

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**FIFTY-SEVENTH**  
**ANNUAL SESSION**  
of the  
**Muscle Shoals State Line**  
**Free Will Baptist Association**



met with  
**State Line Grove Church**  
**September 22, 23, 24, 1977**

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## 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 obligations supreme, counting it our chief business in life, to extend the influence of Christ in society constantly praying and toiling that the kingdom of God may come and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, support of missions, 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.

## 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 the minutes.
7. Is there any reference.
8. Report of committees.
9. Unfinished business.
10. New business.
11. Adjourn.

## MINUTES

## OF THE

## FIFTY—SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

## OF THE

## MUSCLE SHOALS STATE LINE

## FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

## MET WITH

## STATE LINE GROVE CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 22, 23, 24, 1977

## OFFICERS

Rev. Preston West  
Rev. Ernest Rich  
Sister Lillie Smitherman  
Rev. Ronald L. Mashburn

Moderator  
Assistant Moderator  
Clerk  
Assistant Clerk

The next session of the Association will convene with Collinwood Church, located in Collinwood, Tennessee, on Thursday night before the fourth Sunday in September, 1978, with Rev. Ernest Rich as Moderator, Rev. Sammy R. Holt as Assistant Moderator, Rev. Charles O. Marable as Clerk, and Rev. Ronald L. Mashburn as Assistant Clerk.

# ORDAINED MINISTERS, ADDRESSES, AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Adams, Theodore	Leoma, TN 38468	615-852-2489
Adams, Wren	121 W. Taylor St., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464	615-762-4862
Austin, James	Rt. 4, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464	615-762-2042
Beckman, Leo	Rt. 1, Box 118, Athens, AL 35611	
Bowers, Jack, Jr.	Rt. 1, Box 131-A, Iron City, TN 38463	615-724-9971
Brewer, Clovis	Rt. 1, Box 268, Iron City, TN 38463	
Brown, J. O. Jr.	105 Graves Dr., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464	615-762-5168
Burns, J. M. Sr.	Rt. 1, Iron City, TN 38463	615-724-9648
Caperton, Ed	Loretto, TN 38469	
Clanton, Elzo	Rt. 5, Florence AL 35630	205-766-9749
Coker, Jerry	Rt. 2, Box 299-A, Killen, AL 35645	205-757-3789
Cook, L. O.	Rt. 1, Iron City, TN 38463	615-724-4754
Creekmore, Fred A.	Rt. 2, Box 21, Hohenwald, TN 38462	615-796-5488
Daniel, Clice	Rt. 3, Box 180, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464	615-762-4067
Daniel, Nigle E.	Rt. 2, Box 21, Collinwood TN 38450	615-724-9333
Daniel, Willie	Rt. 2, Box 20, Collinwood, TN 38450	615-724-4742
Davis, Johnnie R.	Rt. 5, Florence, AL 35630	205-766-8756
Dickey, Harold D.	Rt. 7, Pulaski, TN 38478	615-363-2897
Dixon, J. O.	Rt. 1, Box 190, Collinwood, TN 38450	615-724-4341
Fields, Herman	420-2nd St., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464	
Glover, Dee Jr.	501 W. Grand Ave., Muscle Shoals City, AL	205-381-2321
Glover, Kenneth E.	803 Austin Ave., Sheffield, AL 35660	
Glover, Wm. Earl	809 Austin Ave., Sheffield, AL 35660	205-383-7679
Gobbell, Carmack	Rt. 1, Box 192, Collinwood, TN 38450	615-724-4270
Gulley, Roy	Rt. 3, Huntsville, AL 35804	205-837-7078
Hollander, Willie E.	Rt. 1, Box 135, Collinwood, TN 38450	615-724-9698
Hollman, Cleve	P. O. Box 81, St. Joseph, TN 38481	615-845-4328
Holt, Sammy R.	Rt. 1, Cypress Inn, TN 38452	615-724-9913
Hooper, Aaron	Rt. 2, Box 380, Leoma, TN 38468	615-852-2131
Hovis, Jerry R.	Rt. 3, Toney, AL 35773	205-828-3101
Hunt, Dennis	Rt. 1, Box 402, Florence, AL 35630	
Jones, Loyd	Rt. 2, Loretto, TN 38469	615-853-6636
Kelley, George	Wayne Co. Nursing Home, Waynesboro, TN 38485	
Kelley, Raymond	Rt. 2, Iron City, TN 38463	
Killen, H. C. Sr.	402 W. TN St., Florence, AL 35630	205-764-0777
Lanier, Jesse	Rt. 10, Box 179, Florence, AL 35630	205-764-9265
Lopp, Charles	Rt. 1, West Point, TN 38486	615-762-2062
Malone, M. J.	Rt. 1, Iron City, TN 38463	615-845-4188
Marable, Charles O.	Rt. 2, Box 342-F, Rogersville, AL 35652	
Mashburn, Ronald L.	Rt. 2, Leoma, TN 38468	615-852-2749
McConnell, Danny W.	Napier Dr., Columbia, TN 38401	615-388-8753
McConnell, Richard	Rt. 1, Box 66, Ethridge, TN 38456	
Norred, Theodore	Rt. 5, Box 316, Florence, AL 35630	205-764-4005
Peppers, Arlo	Rt. 1, Box 61, Bankston AL 35542	205-689-4102
Prince, Dick	110 Jackson St., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464	615-762-3517
Prince, Leslie	Rt. 2, Box 157, Iron City, TN 38463	
Quillen, Floyd C. Sr.	Rt. 3, Toney, AL 35773	205-828-3546
Rich, Ernest	Rt. 2, Collinwood, TN 38450	615-724-4516
Ricketts, J. A.	301 Green View Dr., Columbia, TN 38401	615-388-2161
Roberts, Mike	409 Briarwood Dr., Columbia, TN 38401	615-388-8619
Roden, Howard	2609 14th St., Sheffield, AL 35660	205-381-4767

Roper, T. E. Sr.	Rt. 2, Loretto, TN 38469	615-853-6558
Rowden, Frederick S	416 Industry St., Florence, AL 35630	205-767-1447
Sanderson, Paul H.	1313 Sunnyside St., Florence, AL 35630	205-764-6934
Speegle, Jessie	Rt. 4, 114 Colorado, Tuscumbia, AL 35674	205-381-2888
Stooksberry, M. A.	Rt. 1, Box 260, Iron City, TN 38463	615-724-9608
Story, Paul C.	Rt. 3, Leoma, TN 38468	
Strait, Alford C.	Rt. 1, Iron City, TN 38463	
Turnbow, James T.	Rt. 1, Box 247, Collinwood, TN 38450	615-724-9266
West, Preston	Rt. 9, Box 458, Florence AL 35630	205-764-9679
Woods, J. C.	Rt. 4, Florence, AL 35630	

## ORDAINED MINISTERS WITH LIFE TIME CARDS

Brewer, Clovis	Rt. 1, Box 268, Iron City, TN 38463
Burns, J. M. Sr.	Rt. 1, Iron City, TN 38463
Caperton, Ed	Loretto, TN 38469
Cook, L. O.	Rt. 1, Iron City, TN 38463
Creekmore, Fred A.	Rt. 2, Box 21, Hohenwald, TN 38462
Daniel, Clice	Rt. 3, Box 180, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464
Daniel, Willie	Rt. 2, Box 20, Collinwood, TN 38450
Dixon, J. O.	Rt. 1, Box 190, Collinwood, TN 38450
Kelley, George	Wayne Co. Nursing Home, Waynesboro, TN 38485
Killen, H. C. Sr.	402 W. Tenn. St., Florence, AL 35630
Norred, Theodore	Rt. 5, Box 316, Florence, AL 35630
Roper, T. E. Sr.	Rt. 2, Loretto, TN 38469
Sanderson, Paul H.	1313 Sunnyside St., Florence, AL 35630
Story, Paul C.	Rt. 3, Leoma, TN 38468

## LICENSED MINISTERS, ADDRESSES, AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Harper, Michael	Rt. 1, Box 105, Cypress Inn, TN 38452	615-724-4701
Hunt, Charles E.	Rt. 1, Box 188, Florence, AL 35630	205-257-2816
Parrish, Roland	Rt. 4, Box 228-D, Florence, AL 35630	
Riddle, Ralph	Rt. 1, Taft, TN 38488	

## DECEASED MINISTERS NAMES RETAINED

Arnold, J. L.	Cross Roads Church
Arnold, Tom	Union Hill Church
Berryman, Charles	Friendship of Sheffield Church
Boswell, H. M.	Columbia Church
Dillard, J. S.	Alabama City Church
Dotson, J. M.	St. Joseph Church
Fisher, Louis	Royal Avenue Church
Freeman, R. F.	Cardover Church
Garren, William H.	Iron City Church
Lewis, John T.	Friendship State Line Church

Lindsey, Dalton A.  
 Martin, Christopher C.  
 Martin, Thomas H.  
 Mashburn, Roy  
 McGee, Ellie  
 Norred, John  
 Oliver, Johnnie  
 Paul, Wallace  
 Reyer, C. L.  
 Rowden, Ellis P.  
 Royal, L. B.  
 Serrett, D. D.  
 Staggs, Eddie

Royal Avenue Church  
 Forty-Eight Bridge Church  
 Macedonia Church  
 Iron City Church  
 Johnson Chapel Church  
 Cypress Oak Grove Church  
 Royal Avenue Church  
 Columbia Church  
 Friendship State Line Church  
 Royal Avenue Church  
 Royal Avenue Church  
 Flatwoods Church  
 Royal Avenue Church

#### CHURCHES, PASTORS, AND ADDRESSES

Burns' Chapel	Ernest Rich	Rt. 2, Collinwood, TN 38450
Butler's Grove	Jessie Speegle	Rt. 4, 114 Colorado, Tuscumbia, AL 35674
Canaan	Preston West	Rt. 9, Box 458, Florence, AL 35630
Collinwood	Paul C. Story	Rt. 3, Leoma, TN 38468
Columbia	Mike Roberts	409 Briarwood Dr., Columbia, TN 38401
Community	L. J. Vandiver	
Cross Roads	Leo Beckman	Rt. 1, Box 118, Athens, AL 35611
Cypress Oak Grove	James T. Turnbow	Rt. 1, Box 247, Collinwood, TN 38450
Fellowship	Leslie Prince	Rt. 2, Box 157, Iron City, TN 38463
Flatwoods	Jemes Brewer	Rt. 3, Box 107, Waynesboro, TN 38485
Forty-Eight Bridge	Sammy R. Holt	Rt. 1, Cypress Inn, TN 38452
Friendship of Sheffield	Howard Roden	2609 14th Ave., Sheffield, AL 35660
Friendship State Line	Jerry R. Hovis	Rt. 3, Toney, AL 35773
Grays' Chapel	Ronald L. Mashburn	Rt. 2, Leoma, TN 38468
Hickory Flat	Jesse Lanier	Rt. 10, Box 179, Florence AL 35630
Hohenwald	Richard McConnell	Rt. 1, Box 66, Ethridge, TN 38456
Iron City	M. A. Stooksberry	Rt. 1, Box 260, Iron City, TN 38463
Johnson Chapel	M. J. Malone	Rt. 1, Iron City, TN 38463
Mill Rock	Jerry Coker	Rt. 2, Box 299-A, Killen, AL 35645
New Community	Kenneth E. Glover	803 Austin Ave., Sheffield, AL 35660
Oak Grove No. 2	Carmack Gobbell	Rt. 1, Box 192, Collinwood, TN 38450
Rose Hill	Willie E. Hollander	Rt. 1, Box 135, Collinwood, TN 38450
Royal Avenue	Johnnie R. Davis	Rt. 5, Box 183, Florence, AL 35630
St. Joseph	Dennis Hunt	Rt. 1, Box 402, Florence, AL 35630
State Line Grove	Charles Marable	Rt. 2, Box 342-F, Rogersville, AL 35652
Williams Chapel	Loyd Jones	Rt. 2, Loretto, TN 38469

#### CHURCHES, CLERKS, AND ADDRESSES

Burns' Chapel	Maye Brewer	Rt. 1, Box 282, Iron City, TN 38463
Butler Grove	Bobby Ray Daniel	Rt. 2, Box 199, Collinwood, TN 38450
Canaan	Elaine McDonald	Rt. 6, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464
Collinwood	Iva Jear. Berry	P. O. Box 65, Collinwood, TN 38450
Columbia	James Parr	218 Davis Ave., Columbia, TN 38401

Community  
 Cross Roads  
 Cypress Oak Grove  
 Fellowship  
 Flatwoods  
 Forty-Eight Bridge  
 Friendship of Sheffield  
 Friendship State Line  
 Grays' Chapel  
 Hickory Flat  
 Hohenwald  
 Iron City  
 Johnson Chapel  
 Mill Rock  
 New Community  
 Oak Grove No. 2  
 Rose Hill  
 Royal Avenue  
 St. Joseph  
 State Line Grove  
 Williams Chapel

Donna Butler  
 Joe Mattox  
 Roy C. Butler  
 Blanche Lester  
 Dewey Griffin  
 Reba Pierce  
 Mrs. Shannon Liles  
 Merle Cross  
 Lela Mae Curbow  
 Lillie Smitherman  
 Lois McClain  
 Virgie Lumpkins  
 Janice Balentine  
 Yvonne Dixon  
 Sandra Sue Burns  
 Lora Lopp  
 Dorothy Myers  
 Willie T. Weems  
 Nadine Adams  
 Andrew Killen  
 Patsy Russ

Rt. 1, Box 80, Iron City, TN 38463  
 P. O. Box 381, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464  
 Rt. 1, Box 175, Iron City, TN 38463  
 Rt. 2, Box 146, Iron City, TN 38463  
 317 Second St., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464  
 Rt. 4, Box 272-B, Waynesboro, TN 38485  
 1215 E. Limestone St., Florence AL 35630  
 Rt. 1, Box 394, Taft, TN 38488  
 Rt. 3, Box 266, Killen, AL 35645  
 Rt. 1, Box 442, Killen AL 35645  
 Rt. 2, Hohenwald, TN 38462 (Retained)  
 Rt. 2, Box A-1, Iron City, TN 38463  
 Rt. 1, Box 35, Lutts, TN 38471  
 Rt. 1, Box 190, Collinwood, TN 38450  
 Rt. 2, Florence, AL 35630  
 Rt. 1, Box 94-A, West Point, TN 38486  
 Rt. 7, Box 286, Pulaski, TN 38478  
 2009 St. Peter St., Florence, AL 35630  
 Leoma, TN 38468  
 Rt. 2, Lexington AL 35648  
 Rt. 2, Iron City, TN 38463

#### CHURCHES, DEACONS, ADDRESSES, AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

##### Burns' Chapel

Nola Berry	Rt. 1, Cypress Inn, TN 38452	615-724-9675
J. M. Burns Jr.	Rt. 1, Iron City, TN 38463	615-724-9695
Gene Cook	Collinwood, TN 38450	615-724-9538
Danny Roberson	Rt. 1, Box 250, Iron City, TN 38463	615-724-9489

##### Butler's Grove

Leonard Thompson	Iron City, TN 38463	615-724-9804
Willie Ray Thompson	Rt. 2, Box 223, Iron City, TN 38463	615-724-9693

##### Canaan

Joe Eckert	Rt. 4, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464	615-762-9878
Garnett Kelley	Rt. 4, Waynesboro, TN 38485	
Floyd Ray	Rt. 6, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464	615-762-6484

##### Collinwood

Haggard Andrews	Rt. 2, Box 201, Iron City, TN 38463	615-724-9370
Floyd Bryant	Collinwood TN 38450	615-724-4734
Martin Gann	P. O. Box 144, Collinwood, TN 38450	615-724-4383
W. C. Smith	Collinwood, TN 38450	615-724-4732
Jay Wright	P. O. Box 36, Collinwood, TN 38450	615-724-4797

##### Columbia

Howard Jones	322 E. Highland Dr., Columbia, TN 38401	615-388-7896
Paul Douglas	304 Pleasant Dr., Columbia, TN 38401	615-388-2995
Donald Paul	101 Pleasant Dr., Columbia, TN 38401	615-388-5445
Elton Potts	200 E. 15th St., Columbia, TN 38401	

Frank Whitehead	1717 Hill View Hts., Columbia, TN 38401	615-388-0377
James Yant	324 E. Highland Dr., Columbia, TN 38401	

#### Community

Elvin Butler	Rt. 3, Iron City, TN 38463
J. L. Reatherford	Rt. 9, Box 455, Florence, AL 35630

#### Cross Roads

Clarence Belew	Rt. 1, Box 111, Loretto, TN 38469	615-852-2282
Bonnie Hardiman	Rt. 3, Leoma, TN 38468	615-852-2819
Alfred L. Mashburn	Rt. 2, Leoma, TN 38468	615-852-2819
D. F. Peppers	Rt. 3, Leoma, TN 38468	615-852-2221
Hubert Townsend	Rt. 5, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464	615-762-2898

#### Cypress Oak Grove

Lewis Marks	Rt. 3, Florence, AL 35630	
Roy C. Butler	Rt. 1, Box 76, Iron City, TN 38463	615-724-9762
Warren Strait	Rt. 1, Box 151, Iron City, TN 38463	615-724-9023

#### Fellowship

Frank Kelley	Rt. 2, Iron City, TN 38463	615-724-9260
Gene Kelley	Rt. 2, Iron City, TN 38463	615-724-9179

#### Flatwoods

Odell Weems	Rt. 1, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464	615-762-2735
Mitchell Daniel	Rt. 3, Box 181, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464	615-762-5404
Everett Griggs	306 May St., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464	615-762-2150

#### Forty-Eight Bridge

Elmer Hubbard	111 Vine St., Hohenwald, TN 38462	
Joel O. Martin, Sr.	Rt. 4, Box 169, Waynesboro, TN 38485	615-722-3565

#### Friendship of Sheffield

James Paul Liles	1215 E. Limestone St., Florence, AL 35630
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#### Friendship State Line

Troy Butler	Toney, AL 35773
John Cross	Rt. 1, Box 394, Taft, TN 38488
Garland Hale	Rt. 2, Ardmore, TN 38449
Delmer Ray Jones	3109 Dyas Dr., Huntsville, AL 35801
Albert Malone	Rt. 1, Hazel Green, AL 35750
Carlton Poole	Rt. 1, Taft, TN 38488
Cecil Pigg	Rt. 3, Box 127, Toney, AL 35773

#### Gray's Chapel

Bill Curbow	Rt. 3, Box 266, Killen, AL 35645	
James L. Hamm	Rt. 1, Florence, AL	205-757-2826
Charles E. Hunt	Rt. 1, Box 188, Florence, AL 35630	205-757-2816

#### Hickory Flat

Almon Gray	Rt. 3, Lexington, AL 35648
Jesse Gray	Rt. 1, Rogersville, AL 35652
Solon Gray	Rt. 3, Lexington, AL 35648

#### Hohenwald

Finis Barber	Rt. 1, Summertown, TN 38483
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#### Iron City

Walter Daniel	Rt. 2, Iron City, TN 38463	
Beaumont Goolsby	Rt. 2, Iron City, TN 38463	
Houston Johnston	Rt. 1, St. Joseph, TN 38481	615-845-4261
Howard Perry, Sr.	Iron City, TN 38463	615-845-4383

#### Johnson Chapel

Edwin E. Balentine	Rt. 1, Box 35, Lutts, TN 38471	615-724-9481
Johnny Johnson	Rt. 1, Box 36, Lutts, TN 38471	615-724-9570

#### Mill Rock

Buford Ayers	Rt. 1, Collinwood, TN 38450	615-724-9530
Joe Butler	P. O. Box 94, Collinwood, TN 38450	615-724-4524
Harlon Ray Daniel	Rt. 1, Collinwood, TN 38450	
James C. Daniel	Rt. 1, Collinwood, TN 38450	615-724-9659
Billy Holt	Rt. 1, Cypress Inn, TN 38452	615-724-4794
Ollie Holt	Rt. 2, Iron City, TN 38463	615-724-9358

#### New Community

George Fowlkes	Rt. 2, Florence, AL 35630
Leonard Fowlkes	Rt. 2, Florence, AL 35630
Roland Parrish	Rt. 4, Box 228-D, Florence, AL 35630

#### Oak Grove No. 2

Mitchell Lopp	Rt. 1, West Point, TN 38486
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#### Rose Hill

Billy Beets	Rt. 7, Box 290-A, Pulaski, TN 38478	615-363-1035
Milas Myers	Rt. 7, Box 286, Pulaski, TN 38478	615-363-3913

#### Royal Avenue

Grady Doyle	213 N. Richard St., Florence, AL 35630	
W. S. Benefield	Rt. 10, Box 72, Florence, AL 35630	205-764-5880
Markham Hayes	39 Auburn St., Florence, AL 35630	

#### St. Joseph

Henry Hollman	Rt. 1, Loretto, TN 38469	615-853-6161
Doyce Springer	Rt. 1, St. Joseph, TN 38481	615-845-4648
W. B. Wilson	St. Joseph, TN 38481	615-845-4595

#### State Line Grove

Elvin C. Garrison	Rt. 1, Lexington, AL 35648	
Andrew Killen	Rt. 2, Lexington, AL 35648	
Theo Mashburn	Rt. 2, Lexington, AL 35648	
Clarence Wisdom	Loretto, TN 38469	615-853-4952

#### Williams Chapel

Alfred Butler	Rt. 2, Iron City, TN 38463	615-724-9791
J. D. Butler	Rt. 2, Iron City, TN 38463	615-724-9461
Russell Gambrell	Rt. 2, Box 189, Iron City, TN 38463	615-724-9298

Dell Moore  
Willie J. Moore

Rt. 2, Iron City, TN 38463  
Rt. 2, Box 166, Iron City, TN 38463

615-724-9381  
615-724-9334

#### THURSDAY NIGHT SESSION

The fifty-seventh annual session of the Muscle Shoals State Line Free Will Baptist Association met with State Line Grove Church at 7:00 p.m. Thursday night before the fourth Sunday in September, 1977.

The session opened with song, "I Feel Like Traveling On", prayer by Rev. James Austin, welcome address by Pastor, Rev. Charles Marable. Song, "Are You Washed In The Blood". Rev. J. A. Ricketts of the Cumberland Association was our guest.

The devotional service was conducted by the Assistant Moderator, Rev. Ernest Rich, scripture used, Acts, chapter 8. Many wonderful testimonies were given, Alter prayer was rendered in behalf of many who were sick.

The evening message was delivered by the Moderator, Rev. Preston West, scripture used, Job 14:1, a wonderful message. Song, "When We All Get To Heaven", with an old time hand shake. Assignments to homes by the Pastor, Rev. Charles Marable and dismissed by Rev. Paul C. Story.

#### FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

The Association was called to order at 9:30 a.m., by the Moderator Rev. Preston West. The congregation sang, "That Heavenly Home", followed with prayer by Rev. Aaron Hooper. The moderator read Romans, chapter 8, beginning with verse 5, and read rules of order of the Association. Followed with reading and receiving Church letters and seating the delegates as follows:

BURNS' CHAPEL - Sisters Elsie Berry, Pearl Burns, and Earlene Rich. Minute Fund \$31.00.

BUTLER'S GROVE - Bros. Clifford Daniel, Bobby Ray Daniel, and Sister Elmer Daniel. Minute Fund \$15.00.

CANAAN - Sisters Sue Crews, Dean Kelley, and Lucille Ray. Minute Fund \$20.00.

COLLINWOOD - Bro. Elmer Daniel, Sisters Pauline Daniel, and Elsie Berry. Minute Fund \$25.00.

COLUMBIA - By letter. Minute Fund \$15.00.

COMMUNITY - Sisters Freida Weaver, Ruth Butler, and Eunice Creasy. Minute Fund \$20.00.

CROSS ROADS - Bros. Monroe Peppers, Joe Mattox, and Sister Milly Hooper. Minute Fund \$20.64.

CYPRESS OAK GROVE - Sisters Molly Davis, Emma Nola Carr, and Shelby Butler. Minute Fund \$15.00.

FELLOWSHIP - Bro. A. C. Kelley, Sisters Viola Kelley and Lois Kelley. Minute Fund \$15.00.

FLATWOODS - Bros. Edd Stutts, Joe Olive, an Lee Berryhill. Minute Fund \$50.00.

FORTY-EIGHT BRIDGE - Sister Sarah E. Martin and Sister Birdie Lee Hobbs. Minute Fund \$40.00.

FRIENDSHIP OF SHEFFIELD - Bro. Oliver Berry, Sisters Judy Glover and Shannon Liles. Minute Fund \$20.00.

FRIENDSHIP STATE LINE - Sisters Linda Hovis, Ellie Poole, and Linda Lincoln. Minute Fund \$25.00.

GRAY'S CHAPEL - Bros. Fay Dickerson, Vernon Pruett, and Leo Hunt. Minute Fund \$35.00.

HICKORY FLAT - Bro. Houston Burbank, Sisters Etta Gray, and Leona Gray. Minute Fund \$25.00.

HOHENWALD - Retained.

IRON CITY - Sisters Paul Story, Virgie Lumpkins, and Marple Chambers. Minute Fund \$20.00.

JOHNSON CHAPEL - Bro. and Sister Jerry Jenkins and Sister Bettye Johnson. Minute Fund \$10.00.

MILL ROCK - Bros. Bobby Holt, Theda Stooksberry, and Roger Balentine. Minute Fund \$75.00.

NEW COMMUNITY - Sisters Pauline and Lorene Fowlkes. Minute Fund \$15.00.

OAK GROVE NO. 2 - Sisters Irene and Vera Lopp. Minute Fund \$15.00.

ROSE HILL - Sisters Dorothy Myers, Hattie and Nancy McConnell. Minute Fund \$20.00.

ROYAL AVENUE - Sisters Annie Staggs and Rachael Hammock. Minute Fund \$20.00.

ST. JOSEPH - Sisters Dorothy Holloway, Eunice Dotson, and Nadine Adams. Minute Fund \$25.00.

STATE LINE GROVE - Bros. Dave Johnson, Bud Vandiver, and Dalton Springer. Minute Fund \$25.00.

WILLIAMS CHAPEL - Sisters Joyce Moore, Mona Butler, and Lucy Gambrell. Minute Fund \$15.00.

Called for petitionary letters, there were none. The enrollment of ordained ministers, ordained deacons, and delegates was as follows: 26 Ordained Ministers, 31 Ordained Deacons, and 68 Delegates. Visiting Ministers were Rev. J. A. Ricketts from the Cumberland Free Will Baptist Association and Rev. L. J. Vandiver from Lakeland, Florida. The following Churches ask for the next Association: Cross Roads, Gray's Chapel, and Collinwood. The Collinwood Church received the majority vote.

Motion, seconded, and carried that each Church in the Association send one donation in the amount of \$10.00, and stronger Churches make larger contributions, to Rev. Gene Daniel the Evangelist. The purpose of this money is for travel expenses of the Evangelist and the Assistant Evangelist to make three or four trips each to the Hohenwald Church, to try and revive it and get it back active. The money to be divided equally between Bro. Gene Daniel and Bro. Charles Lopp.

Motion, seconded, and carried that \$200.00 be taken out of the Home Mission Board treasury and give to Johnson Chapel Church to help them build their Sunday School rooms.

Motion, seconded, and carried to adjourn the Association for preaching services, to meet back at 1:00 p.m.

The congregation sang, "When All God's Singers Get Home", preaching by Rev. Paul C. Story, his scriptures were 1st Peter 4:17 and Titus 2:11, followed by Rev. Danny W. McConnell, scripture, Galatians 5:22. Both messages were wonderful and enjoyed very much. The congregation sang, "Just As I Am", with altar call.

The congregation sang, "I'll Meet You In The Morning", with an old time hand shake, many rejoicing in the Lord. Dismissed for dinner by Rev. L. J. Vandiver.

#### FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The session was called to order by Moderator, Rev. Preston West at 1:00 p.m. Song, "I'll Fly Away", followed with prayer by Rev. Loyd Jones.

#### APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

GENERAL BUSINESS - Rev. Charles Marable, Chairman, Rev. Danny McConnell, Bro. Hubert Townsend, with the Moderator and Clerk.

SUNDAY SCHOOL - Rev. Jack Bowers Jr., Chairman, Rev. Sammy R. Holt, and Rev. Loyd Jones.

TEMPERANCE - Rev. Charles Lopp, Chairman, Rev. Ernest Rich, and Rev. Richard McConnell.

EDUCATION - Bro. Charles E. Hunt, Chairman, Bro. Odell Weems, and Rev. Paul H. Sanderson.

FINANCE - Bro. Buford Ayers, Chairman, Rev. Paul C. Story, and Bro. Willie Ray Thompson.

OBITUARY - Sister Elsie Berry, Chairman, Sister Earlene Rich, and Sister Lillie Smitherman.

MISCELLANEOUS - Bro. Nola Berry, Chairman, Bro. Joe Butler, and Bro. Joe Mattox.

RESOLUTIONS - Bro. Solon Gray, Chairman, Rev. J. M. Burns Sr., and Bro. Bill Curbow.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Rev. Sammy R. Holt was elected Assistant Moderator, Rev. Charles O. Marable was elected Clerk, and Rev. Ronald L. Mashburn was re-elected Assistant Clerk. Motion, seconded, and carried to adjourn the Association for the Presbytery to meet.

#### FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

The session was opened with singing, "Try Jesus", followed with prayer by Rev. L. J. Vandiver. Devotional service conducted by Rev. Johnnie R. Davis. Many wonderful testimonies were given.

Preaching by Rev. Jerry Coker, scriptures, Luke 22nd. chapter, 52nd. and 53rd. verses, text, "This Is Your Hour", Exodus 20th. chapter and 1st Kings 18th. chapter. This was a great message. Song, "Jesus Wept", with an altar call. Assignment to homes by the Pastor, Rev. Charles Marable and dismissed by Rev. Sammy Holt.

#### SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The Association was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by the Moderator, Preston West. The congregation sang, "What A Friend We Have In Jesus", prayer by Bro. Buford Ayers. Welcome address by the Pastor, Rev. Charles Marable, one verse of scripture, Hebrews 10:25. The Moderator read 1st Corinthians 13:13, and the roll was called with 20 ministers, 12 deacons, and 7 delegates present.

#### REPORTS

The following committee reports were read, adopted, and committees released.

#### GENERAL BUSINESS

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

1. We recommend that we retain a home mission board and that each Church send \$10.00; however, stronger Churches give according to their ability. The money to be used within the bounds of our Association to help organize and to build new Churches in areas where there is no Free Will Baptist Church.
2. We recommend that each Church take an offering quarterly for the Children's Home. Churches located in Alabama support the Home at Eldridge, Alabama, and Churches in Tennessee support the Home at Greeneville, Tennessee.
3. We recommend that the Moderator preach Thursday night at the beginning of the Association and the Assistant Moderator conduct the devotional service.
4. We recommend that the Moderator of conferences in our Churches see that the majority of the members present vote for or against each move, or it will be illegal.

#### 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 Mill Rock Church, July 30, 1978.

Rev. Jack Bowers Jr., Chairman

## TEMPERANCE

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

That we as Free Will Baptist 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" (Prov. 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" (Eph. 4:29). "Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul" (I Peter 2:11). "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them" (Eph. 5:11).

Rev. Charles Lopp, Chairman

## EDUCATION

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

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 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 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..." (I Corinthians 3:19).

We 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" (II 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 the members of our Churches.

Bro. Charles E. Hunt, Chairman

## FINANCE

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

Balance in Treasury from 1976	\$162.00
Money received for Minute Fund	\$596.64
Total in Treasury September 24, 1977	\$758.64

Bro. Buford Ayers, Chairman

## MISCELLANEOUS

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

1. That all our Churches give as much as possible to the support of our Evangelist.

2. We recommend that our Evangelist and Assistant Evangelist work in new fields, organizing Churches as well as visiting old Churches.
3. We recommend that our Evangelist and Assistant Evangelist not accept any Church as Pastor, and fill in no longer than 30 days while a new Pastor is called.
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 our Churches have the Articles of Faith printed and posted inside the Church.
8. We recommend that all our Churches call their Pastor from our Association if possible.
9. We recommend that each Church Pastor and its Deacons encourage their Church to contribute more generously to the Minute Fund.

Bro. Nola Berry, 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 Leo Jackson

CANAAN - Sister Mable Gobble

COLLINWOOD - Sisters Nancy Pulley, Lydia Cummins, and Lillian Brewer

COLUMBIA - Brother Sam Potts

COMMUNITY - Brother Dock Vickory

FELLOWSHIP - Sister Alice Butler

FLATWOODS - Sister Janice Thompson

FRIENDSHIP STATE LINE - Sister Annie Lewis and Bro. Ernest Brooks

GRAY'S CHAPEL - Brother Braxton Dickerson (Deacon)

HICKORY FLAT - Sister Mattie Black

IRON CITY - Bros. Elmer Brewer and W. B. Lumpkins (Deacon)

ROYAL AVENUE - Rev. D. A. Lindsey, Rev. Johnnie Oliver, and Brother Ishmal Thompson (Deacon), and Sister Alta Sanderson

WILLIAMS CHAPEL - Sister Cora Mae Gambrell

Therefore, we bow in humble submission to His will and exclaim, "The Lord giveth, and the Lord taketh away; blessed be the name of the Lord" (Job 1:21). "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints" (Psalms 116:15).

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

Sister Elsie Berry, Chairman

Everyone was invited to the Altar and prayer was offered in behalf of the bereaved ones who had lost loved ones during the past year.

Ministers Report

	Sermons Preached	Public Prayers	Received In Church	Baptized	Visited Sick Homes & Hospital	Funerals Preached	Ordained Deacons	Ordained Ministers	Pastored Churches	Held Communion Service	Conducted Prayer Meetings	Attended Sunday School	Held Revivals	Miles Traveled	Money Received	Travel Expenses	Married Couples
X Adams, Theodore	0	30	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	47	0	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	1
X Adams, Wren	7	30	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	0	0	\$ 50.30	\$ 0	0
X Austin, James	6	25	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	150	\$ 0	\$ 0	2
X Beckman, Lee	98	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	1	2	50	51	0	10,048	\$1,725.00	\$ 0	2
X Bowers, Jack Jr.	64	88	0	0	13	0	0	3	1	2	0	41	3	9,306	\$ 742.57	\$ 568.40	0
X Brewer, Clovis	15	25	0	0	40	5	0	3	0	1	0	45	0	300	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	2
X Brown, J. O. Jr.	23	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	43	31	0	0	\$ 45.00	\$ 0	0
X Burns, J. M. Sr.	8	34	0	0	24	1	2	1	0	0	0	39	0	659	\$ 73.00	\$ 0	0
X Clanton, Elze	35	50	0	2	7	2	3	3	1	3	2	45	0	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	0
X Coker, Jerry	80	69	8	7	68	1	5	6	1	3	1	45	7	10,623	\$4,631.90	\$1,346.00	0
X Creekmore, Fred A.	30	59	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	28	0	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	0
X Daniel, Cllice	30	34	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	22	1	1,580	\$ 598.27	\$ 245.00	0
X Daniel, Nigle E.	30	0	0	0	60	2	0	3	0	0	0	42	0	0	\$ 650.00	\$ 0	0
X Daniel, Willie	10	25	0	0	10	4	5	0	0	0	0	40	0	0	\$ 250.00	\$ 0	0
X Davis, Johnnie R.	85	55	6	2	75	3	2	3	1	3	15	36	3	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	1
X Dixon, J. O.	5	143	0	0	63	1	0	0	0	0	0	43	0	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	0
X Glover, Kenneth Earl	75	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	50	0	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	0
X Gobbell, Carmack	43	43	0	0	26	1	5	3	1	1	0	43	0	2,122	\$1,655.00	\$ 350.00	1
X Hollander, Willie E.	26	46	0	5	17	0	5	3	0	1	0	49	0	0	\$ 189.00	\$ 0	1
X Hollman, Cleve	78	382	3	4	247	0	5	6	1	4	0	40	1	11,674	\$ 432.00	\$ 712.00	0
X Holt, Sammy R.	29	60	0	0	16	0	0	2	0	1	0	48	0	4,700	\$ 400.55	\$ 465.00	0
X Hooper, Aaron	58	82	0	0	84	0	0	3	0	1	2	50	0	0	\$ 10.00	\$ 0	1
X Hovis, Jerry R.	164	0	4	3	0	3	5	3	1	4	6	52	4	0	\$2,850.00	\$ 0	1
X Hunt, Dennis	68	98	0	0	38	0	5	6	1	4	0	47	0	2,140	\$1,563.00	\$ 560.00	1
X Jones, Loyd	60	32	9	8	14	1	5	6	1	1	1	49	3	0	\$1,391.35	\$ 0	3
X Kelley, Raymond	3	28	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	0
X Killen, H. C. Sr.	20	40	1	1	25	2	0	3	1	0	0	20	1	1,000	\$ 250.00	\$ 300.00	0

X Lanier, Jesse	84	45	0	0	55	1	2	0	1	4	5	50	1	2,500	\$1,156.00	\$ 950.00	3
X Lopp, Charles	58	85	2	2	63	1	5	6	1	2	2	47	0	4,250	\$ 939.58	\$ 175.00	0
X Malone, M. J.	57	28	8	11	21	0	0	0	1	2	24	50	2	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	0
X Marable, Charles O.	103	238	6	5	204	2	5	6	1	4	52	50	4	16,371	\$1,617.00	\$ 0	0
X Mashburn, Ronald L.	119	138	8	1	0	0	5	6	1	4	0	48	8	7,246	\$3,388.07	\$1,449.20	3
X McConnell, Danny W.	175	0	13	5	0	2	3	3	1	4	49	52	1	0	\$ 160.00	\$ 0	1
X McConnell, Richard	15	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	0	0	\$ 10.00	\$ 0	0
X Norred, Theodore	24	0	0	0	107	1	5	6	0	0	0	0	1	0	\$ 188.20	\$ 0	1
X Peppers, Arlo	17	40	0	0	50	2	0	2	1	1	4	48	2	683	\$ 537.50	\$ 75.00	0
X Prince, Dick	15	50	0	0	75	0	2	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	\$ 20.00	\$ 0	0
X Prince, Leslie	43	68	0	3	65	2	5	3	2	2	2	40	2	1,826	\$ 486.25	\$ 112.00	0
X Quillen, Floyd C. Sr.	3	35	0	0	62	1	2	0	0	0	1	47	0	1,087	\$ 0	\$ 96.00	0
X Rich, Ernest	61	48	3	3	102	4	5	6	1	1	0	47	3	0	\$1,806.25	\$ 0	3
X Roberts, Mike	90	50	29	21	150	8	2	3	1	4	52	52	4	4,680	\$2,300.00	\$ 300.00	9
X Roden, Howard	60	70	0	0	65	0	0	0	0	0	12	11	0	1,200	\$ 27.00	\$ 180.00	0
X Roper, T. E. Sr.	0	6	0	0	8	0	0	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	0
X Rowden, Frederick S.	57	78	0	6	35	1	0	0	1	1	0	50	0	0	\$1,092.00	\$ 0	0
X Sanderson, Paul H.	56	132	0	0	202	1	2	3	1	1	2	46	1	0	\$1,235.00	\$ 0	1
X Speegle, Jessie L.	74	122	3	3	61	1	0	0	1	2	36	44	0	5,025	\$1,227.89	\$ 753.75	0
X Stooksberry, M. A.	48	96	8	7	65	0	5	6	1	1	0	46	1	6,141	\$1,342.52	\$ 0	1
X Story, Paul C.	50	100	3	2	150	3	2	3	1	1	0	50	1	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	1
X Strait, Alford C.	15	16	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	1	52	0	600	\$ 47.00	\$ 48.00	0
X Turnbow, James T.	74	120	0	5	74	0	5	3	1	4	0	45	2	6,000	\$ 415.59	\$ 0	0
X West, Preston	75	110	4	2	98	3	3	6	1	3	0	46	3	11,353	\$2,361.78	\$1,100.50	0
X Harper, Mike (Lic. Mn.)	3	10	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	400	\$ 12.00	\$ 50.00	0
X Hunt, Charles E. (Lic. Mn.)	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	52	0	312	\$ 22.00	\$ 0	0

Churches Reporting	Received by Experience	Received by Letter	Received by Confession	Received by Restoration	Dismissed by Letter	Expelled	Dead	Total Membership	Active	Inactive	Contribution	No. of Ordained Ministers	No. of Ordained Deacons	No. of Licensed Ministers	Value of Church Property	Amount Given Pastor	Amount Given Asst. Pastor	Amount Given Evangelist	Amount Given Asst. Evangelist	Amount Given Revival Helper	Amount Given Foreign Mission	Amount Given Home Mission	Amount Given Children's Home	Other Expenses	Our Meeting Days
Burns' Chapel	0	2	1	0	4	0	0	79	47	32	\$31.00	7	4	0	\$18,000.00	\$1,455.25	None	\$21.00	None	\$104.00	None	None	\$160.00	\$ 4,443.48	Every Sunday
Butler's Grove	0	0	3	3	4	0	1	80	40	40	\$15.00	1	2	0	\$10,000.00	\$1,191.89	None	\$25.00	None	\$ 90.00	None	None	None	\$ 797.26	Every Sunday
Canaan	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	79	49	30	\$20.00	0	3	0	\$35,000.00	\$1,655.00	None	\$36.00	None	\$227.00	None	None	\$ 40.00	\$12,940.60	Every Sunday
Collinwood	1	0	0	0	8	0	3	176	84	92	\$25.00	2	5	0	\$25,000.00	\$1,453.13	None	\$15.00	\$42.00	\$200.00	None	None	\$125.00	\$ 3,755.86	Every Sunday
Columbia	11	8	10	0	0	0	0	173	146	27	\$15.00	1	6	1	\$	\$2,640.00	\$135.00	\$15.00	None	\$300.00	None	None	\$ 50.00	None	Every Sunday
Community	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	94	45	49	\$20.00	2	2	0	\$13,000.00	\$1,550.00	None	\$10.00	None	\$299.94	None	\$20.00	\$260.00	\$ 2,861.45	Every Sunday
Cross Roads	1	0	7	0	2	0	0	79	71	8	\$20.64	3	5	0	\$15,500.00	\$1,372.27	None	\$22.10	\$32.00	\$125.00	None	None	None	\$ 1,688.89	Every Sunday
Cypress Oak Grove	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	107	24	83	\$15.00	4	3	0	\$20,000.00	\$ 415.59	\$135.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$100.00	None	None	None	\$ 4,812.76	Every Sunday
Fellowship	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	76	25	52	\$15.00	2	2	2	\$ 3,534.51	\$ 400.00	None	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$100.00	None	None	None	\$ 1,122.28	2nd and 4th
Flatwoods	0	3	1	0	3	0	1	150	107	43	\$50.00	2	3	0	\$35,000.00	\$2,197.36	None	\$80.00	\$36.00	\$125.00	\$120.00	None	\$120.00	\$ 2,442.60	Every Sunday
Forty-Eight Bridge	0	0	2	0	5	0	0	63	21	42	\$40.00	0	2	0	\$22,000.00	\$ 939.58	None	\$35.25	None	\$191.29	None	None	\$195.82	\$ 3,735.60	Every Sunday
Friendship of Sheffield	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	80	35	45	\$20.00	5	1	0	\$20,000.00	\$1,800.00	None	None	None	\$150.00	None	None	\$100.00	\$ 2,354.24	Every Sunday
Friendship State Line	4	0	1	0	0	0	2	190	190	0	\$25.00	3	7	0	\$40,000.00	\$2,561.95	None	None	None	\$400.00	None	None	\$100.00	\$ 6,414.99	Every Sunday
Grays' Chapel	2	5	1	0	2	0	1	92	60	32	\$35.00	2	3	1	\$20,000.00	\$2,155.00	None	\$35.30	\$20.30	\$150.00	None	None	\$100.00	\$ 2,018.16	Every Sunday
Hickory Flat	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	67	33	34	\$25.00	0	3	0	\$35,000.00	\$1,100.00	None	\$10.00	None	\$ 97.00	None	None	None	\$ 1,015.44	Every Sunday
Hohenwald (Retained)																									
Iron City	1	0	2	0	0	0	2	112	66	46	\$20.00	2	4	0	\$20,000.00	\$1,276.44	None	\$15.00	None	\$100.00	None	None	None	\$ 1,665.54	Every Sunday
Johnson Chapel	0	0	4	0	9	0	0	12	12	0	\$10.00	0	2	0	\$	\$ 86.25	None	\$10.00	None	\$ .50	None	None	None	\$ 149.51	Every Sunday
Mill Rock	0	1	7	0	3	0	0	174	93	81	\$75.00	4	6	2	\$45,000.00	\$3,886.90	None	\$85.65	None	\$313.00	None	None	\$900.00	\$ 7,686.47	Every Sunday
New Community	4	0	3	3	0	0	0	28	22	6	\$15.00	1	3	1	\$12,000.00	\$ 300.00	None	\$30.00	None	\$130.00	None	None	None	\$ 1,800.00	Every Sunday
Oak Grove No. 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	43	12	31	\$15.00	1	1	0	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 550.00	None	None	None	\$150.00	None	None	None	None	Every Sunday
Rose Hill	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	89	37	52	\$20.00	1	2	1	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 598.27	None	\$42.00	\$15.00	\$100.00	None	None	None	\$ 337.80	2nd and 4th
Royal Avenue	0	3	3	0	2	0	5	65	40	25	\$20.00	2	3	0	\$35,000.00	\$1,326.00	None	None	None	\$100.00	None	None	\$60.00	\$ 3,078.48	Every Sunday
St. Joseph	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	61	34	27	\$10.00	3	3	0	\$10,000.00	\$1,235.00	None	\$15.00	None	\$100.00	None	None	\$75.00	\$ 1,600.00	Every Sunday
State Line Grove	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	109	70	39	\$25.00	2	4	0	\$30,000.00	\$1,267.00	None	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$175.00	None	None	None	\$ 8,872.63	Every Sunday
Williams Chapel	1	0	8	2	0	0	1	69	38	31	\$15.00	2	5	0	\$ 7,500.00	\$1,244.50	None	\$22.01	\$32.00	\$150.00	None	None	\$45.00	\$ 3,825.40	Every Sunday

## HOME MISSION BOARD

Amount in Treasury July 1, 1976	\$1,267.29
Interest received through June 30, 1977	64.82
Paid out to Johnson Chapel Church for Sunday School Rooms	200.00
Balance in Treasury September 24, 1977	\$1,132.11

Rev. Ernest Rich, Treasurer

Motion, seconded, and carried that we accept the Treasurer's report and retain the present members of the Home Mission Board. Rev. Ernest Rich, Treasurer, Rt. 2, Collinwood, TN 38450, Rev. J. M. Burns Sr., Rt. 1, Iron City, TN 38463, and Rev. Nigle Daniel, Rt. 2, Collinwood, TN 38450.

## CLERK'S REPORT

Balance in Treasury September 23, 1976	\$108.00
Received for Minute Fund at the Association	568.45
Total in Treasury September 25, 1976	676.45

## DISBURSEMENTS

Printing and binding 800 minutes	\$465.00
Postage, paper, and tape for mailing	19.45
Paid Clerk	30.00
Total disbursements	\$514.45
Balance in Treasury September 23, 1977	\$162.00

Sister Lillie Smitherman, Clerk

## 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 State Line Grove Church and the surrounding community for the wonderful Christian fellowship and hospitality shown us during our stay. May God richly bless each of you for everything you have done to make this Association a success.

Bro. Solon Gray, Chairman

Motion, seconded, and carried to adjourn the Association to meet with Collinwood Church on Thursday night before the fourth Sunday in September, 1978, at 7:00 p.m. Preaching by Rev. Mike Roberts, scripture 2nd. Kings 5:20, subject "Mountain Top Vision", followed by Rev. M. A. Stooksberry, scripture Revelation 22:1, subject "Pure". Song, "When We All Get To Heaven", with an old fashion handshake. Dismissed for dinner by Rev. Richard McConnell.

Rev. Preston West	Moderator
Rev. Ernest Rich	Assistant Moderator
Sister Lillie Smitherman	Clerk
Rev. Ronald L. Mashburn	Assistant Clerk

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE PRESBYTERY FOR 1976-1977

The Presbytery met at Flatwoods Church October 30, 1976, at 8:15 p.m. The Moderator, Bro. Odell Weems read Proverbs 1:15 with prayer by Bro. Dick Prince, then called the Presbytery to order with the following members present: 17 ministers, Bros. Willie Daniel, Ed Caperton, Charles Lopp, Cleve Hollman, Danny McConnell, Loyd Jones, Jerry Hovis, Theodore Norred, Preston West, Paul C. Story, Dick Prince, Bill Hollander, Clovis Brewer, Ernest Rich, James Brewer, M. A. Stooksberry, and Jerry Coker; 16 deacons, Bros. Douglas Paul, Bill Curbow, Danny Roberson, Clarence Wisdom, Charles Hunt, Beaumont Goolsby, Andrew Killen, Buford Ayers, Hubert Townsend, Billy Holt, Howard Jones, Ollie Holt, James Yant, Elvin Garrison, Odell Weems, and Joel Martin; 2 Licensed ministers, Bros. Sammy R. Holt and Jack Bowers, Jr. and 1 visiting minister, Bro. Mike Roberts of Middle Tennessee Free Will Baptist Association.

Unfinished Business: The Clerk reported that he had received the credentials of Bro. Talmadge Handback.

New Business: Bro. Jack Bowers, Jr. requested and was granted extension of his license thru January 31, 1977. Motion, seconded, and carried to endorse the license of Bro. Mike Roberts accepting him as a Licensed minister of our Presbytery and should Columbia Church recommend him for ordination at our January meeting, the Presbytery will examine him and if found worthy ordain him. Bro. Roberts is Licensed by Middle Tennessee Free Will Baptist Association. An offering taken in the amount of \$47.34. Motion, seconded, and carried to adjourn to meet at Collinwood Church Saturday night January 29, 1977.

Bro. Odell Weems, Moderator  
Bro. Joel O. Martin, Sr., Clerk

The Presbytery met at Collinwood Church January 29, 1977 at 8:15 p.m. The Moderator, Bro. Odell Weems called the Presbytery to order with the following members present: 21 ministers, Bros. Ernest Rich, James T. Turnbow, Loyd Jones, Charles Marable, Ronald L. Mashburn, Charles Lopp, Dennis Hunt, Cleve Hollman, Preston West, Elzo Clanton, Nigle Daniel, Willie Daniel, Theodore Norred, Willie Hollander, Jerry Hovis, Danny McConnell, M. A. Stooksberry, Jerry Coker, James Brewer, Carmack Gobbell, and Leslie Prince; 24 deacons, Bros. James C. Daniel, Charles E. Hunt, Nola Berry, Danny Roberson, Buford Ayers, Alfred Butler, Roy Butler, Lewis Marks, Martin Gann, Cecil Pigg, W. C. Smith, Alfred L. Mashburn, Jay Wright, J. D. Butler, Beaumont Goolsby, Leonard Thompson, Solon Gray, James L. Hamm, James Yant, Donald Paul, Douglas Paul, Ollie Holt, Odell Weems, and Joel Martin, Sr.; 4 Licensed ministers, Bros. Jack Bowers, Jr., Sammy R. Holt, Mike Roberts, and Alford Strait; 3 visiting ministers, Bros. J. B. Harper, Everett Rich, and Dewey Stults of Tennessee River Free Will Baptist Association.

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

New Business: Cypress Oak Grove Church recommended Bros. Jack Bowers, Jr., and Alford Strait be ordained ministers and Warren Strait be ordained deacon. Columbia Church recommended Bro. Mike Roberts be ordained minister. Flatwoods Church recommended Bro. Mitchell Daniel and Collinwood Church recommended Bro. William Haggard Andrews be ordained deacons.

The examining committee was Bro. Ernest Rich, Chairman, Bro. Nigle Daniel, and Bro. James C. Daniel. After ample examination and being found worthy all the candidates were ordained as recommended. Cross Roads Church recommended that the credentials of Bro. Arlo Peppers be returned to him. On proper motion, seconded and carried, with 43 voting yes and Bro. Preston West and Bro. Cleve Hollman voting no. Bro. Arlo Peppers was issued new credentials, since all the Presbytery had was a certified, notarized, statement that Bro. Peppers had lost his Lifetime Card and Credentials. An offering was taken in the amount of \$75.00. Motion, seconded, and carried to adjourn to meet with Columbia Church Saturday night May 28, 1977.

Bro. Odell Weems, Moderator  
Bro. Joel O. Martin, Sr., Clerk

The Presbytery met at Columbia Church May 28, 1977 at 8:15 p.m. The Moderator, Bro. Odell Weems, called the meeting to order with the following members present: 26 ministers, Bros. Paul Sanderson, Charles Lopp, Paul C. Story, Theodore Norred, Mike Roberts, Willie Daniel, Clovis Brewer, Jack Bowers, Jr., Leo Beckman, Jerry Hovis, Floyd C. Quillen, Sr., Ernest Rich, Charles Marable, Jesse Lanier, Johnnie Davis, Willie Hollander, Theodore Adams, Dennis Hunt, Nigle Daniel, M. A. Stooksberry, Cleve Hollman, Carmack Gobbell, Loyd Jones, James T. Turnbow, Arlo Peppers, and Jerry Coker; 23 deacons, Bros. Mitchell Lopp, Alfred Mashburn, Hubert Townsend, Charles E. Hunt, Danny Roberson, Willie Ray Thompson, Cecil Pigg, Solon Gray, Howard Jones, Bill Curbow, James Yant, Elton Potts, Douglas Paul, Donald Paul, J. D. Butler, Alfred Butler, Dell Moore, Lewis Marks, Roy Butler, John Cross, Odell Weems, and Joel Martin; 1 Licensed minister, Bro. Sammy R. Holt, and 1 visiting minister, Bro. J. A. Ricketts of the Cumberland Association.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted without any unfinished business.

New Business: Williams Chapel Church recommended Bros. Willie J. Moore, and Russell Gambrell to be ordained deacons if found worthy. The examining committee was Bro. Paul C. Story, Chairman, Bro. M. A. Stooksberry, and Bro. Douglas Paul. After ample examination, being found worthy Bro. Moore and Bro. Gambrell were ordained deacons. St. Joseph Church recommended that the credentials of Bro. W. V. Bailey be returned. Bro. Bailey ask everyone who had anything against him or anyone he might have hurt in anyway, to meet him in the Altar and get everything made right with the Lord. Bros. Jesse Lanier and Johnnie Davis met him there. Bros. Theodore Norred, Cleve Hollman, and Preston West did not. Every minister and deacon was ask to join in this Altar prayer. The Moderator, ordered a special meeting called at St. Joseph Church to work out this matter. Motion, seconded, and carried for the Moderator to work out a date for this special meeting, with the Pastor and deacons of St. Joseph Church. Bro. James Turnbow, Pastor of Cypress Oak Grove Church, extended thanks to every Church and individual for thier contributions to their new Church building at Cypress Oak Grove. Altar prayer was requested for the Mother-in-law of Bro. Jay Wright who was real sick along with a number of requests. This prayer was participated in by the entire congregation. An offering taken in the amount of \$78.60. Motion, seconded, carried to adjourn to meet in special called meeting at St. Joseph Church when date is set.

Bro. Odell Weems, Moderator  
Bro. Joel O. Martin, Sr., Clerk

The Presbytery met at St. Joseph Church in special called session June 11, 1977, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting opened with two songs directed by Bro. W. V. Bailey, prayer by Bro. Jessie Speegle, and welcome address by Pastor, Bro. Paul H. Sanderson. The Moderator, Bro. Odell Weems, called the meeting to order with the following members present: 28 ministers, Bros. Loyd Jones, Charles Lopp, Dennis Hunt, M. J. Malone, Cleve Hollman, Dick Prince, Ernest Rich, H. C. Killen, Sr., Johnnie Davis, Theodore Norred, Jesse Lanier, Jessie Speegle, James T. Turnbow, Nigle Daniel, Jerry Coker, Leo Beckman, Paul H. Sanderson, Jack Bowers, Jr., Arlo Peppers, Wren Adams, Theodore Adams, Paul C. Story, Charles Marable, Willie Hollander, Ronald Mashburn, Jerry Hovis, Leslie Prince, and Clovis Brewer; 25 deacons, Bros. Odell Weems, Mitchell Lopp, Almon Gray, Solon Gray, Haggard Andrews, Willie Ray Thompson, Buford Ayers, Joe Butler, Billy Holt, Danny Roberson, Beaumont Goolsby, Leonard Thompson, Bill Curbow, George Fowlkes, Cecil Pigg, W. B. Wilson, Alfred L. Mashburn, J. L. Reatherford, Doyce Springer, Hubert Townsend, Elvin Butler, Alfred Butler, Roland Parrish, and Joel O. Martin, Sr.

The Moderator, stated that the only purpose of this meeting was to vote for or against returning credentials to Bro. W. V. Bailey. the Moderator, ask Bro. Bailey to make a brief statement if he so desired. Bro. Bailey stated that he had sinned and done wrong, and that all had sinned, then he stated that God had forgiven him and he ask the Presbytery to forgive him and return his credentials. The Moderator, ask for, and was given a motion, to proceed with the vote without further discussion, this motion was seconded, and carried. The vote was 19 for and 25 against with 9 members not voting. Offering taken in the amount of \$39.88, while Bro. Mashburn directed the song "Amazing Grace", followed with Altar prayer. Motion, seconded and carried to adjourn to meet at Royal Avenue Church Saturday night July 30, 1977.

Bro. Odell Weems, Moderator  
Bro. Joel O. Martin, Sr., Clerk

The Presbytery met at Royal Avenue Church, July 30, 1977, at 8:15 p.m. The Moderator, Bro. Odell Weems, called the meeting to order with the following members present: 27 ministers, Bros. Ernest Rich, Willie Daniel, Charles Marable, Charles Lopp, Preston West, Paul C. Story, Jerry R. Hovis, M. A. Stooksberry, Arlo Peppers, Theodore Norred, Jack Bowers, Jr., Dennis Hunt, Johnnie Davis, Ronald L. Mashburn, H. C. Killen, Sr., Paul Sanderson, M. J. Malone, Cleve Hollman, Clovis Brewer, James T. Turnbow, Nigle Daniel, Jerry Coker, Loyd Jones, Willie Hollander, Howard Roden, Jessie L. Speegle, and Alford Strait; 22 deacons, Bros. Odell Weems, J. L. Reatherford, Joe Butler, Willie Ray Thompson, Buford Ayers, Danny Roberson, James C. Daniel, Mitchell Lopp, Solon Gray, James L. Hamm, Haggard Andrews, Grady Doyle, W. S. Benefield, Bill Curbow, Doyce Springer, Beaumont Goolsby, Cecil Pigg, W. B. Wilson, Charles E. Hunt, Nola Berry, Roy Butler, and Joel Martin, Sr.; 2 Licensed ministers, Bros. Sammy R. Holt, and J. C. Woods, 1 visiting minister, Bro. J. B. Harper of the Tennessee River Free Will Baptist Association.

The minutes of the past regular and called meetings were read and adopted after a correction in the minutes of the called meeting, with no unfinished business.

New Business: Mill Rock Church recommended Bro. Michael Harper and Grays' Chapel Church recommended Bro. Charles E. Hunt be Licensed to preach the Gospel if found worthy. The examining committee was Bro. Loyd Jones, Chairman, Bro. Joel Martin, Sr., and Bro. Haggard Andrews. After ample examination being found worthy they were licensed. Bro. Delbert Gray of Collinwood Church presented his resignation as deacon and Bro. E. J. Crider of New Community Church turned in his deacon certificate. Motion, seconded, and carried to remove the two deacons from the Presbytery rolls. Motion, seconded, and carried granting Bro. Arlo Peppers a letter of good standing in this Presbytery to be presented to an Alabama

Church that called him as Pastor. St. Joseph Church recommended that credentials be returned to Bro. W. V. Bailey if found worthy. The Moderator, Bro. Odell Weems, announced that Royal Avenue Pastor and deacons had requested the letter not be read in their Church, so a meeting would be arranged at St. Joseph Church for this matter.

Bro. Nigle Daniel was re-elected Evangelist and Bro. Charles Lopp was elected Assistant Evangelist for year 1977-78. Motion, seconded, to by a tent with Home Mission Board money was withdrawn since this is Association business. However, the Evangelist and Assistant Evangelist were instructed to secure prices on tent and chairs and make a report to the Association in September, if they so desired. An offering taken in the amount of \$56.00. Motion, seconded, and carried to adjourn to meet in special called meeting at St. Joseph Church when arranged.

Bro. Odell Weems, Moderator  
Bro. Joel O. Martin, Sr., Clerk

The Presbytery met at St. Joseph Church in Special Called session August 20, 1977, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting opened with two songs directed by Bro. Doyce Springer, prayer by Bro. Alford Strait. The Moderator, Bro. Odell Weems, called the Presbytery to order with the following members present: 26 ministers, Bros. Clovis Brewer, J. O. Dixon, Cleve Hollman, Leo Beckman, Ernest Rich, Preston West, Charles Marable, Charles Lopp, Willie Daniel, Alford Strait, Carmack Gobbell, Raymond Kelley, Willie Hollander, Leslie Prince, James T. Turnbow, Jessie Speegle, Howard Roden, Theodore Norred, Jesse Lanier, Johnnie Davis, Jerry Coker, Paul Sanderson, Richard McConnell, Wren Adams, Dennis Hunt, Danny McConnell; 23 deacons, Bros. Joe Butler, Odell Weems, Willie Ray Thompson, Gene Kelley, Buford Ayers, Bill Curbow, Leonard Thompson, Billy Holt, Danny Roberson, Doyce Springer, J. M. Burns, Jr., J. L. Reatherford, Solon Gray, Haggard Andrews, Alfred Butler, J. D. Butler, Mithcell Lopp, W. B. Wilson, Russell Gambrell, Elvin Butler, Willie J. Moore, W. S. Benefield, and Joel O. Martin, Sr.

St. Joseph Church letter was presented to the Presbytery recommending that the credentials of Bro. W. V. Bailey be returned to him. Bro. Cleve Hollman was recognized and questioned the authority of the Moderator to call this meeting, also Bro. Preston West was recognized who also made the same statement. Bro. Odell Weems, Moderator, ask them why no one objected at Royal Avenue Church when he called the meeting, if he had no authority to do so. However, article 10 of the Presbytery constitution gives this authority to the Moderator, even if a person just desires the mind of the Presbytery on any subject.

After some discussion a motion to accept or reject St. Joseph Church letter was seconded, which carried by a huge majority not to accept the letter. A motion, seconded, and carried to give the Moderator authority to say no on a special meeting unless it was in accordance with article 10 of the Presbytery Constitution. There was a lot of discussion which did not pertain to this special call, therefore, it could not be recorded in these minutes. An offering taken in the amount of \$31.75. Motion, seconded, and carried to adjourn to meet at the Association when convened with State Line Grove Church September 23, 24, 1977.

Bro. Odell Weems, Moderator  
Bro. Joel O. Martin, Sr., Clerk

The Presbytery met at the Association when convened with State Line Grove Church September 23, 24, 1977. The Moderator, Bro. Odell Weems called the Presbytery to order with prayer by Bro. Ronald Mashburn, and with the following members present: 27 ministers, Bros. Preston West, Jerry Coker, Ronald Mashburn, Paul H. Sanderson, Willie Daniel,

Carmack Gobbell, Paul C. Story, Charles Marable, Ernest Rich, Clovis Brewer, M. A. Stooksberry, Loyd Jones, Charles Lopp, Theodore Norred, H. C. Killen, Sr., Theodore Adams, T. E. Roper, Sr., Danny McConnell, Richard McConnell, Jack Bowers, Jr., Cleve Hollman, Ed Caperton, Johnnie Davis, J. M. Burns, Sr., Arlo Peppers, Aaron Hooper, and M. J. Malone; 25 deacons, Bros. Buford Ayers, Theo Mashburn, Joe Butler, Nola Berry, Garnett Kelley, Floyd Ray, James L. Hamm, Milas Myers, Howard Perry, Sr., Beaumont Goolsby, Johnny Johnson, Leonard Fowlkes, John Cross, Carlton Poole, Billy Holt, James C. Daniel, Bill Curbow, Charles E. Hunt, Solon Gray, Leonard Thompson, Willie Ray Thompson, Alfred L. Mashburn, Hubert Townsend, Odell Weems, and Joel Martin, Sr.; 2 Licensed ministers, Bros. Sammy R. Holt, and Charles E. Hunt; 1 visiting minister Bro. L. J. Vandiver.

The minutes of the past meetings were read and adopted with no unfinished business.

New Business: Mill Rock Church recommended Brother Sammy R. Holt to be ordained minister. The examining committee was Bro. Arlo Peppers, Chairman, Bro. Johnny Johnson, and Bro. Johnnie Davis. After ample examination and being found worthy Bro. Holt was ordained. Motion, seconded, to give Bro. Arlo Peppers his life time card failed to carry. Motion, seconded and carried to extend the License of Bro. Charles E. Hunt to September 22, 1978. Motion, seconded, and carried to return credentials of Bro. J. A. Ricketts to him on the strength of a letter of recommendation from Cumberland Free Will Baptist Association. Motion, seconded, and carried to accept credentials of Bro. James Brewer which he was turning in because he was joining a Church of another Free Will Baptist Association. Reports of ministers present were read, adopted, and cards granted. The reports of Bro. Charles E. Hunt and Bro. Mike Harper, Licensed ministers were read, adopted and ordered printed in the minutes. Motion, seconded, and carried to adjourn leaving the Presbytery open until tomorrow, September 24, 1977.

The Presbytery was called to order September 24, 1977, by the Moderator, Odell Weems, with Altar prayer after which reports of ministers present were read, adopted, and cards granted.

The following ministers contributed to Presbytery Treasury with their reports: Bros. Leslie Prince \$2.00, Charles Lopp \$2.00, Floyd Quillen, SR. \$10.00, Wren Adams \$2.00, Dick Prince \$5.00, Jessie Speegle \$5.00, and J. O. Brown, Jr. \$5.00. Rose Hill Church recommended Bro. Harold D. Dickey and New Community Church recommended Bro. J. C. Woods be ordained ministers and New Community Church recommended Bro. Roland Parrish be licensed. The examining committee was Bro. Jessie L. Speegle, Chairman, Bro. Danny McConnell, and Bro. Bill Curbow. After ample examination and finding them worthy they were ordained and licensed as recommended. Motion, seconded, and carried, to appoint a committee to go talk to Bro. L. O. Cook. The committee was Bro. Charles Lopp, Chairman, Bro. Sammy R. Holt, and Bro. Willie Ray Thompson, this committee to report back at the next regular meeting. Ministers not reporting to the Presbytery for two years and dropped from the rolls were Bro. Billy Scott and Bro. Dennis Creecy. Those not reporting this year for the first time were Bro. Roy Gulley, Bro. Dee Glover, Jr., and William Earl Glover. Motion, seconded, and carried allowing the clerk to correct ministers reports to show those ordained after reports were adopted. Treasures report for 1976-77 was adopted. Cypress Oak Grove Church received the Fifth Sunday meeting in October, 1977. Then election of officers as follows: Joel O. Martin, Sr. re-elected Clerk-Treas., Bro. Jack Bowers, Jr. elected Assistant Clerk-Treas., Bro. Odell Weems re-elected Moderator and Bro. Loyd Jones elected Assistant Moderator. Offering taken in the amount of \$63.03. Motion, seconded, and carried to adopt these minutes as read and to adjourn to meet at Cypress Oak Grove Church Saturday night October 29, 1977.

Bro. Odell Weems, Moderator  
Bro. Paul C. Story, Assistant Moderator  
Bro. Joel O. Martin, Sr., Clerk-Treas.  
Bro. Jerry Coker, Asst. Clerk-Treas.

### CONSTITUTION OF THE PRESBYTERY

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

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

ARTICLE 3. The Presbytery has exclusive jurisdiction and control over the official character and standing of all ordained members and Licensed ministers under its control.

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

ARTICLE 5. When a Church desires the License of a minister or an ordination of a minister, or deacon, it requests the Presbytery to examine the candidate and if it thinks proper, License or ordain him.

ARTICLE 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.

ARTICLE 7. In ordination there is presentation of the Bible, a prayer of consecration, charge and the laying on of hands.

ARTICLE 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 deems necessary.

ARTICLE 9. Any of our ministers failing to come in person or send a report will not receive a card, but their name will be retained in our minutes for twelve months, then if no report is received at the end of the next twelve months, they will automatically be dropped from the Presbytery. Any minister in good standing leaving this Presbytery is to get a letter recommendation and turn in his credentials.

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

ARTICLE 11. Any minister desiring license or ordination must be a member of a Free Will Baptist Church in this Association twelve months before being licensed or ordained, and shall preach under license twelve months before being ordained. Then if the Presbytery finds them

worthy, ordain them, their credentials being valid so long as they maintain Christian conduct and remain a member of a Church in this Association. Licensed ministers under the control of this Presbytery shall not Baptize anyone, nor shall they perform a marriage ceremony. All ministers' reports shall be read before the Presbytery and adopted or rejected.

ARTICLE 12. The Clerk of the Presbytery shall be paid \$25.00 for his services and shall see to the printing and mailing of the fifth Sunday meeting programs.

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

ARTICLE 14. Any deacon moving his membership from one Church to another in this Association, or from a Church of another Association, or Denomination, must be accepted to membership in one of our Churches, and in a special called conference of that Church be accepted as a deacon, before being accepted to membership in the Presbytery.

ARTICLE 15. A lifetime card shall be issued all ministers of this Presbytery with 30 years continuous service, or 10 years continuous service at age 60, or at any age should they become physically disable to carry the Gospel. This card to be valid so long as they make a report each twelve months to this Presbytery and their Christian conduct is in good standing with this body.

ARTICLE 16. No alterations can be made in this Constitution, nor any new rule, or regulation be adopted, except in a "CLOSED" special called meeting, with only ordained members of this Presbytery present.

### CHURCH RULES

1. We agree to meet in conference quarterly or more often 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 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 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 afterwards complain of what was done, the same shall be deemed disorderly and the member so offering 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 members 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 baptism.

14. Each Pastor, if possible shall hold his own conference and that election of Pastor be done by ballot.

15. Any of our Churches calling a Pastor, see that he is a member of a Free Will Baptist Church and has ordination papers and card, and that he is in good standing in a Free Will Baptist Association.

#### **RULES OF ORDER OF THE ASSOCIATION**

1. The Association when convened shall be opened and closed with singing and prayer.

2. Only one person shall speak at a 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 reprovved 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.

#### **ASSOCIATION 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, when, 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 advise it can in all matters of difficulty. If the union be broken between any of the Churches, 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 advise.

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, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, and Assistant 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 true record of the proceedings of the Association.

ARTICLE 9. No query shall be received by the Association from any Church unless it shall have been acted upon in said Church and cannot be settled, in which case the Association shall take up 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 cases 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 and Assistant 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 each year.

#### 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 (I 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 (I Timothy 2:5, 6; St. John 3:16; Revelations 1:17; Acts 24:15; I 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; I 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 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 (II 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 damnations 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 into 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; II 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 (I 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 (Revelations 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 mere 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; 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 judgement at the last day (John 5:28, 29; II 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 \_\_\_\_\_, minute fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

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: \_\_\_\_\_

## FORM OF RECEIVING MEMBERS IN THE 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 vow 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 I. 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 \_\_\_\_\_