

North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptists



Minutes 2022 -2023

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**General Officers
2023**

Moderator

Dr. Paul Harrison
120 Pearle Cove Drive
Huntsville, AL 35806
(615) 506-7913
paulvh57@gmail.com

Assistant Moderator

Rev, Kenneth Terry
210 County Rd. 1219
Falkville, AL 35622
(256)709-2168
brokterry@aol.com

Clerk

Carolyn Michael
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Madison, AL 35758
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michaelcarolyn1@gmail.com

Assistant Clerk

Presbytery Committee

Rev. Kenneth Terry
210 County Road 1219
Falkville, AL 35622
(256) 709-2168
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Dr. Paul Harrison
120 Pearle Cove Drive
Huntsville, AL 35806
(615) 506-7913
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Rev. Cliff Tomlinson
1301 Cedar Creek Church Road
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(256) 898-4198
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Children's Home Representative

Nicholas Cagle
1931 Co. Rd. 1282
Falkville, AL 35622
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State General Board

Dr. Paul Harrison
120 Pearle Cove Dr.
Huntsville, AL 35806
(615) 506-7913
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North Alabama Associational Meetings

2009	April 18	Ebenezer FWB
	October 17	1 st FWB-Decatur
2010	April 17	Cedar Creek FWB
	October 16	Soul's Harbor FWB
2011	April 16	Ebenezer FWB
	October 15	Madison FWB
2012	April 20	1 st FWB-Decatur
	October 20	Soul's Harbor FWB
2013	April 20	Madison FWB
	October 19	1 st FWB-Decatur
2014	April 19	Laodicea FWB
	October 19	Cedar Creek FWB
2015	April 18	1 st FWB-Decatur
	October 17	1 st FWB Huntsville
2016	April 16	Madison FWB
	October 15	Soul's Harbor FWB
2017	April 15	Laodicea FWB
	October 21	1 st FWB Decatur
2018	April 21	Madison FWB
	October 22	1 st FWB Decatur
2019	April 20	Laodicea FWB, 29 th Biannual Meeting
	October 12	Madison FWB, 54 th Annual Meeting
2020	April 18	No meeting-Due to Covid
	October 17	Soul's Harbor FWB, 55 th Annual Meeting
2021	April 17	New Day FWB, 30 th Biannual Meeting
	October 16	Cedar Creek FWB, 56 th Annual Meeting
2022	March 26	Laodicea FWB, 31st Biannual Meeting
	September 10	Madison FWB, 57th Annual Meeting
2023	March 11	New Day FWB, 32nd Biannual Meeting
	September 9	Soul's Harbor FWB, 58th Annual Meeting

ASSOCIATIONAL DIRECTORY

CHURCH

PASTOR

CLERK

Cedar Creek FWB
1303 Cedar Creek Church Rd
Hartselle, AL 35640
(256) 773-2603

Rev. Cliff Tomlinson
1301 Cedar Creek Church Rd
Hartselle, AL 35640
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Charlotte Wiley
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Hartselle, AL 35640
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Cultivate FWB
100 Hwy 31 S – Suite K
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Rev. Joel Franks
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Rev Chris Frost.
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Soul's Harbor FWB
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Nicholas Cagle
1931 Co. Rd. 1282
Falkville, AL 35622
(256) 962-3575
nac308@gmail.com

Other Ordained Ministers

Cedar Creek

Kenneth Terry
210 County Rd. 1219
Falkville, AL 35622
(256) 709-2168
brokterry@aol.com

Cultivate Church

B. J. Eaton
18202 Red Tail Street
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Madison Free Will Baptist

Michael Rogers
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Ordained Deacons

Cedar Creek FWB

Jerald Wiley
1369 Thompson Road
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Cultivate FWB

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Soul's Harbor FWB

Dalton (Bud) Cagle
1939 County Road 1282
Falkville, AL 35622
(256) 565-6527

Inactive:

Paul Jones
1306 Benefield Avenue
New Bern, NC 28562
(256) 656-0299

Rodney Yerby
115 Maximillion Drive
Madison, AL 35758
(256) 337-1003
rodney.yerby@gmail.com

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 (2) 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 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 to 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 who 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 who has a bad character with those outside the Christian community.
- IX. This Association will not ordain anyone who does not believe in and practice the ordinances of the church.
 - A. Baptism by immersion
 - B. Communion (open)
 - C. Feet washing
- X. This Association will not ordain anyone who does not believe a believer can apostatize and be lost.
- XI. If any church has a minister or deacon that needs to be questioned by the Presbytery Committee for licensing, ratification, or ordination should contact the Chairman of the Presbytery Committee three months before the Association meets. This will enable the committee and the candidate to be better prepared at the Association meeting. Note that the Presbytery Committee also examines deacons as to their fitness for office. Any deacon installed by a church but who has not been examined by the committee will be not be issued a card of good standing by the Association nor will he be recognized as a standing delegate in the association meeting,

North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptists
Questions for Licensing and Ordaining of Ministers

(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 the 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.

**Proceedings of the 31st Biannual Meeting of
The North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptists
Laodicea Free Will Baptist Church**

March 26, 2022

The North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptists was held at Laodicea Free will Baptist Church, Hanceville, Alabama on March 26, 2022. The scheduled date for the meeting was March 12, 2022. It was rescheduled due to inclement weather.

The meeting was opened with a song, Joy Unspeakable, led by Rev. Eddie Vincent.

Moderator, Rev. Kenneth Terry, Pastor of Souls Harbor Free Will Baptist, welcomed the congregation.

Prayer Requests were given and we were led in prayer by Rev. Paul Harrison, Pastor of Madison Free Will Baptist.

All church letters were received.

Rev. Terry thanked the Laodicea Church for hosting the conference.

Special Music: Rev. Eddie Vincent, I Found Mercy.

Message: Rev. Dana Booth, Pastor, New Day Free Will Baptist Church.

John 9:1-11

1. Jesus was always involved in the lives of others.
2. Jesus taught us to be involved in the work and lives of other
3. Jesus gave us the pattern to follow. John 9:4-5. I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day. He night cometh, when no man can work. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world.
4. The words "I must" are in every great person for God.
5. Time is limited, night is coming.

Fellowship Break: The Host Church provided delicious food for the break.

The meeting resumed with congregational singing: At the Cross

The 31st biannual meeting of the North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptists was called to order by Rev. Kenneth Terry, Moderator.

Credentials Report was given by the Clerk, Alice Hood. There were five churches reporting. All letters and fees were received. MMS&C to accept the report and seat the delegates.

Treasurers Report: Clerk, Alice Hood. MMS&C

Business Committee Report:

1. We recommend that each church in the North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptists be strongly encouraged to promote and receive a special offering for Sarah Lovett to help fund her International Missions trip to France this summer. We also recommend that each church have special times of prayer for Sarah and this opportunity to serve the Lord.
2. We recommend that each church in our association promote and receive a special offering for Jose Correa and the Genesis Academy that he directs in Puerto Rico.
3. We recommend the following policy as to our associational monies, a policy only to be deviated from in emergency situations: Our Associational bank account should be maintained, when possible so as not to drop below a balance that would cause bank fees to be assessed.
4. We recommend the following amendment in our associational bylaws: Strike the sentence on term limits for our moderator and assistant moderator. We recommend that after discussion this be placed on the table to be taken up at our next meeting for possible adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Booth, Paul Harrison, Cliff Tomlinson

Items 1,2,3 were passed. Item 4 was placed on the table.

The Moderator appointed the Nominating Committee: Gerald Wiley, Rev. Mike Rogers, Rev. Cliff Tomlinson

Information Reports:

Alabama State Association of FWB - given by Bro. Dick Williams

Bro. Joel Franks and Bro. B.J. Eaton are in Athens, Alabama working to plant Cultivate FWB Church. New people are being reached and attendance is around 75 on Sunday morning. In October the state mission board approved adding a Hispanic ministry led by Amilcar Castro. Using the same facilities at Cultivate made this opportunity cost effective. Already a group of about 40 Spanish speaking people are meeting. Joint service recently had 122 in attendance.

Acts 1:8 giving for 2021 totaled \$605,919. This is the first time in its 24 year history the Acts program brought in over \$600,000. Glory to God! Thank you for that which was donated by your Association's churches.

Jose Correa in Puerto Rico reports 22 students in the Genesis Academy. The church attendance is 35 TO 40. A project is underway to raise funds for construction of a school building to accommodate classrooms for up to 100 students. This will be a great opportunity to multiply the work of the Lord on the Island.

Make your plans to attend our State Convention, April 27-30, 2022. It will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Hoover, which is connected to the Riverchase Galleria. David Sexton, Ken Braddy,

and Chip Henley will be our speakers. The Women Active for Christ and the state youth competition will be held as part of the convention. Two milestones will be celebrated: 25th Anniversary of Alabama Acts 1:8 and 75 years of ministry of the FWB Children's Home.

Alabama is hosting the National Association this year in Birmingham. Churches were requested to help with the financial responsibility by contributing \$600. Thank you to the churches which have given to this project. We need about \$500 to reach our goal. The theme is "Going the Extra Mile". We are asking for volunteers to help in different roles such as ushers, information table, choir member, working at the state booths, etc. Notify the state office if you are interested.

We are working on a multi-faceted approach to help churches who are struggling or in need of a pastor. I hope we can see this come to reality in the near future.

Thank you for allowing me to serve the Lord and Alabama FWB's in this position. If I can be of any assistance to you, please let me know. It would be my honor to help. You are in our prayers.

Danny Williams

Children's Home Report - given by Ms. Barb Williams

There are 26 children in residence.

Special Prayer Request:

1. That the children will have a spiritual desire to know God.
2. House parents for wisdom, understanding, to love as God loves.
3. Supporters
4. Relief parents.
5. Bridge House. It is under construction. Will have a young lady, a senior, to move in soon.
6. Coming up soon: Donut Dash, Fun Run, and camp.

Rev, Cliff Tomlinson gave special recognition to Bro. Bud Hill who passed away on March 3, 2022. He was 104 years old.

Alabama Women Active for Christ - Carolyn Michael, Alabama State WAC President

*Our meeting will be held along with the Alabama State Association meeting at the Wyndham Hyatt Hotel in April, 2022. Jaimie and Tammy Lancaster will be our guest speakers. There will be door prizes.

*All ladies who are members of a FWB Church in good standing are considered members of Women's Ministries. There are no membership dues. However, we should all give an offering to help keep WNAC funded.

*Deadline to apply for the Jimmy and Janie Aldridge Scholarship is March 30, 2022.

*Since the National will be in Birmingham in July, 2022, there will be opportunities for us to serve.

Shoebox Ministry

The collection deadline for shoe boxes will be September 10, 2022. This is the date of our next conference.

Delegates to the Alabama State Association on April 27-30, 2022 were appointed. They are Sue Tomlinson, Jean McCraney, Alice Hood, Carolyn Michael, and Marie Terry.

We had 31 people in attendance. The attendance plaque was awarded to Cedar Creek Church. The offering today was \$289.00. A \$100 offering was given to Dr. Joe Godfrey, Executive Director, ALCAP. The North Alabama Association will meet at Madison FWB Church on September 10, 2022.

Business concludes and worship begins

Congregational singing: Glad Reunion Day. Special Music: Rev. Eddie Vincent, "Who Am I?"

Dr. Joe Godfrey, Executive Director ALCAP

Dr. Godfrey shared with us some very important information:

***VCAP** is a bill that will protect children up to age 19, until the child is an adult, from being abused by parents who want to permanently change the sexual appearance of their child.

***SB324** is a bill that would ban the sale of marijuana to women who test positive for pregnancy.

***SB293** is a vote against the gambling expansion bill. If passed it would allow ten new casinos in Alabama.

***501 Lottery Bill** - Contact Legislators and Senators. Pray for these special items. If the governor would enforce the laws on the books, it would be taken care of.

Message: Dr. Joe Godfrey

Ecclesiastes 3 & 4

*There are two arenas in our life: Our relationship with God and our relationship with man.

*Life has its own time and place. Life and death, God is in control.

Psalm 31:14-15, my life is in your hands. How do we deal with these seasons? Romans 8:28

*We should accept the life God has given us. Rest in Him. We can be miserable or choose to be happy.

*In each generation we have the oppressed and the oppressors. Critical Race Theory is not the way to correct problems. The Word of God is the way. Romans 12:3

Time moves on. We can waste time or use it wisely for God.

Rev. Terry presented a certificate to Dr. Joe Godfrey recognizing his fifteen years of service with ALCAP. Rev. Terry gave special recognition to our Pastor's wives with beautiful bouquets of flowers. This is Pastor's Wives appreciation month.

North Alabama Association Treasurer's

March 12, 2022

Balance October 16, 2021 \$875.13

Income

Representative Fees +750.00
Offering +264.20

Total Income +1014.20
1889.33

Expenses

Alabama State Association FWB -264.20
(For National 22 - Birmingham
Expenses)

Gideon's International -100
(For Bibles in memory of
Pastor Glenn Hood)

Total Expenses -364.20

Balance March 12, 2022 **\$1525.13**

**Proceedings of the 57th Annual Meeting of
The North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptists
Madison Free Will Baptist Church
Madison, Alabama**

September 10, 2022

The North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptists was held at Madison Free Will Baptist Church, Madison, Alabama on September 10, 2022.

The meeting opened with a song, The Family of God, led by Rodney Yerby and April Trout.

Bro. Kenneth Terry, Moderator, welcomed the congregation.

Prayer Requests were given and we were led in prayer by Rev. Paul Harrison, Pastor, Madison Free Will Baptist Church.

Church letters were received.

Congregational Singing: A Shelter in the Time of Storm, Rodney Yerby and April Trout.

Morning Message: Rev. Eddie Vincent

Message: Psalm 119 - The Word of God

Fellowship Break: Madison Church provided delicious food.

The meeting resumed with congregational singing, All the Way My Savior Leads Me and Footsteps of Jesus, led by Rodney Yerby and April Trout.

The 57th Annual Meeting of the North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptists was called to order by Rev. Kenneth Terry, Moderator.

Rev. Terry thanked the Madison Church for hosting the conference and providing the good food for the break.

Credentials Report: Clerk, Alice Hood

There were five churches reporting. Three letters with fees were received. There were two letters with fees that were not received, but had been mailed. Delegates were seated. MMS&C

Minutes were approved as printed. MMS&C

Treasurer's Report: Clerk, Alice Hood

The report was approved.

Presbytery Report

We have not been informed regarding any licensing or ordination requests.

The item we placed on the table regarding amending our bylaws in regard to term limits is no longer needed since Rev. Ken Terry determined that he should not accept the nomination again for moderator.

Our annual joint Thanksgiving Service is scheduled for Tuesday night, November 15, at 6:30, at Cedar Creek FWB Church. The Cedar Creek Church will be contacting the various churches to inform them as to what food items they should bring. Cedar Creek will also be in charge of the service to follow the meal.

We recommend that the Association give a rising vote of thanks to Rev. Ken Terry for his faithful service as moderator. MMS&C

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Dana Booth
Rev. Cliff Tomlinson
Rev. Paul Harrison, Chairman

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee has the following report to submit to the body for their approval:
Each of the following offices carries with it two year term,

Moderator: Rev. Paul Harrison
Assistant: Rev. Ken Terry
Clerk: Sister Alice Hood
Assistant: Sister Carolyn Michael
Children's Home Advisory Board: Bro. Nicolas Cagle

Respectfully Submitted,

Nominating Committee:

Rev. Michael Rogers, Chairman
Rev. Cliff Tomlinson
Bro. Gerald Wiley

I move that these candidates be accepted as read and the nominating cease and we vote to accept them by acclamation. MMS&C

Information Reports:

Alabama State Association of Free Will Baptists -given by Rev. Danny Williams

Where we are:

*Alabama Acts 1:8 had a record year in 2021. Total receipts were over \$606,000.

*2022 is the 25th year of the Acts 1:8 Program. In those years we have raised over \$12.5

million for world evangelism.

*The plan supports mission works all around the world as well as here in Alabama. Presently we are slightly ahead of our budget at the end of August with \$411,700 given. North Alaba churches have given a total of \$7,889.39.

What is going on:

*Jose Correa family in Puerto Rico - We raised \$40,000 this year for the construction of a building to house the Genesis Academy. This will allow more students and provide an opportunity to start a children's home and still have worship services. There are 30 students in the school.

*The Athens work is growing with attendance in both English and Spanish services increasing (80's & 50's). Several people have been baptized recently.

*Cultivate Church in Athens has purchased a building of 19,000 square feet with an additional five acres. Renovating will be next.

*Anita Quinones had been unable to return to Uruguay from Cuba. She finally was able to return the week of the 22nd. The Quinones family is part of our funding partnership.

*We commend our volunteers and others who helped make this year's National Association of FWB so successful. It was a great meeting.

What is coming:

*Ministry Excellence Training @Trinity Camp	September 17
*Pastor Appreciation Month	October
*Alabama Sunday: Roll Call	October 2
*Ministers' & Wives' Retreat in Orange Beach	October 10-12
*Day of Fasting & Prayer	November 1
*Southern Ladies Retreat in Muscle Shoals	November 4-5
*Ministry Excellence Training with Ken Braddy in Dothan	December 10

Children's Home Report:

*Fall Harvest Drive - Check the list for needed supplies

*20th Annual Toy Run - December 3, 2022

There are 22 children at the home and 2 more are coming this week.

Landscaping and renovations are continuing. Our Director does a good job of keeping this work going.

The house parents are very special people and deserve a lot of credit. Some have served as many as 30 years. Some have served 20 years and some 8-9 years. The secret ingredient in the success of house parents is that this work is a calling to them.

Alabama Women Active for Christ - given by Carolyn Michael, Alabama WAC President
The National Convention was very good and such a blessing. Thank you to all of our willing helpers for the money you gave, your help with the gifts we gave away and everything you did to make it a success.

Our State WAC meeting will be in Birmingham in April. We have a new WNAC Director, Mrs. Ruth McDonal. She will be a wonderful leader for WAC.

If you are a member of a FWB Church, you are a WAC member. All you have to do is attend. Thanks again to all of our helpers.

Shoe Box Ministry

Turn in all shoe boxes by the end of October. Soul's Harbor is our collection site.

Cultivate Church Report - Melanie Franks

There is a lot of excitement at Cultivate Church. The attendance has been great and new records are being set each Sunday and also in the night services. Recently there was a work day. B.J. took down all the letters on the building and now the theater is gone. There are English and Spanish classes being taught. Melanie Franks wrote the curriculum and they are learning Scripture in Spanish and English. They are all working together on this, and are able to build relationships with the Hispanics. There have been several baptisms.

Cultivate Church is appreciative of all support. Recently they took up an offering at church of \$22,000. Bro. Joel is teaching them and challenging them to give.

Cultivate Church is hosting the WNAC Shine Event on October 8, 2022. They invite everyone to stop by and visit with them sometime.

The congregation today voted to give \$200 to Cultivate Church to go toward the debt on the new building. MMS&C

Business Concludes and Worship Begins

Congregational Singing - We Will Remember - Rodney Yerby and April Trout
Offering. Congregational Singing - It Is Well With My Soul - Rodney Yerby and April Trout
Special Music: It Is Finished

Message: Dr. Paul Harrison. Pastor

John 10:10 - I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

There were 31 people in attendance. The attendance plaque was awarded to Soul's Harbor

The offering today was \$154.00.

The congregation gave a rising vote of thanks to Rev. Ken Terry for his faithful service as moderator.

Dismissed in prayer.

Alice Hood,
Clerk

North Alabama Association Treasurer's Report

September 10, 2022

Balance March 2, 2022	\$1,525.13
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Income

Offering	+289.00	
Representation fees	+875.00	
Total Income		<u>+1,164.00</u>
		2,689.13

Expenses

Just Rite Printing (Programs)	- 16.50	
Dr. Joe Godfrey, ALCAP	- 100.00	
Alabama State Association	- 1,125.00	
National \$875.00 + State Fees \$250)		
Total Expenses		<u>-1,241.50</u>

<u>Balance September 10, 2022</u>	\$1,447.63
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**Proceedings of the 32nd Biannual Meeting of
The North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptists
New Day Free Will Baptist church
March 11, 2023**

The North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptists was held at New Day Free Will Baptist Church on March 22, 2023.

The meeting opened with a song, "I Never Shall Forget the Day", led by Bro. Chris Frost. Rev. Cliff Tomlinson led in prayer.

Handful of Purpose Shoeboxes and 45 backpacks were given by our Association in 2022. Boxes for 2023 will be due in October at Soul's Harbor Church.

Rev. Danny Williams, Executive Director of FWB's Reports:

Bro. Danny reported on the Midsouth Bible Conference. The speakers were Rev. Matthew Pinson and Rev. Danny Dwyer. In January, Alabama held several Mission Conferences at different locations. North Alabama had a Mission Luncheon where four different Missionaries spoke: Bud Bivens, Jose Correa, Jacob Austin, and Justin Feight.

The State Association will be held on April 26-29, 2023 at the Hyatt Hotel in Birmingham. The speakers will be Rev. Mike Cox on Wednesday night, and for the other sessions, Rev. Eddie Moody and Rev. Jim McComas. Bro. Danny stated that the Cultivate Project is proceeding and the money coming in well. Free Will Baptist Churches were asked to help raise \$40,000 and over \$20,000 has come in.

A WNAC SHINE Conference will be held March 18, 2023 at the Cultivate Church for teen girls 13 to 18. The A TEAM, for high school teenagers, will minister this summer at the project in Tifton, Georgia.

Acts 1:9 has been in effect for 25 years, giving \$13,000,000 (Million) dollars in this program. The giving this past year was \$601,303, meeting our budget. There will be a Task Force Meeting on "Healthy Church Strategy" with pastors to see if they can help local churches to become healthier churches.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Rev. Paul Harrison. The minutes were accepted as printed. Secretary Alice Hood said the letters were received and fees paid. The delegates were then seated. Four churches reported and one letter has been mailed. MMS&C

Nominating Committee Report: Rev. Mike Rogers

The Nominating Committee makes the following nominations:

Considering Sister Alice Hood is leaving Alabama for Oklahoma, we need to replace her as clerk. Sister Carolyn Michael has agreed to serve as clerk at least to the annual meeting in September. Therefore, we nominate Carolyn Michael to fill the clerk's office until the September meeting. We further suggest that the position of assistant clerk, currently held by Sis. Carolyn, be filled by Sister Jan Woodruff from Laodicea Church.

Bro. Moderator, I suggest that nominations close and we elect these by acclamation. MMS&C
Respectfully,
Mike Rogers, Chairman
Rev. Cliff Tomlinson
Bro. Gerald Wiley

The Presbytery Report: Rev. Kenneth Terry

Item 1:

- 1) Recommended that Bro. Chris Frost be licensed to preach the Gospel. MMS&C
Bro. Paul gave the right hand of fellowship to Bro. Chris.
- 2) Recommended Rev. Aaron Dawson be received as an ordained minister in the North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptists. MMS&C
Bro. Paul gave the right hand of fellowship to Bro. Aaron.

Item 2:

- 1) Recommended a committee be appointed by the Moderator, Bro. Paul Harrison, to update and make revisions to our current Constitution and By-laws. We ask that the recommendations be submitted to the September 2023 meeting of our Association for consideration.
- 2) Recommend that we change the time and order of the Association meeting by having a fellowship lunch at 12:00 noon, Saturday, September 9, 2023 and have the session after lunch on the same day. This would be a trial run. MMS&C
- 3) Recommended that we designate today's offering for the Cultivate Free Will Baptist Church, Athens, Alabama and send it to the state office to be disbursed. MMS&C

Respectfully Submitted"
Rev. Kenneth Terry, Chairman
Rev. Dana Booth
Rev. Cliff Tomlinson

Fellowship Break: New Day provided delicious food.

The meeting resumed with Bro. Chris Frost leading a congregation song, "Victory in Jesus".

Scripture recitations were given by Seth Ford and Abigail Morgan, Madison FWB, who will be entering the State Bible Competition in April.

It was stated that Rev. Milton Fields, long time preacher and pastor, is having various health issues. Bro. Ken Michael prayed for him.

The attendance plaque was presented to Madison FWB Church with 13 of their members present. The total attendance was 52. The offering today was \$700. \$450 will be sent to the State Office as approved and one \$250 check, made out to Cultivate, was given directly to them.

Worship Time

Special music, "The Revelation Song" presented by Bro. Chris Frost and his wife, Heather. Introduction of the speaker was made by Rev. Joe Franks. He stated that Bro. Amilcar Castro, from Honduras, is the Spanish Pastor at Cultivate Church and doing a great job. Bro. Mark Riggs translated the sermon for Bro. Castro.

Message: Rev. Amilio Castro

How many of you want to be blessed? If you want to be blessed, love what God does and the things of God. Read Matthew 14 when you get home. His main points for a Passionate Church were::

- 1) Love of others
- 2) Church that is filled with Compassion will have compassion for others
- 3) Mercy - God is a merciful God

The Treasurer's Report was given by Sister Alice Hood and accepted.

Alabama Children's Home:

Rev. Danny Williams gave the Children's Home Report. Our Home is doing well. There are presently 24 children in residence. The Toy Run was once again a success. The rainy weather dampened the attendance but not the generosity, The money raised exceeded \$150,000. Pray for our house parents requesting strength and wisdom. Pray for our children asking the Lord to speak into their lives.

Women's Ministries/AFWBWAC:

Sis. Carolyn Michael gave the Women's Ministries Report. She stated that the State Meeting will be April 28, 2023 at 1:00pm at the Hyatt Hotel in Birmingham. This is in conjunction with the Alabama Association. Sis. Jan Woodruff invited all ladies to the District Meeting on March 18, 2023 at 9:00am to be held at the Madison FWB Church.

Bro. Paul Harrison spoke of Sis. Alice Hood and of her move to Oklahoma. We gave her a standing vote of thanks for a job well done as Clerk of the North Alabama Association for the past two years.

Rev. Aaron Dawson closed the meeting with prayer.

Carolyn Michael
Clerk

North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptists Treasurer's Report

March 11, 2023

Balance September 10, 2022 1,447.63

Income:

Offering	+154.00
Representation Fees	+450.00
Representation Fees	+150.00
Representation Fees	+150.00

<u>Total Income:</u>	<u>+904</u>
	2,351.63

Expenses:

Just Rite Printing - Programs	-11.00
Cultivate Church	-200.00
Alice Hood (Copies of Annual Minutes	-14.00
Alice Hood (Stipend)	-100.00

<u>Total Expenses:</u>	<u>-325.78</u>
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Balance March 11, 2023 2,025.85

**Proceedings of The Fifty-Eighth Annual Meeting of
The North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptists
Soul's Harbor Free Will Baptist Church
September 9, 2023**

The North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptists was held at Soul's Harbor Free Will Baptist Church on September 9, 2023.

A Welcome and opening prayer blessing was given by Rev. Aaron Dawson. Lunch, provided by Soul's Harbor, was enjoyed by the ones present outside under the trees. Thanks was given to Soul's Harbor by everyone.

Children's Home Report:

Rodney Yerby, Board Chairman, reported on the AFWB Children's Home. The Home provides a safe, home-like atmosphere for the ones housed on campus. Bro. Rodney asked that we pray for house parents Kellie McNeal who had an ankle replacement, for other aging houseparents, and staff undergoing struggles. There is a Harvest Drive coming up and the Toy Run (Fund Raiser) in December. Please pray for these events. Everyone is invited to come visit the Home whenever they would like.

Women's Ministries:

Melanie Franks, the newly elected President of AFWBWAC/Women's Ministries, gave their report. She stressed that all women 12 to 112, are members of a Free Will Baptist Church, are part of this group. Melanie has a goal to reach out to all FWB Churches in Alabama to let them know they are part of us. She hopes to train and disciple ladies in our churches to equip ladies to make disciples.

Service:

The service started with a song, "Stand Up For Jesus", led by Robert Partain with Kelly Cox at the piano. Welcome was given by Rev. Mike Rogers to the Association and Rev. Cliff Tomlinson led in prayer.

Reports:

Rev. Joel Franks read Titus 2:1-15. He then presented his report for Cultivate Church. They are seeing visitors and averaging good numbers. Sept. 10, 2023 is their Grand Opening Service. They have invited all the people who helped renovate their building to this service. The new building will allow English and Spanish Services at the same time.

Special music was provided by Kori Dawson who sang, "Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me" before the message of the day.

Message:

Rev. Paul Harrison preached the sermon on “Can the Life Begun in Regeneration Ever Be Lost”. He stated that there are different schools of thought on this.

- 1) The Calvinist view is that there is preordained salvation of a select group.
- 2) The Armenian view is that salvation is achievable for all. Scripture can be cited to support both positions.

He then went on to explain the two schools of thought. The main thing is to follow Jesus. We have freedom to persevere or not in our faith. It is most important for us to know that straying from God is a real danger.

Business Session:

Carolyn Michael, clerk, called the meeting to order. The delegates were seated. There was a motion regarding the day's offering. It was recommended that the offering be divided between Vinemont Christian Academy and Cultivate Church.

The minutes were accepted as printed and are on the table for those who wish a printed copy. The Treasurer's Report was given, MMS&C

B.J. Eaton presented the Alabama State Association Report, as sent by Rev. Danny Williams, as information.

- 1.) Thankful for the support our Association provides for the Alabama work.
- 2.) Bro, Joel Franks and the Cultivate Team have been working long, difficult hours to complete the remodeling of the theater building. Their Celebratory Open House will be September 10, 2023. They still need funds.
- 3.) The ACTS 1:8 budget is \$605,000. That is slightly more than \$50,000 every month. By the end of July, we received \$342,300, a little over \$11,000 behind our goal. The Florida State Line WAC raised over \$12,000 with more funds on the way for ACTS 1:8
- 4.) In July, a handful of Alabama FWB visited Jose Correa and family in Puerto Rico. The trip was for the purpose of encouraging the missionaries and providing input to the vision and strategy.
- 5.) October 1 is our annual FWB Sunday. It doubles as Roll Call Sunday. Every church is encouraged to participate by priming Alabama FWB Ministries and calling in your attendance to your district moderator.
- 6.) Upcoming events are:
 - Pastor Appreciation - October
 - Ministers and Wives Retreat - October 2 - 4
 - Southern Ladies Retreat - October 6 -7
 - NAM Offering - November 19

Presbytery Report:

- 1.) Rev. Kenneth Terry reported that on July 8, 2023, Christopher Frost was ordained at New Day FWB Church. He is the new Pastor of New Day. Recommended that his credentials be ratified.
- 2.) There is a request for ordination of two men from Cedar Creek Church, Chuck Andrew and Eddie Cahoon, to become Deacons. We examined these men and we recommend they be ordained. The ordination service will be announced soon, and the Association is invited to attend. MMS&C

Respectfully Submitted,
Presbytery Committee
Rev. Cliff Tomlinson
Rev. Dana Booth
Rev. Kenneth Terry, Chairman

The Constitution and Bylaws were passed out. A committee worked on revising these. The main revisions were in the area of ordaining ministers and deacons.

- 1.) It states that the Presbytery Committee appointed by the moderator will then make recommendations to the Association regarding the ordination of said applicants, This committee shall be composed of at least three and no more than five ordained ministers.
- 2.) The committee recommends that we delete the CE Board Section because we have not had a CE Board for years. MMS&C

Rev. Aaron Dawson read a resolution from Soul's Harbor regarding consideration of support for Christian Education. MMS&C

Rev. Paul Harrison prayed before the offering of \$144.16 was given today. The attendance plaque was presented to Madison FWB with 9 members present. The total count for today was 37. There was a motion to adjourn. Bro. Ken Michael dismissed in prayer.

Carolyn Michael,
Clerk

North Alabama Association of Free Will Baptists Treasurer's Report

September 9, 2023

Balance March 31, 2023 \$2,025.85

Income:

Offering/Designate for Cultivate Church	+450
5 Churches Representation Fees@50	+250
Representation Fees 4 Churches@175	+700

Total Income: **+1,400.00**

Expenses

Alabama State Association	-950.00
(State Fees 5 Churches @50=250	
(National Fees 4 Churches@175=700	
Cultivate Church	450.00
Justrite Printers	39.60

Total Expenses: **-1,439.60**

Balance September 9, 2023 \$1,736.25

Explanation of Disbursements:

March 11 offering of \$700 was for Cultivate Church. \$450 was sent to the State Office to disburse. A check of \$250 made out to Cultivate was mailed to Joel Franks after the meeting. A check Representation Fee for \$175 came after the March 11 meeting and was mailed to the State Office.

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) delegates, with an appropriate representation fee as specified.

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, and Clerk-Treasurer, who shall be chosen by the nomination and majority of votes biannually (every 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 has no judicial authority over any local church.

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 a Presbytery Committee appointed by the Moderator to inquire into and examine each applicant for ordination, both ministers and deacons, and make recommendations to the Association regarding the ordination of said applicants. The Committee shall be composed of at least three and no more than five ordained ministers and make recommendation to the Association for the ordination of said applicants. This committee shall be composed of at least three and no more than five ordained ministers.

ARTICLE VIII

The Association shall meet on the second Saturdays in March and September, the March meeting considered the annual gathering.

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 Moderator to have the Presbytery Committee to examine this 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. The examination for ordination will include the above mentioned items required for licensing and also include a satisfactory examination respecting the life and labors of the candidate.

Section 2. No preacher shall be accepted or ordained in this Association as a preacher who has more than one living wife or whose wife has more than one living husband.

Section 3. No one shall be ordained as a deacon until he is put on trial by his church for at least one (1) year. After a successful trial period, the church shall request the Moderator to have the Presbytery Committee to examine this candidate for the diaconate. The church shall proceed with plans for ordination following a successful examination by the Presbytery Committee.

ARTICLE X

This constitution may be amended at any regular session of the association by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present.