

### MINUTES OF THE

# NORTH ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

## 1995 Sessions

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### GENERAL OFFICERS of the NORTH ALABAMA ASSOCIATION for the year 1995

Moderator Assistant Moderator Rogers Clerk Assistant Clerk Rev. Melvin Hunter Rev. Michael E.

Carolyn Michael Jean McCraney

### Officers for 1996-1997

Moderator

Rev. Richard Hendrix

Assistant Moderator

Clerk

Assistant Clerk

Jean McCranev

Carolyn Michael

Rev. Gary Miller

### 1996-1997 Christian Education Board

Rev. Kenneth Terry, 3 year term Rev. Jerel Reeves, 2 year term Bro. Rodney Yerby, 1 year term

### 1996-1997 Presbytery Committee

Rev. Terry Drinkwater, Chairman Rev. Lamar Cox Rev. William Peppers Bro. Johnny Rogers Rev. Michael E. Rogers Bro. Paul Jones (Alternate)

### CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Jesus Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant.

We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to provide things honest in the sight of all men.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to 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 in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises 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, the support of missions, the success of Sunday schools and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### PROCEEDINGS The 5th Semi-Annual Association April 29, 1995

The 5th Semi-Annual Association meeting convened on Saturday April 29, 1995. The congregation sang "Gloryland Way" led by Rodney Yerby. Rev. Richard Hendrix led in prayer and welcomed everyone to Madison Free Will Baptist Church. The response was made by Rev. Jerel Reeves. Bro. Yerby then led the congregation in singing "Mansion Over the Hilltop", "What a Day That Will Be", and "Heaven Came Down". The devotion was given by Rev. Dennis Reeves. His text was Galatians 6:1-2. We are to bear the burdens of others. Prayer was then given by Rev. Lamar Cox. Bro. Mike Corley gave a report on the mission trip to Russia and recommendations that were made. Rev. Walter Jaggars called the association to order in the absence of Rev. Milton Hunter, the moderator.

The Credentials Committee was appointed. Those appointed were: (1) Bro. Ken Michael (Chairman); (2) Bro. Thomas Hale; (3) Bro. Billy Vest. Letters were given to them for examination.

The Presbytery committee met to go over the report from Faith Free Will Baptist to examine Rev. Clark Ryman's credentials.

After intermission, Rev. Jerel Reeves led in prayer. Bro. Ken Michael gave the Credentials Committee report. All letters were examined and found in order.

The delegates were seated and visitors welcomed. Rev. Walter Jaggars led in prayer. Minutes from the last Association were read and accepted. The Treasurer's report was given.

Rev. Richard Hendrix gave the Presbytery Committee report. The first item was: (1) A move and second was made to receive Rev. Clark Ryman in full fellowship into the Association. The second item read as follows: (2) We regret to report that the Huntsville church has called a pastor that is not in good standing with a local church, local association and state association all in the state of Indiana. Because his credentials have been revoked, with the Huntsville church having prior knowledge of the facts surrounding these events, we the Presbytery committee recommend that the North Alabama District Association withdraw fellowship from the Huntsville Free Will Baptist Church until this matter is resolved. This report was voted on and accepted as read.

Rev. Roy Thomas gave a report from the Home Mission Board. This was received as information.

Rev. Kenneth Terry gave the CEB report. There was a move and second to receive this report.

The October annual meeting will meet October 28th at Midway Free Will Baptist.

The Old Time Camp Meeting for next year will be April 26th and 27th at Ebenezer Free Will Baptist. Each church was reminded to please send \$100 for this meeting to the clerk by next April.

Rev. Richard Hendrix made a motion to give \$400 to the Home Mission Board and \$200 to the Youth (CEB) from the \$600 that was designated for the crusade. This was seconded and carried.

Rev. Kenneth Terry recommended that the Youth Rally closest to the Old Time Camp meeting not be held. This was accepted.

Our attendance for this meeting was 59 with Decatur receiving the plaque for the most in attendance.

Bro. Rodney Yerby led the congregation in "Heaven's Jubilee". An offertory special of "When the Roll is Called" was given by Bro. Rodney Yerby on trumpet and Carolyn Hendrix on piano. The offering was \$114.

The message was brought by Rev. Trymon Messer using as his text: II Chronicles 26:1-5, "When the Anointing is Gone".

A rising vote of thanks was given to the church for hospitality and food.

After announcements were made, Bro. Billy Vest dismissed in prayer.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT April 29, 1995

Association

Balance Forward 1-2-95		\$431.55	
Paid	d Out		
	'94 Minutes	\$68.04	
	Stamps - 4/3/95	\$32.00	
	Total	<u>\$100.04</u>	
	Ending Balance 4-29-95	\$580.59	
Youth - CE H	Board		
	Balance Forward	\$465.62	
	Ending Balance 4-30-94	\$279.18	

### PROCEEDINGS The 30th Annual Association October 28, 1995

The 30th annual Association convened on Saturday, October 28, 1995 at Midway Free Will Baptist Church, Hanceville, Alabama. Rev. Melvin Hunter, Moderator, called the meeting to order. Rev. Jerel Reeves, Pastor of Midway, gave a warm welcome to everyone in attendance. The response was given by Rev. Gary Miller who also led in prayer. Rev. Melvin Hunter gave the devotion reading from Galatians 1:1-16.

The Credentials Committee was appointed by Rev. Melvin Hunter. They were: (1) Bro. Billy Vest, Chairman; (2) Bro. Arthur Knox; (3) Bro. Charles Pennington. A Nominating Committee was also appointed. They were: (1) Bro. Ken Michael (Chairman); (2) Bro. Mike Corley; (3) Rev. William Peppers. No Obituary Committee was appointed. Each church in attendance will stand to give names of deceased members.

After a short intermission, Bro. Billy Vest gave the Credentials Committee report. All letters were examined and found in order except Faith FWB, which did not report. There was a move and second to seat the delegates. A recommendation was made that officers are to serve 2 year terms with the minutes published every two years. It was noted that the Moderator and Assistant Moderator are limited to two consecutive terms by our By-Laws. Rev. Michael Rogers made a move to accept this recommendation with a second by Rev. Walter Jaggars. This was carried. Bro. Ken Michael gave the Nominating Committee Report. The slate of officers for 1996 1997 are: Moderator, Rev. Richard Hendrix; Assistant Moderator, Rev. Gary Miller; Clerk, Carolyn Michael; Assistant Clerk, Jean McCraney. Rev. Walter Jaggars moved to elect those nominated by acclamation. This was done. Rev. Richard Hendrix gave the Presbytery Committee report. A letter was received from the Vernon Association to send a Letter of Recommendation for Rev. Clark Ryman. This is to be done

Each pastor was asked to call out names of members who had died the past year. We stood in memory of Roy Patterson, Ozel Brown, and Arlin Hale from Ebenezer; Ruby Jones from First Free Will Decatur; John Hestla from Midway; and Sula Higdon from Soul's Harbor. Rev. Michael Rogers led in prayer.

The minutes and treasurer's report of the Semi-Annual meeting in April were read and approved. Rev. Kenneth Terry gave the CEB report. This was accepted as read. Rev. Richard Hendrix nominated Rev. Kenneth Terry for another 3 year term on the Christian Education Board. The Association Meeting in conjunction with the Old Time Camp Meeting will be April 27, 1996 at Ebenezer. The Annual Meeting will be October 26, 1996 at First Free Will of Decatur.

State Delegates to the Alabama State Association meeting were appointed. These are: Myrna Montgomery, Rodney Yerby, Dot Reeves, and Vonda Hunter.

Rev. Dennis Haygood, visitor, spoke to us concerning his work. He has been appointed by the Mission Board to start a church in South Huntsville. He will begin his itinerate in January of 1996. He asked for our support and prayers.

Bro. Paul Jones made a request to have his name removed from the Children's Home Board. It seems that there was some uncertainty concerning this position even though Bro. Jones was elected to serve at the State Association last year. Bro. Bill Goodwin was the representative for several years but is not attending Association Meetings. However, it was mentioned that he is a member of Midway church but pastors another church. This matter was tabled with a move and second until the Executive Committee has a chance to discuss it further.

The congregation sang "I've Never Been Sorry" with Sis. Kim Reeves at the piano for the offertory. The offering received today was \$101.00. The count was taken. We had 35 members and 4 visitors for a total of 39 in attendance. Midway received the plaque for having the most members attending.

Rev. Richard Cordell, our guest speaker for the day, spoke of the Missionary Conference and his job as State Promotional Director. He then brought the morning message using Romans 1:14-16 as his text. The title of the message was "Salvation: Our Profoundly Simple Possession". Rev. Richard Hendrix made a motion to give \$300.00 to Rev. Cordell for his work. The offering was given to him also, making a total of \$402.00.

Rev. Melvin Hunter then reminded the Association to give Midway Church a rising vote of thanks for the food and hospitality. Rev. Walter Jaggars dismissed with prayer.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT October 28, 1995

4-29-95	\$580.59
Association Dues	
	\$28.80
10-28-95	\$230.59
4-29-95	\$279.18
10-28-95	\$479.18
	n Dues 10-28-95 4-29-95

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD REPORT

Eight youth rallies were held the past year with an average total attendance of 97.75. The average youth attendance was 43.5.

Plaques were awarded to the First Free Will Baptist Church, Decatur for taking the attendance trophy home most often for 1994.

There were 48 CTS entries in 1995 in music and art compared to 46 for 1994. Twenty-four won at the state level in 1995. Based upon fees paid to the State CTS competition, North Alabama had the largest participation of any association that represented.

Thank you to each church for your continued support and participation in our youth rallies and competition.

Respectfully Submitted, Your CE Board Rev. Kenneth Terry Bro. Rodney Yerby Rev. Jerel Reeves

### TREASURER'S YEARLY REPORT NORTH ALABAMA ASSOCIATION

### December 1994 to December 1995

Beginning Balance	
12-31-94	\$1063.55
Ending Balance	
12-31-95	\$230.59
Paid Out:	
Minutes	\$68.04
Lodging-Mission Team	\$69.12
National Home Missions	\$793.09
Stamps	\$60.80
Alabama State Association Dues	\$450.00
Rev. Richard Cordell	\$402.00
Youth Fund	\$200.00
Total	\$2043.05
Income:	
National Home Missions Offering	\$393.09
Offerings	\$102.00
Association Dues	\$715.00
Total	\$1210.09
YOUTH FUND Yearly Report	
Tearry Report	
Beginning Balance	
12-31-94	\$19.56
Ending Balance	
12-31-95	\$479.18
Paid Out:	
Cummings Sporting Goods	\$56.00
Judges for Competition	\$300.00
Medals for Competition	\$162.90
Judges' Lunches	\$31.54
Al. State CE Board - Competition Fees	\$633.00
Total	\$1,183.44
Income:	
Association Churches	
Association Churches	\$1643.06

### BY-LAWS OF THE NORTH ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

- 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 (5) five 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 recommendation they may wish to make, and omit the public reading of the letter.
- 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 1 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. 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 8. No person shall absent himself from the Association without permission of the Moderator.
- Section 9. This Association shall issue annually, cards of good standing to its ministers and deacons, whose church requests them.
- Section 10. This Association shall in all cases in the transaction of all business brought before it, be governed by a majority of all delegates present. Any church or delegate failing or refusing to vote, is and shall be considered a party to the enforcement of same.
- Section 11. These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any regular session of this Association by two-thirds vote of the members present.

### **GUIDELINES FOR ORDINATION**

- I. This Association ordains no man that has more than one living wife; nor a man whose wife has more than one living husband.
- II. This Association ordains no one to preach the gospel until he carries a license for one year unless he is called to a pastorate.
- III. This Association ordains no one that doesn't believe fully the faith and practice of the Free Will Baptist Treatise.
- IV. This Association ordains no one that doesn't believe and practice tithing.
- V. This Association ordains no one that doesn't believe in the verbal inspiration of the Word of God.
- VI. This Association will not ordain women to preach the gospel.
- VII. This Association will not ordain anyone that is affiliated with the World Council of Churches.
- VIII. This Association will not ordain anyone with a bad character with them that are without.
- This Association will not ordain anyone that doesn't believe and practice the ordinances of the church.
  - A. Baptism by immersion
  - B. Communion (open)
  - C. Feet Washing
- X. This Association will not ordain anyone that doesn't believe a person can apostatize and be lost.

NOTE: If any church has a minister or deacon that needs to be questioned by the Presbytery Committee for licensing, ratification, or ordination, contact the Chairman of the Presbytery Committee at least one month before the Association meets. This will enable the committee and the candidate to be better prepared at the Association meeting. It will also eliminate a lot of wasted time at the Association by the people that are having to wait for the committee to finish their report.

### MINISTERIAL DISCIPLINE

#### Whereas,

The Bible teaches the manner in which a minister should be disciplined; and

#### Whereas,

The Free Will Baptist Treatise clearly outlines the procedure for disciplinary action concerning one of our ministers; and

#### Whereas,

Our churches and district association tend to be lax in following the Biblical principles and the guidelines set forth in the Treatise in properly disciplining ministers whose character is called into question; and

#### Whereas,

This brings reproach on the name of Christ and our denomination Be it resolved:

- 1. That our churches be requested to follow the Scriptures and the Treatise when any need for discipline arises.
- 2. That churches exercise wisdom in calling a pastor by properly investigating him.
- 3. That Associations carefully check the credentials of ministers who transfer from another Association before receiving a minister into fellowship.
- That each district Association be requested to publish in their State Association paper the names of any ministers whose credentials have been revoked.

### GUIDELINES FOR THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD

1. The Christian Education Board shall consist of 3 men with at least one Pastor; the other two members could be ministers or laymen but at least one must be a Pastor. The committee shall be nominated and elected by the body of the Association during the annual meeting and would be elected on a three year term; one term expiring each year. The senior member serving as chairman. Each Pastor is to select a young person from his church to serve as youth representative to the Christian Education Board.

2. The Christian Education Board along with the youth representatives from each church and the host Pastor shall plan the program of the Youth Rally each month. Youth rallies are suggested to be held each month from September until May on the last Saturday of each month at 6:00 p.m. The Christian Education Board will work with the individual pastors to select sites for the monthly Youth Rallies.

3. The Associational Treasurer will serve as treasurer for this board.

4. This board shall have approval to spend its monies without prior approval from the Associational body.

The Christian Education Board shall work with all churches of our Association in getting them involved in the Youth Rally and other related projects. Activities that require special funding (i.e., crusades, trips, and banquets) should be planned in detail and presented to a special called meeting of all the Pastors of the Association for their approval.

The Christian Education Board shall report tot he Association during the Annual Meeting as matter of accounting and information.

NOTE: This Board should bear in mind that the role of the Pastors of our churches is the success of any programs they undertake. Their advice should be considered. The local Pastor should be the point of contact on any plans this board may conceive. All correspondence (by letter or phone) should be made to the Pastor in order to seek his wisdom as well as to honor this office. The youth representatives from each church should seek the advice of their Pastor on any plans made and should inform him on any decisions made by this board as a second line of communication.

## DIRECTORY

### Ordained Ministers

Rev. Louie Bates 322 11th Ave., NE Graysville, AL 35073 (205) 674-5102

\*Rev. Lamar Cox 2084 U.S. Hiway 278E Cullman, AL 35055

\*Rev. Terry Drinkwater 809 Westwood Drive Decatur, AL 35601

\*Rev. Richard Hendrix 138 Lewis Lane Madison, AL 35758 (205) 461-7453

Rev. Melvin Hunter Box 551 Falkville, AL 35622 (205) 739-8441

\*Rev. Walter Jaggers 202 Brookhaven St., SW Decatur, AL 35601 Rev. Horace Jackson 6782 County Road 703 Cullman, AL 35055

\*Rev. Randy Key Rt. 12, Box 225 Jasper, AL 35501

\*Rev. Gary Miller Rt. 2, Box 285 Falkville, AL 35622

Rev. William Peppers 2-A Puckett Road Hartselle, AL 35740 (205) 773-5157

Rev. Steve Petty 506 Nell St. Decatur, AL 35601 (205) 351-1625

\*Rev. Dennis Reeves 21391 U.S. Hiway 31 Vinemont, AL 35179

\*Rev. Jerel Reeves 720 Co. Rd. 546 Hanceville, AL 35077 Rev. Michael E. Rogers 663 Martin Road Huntsville, AL 35805 (205) 464-0752

Rev. Kenneth Terry 117 Co. Road 1285 Vinemont, AL 35179 (205) 739-6739

Rev. Benny Hipps 7203 Hiway 72 W. Madison, AL 35758 (205) 837-5064

#### Licensed

Bradley Hendrix 138 Lewis Lane Madison, AL 35758 (205) 461-7453

Daniel Vest 4901 Kentucky Ave. Nashville, TN 37209 (615) 298-9425

\*Denotes Pastors

## Ordained Deacons

Bethel-Cullman	Ebenezer	Madison
Benny Lindsey	Johnny Brown	Mike Corley
7881 Co. Rd 1435	Rt. 1, Box 349	111 Bibb Drive
Vinemont, AL 35179	Falkville, AL 35622	Madison, AL 35758
(205) 734-9152	(205) 796-6907	(205) 461-8936
		And ments allower 1969
Bethel - Decatur	Bobby Chaney	Ken Lollar
Raymond Mullins	Rt. 2, Box 15	1107 Opp Reynolds Rd
13695 Garden Way	Falkville, AL 35622	Toney, AL 35773
Rt. 12, Box 498	(205) 784-4696	(205) 838-5785
Athens, AL 35611		
(205) 729-6205	Billy Vest	Ken Michael
	Rt. 2, Box 40	4611 Calvert Road
First - Decatur	Falkville, AL 35622	Huntsville, AL 35805
Paul Jones	(205) 784-5042	(205) 837-5209
311 Robin Road		
Decatur, AL 35601	Midway	Cedar Creek
(205) 350-8583	Billy Farr	Albert Henry
	1601 Edward Street	Rt. 1, Box 297-E
Faith	Hanceville, AL 35077	Hartselle, AL 35640
Ernie Winchester	(205) 352-9594	(205) 773-9543
5018 Forestwood Road		
Adamsville, AL 35005	Marvin Nail	Arthur Knox
(205) 674-9051	1409 Edward Street	305 Gilchrist Street
	Hanceville, AL 35077	Hartselle, AL 35640
Soul's Harbor	(205) 352-4265	(205) 773-5126
Bud Cagle		
1939 Co. Rd. 1282	Charles Pennington	Jerald Wiley
Falkville, AL 35622	510 Blountsville Street	Rt. 6, Box 125
(205) 739-1731	Hanceville, AL 35077	Hartselle, AL 35640
		(205) 773-4608
Donnie Yates	1 (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1	
614 Co. Rd 1436		
Vinemont, AL 35179		
(205) 739-6076		

# ASSOCIATIONAL DIRECTORY

CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK
Bethel FWB	Rev. Lamar Cox	Rita Lindsey
2084 U.S. Hiway 278E	2084 U.S. Hiway 278E	7881 County Road
Cullman, AL 35055	Cullman, AL 35055	Vinemont, AL 35179
(205) 739-9961	(205) 739-9961	(205) 734-9152
Bethel FWB	Rev. Walter Jaggers	Diane Standridge
1615 Danville Road SW	202 Brookhaven St., SW	9204 Co. Rd. 214
Decatur, AL 35601	Decatur, AL 35601	Trinity, AL 35673
(205) 355-0503	(205) 353-9055	(205) 350-4796
Cedar Creek FWB	Rev. Gary R. Miller	Arthur Knox
305 Gilchrist St.	Rt. 2, Box 285	305 Gilchrist St.
Hartselle, AL 35640	Falkville, AL 35622	Hartselle, AL 35640
(205) 773-2603	(205) 784-5717	(205) 773-5126
Ebenezer FWB	Rev. Randy Key	Florence Hale
Rt. 3, Box 589	Rt. 12, Box 225	Rt. 3, Box 589
Falkville, AL 35622	Jasper, AL 35501	Falkville, AL 35622
(205) 734-7472	(205) 384-9020	(205) 734-7472
Faith FWB	Revi Stephen Webb 1150 Hillerest	June Townley
1150 Hillcrest	1150 Hillerest	125 Waverly Ave.
Adamsville, AL 35005	Adamsville, AL 35065	Adamsville, AL 35005
(205) 798-7349	(205) 798-7349	(205) 798-0616
First FWB (Decatur)	Rev. Terry Drinkwater	Inez Jones
1306 Danville Rd., SW	809 Westwood Drive	311 Robin Rd., SW
Decatur, AL 35601	Decatur, AL 35601	Decatur, AL 35601
(205) 350-2412	(205) 353-5822	(205) 350-8583
Madison FWB	Rev. Richard Hendrix	Betty Pool
5295 Wall Triana Hiway	138 Lewis Lane	353 Jack Coleman Dr.
Madison, AL 35758	Madison, AL 35758	Huntsville, AL 35805
(205) 430-3087	(205) 461-7453	(205) 539-8184
Midway FWB	Rev Jerel Reeves	Debra Farr
1409 Commercial St.	720 Co. Rd. 546	1601 Edward Street
Hanceville, AL 35077	Hanceville, AL 35077	Hanceville, AL 35077
(205) 352-6564	(205) 352-9965	(205) 352-9591
Soul's Harbor	Rev. Dennis Reeves	Bud Cagle
21325 U.S. Hiway 31	21391 U.S. Hiway 31	1939 Co. Rd. 1282
Vinemont, AL 35179	Vinemont, AL 35179	Falkville, AL 35622
(205) 734-2882	(205) 734-8115	(205) 739-1731



