

**North Alabama
Association
of
Free Will Baptist**



MINUTES 1970

MINUTES
OF THE
FIFTH SESSION
NORTH ALABAMA ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL BAPTIST

When Convened With
Faith Free Will Baptist Church

3106 Bob Wallace Ave.
Huntsville, Alabama

October 10, 1970

OFFICERS — 1970-71

MODERATOR Rev. Floyd Barber
P. O. Box 75, Madison, Ala. 35758

ASSISTANT MODERATOR Rev. Herbert M. Wilkerson
Route 3, Box 71-A, Hartselle, Ala. 35640

CLERK-TREASURER Paul M. Jones
Route 2, Box 8, Falkville, Ala. 35622

The next session of this Association will convene with the Maple Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Madison, Alabama, October 8-9, 1971.

PROCEEDINGS

The fifth session of the North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptist convened with the Faith Free Will Baptist Church, Huntsville, Alabama on October 10, 1970.

The meeting opened with congregational singing led by Rev. E. B. Ledlow. Devotion and prayer by Rev. Herman McFadden, pastor of Cave Springs FWB Church, using as his text, 2nd Timothy 1:13.

Bro. Wilkerson asked for special prayer for Bro. F. L. Thomas, our Moderator who has been sick.

Meeting called to order by the assistant Moderator Rev. Herbert M. Wilkerson.

Welcome given by Rev. Merritt Floyd, pastor of the host church.

Credentials committee appointed:

Rev. E. B. Ledlow—chairman
Bro. Lee Headrick
Bro. U. G. Lowery

Visiting Churches and persons recognized and welcomed:

Rev. Archie L. Harris, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church, Cullman, Alabama.

Grace FWB Church Nashville, Tenn.—Rev. C. A. Craft, pastor, Bro. Walter Bassne, Bro. L. P. Erwin, Bro. Carl Craft.

Bro. and Sister Clyde Motes, Vernon FWB Church, Vernon, Ala.
Rev. Willie Justice, pastor of the First FWB Church, Florence, Ala.
Bro. Dean West, First FWB Church, Huntsville, Ala.

Roll Call of Churches and letters received:

Cedar Creek, Hartselle
Faith, Huntsville
First Church, Decatur
Laodicea, Hanceville
Maple Grove, Madison
Cave Spring, Town Creek

Obituary committee report—two deaths:

Bro. Quick, Laodicea
Bro. Watt Alexander, Maple Grove

Credential committee report—We find all the letters in order. Maple Grove request that the next association meet with their Church and that Rev. Floyd Barber's papers be ratified. First Church of Decatur request Rev. Blane Bishop's papers be ratified, and Bro. Harvey Welborn be ordained as deacon. Cave Springs Church requested to become a member of the North Alabama Association of FWB.

Rev. E. B. Ledlow—chairman
Bro. Lee Headrick
Bro. U. G. Lowery

Roll Call and seating of Delegates.

Reading of the minutes and treasurer's report of the last meeting and approved by the body.

Presbytery appointed:

Rev. Julian L. Parson—chairman
Rev. Merritt Floyd
Rev. E. B. Ledlow
Rev. H. M. Wilkerson
Bro. Walter Lowery

Rev. Willie Justice gave a good report on State Mission work in Montgomery, Huntsville, Decatur, and now in the port city of Mobile, Alabama. Rev. Kenneth Walker has been appointed as missionary for this work in Mobile.

Special singers were Mrs. Jones, Miss Barber, Bro. and Sister Wilkerson.

Morning message by Rev. Archie Lee Harris, text—Joel 3:14.

AFTERNOON BUSINESS

After a wonderful lunch served by the host church, the meeting re-assembled with congregational singing and prayer, led by Rev. Herbert M. Wilkerson.

The Moderator appointed the obituary committee for this associational year:

Bro. Ray Swearman, Laodicea
Bro. James Hartley, Faith
Bro. Walter Craig, Maple Grove
Bro. Don Rohrschaib, Decatur
Bro. Bud Hill, Cedar Creek
Bro. Lewis Anderton, Cave Springs

Old business that was tabled at the meeting October 11, 1969 was the Pleasant Hill Church request that they withdraw fellowship from the Association. This was taken from the table to be dealt with.

Bro. Julian Parson gave a report on a recent visit with the Pleasant Hill Church. He said they told him they were going to represent. Move by E. B. Ledlow, second by Bro. Barber, that we give them one more chance to give us a direct answer, yes or no at the Quarterly Meeting in January 1971. Motion carried. Also requested that the executive committee go see this church.

New Business. Motion by E. B. Ledlow, second Bro. Barber, that we use the standard form of letter as recommended by the National Association and the Clerk Order forms for each church. Motion carried.

Motion by Bro. Parson that we have a Ministers and Deacons conference in this Association. Motion carried.

Moved by Bro. Ledlow, second by Bro. Parson that the Ministers and

Deacons conference meet on Friday night before the Association. Moderator be in charge until officers can be elected. Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Floyd that the Woman Auxiliaries have some time in the afternoon of the Association for their business. Motion carried.

Motion by Bro. Floyd, second by Bro. Ledlow, that a questionnaire be drawn up and be presented to each candidate at least 90 days before examination for ordination and oral questions be asked also. Motion carried.

Motion by Bro. Ledlow, second by Bro. Floyd Barber, that the questionnaire be presented to the Association body for approval. Motion carried. 25 yes's and 1 no.

Motion by E. B. Ledlow, second by Bro. McFaddin, that the pastor of each Church in the Association be the committee to work up this form of questions. Motion carried.

Motion by Bro. Ledlow, second by Bro. Barber, that a committee be appointed to work on mission program for our Association. Motion carried.

Motion by Bro. Roy Sweatman, second by Bro. Ledlow, that we have a youth camp for the youth of this Association next year. Motion carried. Election of Bro. Wilkerson to head youth camp.

Delegates appointed to the State Association:

Sis. Leola Alexander
Sis. Bettye Wilkerson
Sis. Alice Barkley
Sis. Odessa Ledlow
Bro. Billy Bishop

Special offering received to help the host church with expense of the Association, \$22.00. Bro. Floyd moved that the money received be given to the First Church in Decatur. Motion carried.

Officers elected for the coming year:

MODERATOR
Rev. Floyd Barber
P.O. Box 75
Madison, Ala. 35758
ASSISTANT MODERATOR
Rev. Herbert M. Wilkerson
Route 3, Box 71-A
Hartselle, Ala. 35640
CLERK-TREASURER
Bro. Paul M. Jones
Route 2, Box 8
Falkville, Ala. 35622

Motion by Rev. Ledlow that this Association send \$50.00 offering to the State Missions for the work in Mobile, Alabama. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Rev. Herbert M. Wilkerson, Moderator
Paul M. Jones, Clerk-Treasurer

QUARTERLY MEETINGS:

January 30, 1971—Laodicea Church, Hanceville, Alabama

April 28, 1971—First Church, Decatur, Alabama

July 31, 1971—Cave Springs, Town Creek, Alabama

CHURCH

PASTOR

CLERK

Cedar Creek
Hartselle

Rev. Herbert M. Wilkerson
Route 3, Box 71-A
Hartselle, Ala. 35640

Mrs. Bob Ramey
Route 3
Hartselle, Ala.

Faith
Huntsville

Rev. Merritt Floyd
3109 Patrick Dr.
Huntsville, Ala. 35810

Mrs. Paul McCray
Huntsville, Ala.

First FWB
Decatur

Rev. E. B. Ledlow
809 Westwood Dr. S.W.
Decatur, Ala. 35601

Mrs. Ann Johnson
Decatur, Ala.

Laodicea
Hanceville

Rev. F. L. Thomas
Route 1
Cullman, Ala. 35055

Mrs. Leola Alexander
Route 2
Hanceville, Ala. 35077

Maple Grove
Madison

Rev. Floyd C. Barber
P. O. Box 75
Madison, Ala. 35758

Mrs. Myrna
Montgomery
Route 2
Madison, Ala.

Pleasant Hill
Blountsville

Rev. Gerald Wilson
Route 2
Blountsville, Ala.

Binnie Moore
Route 2
Blountsville, Ala.

Cave Springs
Town Creek

Rev. Herman R. McFaddin
P. O. Box 23
Moulton, Ala. 35650

Bro. Lewis Anderton

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. F. L. Thomas
Route 1
Cullman, Ala. 35055

Rev. Gerald Wilson
Route 2
Blountsville, Ala.

Rev. E. B. Ledlow
809 Westwood Dr. S.W.
Decatur, Ala. 35601

Rev. Herbert M. Wilkerson
Route 3, Box 71-A
Hartselle, Ala. 35640

Rev. Blaine Bishop
2009-A Morgan St. S.W.
Decatur, Ala. 35601

Rev. Julian L. Parson
1303 16th Ave. S.E.
Decatur, Ala. 35601

Rev. Merritt Floyd
3100 Patrick Dr.
Huntsville, Ala. 35810

Rev. Odie Curvin
Route 2
Blountsville, Ala.

Rev. Herman R. McFaddin
P. O. Box 23
Moulton, Ala. 35650

ORDAINED DEACONS—Active

Cedar Creek Willie B. Foote, Paul Jones, Coleman Holmes
Maple Grove U. G. Lowery, Walter Lowery
Pleasant Hill Clovis Starns, Herbert Couch, Ruff Puttman
Laodicea Lee Headrick
Faith Charles Ryland, Paul McCray
Cave Springs Roy Houston

Inactive

Cedar Creek Albert Henry, Luther Holmes, Bud Hill
Cave Springs Bob Landers, Horace Jeffreys, Thomas Fretwell

CONSTITUTION OF THE NORTH ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST

ARTICLE I

This body shall be known as the North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptist.

ARTICLE II

This Association shall be composed of Ministers, deacons, clerks, and delegates from the different churches forming the same. All having full power to vote on all questions which come before the Association. Each church being entitled to five (5) delegates. With a representation fee of \$15.00 from each church.

ARTICLE III

This body adopts the Treatise of Faith and Practice of the National Association of Free Will Baptist.

ARTICLE IV

This body shall be composed of churches of the above named Association together with like bodies of same faith and practice which may be hereafter admitted.

ARTICLE V

The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk-Treasurer, who shall be chosen by the nomination and majority of votes at the end of each session. Officers thus elected shall hold their positions until their successors are elected. The Moderator and Assistant Moderator shall not serve more than two consecutive terms.

ARTICLE VI

Section 1. It is understood that the North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptist have no judicial authority over any local church.

Section 2. The North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptist, and its member local churches do not grant any judicial authority to any representative body to which they may belong.

ARTICLE VII

There shall be an ordaining council elected by the Association to inquire into and examine each applicant for ordination to preach the Gospel of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and make recommendation to the Association for the ordination of said applicant. This council shall be composed of five (5) ordained men.

ARTICLE VIII

The Association shall meet annually on Saturday before the second Sunday in October, at the place agreed on at the previous session.

ARTICLE IX

Section 1. When a church desires that one of its members should be licensed or ordained to preach the Gospel, it requests the Association to examine, by council, such member. The examination for license should refer to the piety, doctrine and convictions respecting the work of the ministry, and the reputation for character and ability of the candidate.

Section 2. The Examination for ordination should include all that is required for license, and also satisfactory examination respecting the life and labors of the candidate.

Section 3. No preacher shall be accepted or ordained in this Association as a preacher who has more than one living wife.

Section 4. No one shall be ordained as a deacon until he is put on trial by his church for one year.

ARTICLE X

This constitution may be amended at any regular session of the Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided the change is recommended in writing and tabled in the morning session and voted on during the afternoon session.

BY-LAWS OF THE NORTH ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST

Section 1. The Moderator, Assistant Moderator, or in their absence, the senior minister in years shall call the Association to order.

Section 2. No person shall be allowed to speak more than two times on any one subject, or more than five (5) minutes without the permission of the moderator.

Section 3. A Credential committee shall be appointed at the beginning of each session who shall receive and examine the letters and list the delegates and turn them over to the clerk with any recommendations they may wish to make, and omit the public reading of the letters.

Section 4. The Moderator shall have the right to appoint all committees.

Section 5. No person shall be ordained to the ministry nor shall the credentials of any minister be ratified until he is qualified to meet the conditions stated in the third chapter of (I Timothy), "The husband of one wife." He must satisfactorily answer all the oral and/or written questions put to him by the ordaining council.

Section 6. The business of this Association shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order.

Section 7. No person shall be interrupted while speaking unless he depart from the subject under discussion or use words of personal reflection.

Section 8. Only one person shall be allowed to speak at one time and he shall arise and address the Moderator. In case two arise at the same time, the first seen by the Moderator shall be allowed to speak.

Section 9. No person shall absent himself from the Association without permission of the Moderator.

Section 10. This Association shall issue annually, cards of good standing to its ministers and deacons.

Section 11. This Association shall in all cases in the transaction of all business brought before it, be governed by a majority of all delegates present. And any church or delegate failing or refusing to vote, is and shall be considered a party to the enforcement of same.

Section 12. These by-laws may be altered or amended at any regular session of this Association by two-thirds vote of the members present.