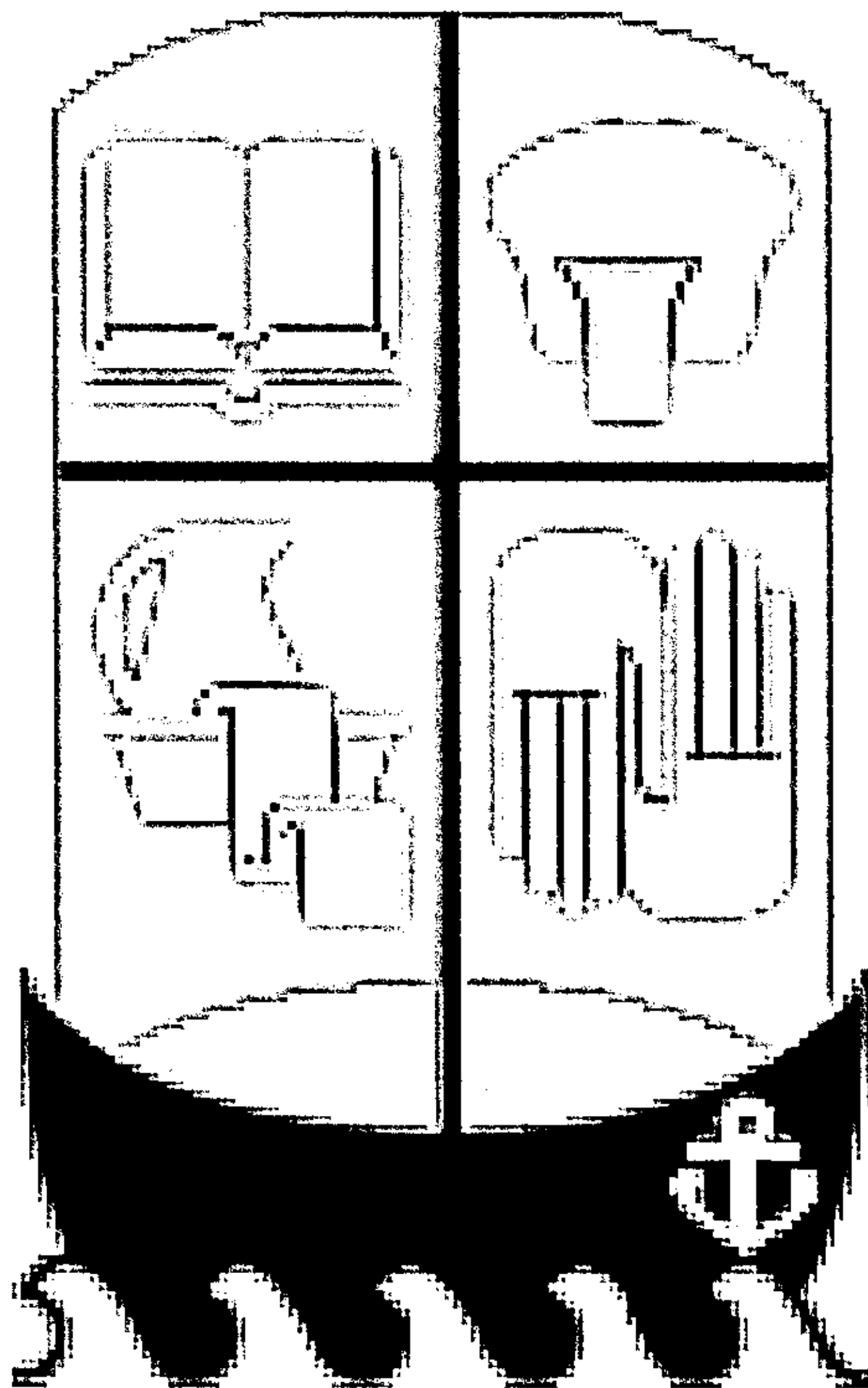


NORTH ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS



MINUTES 2009

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GENERAL OFFICERS

2009

Moderator

Rev. Kenneth Terry
177 Company Rd. 1285
Vinemont, AL 35179
(256) 739-6739

Assistant Moderator

Rev. Richard Hendrix
138 Lewis Lane
Madison, AL 35758
(256) 461-7453

Clerk

Jean McCraney
2304 Warwick Avenue
Decatur, AL 35601
(256) 351-1615

Assistant Clerk

Amy Beck
2600 Reabok Circle SW
Huntsville, AL 35803
(256) 883-1439

Christian Education Board

Rev. Timothy York
1812 Brownstone Dr. SW
Decatur, AL 35603
(256) 214-0667
Chairman

Rev. Jeremy Cox
211 CR 1291
Cullman, AL 35058
(256) 734-4716

Rev. Aaron Dawson
49 Co. Rx. 1285
Vinemont, AL 35179
(606) 232-0843

Presbytery Committee

Rev. Jason Keith
230 Co. Rd. 1210
Cullman, AL 35057
(256) 735-1779

Rev. William L. McElroy
1301 Cedar Creek Rd. SE
Hartselle, AL 35640
(256) 773-2603

Rev. Timothy York
1812 Brownstone Dr. SW
Decatur, AL 35603
(256) 214-0667

Rev. Richard Hendrix
138 Lewis Lane
Madison, AL 35758
(256) 461-7453

Children's Home Representative

Rev. Gary Miller
846 E Lacon Road
Falkville, AL 35622
(256) 784-5717

State General Board Member

Rev. Kenneth Terry
177 Company Rd. 1285
Vinemont, AL 35179
(256) 739-6739

NORTH ALABAMA ASSOCIATIONAL MEETINGS

2002	April	Ebenezer
	October	Soul's Harbor
2003	April	Unity
	October	Madison
2004	April	Bethel-Cullman
	October	1 st FWB-Decatur
2005	April 16	Soul's Harbor
	October 15	Cedar Creek
2006	April 15	Madison
	October 21	Soul's Harbor
2007	April 21	Ebenezer
	October 20	1 st FWB-Decatur
2008	April 19	Madison
	October 18	Soul's Harbor
2009	April 18	Ebenezer
	October 17	1 st FWB-Decatur
2010	April 17	Cedar Creek
	October 16	Soul's Harbor

ASSOCIATIONAL DIRECTORY

CHURCH

PASTOR

CLERK

Bethel FWB
2084 US Hwy 278 E
Cullman, AL 35055
(256) 739-9961

Cedar Creek FWB
701 Byrd Rd. SE
Hartselle, AL 35640
(256) 773-2603

Ebenezer FWB
1149 East Lacon Rd.
Falkville, AL 35622
(256) 734-9537

First FWB
1306 Danville Rd. SW
Decatur, AL 35601
(256) 350-2412
www.decaturfwb.com

First FWB
2402 Country Club Ave.
Huntsville, AL 35816

Madison FWB
PO Box 517
Madison, AL 35758
(256) 430-3087
www.madisonfwbc.org

Soul's Harbor FWB
21325 US Hwy 31
Vinemont, AL 35179
(256) 734-2882

Southpark FWB
2201 Noel Dr. SW
Huntsville, AL 35803
(256) 881-4410

Rev. William McElroy
1301 Cedar Creek Rd. SW
Hartselle, AL 35640
(256) 773-2603

Rev. Aaron Dawson
210 Zeke Hollow Rd
Falkville, AL 35622
(256) 620-0945
aaronandkori@aol.com

Rev. Timothy York
1812 Brownstone Dr. SW
Decatur, AL 35603
(256) 214-0667
pastor_york@charter.net

Rev. Dennis Reeves
35 Co Rd 1323
Vinemont, AL 35179
(256) 734-8333

Rev. Richard Hendrix
138 Lewis Lane
Madison, AL 35758
(256) 461-7453
richardh@madisonfwbc.org

Rev. Kenneth Terry
210 Co. Rd. 1219
Falkville, AL 35622
(256) 739-6739
soulsharborpastor@access4less.net

Rev. Dennis Haygood
2201 Noel Dr. SW
Huntsville, AL 35803
(256) 881-4410

Freda Bartlett
401 Co Rd 1241
Vinemont, AL 35179
(256) 739-1705

Juanita Jones
701 Byrd Rd. SE
Hartselle, AL 35640
(256) 773-4239

Florence Hale
16 Arlin Hale Rd.
Falkville, AL 35622
(256) 734-7472

Inez Jones
311 Robin Rd. SW
Decatur, AL 35601
(256) 350-8583

James Hyde
161 Kelly Cemetery Rd
Huntsville, AL 35810
(256) 655-8178

Betty Ragsdale
25870 Camden Ct.
Athens, AL 35613
(256) 233-2116

Marie Terry
210 Co. Rd. 1219
Falkville, AL 35622
(256) 739-6739

Judy Haygood
2201 Noel Dr. SW
Huntsville, AL 35803
(256) 881-4410

OTHER MINISTERS

Corley, Mike
Missionary to Russia

Cox, Jeremy
211 CR 1291
Cullman, AL 35058
(256) 734-4716

Franks, Jr., Dave
960 Brown's Ferry Rd.
Madison, AL 35758
(256) 325-0261

Miller, Gary
846 East Lacon Rd.
Falkville, AL 35622
(256) 784-5717

Parker, Robby
107 Betty Garrett Dr.
Madison, AL 35758
(256) 772-8452

Rogers, Mike
202 Patricia Rd.
Madison AL 35758
(256) 971-0877

Shellman, Henry
5102 Frankford, Dr.
Owens Crossroads, AL 35763
(256) 532-3921

ORDAINED DEACONS

Cedar Creek

Jerald Wiley
1369 Thompson Rd.
Hartselle, AL 35640
(256) 773-4608

Glenn H. Stover
303 Longhorn Pass NW
Hartselle, AL 35640
(256) 773-5813

Ebenezer

Johnnie Brown
143 Armstrong Rd.
Eva, AL 35621
(256) 796-6907

Bobby Chaney
4011 Hwy 31 SW
Falkville, AL 35622
(256) 784-5042

Casey Brown
285 O.Z.Davis Rd
Eva, AL 35621

First FWB-Decatur

Paul Jones
311 Robin Rd. SW
Decatur, AL 35601
(256) 350-8583

Madison

Charles Lowery
469 Gillespie Rd.
Madison, AL 35758
(256) 830-1486

Ken Michael
4611 Calvert Rd.
Huntsville, AL 35805
(256) 837-5209

Rodney Yerby
115 Maximillion Dr.
Madison, AL 35758
(256) 721-0402

Soul's Harbor

Delton Cagle
1939 Co. Rd. 1282
Falkville, AL 35622
(256) 739-1731

Donnie Yates
614 Co. Rd.
Vinemont, AL 35179
(256) 739-6076

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 Credentials 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 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 Robert's 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 does not believe fully the faith and practice of the Free Will Baptist Treatise.
- IV. This Association ordains no one that does not believe and practice tithing.
- V. This Association ordains no one that does not believe in the verbal inspiration of the Word of God.
- VI. This Association will not ordain a woman to preach the gospel.
- VII. This Association will not ordain or accept the ordination of anyone who is a homosexual.
- VIII. This Association will not ordain anyone with a bad character with them that are without.
- IX. This Association will not ordain anyone that does not 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 does not 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.

NORTH ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS QUESTIONS FOR LICENSING AND ORDAINING OF A MINISTER

(Please give Scripture references to as many questions as possible.)

1. Give your full name, address, and phone number.
2. What church are you currently a member?
3. Give a short account of your call to preach.
4. Do you feel that you meet the qualifications of I Timothy 3:1-7?
5. Have you or your wife ever been divorced?
6. What is the extent of your education?
7. List three character references, not including your family. Give their address and phone number.
8. Is your wife a born again Christian?
9. What is your attitude toward intoxicating beverages, tobacco, drugs, and worldly amusements?
10. Do you believe without reservation that the Bible is the verbally inspired, infallible Word of God, and that it is the only rule of faith and practice for a minister?
11. What do you believe about evolution and the Genesis account of Creation?
12. What is the Scriptural mode of Baptism?
13. What is the meaning of the Lord's Supper?
14. What is salvation and how would you explain it to a lost soul?
15. What do you believe about apostasy and the perseverance of the saints?
16. What are the three ordinances of the Gospel that Free Will Baptists observe?
17. What is your belief about speaking in tongues?
18. Have you read the Free Will Baptist Treatise, and is there anything in it that you do not agree with, believe, or would not teach?
19. If you changed your views on any of these doctrines, what would you do?

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 associations 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:

That our churches be requested to follow the Scriptures and the Treatise when any need for discipline arises.

That churches exercise wisdom in calling a pastor by properly investigating him.

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 the 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 three 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. You 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.
5. 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 banquet) should be planned in detail and presented to a special called meeting of all the Pastors of the Association for their approval.
6. The Christian Education Board shall report to the 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 the Pastor on any plans made and should inform him on any decisions made by the board as a second line of communication.

MINUTES
Of the 19th Semi-Annual Meeting
April 18, 2009
Ebenezer FWB Church

The 19th Semi-annual meeting of the North Alabama Free Will Baptist Association opened at Ebenezer Free Will Bapt. Church with singing "Because He Lives", led by Bro. Rodney Yerby. Bro. Kenneth Terry greeted everyone and Rev. Richard Hendrix led in prayer. Rev. Aaron Dawson, pastor of Ebenezer FWB church gave the welcome and the morning devotion from Rom. 16....."What is your Gospel?" with the key verse of Rom 16:25.

The meeting was officially called to order by Rev. Terry and he asked for special prayer for Sis. Amy Beck, asst clerk of the Association. Church letters and all monies have been rec'd. Informational reports were given. Bro Rodney Yerby gave a report from International Missions. Ala. is significant in helping build Bible Institutes. Bro Yerby also reported on the Free Will Bapt. Children's Home in Eldridge. 2008 was a difficult year; but God is blessing in 2009 with 2 new sets of House parents and Bro Danny Williams as the Director of Communications for the Home. Jean McCraney gave a report on the recent trip to Kazakhstan and thanked the N. Al. Assoc. for helping her participate in the Christmas Joy project this year. Over 1600 Bibles and gifts were presented to children and adults thru this project. Bro. Rick Cash reported from the State Promotional Office and the Acts 1:8. A new promotional office is to be built on the campus of FWB Children's Home. Bro. Richard Hendrix gave a report on the Mission trip to Mexico and teaching at the Institute in Almoneda and about the Nywok Indians.

Break for Committee Meetings

Re-opened the session with the song "Down at the Cross" led by Bro Rodney Yerby.

Sis. Jean McCraney, clerk, gave the minutes and treasurer's report.

MMS&C

Rev. Tim York reported on the Christian Education Board; about the Summit held in Decatur regarding Randall House's new Fusion curriculum. New ideas from the CE Board are some future summits to educate us as to how to win people for the Lord. We need to better ourselves for the Kingdom of God. MMS&C to accept report.

Presbytery Committee-no business to report.

Constitutional Committee Report-given by Bro. Ron McCraney. A few changes have been suggested. Bro Ron asked that if others are suggested then send them to the clerk and he will incorporate these into the Constitution and it will be presented to the body at the Oct. 2009 meeting for approval. MMS&C

Steering Comm. is making progress towards helping churches reported by Bro. Terry.

Roll call-43 in attendance with the plaque going to Soul's Harbor. Other Business:

Rev. Tim York suggested the idea that the Thanksgiving supper go to desserts and coffee rather than a full supper. Motion was made and 2nd. Discussion was held on this and it was amended that the ladies of the WAC be in charge of making the menu for the Thanksgiving supper, by Bro Terry. MMS&C to do so.

Bro. Terry suggested the offering today of \$63.37 be made up to \$150 to give to the speaker. This was approved.

Sis. Marie Terry rendered the special music, "Resurrection Morn".

Rev. Mike Cox, pastor of Forestdale FWB Church, brought the morning message from I Kings 18:1-2, 41-46, "Forever Faithful". Extent of God's faithfulness is immense. "He is faithful at all times and in all things". Rahab placed her faith in a God she had never known. "When you are discouraged, "be still and listen to God". "Wait on the signs of God, even in discouragement, He's still faithful. He is forever faithful".

The meeting was dismissed in prayer by Bro Paul Jones.

TREASURER'S REPORT

April 2009

Association:

Balance: 09-30-08 \$ 1,814.77

Income:

Offering	\$ 64.00
Church Dues	\$ 940.00
Thanksgiving Supper	
Offering	\$ 48.00
TOTAL	<u>\$1,052.00</u>

Expenses:

Amy Beck	
(minutes printing)	\$137.01
Madison FWB	
(Mexican mission)	\$200.00
Jean McCraney	
(Kazakhstan proj.)	\$200.00
Ashley Culp-Trinity	\$150.00
AL State Assoc Dues	\$945.00
USPS (Stamps/post.)	\$ 10.25
ACTS 1:8 offering	<u>\$200.00</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$1842.26</u>

*Balance: 03-31-2009 \$ 1,024.51

Youth Fund:

Balance: 03-31-2009 \$149.05

*Total includes Youth Fund Balance

MINUTES
Of the 44th Annual Meeting
October 17, 2009
Decatur FWB Church

The 44th Annual meeting of the N. Al Assoc. met at Decatur FWB Church. Opened with song "Jesus Saves" led by Bro Tim York, pastor of the Decatur church. Bro Kenneth Terry, Moderator, greeted everyone. A contingency of the First FWB Church of Huntsville were welcomed and petitioned to join the N Al Assoc. Bro Tim York gave the response and morning devotion from Heb 11:32-38 (key v.38). Heroes of Faith were human, so we as humans can also live a life of Faith. (Illustrations were given as to God's people and their perspectives and perceptions).

Meeting was called to order by the Moderator. Informational reports given: Jean McCraney-gave report on the ongoing WAC project "Christmas Joy"and encouraged all to help continue to support the women who plan to return in 2011.

Bro. Rodney Yerby-gave the International Missions report- in 2008 the WMO offering surpassed \$500,000 and we pray it will again as these are exciting times for FWBIM.

Bro Richard Hendrix –reported on the Mission work with the Anka Indians in Mexico and their receiving the hymnals that Al FWB helped to send.

Bro. Danny Williams-gave the report for the Al State Promotional office in the absence of Bro Rick Cash. N Al has given \$11,500 to Acts 1:8 for the year to date. Major decisions have to be made regarding Russian ministries. This will be discussed at the State Assoc mtg. in Nov. A recommendation to partner with the Mexican FWB Assoc. will also be discussed.

Bro. Danny Williams-also gave the Children's Home Report. Thanked everyone for their faithfulness in supporting the Children's Home. Announced Bro Mike Corley and Sis Cathy are the new directors for the home. An endowment fund has been created to help with funding of the home. We all need to pray for a strong financial qtr. for the end of the year in regards to the home.

Break

Resumed meeting with "Wonderful Grace of Jesus".

Credentials report given: MMS&C-Delegates seated.

Minutes and Treas. Report read by Clerk, Jean McCraney. MMS&C to accept as read.
Presbytery Comm Report-given Bro Larry McElroy, Chm.:

I.

A) Comm. has met with the delegation of First FWB Huntsville and after examination recommends acceptance to the N Al FWB Assoc.

B) Recommends acceptance of Bro Dennis Reeve's credentials from the Progressive Assoc.

C) Recommends acceptance of Bro John Tucker as an ordained Deacon by the power of the church, into the N Al Assoc. MMS&C to accept these recommendations.

II. Bro Gary Miller is to be given a letter of good standing from the Assoc. once the clerk receives a letter asking for this. MMS&C

III. Bro Jason Keith is to be given a letter of good standing from the Assoc. once clerk receives a letter asking for this. MMS&C

Christian Education Board- Rev. Tim York gave the report containing new thoughts and ideas regarding a possible seminar to help with pastoral skills (Homiletics Summit). Ideas are welcomed from other churchers. MMS&C to accept for information.

Constitution Comm. Report –Given by Bro Ron McCraney. Three minor changes are presented:

Article 1-to appropriate Representative fees as specified.

Article 5-to clarify that officers are chosen Bi-Annually (term limits)

Article 8-change the date of the meeting of the N Al Assoc to be bi-annually.

MMS&C to adopt the Constitution to be amended per these changes.

Suggestion was made that a copy of the Constitution and By-laws will be printed with the minutes the next time the minutes are printed (October 2010).

This committee was dismissed by a vote of the body and thanked for their service.

Nominating Comm. Report –Bro Ron McCraney gave the report.

1)recommend that Bro Tim York replace Bro Gary Miller (who has moved to another Assoc) on the Children's Home Board

2)recommend that Bro Tim York go back on the CE Board until 2012.

MMS&C to accept

Appointment of Committees Rev. Kenneth Terry, Moderator appointed the following committees:

Presbytery-Bro Larry McElroy, chm., Bro Dave Franks, Jr, Bro Aaron

Dawson, Bro Tim York, Bro Richard Hendrix, Bro Dennis Haygood, alt.

Nominating –Bro Ron McCraney, chm, Rev. Aaron Dawson, Bro Ken Michael

Attendance was 42 with the plaque going to First FWB Huntsville. 9 preachers and 4 deacons in attendance today. Bro Terry encouraged everyone to pray for these men and the 2 students attending FWBBC from our Assoc.

Delegates to State Meeting to be held in Madison on Nov 4-6 are: Carolyn Michael, Marie Terry, Bennie Moore, Amanda York, Faye Moore, Dot Reeves, Ron McCraney, Phyllis Detherage

Future Meetings:

April 17, 2010-Cedar Creek FWB Church

October 16, 2010- Soul's Harbor FWB Church

Thanksgiving Joint Service-First FWB Huntsville (if ready, Plan B- Bro Richard Hendrix volunteered Madison's building to be used by the Huntsville Church, if needed)

Pastors/Deacons Fellowship meal: Feb 15, 2010 and Sept. 13, 2010

Offering taken today was \$125.00. It will be rounded out to \$150.00 to be given to the Al Children's Home. MMS&C Monies voted to be given for special projects: \$200 to be given to Bro Richard Hendrix for the mission trip to Mexico

Worship Service Special Music was brought by Bro Tim York, pastor of First FWB Decatur, "Crucified With Christ".

Morning Message brought by Rev Danny Williams, Director of Communication at Free Will Bapt Children's Home. The message was from Lk 14:25-35, entitled "The kind of Christian Christ demands". The main job Christ left for us to do is make disciples! "Disciples are made, not born". A lot of Christians are willing to make contributions rather than total commitment. He spoke of the disciple core found in Luke 14 and asked what makes a disciple? 1-Supremacy of Christ in all, 2-Submission, 3-Stability, 4-Surrender, 5-Salt.

Host church given a thanks for hosting the meeting. Announcements made. Dismissed in prayer by Rev Richard Hendrix.

TREASURER'S REPORT

October 17, 2009

Association:

Balance: 03-31-09 \$1,024.51

Income:

Church Dues (7)	\$700.00
Offering	\$ 63.37
TOTAL	<u>\$763.37</u>

Expenses:

Rev. Mike Cox (speaker)	\$150.00
TOTAL	<u>\$150.00</u>

Balance: 09-30-09 **\$1,637.88

**Note: This total includes Youth Fund Balance.

Youth Fund:

Balance: 9-30-08 \$149.05

CONSTITUTION OF THE NORTH ALABAMA FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I

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

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 (5) five delegates, with a appropriate representation fee as specified.

ARTICLE III

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

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, and Clerk-Treasurer, who shall be chosen by the nomination and majority of votes by-annually (ever two years). 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 Baptists have no judicial authority over any local church.

CONSTITUTION (CON'TD)

Section 2. The North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptists 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 Savior Jesus Christ, and make recommendation to the Association for the ordination of said applicant. This council shall be composed of (5) five ordained men.

ARTICLE VIII

The Association shall meet on the third Saturday in April and 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 (1) one year.

ARTICLE X

This constitution may be amended at any regular session of the Association by a (2/3) 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.

NOTES:

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.
