejoicing in the Lord.

The song, "Amazing Grace," was followed by an offering for the Rev. Raymond Kelley who was sick. \$79.35 was received.

The congregation was dismissed for dinner by the Rev. Alvin Stookesberry.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The afternoon session was called to order by the moderator at 1 p.m.

The congregation sang "I'd Rather Be An Old Time Christian." Prayer was offered by the Rev. J. B. Harper, followed by another song, "Glad Reunion Day." Another prayer was then offered by the Rev. Ed Caperton.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

General Business—Rev. Clovis Brewer, chairman; Rev. Willie Daniel; Rev. Ernest Rich; with the moderator and clerk.

Sunday School—Rev. H. C. Killen, chairman; Rev. Alvin Stookesberry and Brother Nola Berry.

Temperance—Brother Aaron Hooper, chairman; Rev. Dennis Creecy and Rev. Carmack Gobbell.

Education—Brother Odell Weemes, chairman; Brother Joel Martin and Rev. James Turnbow.

Finance—Rev. Paul Sanderson, chairman; Brothers W. B. Wilson and Billy Ray Thompson.

Obituary—Lillie Smitherman, chairman; Sisters Elsie Berry and Evelyne Stookesberry.

Miscellaneous—Rev. Paul Storry, chairman; Rev. Fred Creekmore and Brother Monroe Peppers.

Resolution—Rev. J. M. Burns, chairman; Rev. Preston West and Brother Clarence Wisdom.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Lillie Smitherman was reelected as clerk of the association.

The Rev. Carmack Gobbell was elected as the assistant moderator.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to adjourn the association until 9:30 a.m. Saturday for the presbytery to meet.

FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

The night service opened with congregational singing of "O I Want

to See Him." This was followed with prayer by the Rev. Loyd Jones. The congregation then sang "Land Where Living Waters Flow."

The devotional service was conducted by the Rev. Paul C. Story. For Scripture he read Romans 5:1-6. "I'm Going That Way" was then sung.

The Rev. Preston West brought a message based on the Scripture reading 1 John 4:7.

The Rev. Willie Daniels then brought a message that commented on the same Scripture and was entitled, "Beloved, Let Us Love One Another." The song, "I'll Be a Friend to Jesus," was followed by the invitation song, "Just As I Am."

Assignment to homes was by the Rev. Ernest Rich.

The congregation was dismissed by Brother Dewey Griffin.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The association was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by the moderator, the Rev. Ronald Mashburn.

The congregation sang "Tell Me the Story of Jesus," followed with prayer by the Rev. D. A. Lindsey.

In absence of the assistant moderator, the Rev. Alvin Stookesberry, the Rev. Dennis Creecy was appointed to serve as assistant moderator.

The Scripture, Psalm 124, was read by the moderator, followed with prayer by the Rev. Willie Daniels.

The moderator read the constitution.

The roll was called by the clerk with 13 ordained ministers, four ordained deacons, and four delegates present.

REPORTS

The following reports were read, adopted, and committees released:

GENERAL BUSINESS

We, your committee on general business, beg leave to report the following:

1. We recommend that we retain a home mission board and that each church send \$10; however, stronger churches should give according to their ability. This money will be used within the bounds of our association to purchase a tent and this tent will be under the control of the home mission board.

2. We recommend that each take an offering quarterly for the Children's Home, and that the churches located in Alabama support the Children's Home at Eldridge, Alabama, and churches in Tennessee support the Children's Home in Greeneville, Tennessee.

3. We recommend that the moderator preach on Thursday night at the beginning of the association.

4. We recommend that the assistant moderator conduct the devotional service.

5. We recommend that the moderator of all church conferences see that the majority of the members present vote for or against each move that is made or it will be illegal.

Rev. Clovis Brewer, *Chairman*

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We, your committee on Sunday schools, beg leave to report as follows:

We regard the Sunday school as one of the greatest helps to the church as it is the best place to train a child, except in the home. We find the following in God's Word: "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6).

We recommend that each church, with its pastor, strive to teach the Bible in its entirety for the Bible is the waybill for all men. It is the promise of eternal life.

We recommend that the pastors and deacons see that each church has a Sunday school and uses only Free Will Baptist literature.

We urge that parents carry their children to Sunday school and assist in every way possible to help carry on the school. We also recommend that the children stay for preaching services, and that we use only Christian leaders. We urge that our Sunday schools be represented at our Sunday school convention each year. The next convention convenes with Iron City Church.

We urge that the pastors and superintendents see that the teachers are Christians.

Rev. H. C. Killen, *Chairman*

TEMPERANCE

We, your committee on temperance, beg leave to report the following: That we as Free Will Baptists must abstain from all intoxicating drinks and that we must keep ourselves unspotted from the World. "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Proverbs 20:1).

We must be temperate in all things: "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers" (Ephesians 4:29). "Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul" (1 Peter 2:11). "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them" (Ephesians 5:11).

Bro. Aaron Hooper, *Chairman*

EDUCATION

We, your committee on education, beg leave to report the following: We are living in a time when education is being stressed, but we read in the Word of God, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth

to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him" (James 1:5); for God is able to supply all our needs.

One may be able to memorize the whole Bible, yet not be able to get the spiritual meaning. "For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. . . ." (1 Corinthians 3:19).

We need to urge our people to teach their children at home about the Word of God. "And that from a child thou hast known . . . faith which is in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 3:15). We urge the head of each family of our people to set aside ample time during each day to get the family together and read a portion of the Word of God, equivalent to at least one chapter, and have family prayer.

We recommend that the members of the presbytery study the articles of our constitution and teach them to all the members of our churches.

Bro. Odell Weemes, *Chairman*

FINANCE

We, your committee on finances, report as follows:

Money Received for the Minute Fund	\$308.24
Offering	30.00
Balance in Treasury from Last Year	14.53
Total in Treasury	\$352.77

Rev. Paul H. Sanderson, *Chairman*

MISCELLANEOUS

We, your committee on miscellaneous, recommend the following:

1. That all our churches give as much as possible to the support of our evangelist.

2. We recommend that our evangelist work in new fields, organizing churches as well as visiting old churches.

3. We recommend that our evangelist not accept any church as pastor.

4. We recommend that if any of our Sunday school officials or pastors should decide to resign, that they notify the Sunday school or church 30 days ahead of time.

5. We recommend that all Sunday school officials be Christians and study the Bible to show themselves approved unto God, that they be able to rightly divide the word of truth.

6. We recommend that the churches in our association have the Church Covenant printed and posted in the church that all members may know the covenant.

7. We recommend that all churches have the Articles of Faith printed and posted inside the church.

8. We recommend that all our churches call their pastors from our association if possible.

Rev. Paul C. Story, *Chairman*

OBITUARY

We, your committee on obituaries, beg leave to report that God has seen fit to send His death angel to visit our churches and call from our midst the following loved ones:

Butler's Grove—Brother Eugene Butler.

Collinwood—Sister Annie Wallace and Brother Mountie Holt.

Columbia—Brothers Roy Jamison, Lewis Posey, Arthur Paul, and Sister Alice Hunt.

Community—Sister Mary Davis.

Cross Roads—Rev. J. L. Arnold.

Flatwood—Brother Thomas Yates.

Forty-Eight Bridge—Brother Hughey W. Hobbs (deacon).

Friendship State Line—Brothers Gene Wilbourn, E. B. Jackson, and Sister Pauline Jackson.

Iron City—Brothers Carrol Thompson, E. F. Burnett, Porter Goobsley, and Sister Elaine Atwell.

Royal Avenue—Brother Leonard Crowden and Sister Gena Sanderson.

Therefore, we bow in humble submission to His will and exclaim, "... the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD" (Job 1:21); "Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints" (Psalm 116:15).

To the bereaved ones we point you to Christ who alone can give you comfort and fill all the vacancies. We extend our sympathy to you for we feel our loss is heaven's gain.

Lillie Smitherman, *Chairman*

HOME MISSION BOARD

Amount in Treasury July, 1972 \$1,034.48

Rev. Ernest Rich, *Treasurer*

A motion was made, seconded, and carried that the following members of the Home Mission Board be retained: Rev. Ernest Rich, Route 2, Collinwood, Tennessee, treasurer; Rev. J. B. Burns, Route 1, Iron City, Tennessee, and Rev. Eugene Daniel, Route 2, Collinwood, Tennessee.

A motion was also made, seconded, and carried that the Home Mission Board members and the evangelist decide together what to do with the home mission money.

Prayer was offered in behalf of the bereaved ones who had lost their loved ones.

CLERK'S REPORT

Balance in Treasury from Last Year \$ 4.26

Receipts

Received for Minute Fund \$313.94

Offering

30.90

Total Receipts

344.84

Total to Account for

\$349.10

Disbursements

Printing 1,000 Minutes

\$296.22

Paid Clerk

30.00

Postage

8.35

Total Disbursements

334.57

Balance in Treasury

\$ 14.53

Lillie Smitherman, *Clerk*

An offering for the Minute Fund totaled \$30.

RESOLUTIONS

We, your committee on resolutions, beg leave to report as follows:

We, as the entire body, wish to extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the people of Flatwood church and surrounding community for their wonderful Christian fellowship and hospitality shown us during our stay. May God richly bless all of you for everything you have done to make the association a success.

Rev. J. M. Burns, *Chairman*

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION (CONT.)

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to adjourn the association for preaching services. The next association will meet with the State Line Grove church on Thursday night before the fourth Sunday in September, 1973, beginning at 7 p.m.

The congregation sang "Kneel at the Cross," followed with a message by the Rev. James O. Brown. He read for Scripture 1 Corinthians 11:17-34, choosing for his subject "The Lord's Supper." Prayer by the Rev. James Turnbow was then followed with a message by the Rev. Frederick Rowden. He read for his Scripture Psalm 115.

Rev. Ronald Mashburn, *Moderator*

Rev. Alvin Stookesberry, *Assistant Moderator*

Lillie Smitherman, *Clerk*

Proceedings of the Presbytery for 1971-1972

The Presbytery met with the Forty-Eight Bridge church the fifth Saturday night, October 30, 1971, at 8 p.m. The Presbytery was opened with song and prayer, after which the meeting was called to order by the assistant moderator, the Rev. Eugene Daniel, with the following members present: 12 ordained ministers, Revs. W. V. Bailey, James Austin, Wallace Paul, Paul C. Story, Danny McConnell, Charles O. Marable, M. A. Stookesberry, Dick Prince, Willie Daniel, J. A. Ricketts, and Fred A. Creekmore. Two licensed ministers were present, Revs. Dennis Creecy and Carmack Gobbell.

Ten ordained deacons were present: Bros. Odell Weems, Hubert Townsend, Elbert Creecy, Willie Ray Thompson, Nola Berry, Turner Williams, Clarence Wisdom, Andrew Killen, Highey W. Hobbs, and Joel O. Martin Sr.

Unfinished business: Bro. Odell Weems suggested at the association that we appoint an annual standing committee to examine candidates for licensing or ordination, and that churches desiring a candidate to be licensed or ordained notify the committee at least thirty days before the quarterly Presbytery meeting. This recommendation was to be acted upon at the Forty-Eight Bridge Presbytery meeting on October 30, 1971. After ample discussion and on proper motion, which was seconded and then carried unanimously, this recommendation was adopted.

In the absence of the moderator, the Rev. Ronald L. Mashburn, and on proper motion, which was seconded and carried, the assistant moderator, the Rev. Eugene Daniel, was given authority to appoint a three-man committee to be known as the "Examining Committee." The assistant moderator appointed Brother Odell Weems, chairman, and the Rev. James Austin. Then on motion, which was seconded and carried unanimously, the Rev. Eugene Daniel was elected as the third member of the committee.

New business: Hohenwald church recommended that Bro. Finnis Lee Barber, an ordained deacon of another Free Will Baptist Association, be examined and accepted to membership in the Presbytery. Mill Rock church recommended that Bro. Dennis James Creecy be ordained a minister. The Examining Committee consisted of Rev. Fred A. Creekmore, Bro. Carmack Gobbell, and Bro. Turner Williams. After examination, upon being found worthy, Bro. Barber was accepted to membership in the Presbytery and Rev. Creecy was ordained to preach the gospel.

An offering was taken for the Presbytery in the amount of \$21.33.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to adjourn and to meet with Butlers Grove church the fifth Saturday night in January, 1972.

Rev. Ronald L. Mashburn, *Moderator*
Bro. Joel O. Martin Sr., *Clerk*

The Presbytery met with Butlers Grove church the fifth Saturday night,

Ministers	Sermons Preached	Public Prayers	Received in Church	Baptized	Visited Sick Homes and Hospitals	Funerals Preached	Ordained Deacons	Ordained Ministers	Pastored Churches	Held Communion Services	Conducted Prayer Meetings	Attended Sunday School	Held Revivals	Miles Traveled	Money Received	Travel Expenses	Married Couples	Organized Churches	Organized Sunday Schools
Adams, Theodore	1	45			20	2	2	2				45			\$				
Austin, James	65	80			60	3	1	1	1			52	3	2,500	745.00	250.00	2		
Bailey, W. V.	50	162	1		63	1	2	2	1	1	10	40		6,850	619.00		1		
Brewer, Clovis	15	10		3	35	7	3	4						650	40.00	85.00	3		
Brown, James O. Jr.	6							1							5.00				
Burns, J. M. Sr.	5	28			25	1	2	2				41		541	30.00		1		
Caperton, Ed (oral report)																			
Cook, L. O.	25	60		1	75	2	2	2			1	30					1		
Creecy, Dennis J.	6	40			75		3	3		1		45			39.00				
Creekmore, Fred A.	95	93			60	1	2	3	1			45			161.39				
Daniel, Nigle E.	45	50	3	1	15		1	1	1	4		42			1,926.50				
Daniel, Willie	30	35	3	3	20	24	3	4	1	1		22	1	1,500	850.00	75.00	4		
Dixon, J. O.	46	48	5	5	36	2	2		1		36	50	2	2,580	854.04	190.00	1		
Fields, Herman E.	15											52		800			1		
Hollman, Cleve	86	345	4	2	178	1	1	1	1	10		48	2	6,980	216.89	778.00	2		
Jones, Loyd	99		3	4		1	1	1	1	4		46	4	9,000	820.00		4		
Killen, H. C. Sr.	55	65	1	1	70	1	2	2	1	2		48	1	4,000	800.00	500.00	1		
Lindsey, D. A.	132	60	2	2		11	1		2	3	6	52	3		769.00		5		
Malone, M. J.	28	40		2	20	2					16	45					1		1
Marable, Charles O.	98		15	18		3			1	4	52	51		6,000	1,300.00		1		
Mashburn, Ronald L.	55		3			1	3	4	1	4		46	3	5,518	1,717.54		2		
McConnell, Richard	48			3			2	2	1			49		3,460	307.30				
Norred, Theodore	45	79			119	1	2	2	1	1		36	1	2,016	347.00	201.60	2		
Paul, Wallace	128		18	9	515	11	3	2	1	4	36	48	5	18,071	5,800.00		10		
Peppers, Arlo	62	50	10	4	15	8			1	1	4	48	1	4,240	1,350.00	200.00	10		
Prince, Dick (oral report)																			
Rich, Ernest	52	56		8	109	1	3	3	1	1		45	2		720.13				
Ricketts, J. A.	209	767		1	417		3	3		3	171	43		602	3,111.00	220.00			
Roper, T. E. Sr.	32	50			60		1		1	1	6	30	1	1,700	300.00	83.25			
Sanderson, Paul H.	37	73			29	1	2	3	2		5	46			233.65		1		
Stookesherry, M. A.	36	79	1		113		3	3	1			43	2	7,287	659.00				
Storv, Paul C.	36	30	2	2	20	4	3	4	1	1		45	1						
Turnbow, James W.	60	67			94		3	3	1	1		45	1	3,000	810.05				
Wallace, Doyle	82	99	4	2		2	2	2	1	3		50	2		747.00		1		

Churches Reporting	Received by Experience	Received by Letter	Received by Confession	Received by Restoration	Dismissed by Letter	Expelled	Dead	Total Membership	Active Members	Inactive Members	Contributions	No. Deacons	No. Ordained Ministers	No. Licensed Ministers	Value Church Property	Amount Given Pastor	Amount Given Assistant Pastor	Amount Given Evangelist	Amount Given Revival Helper	Amount Given Foreign Missions	Amount Given Home Missions	Amount Given Orphanage	Other Expenses	Meeting Days
Burns' Chapel							1	75	51	24	\$10.00	2	2	1	\$12,000.00	\$ 347.00		\$ 8.00	\$ 75.00			\$ 40.00	\$ 725.43	1st and 3rd Sundays
Butler's Grove							1	76	25	51	10.25	2	2	1	9,000.00	584.78			75.00				650.00	All Sundays
Canaan		1	3					76	25	51	10.00	2	2		20,000.00	788.39		16.00	110.00			20.00	495.54	2nd and 4th Sundays
Collinwood	5	5	4				2	156	80	76	15.00	4	2		25,000.00	1,200.00			200.00			25.00	3,032.88	All Sundays
Columbia			18				4	120	111	9	15.00	5	2		25,000.00	5,800.00			175.00	24.00		35.00	3,078.00	All Sundays
Community			5	5			1	94	46	48	10.00	3	2	1	12,500.00	500.00	666.00		125.00		250.00		768.94	All Sundays
Cross Roads	2		2					62	52	10	15.00	4	3		7,000.00	569.49			100.00				800.52	1st and 3rd Sundays
Cypress Oak Grove			3					77	18	64	10.00	2	1		1,800.00	455.00	70.00		155.00				312.87	All Sundays
Fellowship								73	43	30	10.00	3	2		3,772.91	300.00		10.00	75.00				657.24	2nd and 4th Sundays
Flatwoods		2	1				1	139	87	52	20.00		3	2	35,000.00	1,928.16			33.71	60.00	120.00		6,453.53	All Sundays
Forty-Eight Bridge							1	56	20	36	20.00	4			16,500.00	745.00		20.20	77.32			41.00	842.89	All Sundays
Friendship State Line	13		3	5	7		3	311	166	145	15.00	6	2	1	31,000.00	1,300.00			350.00		100.00		213.00	All Sundays
Gray's Chapel			3		1			93	38	55	10.00	3			15,000.00	725.00		10.00	132.00				3,044.71	All Sundays
Hickory Flat		3						115	50	65	15.28	4			20,000.00	1,853.50		33.00	105.70		20.00		7,623.38	All Sundays
Hohenwald								19	11	8	7.00	1	1		1,500.00	161.39	52.87						51.72	All Sundays
Iron City			2		1		4	102	67	35	10.00	5	3		14,000.00	694.97	115.94		100.00				1,416.45	All Sundays
Johnson City																								
Mill Rock			3		2			189	90	109	23.78	3	3	1	30,000.00	1,355.54		55.68	125.35				5,251.00	All Sundays
New Community																								
Oak Grove No. 2								37	7	30	11.00	1				307.30		10.00	70.00					All Sundays
Rose Hill	1		1					95	45	50	10.00	3	1		5,000.00	569.00		20.00	75.00				138.00	2nd and 4th Sundays
Royal Avenue		3					2				10.00	2	3	1	20,000.00	1,820.00		10.00	80.00			30.00	1,267.66	All Sundays
Saint Joseph		3	4	1				49	34	15	10.00	4	2	4	6,000.00	625.50		10.00	75.00		150.00		3,000.00	All Sundays
State Line Grove	1				1			105	65	40	10.00	3	3		10,000.00	900.00		15.00	125.00				1,939.99	All Sundays
Williams Chapel								68	59	9	15.85	4	2		8,000.00	795.00		18.75	53.37	15.00			170.08	All Sundays

January 29, 1972, at 8 p.m. The Presbytery was opened with the song, "God Can Do Anything But Fail," directed by Bro. Carmack Gobbell, followed with prayer by Rev. Loyd Jones. The Presbytery was then called to order by Rev. Ronald L. Mashburn, moderator, with the following members present: 18 ordained ministers, Revs. Ernest Rich, Eugene Daniel, Willie Daniel, James Austin, J. M. Burns Sr., Ed Caperton, Charles O. Marable, M. J. Malone, J. A. Ricketts, Loyd Jones, M. A. Stookesberry, James Turnbow, W. V. Bailey, Danny McConnell, D. A. Lindsey, Cleve Hollman, and Clovis Brewer. Licensed ministers were Preston West and Carmack Gobbell.

Seven ordained deacons were present: Bros. Willie Ray Thompson, J. D. Butler, Hughey W. Hobbs, Fay Dickerson, Talmage Handback, Calvin Daniel, and Joel O. Martin Sr.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved with no unfinished business.

New Business: Community church recommended Bro. Johnny Davis to the Examining Committee to be examined and if found worthy, to be licensed to preach the gospel. The Examining Committee, Bro. Odell Weems, chairman, Rev. James Austin and Rev. Eugene Daniel, reported to the Presbytery that they found Bro. Davis worthy to be licensed. Much discussion followed on the legality of this committee, because the resolution creating the committee had not lain on the table for one year prior to being acted upon. A motion was made by Rev. D. A. Lindsey, seconded by Rev. Willie Daniel and Rev. Ernest Rich, and carried, that the Presbytery accept the recommendation of the committee and license Bro. Johnny Davis to preach the gospel, and that the moderator call a special meeting at Forty-Eight Bridge church to settle the legality of the Examining Committee and other questionable rules.

Rev. Clovis Brewer stated that when he was ordained he promised to turn in his credentials should he ever become dissatisfied, and he desired to turn them in, but he had only his card as his credentials were damaged in a tornado. On proper motion that was seconded and carried the Presbytery accepted Rev. Clovis Brewer's card.

The moderator set Sunday, February 6, 1972, at 2:30 p.m. for the special called meeting mentioned in these minutes. The clerk was instructed by the moderator to notify all members of the Presbytery of this action and to state on the cards that only ordained ministers and deacons would be admitted to this special called meeting. Brother Johnny Davis was then licensed to preach the gospel and was given a card and certificate.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried instructing the clerk to issue a deacon certificate to Bro. Houston Johnson after Rev. Cleve Hollman brought to the attention of the Presbytery that Bro. Johnson had never been issued a certificate.

An offering was taken for the Presbytery in the amount of \$25.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to adjourn to meet with Iron City church the fifth Saturday night, April 29, 1972.

Rev. Ronald L. Mashburn, Moderator

Bro. Joel O. Martin Sr., Clerk

A special called meeting of the Presbytery met at Forty-Eight Bridge church on Sunday, February 6, 1972, at 2:30 p.m. for the purpose of settling the legality of the appointment of an annual standing Examining Committee, and other questionable rules. The Presbytery was opened with the song, "What About Heaven Someday," followed with altar prayer led by Rev. Willie Daniel. The meeting was then called to order by the moderator, the Rev. Ronald L. Mashburn. He read a portion of Scripture from the New Testament. The roll was then called with the following members present: 20 ordained ministers, Revs. Willie Daniel, D. A. Lindsey, Paul C. Story, Wren Adams, Fred A. Creekmore, Cleve Hollman, James Austin, Eugene Daniel, Ed Caperton, M. J. Malone, J. M. Burns Sr., W. V. Bailey, Theodore Norred, Ernest Rich, J. A. Ricketts, L. O. Cook, Dennis Creecy, James Turnbow, Jessie Speegle, and Ronald L. Mashburn. Seventeen ordained deacons were present: Bros. Odell Weems, Finnis Barber, Howard Perry Sr., Howard Perry Jr., Hubert Townsend, Clarence Belew, D. F. Peppers, Hughey W. Hobbs, Cecil Pigg, Willie Ray Thompson, Carmack Gobbell, Lewis Marks, Roy Butler, Lester Prince, Calvin Daniel, Alfred Butler, and Joel O. Martin Sr.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved as corrected.

Bro. Paul Story read a rule passed at Forty-Eight Bridge church and recorded in the 1969 association minutes, page 17, stating "No moves that would change the Presbytery constitution would be accepted by the Presbytery except at the Association, and that it would be tabled for one year before being acted upon." Bro. Willie Daniel then read the minutes of the Presbytery meeting held at the association and recorded in the 1970 association minutes, page 20, which instructed the clerk to strike out the words, "To be tabled twelve months before being acted upon." Bro. J. M. Burns Sr. then asked Bro. Odell Weems if Article 5 of the Presbytery constitution was struck out when the standing Examining Committee was appointed. Bro. Weems answered, "No, Sir."

A motion was made by Bro. Eugene Daniel, seconded by Bro. Paul Story, and carried to abolish the standing Examining Committee.

Bro. L. O. Cook was then recognized and stated that the Presbytery should be more concerned when electing officers and elect officers capable of doing the job. This comment was made due to the fact that the Presbytery minutes did not show all that took place at the 1970 association. Bro. Cook expressed his disappointment with past actions of the Presbytery and his hopes that the Presbytery would face up to their responsibilities and progress in the future. He stated that he was going back to preaching over radio station WAAN and asked the prayers of the Presbytery.

A motion that we get back to the business at hand was made by Bro.

W. V. Bailey and seconded by Bro. James Austin. The motion carried.

Bro. J. M. Burns Sr. presented the credentials of Rev. Clovis Brewer to the Presbytery and stated that Bro. Brewer asked him to request a letter of recommendation from the Presbytery. A motion was made by Clarence Belew, seconded by Bro. L. O. Cook, and carried that the Presbytery accept the credentials of Bro. Brewer and grant him a letter of dismissal instead of a letter of recommendation.

There was much discussion on a number of other rules, but no action was taken. Bro. D. A. Lindsey was recognized and stated that he personally wished that no more rules be changed or accepted by the Presbytery no matter how good or bad they might be. He made a motion, properly seconded and carried, that we make no more changes in the constitution or pass any new rules except in a closed special called meeting with no one except members of the Presbytery present.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that we adjourn to meet at Iron City church on Saturday, April 29, 1972, at 8 p.m.

D. A. Lindsey, *Moderator Pro Tem*
Joel O. Martin Sr., *Clerk*

The Presbytery met with Iron City church the fifth Saturday, April 29, 1972, at 8:50 p.m. The Presbytery was opened with song, followed with prayer by Rev. Ernest Rich. In the absence of the moderator and assistant moderator, Rev. Ed Caperton, being the oldest minister present, appointed Rev. D. A. Lindsey as moderator pro tem. Bro. Lindsey then called the Presbytery to order with the following members present: 18 ordained ministers, Revs. Ed Caperton, Willie Daniel, J. M. Burns Sr., Ernest Rich, M. J. Malone, Dennis Creecy, James T. Turnbow, J. O. Dixon, Wallace Paul, Paul C. Story, Elzo Clanton, Danny McConnell, M. A. Stookesberry, J. A. Ricketts, T. E. Roper Sr., Cleve Hollman, D. A. Lindsey, and Loyd Jones. Also present were a visiting minister, Glen Bobo of the Tennessee River Association, and a licensed minister, Preston West.

Fourteen ordained deacons were present: Bros. Hardie Beavers, James L. Hamm, Hubert Townsend, Clarence Belew, W. H. Bowers, Howard Perry Jr., Nola Berry, Andrew Killen, Clarence Wisdom, Fay Dickerson, Solon Gray, Turner Williams, Odell Weems, and Joel O. Martin Sr. One visiting deacon, Bro. John Bobo of the Tennessee River Association, was present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved with no unfinished business.

New business: Butlers Grove church recommended that Bro. Leonard Loyd Thompson be ordained deacon, if found worthy. The Examining Committee was Rev. Loyd Jones, Rev. James T. Turnbow, and Bro. James L. Ham. After ample examination, upon being found worthy, Bro. Thompson was ordained deacon.

An offering was taken for the Presbytery in the amount of \$15.02.

Rev. Clovis Brewer requested the return of his credentials and card,

stating that if he had offended anyone he was sorry and asked their forgiveness. A motion was made, seconded, and carried granting Rev. Brewer the return of his credentials, the same to be copied on a new form bearing the names of the original signers.

Bro. Houston Johnson was given an ordination certificate as deacon signed by Rev. D. A. Lindsey as moderator and Rev. Willie Daniel as clerk.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to adjourn to meet at the Sunday school convention at Community church the fifth Saturday night, July 29, 1972.

Rev. Ronald L. Mashburn, *Moderator*
Bro. Joel O. Martin Sr., *Clerk*

A special called meeting of the Presbytery met at Community church on Friday, June 20, 1972, at 7 p.m. for the purpose of appointing a committee concerning Rev. W. V. Bailey. The Presbytery was opened with the song, "Kneel at the Cross," followed with prayer by Rev. D. A. Lindsey.

The moderator, the Rev. Ronald L. Mashburn, called the Presbytery to order with the following members present: 20 ordained ministers, Revs. Willie Daniel, D. A. Lindsey, Ernest Rich, M. A. Stookesberry, James T. Turnbow, Charles O. Marable, J. O. Dixon, Theodore Norred, Loyd Jones, Eugene Daniel, J. B. Burns Sr., Clovis Brewer, Paul C. Story, Dick Prince, Wren Adams, M. J. Malone, L. O. Cook, James Austin, Elzo Clanton, and Ronald L. Mashburn.

Fifteen ordained deacons were present: Bros. J. M. Burns Jr., Nola Berry, Albred Butler, Cecil Pigg, Fay Dickerson, Grady Doyle, Markham Hayes, Elvin Butler, J. L. Reatherford, James L. Hamm, W. H. Bowers, Talmage Handback, Carmack Gobbell, Odell Weems, and Joel O. Martin Sr.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The moderator then read and made a few remarks on Scripture found in the twelfth chapter of Romans beginning with Verse 9.

The moderator asked how the committee was usually appointed and was informed that it was to be appointed by him.

Bro. Willie Daniel was recognized and asked that all present who were willing for the moderator to appoint, please raise their right hand. There were no dissenting votes. Bro. Daniel then read the second article of the constitution of the Presbytery and made a short talk on the subject. The moderator then appointed a committee consisting of Rev. Willie Daniel, chairman, Rev. Ernest Rich, and Bro. Odell Weems.

A few brethren asked the moderator to read the charges and were informed by the moderator that no charges had been made. He explained that the request he received to call this special meeting only asked that a committee be appointed concerning Rev. Bailey. That was all that would be done, unless after the committee gathered the information they should decide that charges should be made. Then they would request another meeting for that purpose. The moderator further stated that if the com-

mittee did not find anything to support charges, the matter would be dropped without another meeting.

There was a motion to adjourn with altar prayer. The motion was seconded and carried. The meeting thus adjourned to meet with Community church on Saturday night, July 29, 1972, at the Sunday school convention.

Rev. Ronald G. Mashburn, *Moderator*
Bro. Joel O. Martin Sr., *Clerk*

The Presbytery met with Community church on Saturday, July 29, 1972, at 8:45 p.m. The meeting was opened with the song, "Love Lifted Me," followed with altar prayer. The moderator, the Rev. Ronald L. Mashburn, called the Presbytery to order with the following members present: 18 ordained ministers, Revs. W. V. Bailey, Loyd Jones, Clovis Brewer, Willie Daniel, L. O. Cook, James T. Turnbow, J. O. Dixon, H. C. Killen, M. A. Stookesberry, Theodore Norred, Cleve Hollman, Charles O. Marable, D. A. Lindsey, Ernest Rich, Danny McConnell, Richard McConnell, Paul H. Sanderson, and Ronald L. Mashburn.

Eight ordained deacons were present: Bros. J. L. Reatherford, Elvin Butler, W. H. Bowers, Cecil Pigg, James L. Hamm, W. S. Benningfield, Odell Weems, and Joel O. Martin Sr.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Unfinished business: Rev. Willie Daniel, chairman of the committee appointed concerning Rev. W. V. Bailey, reported that they had gathered the information they were instructed to gather. They met at Community church and settled the matter by having Bro. Bailey shake hands with everyone and tell them that he was sorry if he had offended them. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to close the matter and to release the committee.

Rev. Theodore Norred was recognized by the moderator and tried to read some charges or a letter of some kind, but was ruled out of order since the body had just voted to close the matter against Bro. Bailey.

New Business: Friendship State Line church recommended Bro. Leo Beckman to be licensed to preach the gospel. After proper examination, upon being found worthy, Brother Beckman was licensed for one year.

An offering was taken for the Presbytery in the amount of \$16.02.

Rev. Eugene Daniel was elected evangelist for the associational year 1972-1973. Rev. L. O. Cook stressed the point that the evangelist should work in new fields, trying to organize new churches and Sunday schools. Rev. Charles O. Marable suggested that we think about electing two evangelists to work together, as he believed much more could be done with two in the field.

The fifth Sunday meeting was voted by the Sunday school convention to go to Gray's Chapel church in October, 1972.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to adjourn to meet with the

association when convened with Flatwoods church on September 22, 23, 1972.

Rev. Ronald L. Mashburn, *Moderator*
Bro. Joel O. Martin Sr., *Clerk*

The Presbytery met with the association when convened with Flatwood church on September 22, 23, 1972. The meeting was opened with song and prayer, and then called to order by the moderator, the Rev. Ronald L. Mashburn. Twenty-one ordained ministers were present: Revs. Ernest Rich, Doyle Wallace, M. J. Malone, J. A. Ricketts, L. O. Cook, James T. Turnbow, Dennis J. Creecy, J. M. Burns Sr., Paul H. Sanderson, H. C. Killen Sr., Willie Daniel, Paul C. Story, Ed Caperton, M. A. Stookesberry, Clovis Brewer, Richard McConnell, W. V. Bailey, Theodore Adams, Fred A. Creekmore, and Wallace Paul. Present also were visiting minister J. B. Harper of the Tennessee River Association and two licensed ministers, Revs. Preston West and Carmack Gobbell.

Sixteen ordained deacons were present: Bros. Willie Ray Thompson, Elbert Creecy, Nola Berry, Bonnie Hardiman, D. F. Peppers, Cecil Pigg, Talmage Handback, Clarence Wisdom, Calvin Daniel, Troy Butler, Howard Perry Sr., John Cross, Fay Dickerson, Everett Griggs, Odell Weems, and Joel O. Martin Sr.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved, with no unfinished business.

New business: Mill Rock church recommended that Bro. Elbert Creecy be licensed to preach, Bro. Carmack Gobbell be ordained a minister, and Bro. Buford Ayers be ordained a deacon. Community church recommended that Bro. Talmage Handback be licensed to preach. Burns Chapel church recommended that Bro. Preston West be ordained a minister. Iron City church recommended that Bro. Beaumont Goobsey be ordained deacon. The Examining Committee was Rev. Doyle Wallace, Rev. J. M. Burns Sr., and Bro. Willie Ray Thompson. After ample examination, they found worthy Bro. Elbert Creecy and Bro. Talmage Handback, who were licensed to preach; Bro. Carmack Gobbell and Bro. Preston West, who were ordained as ministers; and Bro. Beaumont Goobsey and Bro. Buford Ayers, who were ordained as deacons.

Reports of the ministers present were read and adopted and cards were granted. Rev. James O. Brown Jr. and Rev. Doyle Wallace contributed \$2 each to the Presbytery with their reports. Rev. J. M. Burns Sr. was granted a lifetime card. Rev. Ed Caperton, a lifetime card holder, made a wonderful oral report.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried that the Rev. J. A. Ricketts be granted a letter of recommendation to unite with Cumberland Association, and that he turn in his minister's card and be allowed to keep his credentials. A question was raised that this was in violation of Article 9 of the constitution of the Presbytery. The motion and second were withdrawn. Another motion was made, seconded, and carried to grant Bro. Ricketts

a letter of recommendation provided he turn in his credentials. Bro. Ricketts turned in his card and credentials and the letter was granted.

An offering was taken for the Presbytery in the amount of \$25.86.

Rev. Ernest Rich was elected moderator, Rev. Clovis Brewer was elected assistant moderator, Bro. Joel O. Martin Sr. was reelected clerk and Bro. Odell Weems was reelected assistant clerk for the year 1972-73.

The Presbytery was left open until Saturday, September 23. The meeting was then called to order by the moderator, the Rev. Ronald L. Mashburn, with the song, "Footprints of Jesus," followed with prayer by Rev. Frederick Rowden.

Reports of the ministers present were read and adopted and cards were granted. An oral report by Rev. Paul Story on behalf of Rev. Dick Prince was adopted and a card granted Bro. Prince. The following ministers, failing to report, were not granted cards, but their names were retained in the minutes: Revs. David Higgins, Wren Adams, Elso Clanton, Dee Glover Jr., Raymond Kelley, John T. Lewis, Danny McConnell, Johnnie F. Oliver, Floyd Quillen Sr., and Jessie L. Speegle.

Royal Avenue church recommended that Bro. Frederick Rowden be ordained minister. The Examining Committee was Rev. Willie Daniel, Rev. James O. Brown Jr., and Bro. Odell Weems. After ample examination, upon being found worthy, Bro. Rowden was ordained a minister.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to drop Bro. Turner Williams from the Presbytery rolls until he is reunited with some church in our association as a deacon, is presented to the Presbytery by said church for reexamination, and, if found worthy, is accepted for membership.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried that the clerk instruct by letter all licensed ministers that they cannot baptize anyone or perform any marriage until they are ordained. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to meet at Forty-Eight Bridge church in a special called closed meeting on Saturday, October 21, 1972 at 7 p.m. to make necessary changes in the constitution and any new rules deemed necessary.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to adjourn to meet in a special called meeting at Forty-Eight Bridge church on Saturday, October 21, 1972, at 7 p.m. to discuss and to make changes needed in the by-laws and constitution.

Rev. Ronald L. Mashburn, Moderator

Bro. Joel O. Martin Sr., Clerk

Form of Receiving Members in Church

Inasmuch as you present yourself for admission into the church of the Free Will Baptists 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 so solemn it is proper that you publicly confess your faith and avow your purpose by answering the following questions:

1. Q. Did you 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 to become a member of the Free Will Baptists 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 Saviour?

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. Yes, sir.

8. Q. Do you believe in free and open communion? Let a man examine himself according to 1 Corinthians 11:28. Also in washing of the saints' feet, according to St. John 13?

A. I do.

9. Q. Have you been baptized by immersion?

Answer

Church Rules

The following rules were adopted:

1. We agree to meet in conference quarterly or more if necessary to transact the business of the church.
2. The moderator shall be chosen by the suffrage of the church and 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 members to fill their seats in conference and bear their part of the church expenses.
4. No member shall leave his seat during conference without permission from the moderator.
5. No member shall arraign another before the church for any grievance without first taking gospel steps.
6. All business brought before the church by motion and seconded in gospel-like order shall be attended to by the church unless withdrawn by the mover.
7. Any person wishing to speak shall rise 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 speak 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 by immersion, and will not accept any other baptism.
14. That each pastor if possible hold his own conference and that election of pastor be done by ballot.

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 appearances of evil; to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world; from all sanctions 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 obligation 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 ordinance of the gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for support of the church, of its poor, and 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 the gospel. We will, everywhere, hold the Christian principles sacred and Christian obligation 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, and 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 and Saviour 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 any time and he shall rise and address the moderator.
3. No person shall be interrupted by anyone except the moderator until he is through 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 reflection on him who has 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 members 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 reproved by the moderator according to the direction of the association.
12. 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 baptized on a profession 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 that churches of Christ are mutually independent of each other; that a congregation form of church government should be invariably preserved, yet we being convinced of the utility of friendly intercourse and pious council of 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 three delegates chosen by the different churches in our union, who, producing letter 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 excluded and died since the 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 on 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 church, said association shall inquire into the case 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 this 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 letters and delegates, 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 a 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. The duty of the clerk shall be to keep a fair record of 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 same and act upon it.

Article 10. Every motion and seconded 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 in 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 are delegates.

Article 13. This constitution may be amended at any regular session of the association by a two-thirds majority vote of members present, providing the proposed amendment be presented in writing to the body one day in advance.

Article 14. That we receive all members by the right hand of fellowship and that we elect the assistant moderator each year, he automatically becomes the moderator the following year. We are also to elect the clerk each year. The clerk is to be paid \$30.00 for seeing that the minutes are printed.

Article 15. That our association convene on Thursday night before the fourth Sunday in September.

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. The 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, bylaws, and regulations by the majority vote not inconsistent with Baptist principles and usages.

5. When a Church desires the license of a preacher or an ordination of a minister, it requests the presbytery to examine the candidate and if it thinks proper, license or 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 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. Any minister coming under the hands of this presbytery who walks disorderly or commits an offense must come before this body and make restitution or willingly give up such rights of license or ordination papers or card given him by this body or they agree to be published in any or all newspapers as this body deem necessary.

9. Any of our preachers failing to come in person or send a report will not receive a card but their names will be retained in our minutes; also any minister in good standing leaving the presbytery, he is to get a letter of recommendation and turn in his credentials.

10. Any person or persons desiring to bring a charge against another brother demanding a trial or the mind of the presbytery, shall not bring the charge to the association or any regular fifth Sunday meeting; but shall request the Moderator to call a presbytery meeting at the Church where the trouble started. The Moderator shall instruct the Clerk to notify each ordained member of the presbytery of the time and place of such meeting.

11. Any minister desiring license or ordination must be a member of a Free Will Baptist Church in this Association six months before being licensed or ordained, and that they preach under license for 12 months before being ordained. Then if the presbytery finds them worthy, ordain them.

All ministers' reports shall be read before the presbytery and adopted or rejected.

12. The Clerk of the Presbytery shall be paid \$15 for his services and he see to the printing of the fifth Sunday meeting programs.

13. The Churches shall approve their deacons for twelve months before being recommended to be ordained. Also ministers desiring to be licensed or ordained have a written recommendation from the Church of which he is a member before he is licensed or ordained.

14. A lifetime card shall be issued all ministers of the presbytery with thirty (30) years continuous service, or ten (10) years continuous service at the age of sixty (60), or at any age should they become physically disable to carry the gospel. This card to be in force as long as their Christian conduct is in good standing in this presbytery or body.

15. No alteration can be made in this constitution, nor can any new rule or regulation be adopted except in a "CLOSED" special called meeting with only ordained members of this presbytery present.

Free Will Baptist Articles of Faith

1. We believe that there is but one true and eternal God, the Father of whom are all things everlasting to everlasting, glorious and immutable in all His attributes (1 Corinthians 8:6; Isaiah 40:28).

2. We believe that there is one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, the only begotten Son of God, born of 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 the dead (1 Timothy 2:5, 6; St. John 3:16; Revelation 1:17; Acts 24:15; 1 John 2:2).

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; Ephesians 4:4-6; Ephesians 2:1).

4. We believe that 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 moral state subject to death (Genesis 2:17; 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 the truth, that they might be saved, for which end Christ hath commanded the gospel to be preached among all nations and to every creature (Mark 16:15; John 3:15-17; 1 Timothy 2:4).

6. We believe that no man shall suffer in hell for want of a Christ who died for him but as the Scripture has said for denying the Lord that bought them because they believe 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 contradictions that all men at one time or other are found in such capacity as that through the grace of God they may be saved (Acts 17:30; Mark 6:6; Hebrews 3:10; John 5:10).

7. We believe the Scriptures are infallibly true and that they are the only rules of faith and practice (2 Timothy 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 14:16-20; Luke 13:3-5; Luke 24:27; Matthew 28:19, 20; 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 to all human family, so as they all might be happy, would they give place to His divine teachings whereas such who would not receive the 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 the offers of sovereign grace (Matthew 11:27; St. John 6:44-65; Psalm 1:1; Titus 2:11; Jeremiah 22:29).

10. We believe that men, not considered simply as men, but ungodly men, were of old ordained to condemnation, considering such who turn the grace of God is lasciviousness, denying the only Lord God, Jesus Christ who bought them, and therefore, shall bring upon themselves swift destruction but we observe that they might be saved; therefore, the indignation and wrath of God is upon every son of man that doeth evil, living and dying therein for there is no respect of persons with God (Jude 4; 2 Peter 2:1, 2; 2 Thessalonians 2:11, 12; Romans 2:9-11).

11. We believe that all children dying in infancy, having not actually transgressed against the law of God, in their own person are only subject to the first death, which was brought on them by the fall of the first Adam and not that any of them dying in that state suffer punishment in hell by the guilt of Adam's sin, for such is the kingdom of God (1 Corinthians 15:22; Matthew 1:2-5; Mark 9:36, 37; Matthew 14:14).

12. We believe that good works are the fruits of a saving faith and that in the use of the means of grace, and not out of the use of those means eternal life is promised to men (Revelation 22:14, 15; Isaiah 2:19, 20; Matthew 7:8; Jeremiah 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 words, 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 (Romans 4:24; Acts 8:20, 21).

14. We believe that all things are foreseen in the wisdom of God, so that God knoweth whatever can or cannot come to pass upon all supposed conditions, yet not having decreed any person to everlasting life out of respect or more choice, farther than He hath appointed the godly unto life and the ungodly who die in sin unto death (Hebrews 4:13; Proverbs 8:22; Matthew 25:21-24).

15. We believe, as touching gospel ordinances, in believers' baptism, laying on the hands, receiving of the sacrament in bread and wine, washing of the saints' feet, anointing the sick with oil in the name of the Lord, fasting, praying, 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 16:15; Acts 8:17; Acts 19:6; Luke 22:19, 20; John 13:5-17; James 5:14).

16. We believe the gospel mode of water baptism is by immersion, and that believers are the only subjects for baptism (Matthew 3:16; Mark 1:9, 10; Acts 2:38; Romans 6:4; Colossians 2:12).

17. We believe in a general resurrection of the dead and a final judgment at the last day (John 5:28, 29; 2 Corinthians 5:10).

18. We believe the happiness of the righteous is eternal and the torments of the wicked are endless (Matthew 25:46).

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 Baptists when convened with _____ Church.

We send our beloved, to wit: _____

_____ to sit with you in your deliberations and help 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 membership _____, active _____, inactive _____, contribution \$ _____.

We have elected Elder _____ to the pastoral care of our church for the ensuing year. No. of deacons _____, No. of ordained ministers _____, No. of licensed ministers _____, church property \$ _____, amount given pastor \$ _____, amount given assistant pastor \$ _____, amount given revival helper \$ _____, amount given foreign mission \$ _____, amount given home missions \$ _____, amount given orphanage \$ _____, amount given evangelist \$ _____, other expenses \$ _____, deceased members _____

Clerk's address _____

Moderator's address _____

Our meeting days _____, Pastor _____

Clerk _____, Remarks: _____