

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 24<sup>TH</sup> Semi-Annual Meeting  
Of the North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptists

April 19, 2014

Laodicia Free Will Baptist Church

Hanceville Al

The meeting began with the song "Halleluiah, We Shall Rise", led by Bro Rodney Yerby.

Welcome given by the pastor, Rev Dennis Reeves. The church began in 1880-1890's.

Response given by Rev Henry Shellman, pastor at the First FWB of Decatur, who also led in prayer.

Morning Devotion was brought by Br Rodney Yerby of Madison FWB Church. The devotion titled "God's provision for us" was taken from Luke 12:24-28. It reflected on Jeremiah, Paul and Job and what they went through. Did they benefit from their testing? The simple answer to how God took care of these men is that He created the universe and He can use it as He wills. God promised to take care of us, too. He gives us "little by little what we need". Christ said that "in this world you will have tribulation, but I have overcome".

Association called to order by Br Richard Hendrix, moderator.

Credentials report given by the clerk: 1 church not represented by a letter, First FWB Huntsville Al. MMS&C to receive the report as read.

Minutes read and Treas report given. MMS&C to accept as read. Clerk also made a suggestion to give today's offering to the International Missions dept.

Dismissed for break by Br Craig McCarley, pastor of Cedar Creek FWB.

Meeting Resumed with the song "He Lives" led by Br Rodney Yerby. Prayer by Br Russ Detherage.

Reports:

International Missions report given by Bro Rodney Yerby who also showed a video of the 10 new couples and 2 single persons called to go and serve. Bro Yerby encouraged us all to lift these new missionaries up with prayer and giving through the WMO offering.

Br Henry Shellman made a recommendation to give \$350 to WMO and \$350 to Acts 1:8, Passed and Carried.

Informational reports were given by Br Russ Detherage and Br Ron McCraney on the works in Mongolia and Castle Rock CO. Bro Detherage reported that Joshua and Jennifer are expecting a baby girl, Ariunna, in June and ask for continued prayer and support as Josh and Jen develop curriculum and interject biblical teaching. It is a sacrifice to go to the dark places of the world to do God's work. Bro Ron reported that 9 were to be baptized at Truth FWB of Castle Rock on

Easter Sun, and that 2/3s of the money has been raised to purchase property to build a bldg in downtown Castle Rock. Praise the Lord.

Children's Home report given by Rev Kenneth Terry: God is blessing physically and financially. 850 children in 31 yrs have gone through the home. Currently serving 18 children, with 5 having accepted Christ this past year. A new couple from Lake Butler, Fl have come to be house parents. The mid-south Bible Conf will be held on campus in May and a Reunion of former residents is to be held June 21. The website for the home is [www.FWBHome.org](http://www.FWBHome.org). Br Terry thanked the congregation for their support and encouragement. Bro Rodney Yerby led in a special prayer for Rev Randy Wright of the Piney Grove FWB Church, where the children attend.

Rev Rick Cash gave the report on Acts 1:8 and the AI State promotional office. The building project for the Ex office is complete. God provided the funds and materials. The work at Sims AI (Mobile) should go self-supporting soon. He also gave a report on the way God has blessed in Uruguay and Russia -115 preaches and missionaries have graduated from the institute since 2001, and over 400 kids have been saved at the Church camp supported by AI FWB. 50 students have graduated from the Bible Institute in Mexico since 2009. AI FWB helped provide funds to get a Mexican pastor to Cuba to share the Good news. Bro Trymon Messer's book, "God Did IT", is being translated into Spanish for use in Cuba, Mexico and other Spanish speaking countries. The Cuban work has tripled in 10 yrs.

Attendance today was 38 with Cedar Creek FWB getting to take the Attendance plaque home to keep, as they have won it the last three times. Clerk was instructed to purchase a new plaque. Offering for today was \$133.

Message: Brought by Rev Rick Cash using the text from I Cor 15: 1-14

Simon Greenlee tried to prove the Resurrection was a myth. Evidence proves otherwise. Lee Strobbel and others have tried to disprove the validity of Christ. "Here is the Evidence of a Resurrected Christ".

- 1) Evidence of the Witness of Scripture
- 2) Evidence of the Witnesses and Saints, both early and latter
- 3) Evidence of the Witness of the Holy Spirit

All we have to do is examine the evidence to know it is real!

MMS&C to give rising vote of thanks to the host church for their hospitality and welcome today.

Dismissed in prayer by Br Ken Michael

Jean McCraney, Clerk

Amy Beck, Asst Clerk

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 49<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SESSION  
OF THE NORTH ALABAMA QUARTERLY ASSOCIATION OF  
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

October 18, 2014

Cedar Creek FWB Church

The 49<sup>th</sup> session of the North Al FWB Quarterly Association met at Cedar Creek FWB Church on Oct 18, 2014. Rev Richard Hendrix, moderator, called the meeting to order. Rev Craig McCarley, pastor of Cedar Creek, welcomed the congregation. Rev Henry Shellman, pastor of First FWB of Decatur, gave the response.

Song, "Just a Little Talk with Jesus" led by Br Jerry Golden, of Cedar Creek. Prayer led by Bro Mike Corley, director of FWB Children's Home in Eldridge.

Devotion was given by Rev McCarley, using Ezekiel 22:30 as the text. He encouraged all sister churches to: Feast on God's word, Wake up and Stand in the Gap. Persecution is coming. We need to study to show ourselves approved unto God! Wake up and Stand up, Christians!

MMS&C to accept the credentials report given by the clerk and to seat the delegates. 1 church not reporting by letter or Association fees, Hackleburg FWB.

BREAK

Rev Henry Shellman, asst Moderator, called the meeting back to order. Music "Victory in Jesus" led by Br Jerry Golden.

MMS&C to accept the Minutes and Treas report, as read by the clerk.

New Business:

Br Ken Michael, chair of the Nominating Comm gave the following report for election of officers:

Moderator-Rev Henry Shellman

Asst Moderator-Rev Craig McCarley

Clerk-Jean McCraney

Asst Clerk-Amy Beck

Br Shellman asked for any nominations from the floor, there were none. MMS&C to elect nominees.

Bro Shellman thanked the congregation and Bro Hendrix for their vote of confidence.

Attendance today was 37....First FWB Decatur won the new plaque!

Informational Reports:

The clerk read the following report, in the absence of Rev Rick Cash:

Greetings from your Executive Office, I regret not being able to be with you due to a Children's Home Bd meeting. Our 2014 Acts budget goal is \$552, 625. We must avg \$46,052 monthly to meet this budget. Sept receipts were \$14,033.66 less than we rec'd in the first nine months of 2013. It is also \$25, 677.70 behind what we need on a monthly basis to meet budget. Thank you N Al Assoc for your YTD giving of \$7, 516.60.

International Miss- 41.34% of the Acts budget goes to IM. This enables Alabama's own, the Lancasters, the Turnbough's and the Detherage's to serve.

Uruguay-Bro Jaimie reports that over the last yr one pastor took a job in Brazil and left, another left due to moral failure. The 2 churches that lost these pastors are doing well. Pray for us as we reach out to people in Montevideo. We are making inroads to plant a church in our neighborhood community. It is hard work, but we believe it will bear fruit. Pray also for the Morgans and Torrison's to get back to Uruguay asap. Their church plants are on hold until their return.

Mobile-The Bay City Church continues to work toward becoming a self-supporting church. They are avging in the mid 70's in Sun am worship attendance and near 60 on Wed nights. 135-140 people in the Mobile area now call Bay City FWB their church home. Praise the Lord for 5 saved in the last 2 wks. Sufficient funds in the Acts 1:8 budget were able to pay off the indebtedness to this mission project, however, due to a shortfall in the Acts giving, it has become necessary to cut some of the bldg funds from the budget. The total debt is below \$70,000 and the Mission Board just approved \$50,000 worth of renovation and parking lot. This should help with growth.

Alabama Home Missions-Pray for the Al Home Mission Board as they are now seeking God's direction for the next work. The Board is discussing and praying about new locations, potential church planters, and possible revitalization projects.

Partnerships- Our partnerships with Russia and Mexico are still ongoing with the support of 8 church planters and 2 Bible Institutes even though there are no pastors conferences scheduled this year.

Nov 5-7 will be the Al State Association meeting at the Fst FWB of Florence Al. Speakers will be Dr Junior Hill and Dr David Crowe.

State Executive Office asks all associations for help with archiving Associational minutes.

Rev Mike Corley gave report on the Al FWB Children's home: 1 child has been hospitalized near Dothan due to behavioral problems. Pray for this child. 2013 was a record year of giving. 2014 is \$60,000 behind. 6 salvation decisions during the summer. The cottage near the home is now being used as a Retreat Cottage for house parents. Friendship State Line holds benefit singing, tonight, Oct 18, the 10<sup>th</sup> anniv of singing. James, one of the teens at the home, has been accepted to go on E-Team mission trip. Be in prayer for James. Thanked congregation for continued support.

Castle Rock: Bro Ron McCraney reported on the mission work in Castle Rock CO. Approx \$10,000 needed to completely pay off the property. This means they are actively seeking funds for a building project now. Architects have come up with a drawing. They are currently leasing a facility for activities. A bldg. is vitally important for growth. Encouraged congregation to continue praying and to continue supporting all mission works, both Home and International. Don't just start giving and stop....continued support needed.

Mongolia: Bro Henry Shellman gave an update on the Detherages in the absence of Russ and Phyllis. Ariunna, is now 4 mos old and bringing joy. Jen has pulled a muscle in her back. Pray for her and for the salvation of Alphonso. Pray for the school.

Mexico: Bivens report that Crime has grown worse, please continue prayer for their safety.

Upcoming meetings:

April 18, 2015—First FWB Decatur AL

Oct 17, 2015—First FWB Huntsville AL

Thanksgiving Supper will be held at the First FWB Decatur, this year. Nov 25 @ 7:00 pm

Offering of \$163.00 today. MMS&C to round up to \$250 to go to the Children's home (\$1110 rec'd in Assoc fees to be sent to the State Assoc). Prayer led by Br Kenneth Terry

Special Music by Sis Grace McCarley, "He Knows My Name".

Message:

Rev Richard Hendrix, thanked the congregation for their support over the last 27 yrs he has been pastor of the Madison FWB Church. Br Hendrix announced his resignation from Madison and is "stepping out on faith to do what the Lord wants him to and to recover from recent back surgeries". He observed that the keys to longevity for pastors at churches is 1) Pastors are allowed to take time off, 2) Invitation of guest speakers. His ambition was to always live a Godly life and make a difference.

Using the text of Acts 9:32, Bro Hendrix brought the morning message. Peter was obeying the Lord's command to "feed my sheep" and Dorcas was living a life that "made a difference". The Holy Spirit works most where there is: faithfulness, urgency, love and prayer.

The 3 qualities of a life that makes a difference:

- 1) Belief in something
- 2) Felt Something-Compassion needed to believe
- 3) Did something-belief and compassion cause you to do.

What kind of work are you doing? If you serve Him, you will serve others. Will others, who are left after you die, be able to say you made a difference? Are you living for Christ?

Br Hendrix ended his message by asking all ordained men to anoint him and his back so he could be used by God.

Announcements- Mission Banquet to be held at the State meeting, Br Tim Riggs will be speaking. Clerk thanked Sis Patsy Shellman for her help in printing of the minutes and asked for special prayer for Sis Amy Beck's daughter, Anna and the Beck family.

Committees appointed by new moderator, Bro Shellman:

Presbytery: Ron McCraney, Chair, Rev Dana Booth, Rev Dennis Reeves

Nominating Committee: Bro Craig McCarley, Bro Ken Michael, Br Kenneth Terry.

Bro Shellman asked all churches for historical photos to be presented in a presentation at future functions. Please send to the Clerk or to him.

Nov 21 & 22 to be a special Anniv weekend at the First FWB of Huntsville.

Bro Kenneth Terry asked about the Children's Home Trustee nomination. Bro Ken Michael explained that committee thought this position would be retained until person holding said position no longer wanted it. Bro Terry was asked to remain on this board. MMS&C for him to remain.

Rising vote of thanks given to the host Church, Cedar Creek, for their hospitality today.

MMS&C to dismiss.

Rev Dana Booth, pastor of First FWB in Huntsville dismissed in prayer.

Jean McCraney, Clerk

Amy Beck, Asst Clerk