

MINUTES
of the
Fifty-Sixth Annual Session
of the
North Florida Association
of Free Will Baptists

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which convened with
THE MACEDONIA CHURCH
Drifton, Florida
on October 11, 12, 1957

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The next session will be held with the Capital City Free Will Baptist Church, Tallahassee, Florida, on Saturday, October 11, 1958. Introductory sermon by Rev. T. F. Carlton.

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THE NORTH FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OFFICIALS

Moderator: Brother L. A. Grubbs Route 1, Box 185, Perry, Fla.
Assistant Moderator: Rev. E. J. Norman.....Star Route, Box 45, Tallahassee, Fla.
Clerk-Treasurer: Sister Lillian Grubbs Route 1, Box 137, Perry, Fla.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Brother Walter Fulford Monticello, Fla.
Brother Charlie Evans 2005 Dellview Drive, Tallahassee, Fla.
Brother J. W. Courtney Perry, Fla.
Brother O. A. Simmons Route 1, Perry Fla.
Brother Ben Coxwell 2810 Southwood Drive, Tallahassee, Fla.
Brother M. H. Cleveland c/o Police Dept. Quincy, Fla.
Brother T. J. Barnes Route 5, Live Oak, Fla.

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. H. A. Grubbs Route 1, Box 137, Perry, Fla.
Rev. T. F. Carlton Route 1, Perry, Fla.
Brother J. L. McDaniel Ocala, Fla.
Rev. J. B. Stewart Route 5, Box 270, Live Oak, Fla.
Rev. J. H. Turner Live Oak, Fla.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. This body shall open after each adjournment with prayer.
2. Call for letters, read and enroll names of delegates, ministers and deacons present.
3. Call for petitionary letters.
4. Invite visiting brethren to sit with us.
5. Call for corresponding messengers.
6. Unfinished business.
7. New business.
8. Executive and appointed committee reports.
9. Treasurer and ordaining council reports.
10. Election of officers and appointing of committees.
11. Installation of officers.
12. Adjournment.

MINISTERS, DEACONS AND COMMITTEES

Ordained Ministers

H. A. Grubbs, Route 1, Box 137, Perry, Florida
T. F. Carlton, Route 1, Perry, Florida
E. J. Norman, Star Route, Box 45, Tallahassee, Florida
K. J. Esther, General Delivery, Quincy, Florida
J. B. Stewart, Route 5, Box 270, Live Oak, Florida
J. H. Turner, Live Oak, Florida
Dewey Jones, 1807 Lime Street, Plant City, Florida
Calvin Bagley, Plant City, Florida

Licensed Ministers

Willie Rewis, P. O. Box 362, Highland City, Florida
T. C. Coxwell, 1720 Pepper Drive, Tallahassee, Florida
J. G. Mathis, Perry, Florida

Deacons

Claude L. Davis, W. Leon Street, Perry, Florida
L. A. Grubbs, Route 1, Perry, Florida
J. L. McDaniel, Ocala, Florida
W. F. Fulford, Monticello, Florida
Fred Stokley, Monticello, Florida
B. M. Yates, Lamont, Florida
Oscar Carter, Route 2, Live Oak, Florida
Ralph McKnight, Route 3, Live Oak, Florida
R. B. Miller, Tallahassee, Florida
Luther Allen, Tallahassee, Florida
C. E. Norman, W. Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida
D. D. Poppell, Perry, Florida
Gordan Brown, Perry, Florida
Luther Sadler, Perry, Florida
Coy Green, Perry, Florida
Sam Pitts, P. O. Box 242, Highland City, Florida
O. C. Arnold, P. O. Box 494, Eaton Park, Florida

Committees

Preaching: St. Johns Church
Temperance: Oak Hill Church
Finance: Capital City Church
Planning: Lake Bradford Church
Education and Sunday School: Mt. Carmel Church
Resolutions: Macedonia Church
Obituaries: Mt. Olive Church

Proceedings

The Fifty-Sixth Annual Session of the North Florida Association of Free Will Baptists met with the Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church at Drifton, Florida, October 11, 12, 1957. The meeting was called to order at 10 o'clock by the moderator. The congregation sang "Nothing Between" and "I am Thine, O Lord," followed with prayer by Rev. T. F. Carlton. "Tell It to Jesus" was sung and services turned over to Rev. J. H. Turner, who brought the devotional.

Rev. Turner read Psalm 1:1—2:3 and brought a very appropriate devotional.

Call for church letters. Letters were read and delegates seated as follows:

Macedonia—Mrs. Jim Glover, Mrs. Dorothy Stokley and Mrs. J. B. Smith.

Mt. Carmel—Wilburn Grubbs, Sisters Velma Grubbs and Arlene Davis Alternates: Sisters Nina Bell Grubbs and Martha Touchton.

St. John's—Sisters Zimmie Mathis, Letha Raulerson and Brother Wallace Blue.

There were no petitionary letters, visiting Brethren, nor corresponding messengers.

The congregation sang "Work for the Night Is Coming," followed with prayer by Rev. J. A. Brumby.

Introductory sermon was brought by Rev. T. F. Carlton from Romans 8:35-39. Subject: "Who Shall Separate Us from the Love of God?"

Dismissed with prayer by Rev. E. J. Norman.

Host church served a very delicious meal.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Song, "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone?" Prayer by Rev. J. G. Mathis.

Motion carried to seat Sister T. C. Norman, delegate from Lake Bradford Church.

No unfinished business.

New business left open until Saturday.

Nominations committee report adopted.

State League Board report adopted to be sent to the State Association.

Special committee on budget report tabled until Saturday.

Motion carried to adjourn and omit night services.

Dismissed with prayer by Rev. J. H. Turner.

SATURDAY MORNING

Song, "What a Friend." Prayer by L. A. Grubbs. Song, "Send the Light."

Moderator, L. A. Grubbs, brought the devotional from Psalm 23. Prayer by Rev. J. B. Stewart.

Call for late letters: Letters were read and delegates seated as follows:

Lake Bradford—Sister T. C. Norman.

Kight's Chapel—Brother Jack Brantley.

Capital City—No delegates.

Committee Reports: Temperance—adopted.

Preaching—adopted.

Education and Sunday School—adopted.

Resolutions—adopted.

Motion carried that moderator appoint various committees for the coming year.

Motion carried that new finance committee act today in absence of old committee.

Motion carried to take budget committee report off table.

Motion and second to adopt this report.

Motion carried to amend Article 2 of this report to read 25% instead of 50%.

Song, "At the Cross." Prayer by Rev. K. J. Esther. Song "Near the Cross."

Rev. Rufus Hyman brought morning message from Psalm 133. Subject, "Aaron's Anointing."

Dismissed with prayer by Brother J. L. McDaniel.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Song, "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms," followed with prayer.

Delegates to represent this body at the State Association are: Brother and Sister C. E. Norman and Sister Lillian Grubbs.

Motion carried to send fee of \$20.00 to State Association.

Lake Bradford Church was asked to write a card of thanks to the Macedonia Church to be printed in these minutes.

Motion carried to change name of committee from nominations to planning.

Quarterly meetings condensed minutes were read and approved. Card of thanks read and approved.

Officers were elected as follows:

Moderator, L. A. Grubbs

Assistant Moderator, Rev. E. J. Norman

Clerk-Treasurer, Mrs. Lillian Grubbs

Ordaining Council: Rev. H. A. Grubbs, Rev. T. F. Carlton, Rev. J. B. Stewart, Rev. J. H. Turner and Brother J. L. McDaniel.

Treasurer's report adopted.

Finance committee report adopted:

Special committee on rules and regulations report:

Motion carried to adopt this report, article by article. See Reports.

Motion carried to adjourn.

Dismissed by L. A. Grubbs.

L. A. Grubbs, Moderator

Lillian Grubbs, Clerk

REPORTS AS ADOPTED

The Capital City Free Will Baptist Church, Tallahassee, Florida, acting as temperance committee of the North Florida Association of Free Will Baptists submits the following recommendations:

1. That all Free Will Baptists be warned of the dangers of intemperance in any phase of life.
2. That disciplinary action be taken against those members who do not abstain from the use and sale of alcoholic beverages.
3. That Free Will Baptists take an active part in securing legislation to prevent the sale and use of alcoholic beverages.

We, the preaching committee, wish to offer this report to the North Florida Annual Association being held at Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church, Drifton, Florida.

The selection of preachers to conduct services at our quarterly meetings were as follows:

December 29, 1956, at Oak Hill—Rev. Ernest J. Norman.

March 30, 1957, at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Tampa—Rev. Raymond Roberts.

June 29, 1957, at St. John's Church—Rev. Huey B. Long.

September 29, 1957, at the Lake Bradford Church—Rev. Huey B. Long and Rev. Ernest J. Norman.

October 12, 1957, at Macedonia Church—Rev. Rufus Hyman.

The Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church

Education and Sunday School: We recommend that the teaching of the Bible and the Doctrine of Christ be taught in Sunday school and in our churches for the benefit of our children and adults for the glory of God and exaltation of Jesus Christ.

The St. John's Free Will Baptist Church

We, the committee on resolutions, recommend that all of our churches and pastors do more to further God's work and get more harmony and unity in the churches.

We feel that by doing this, we will cause the churches to cooperate in the association better.

The Oak Hill Free Will Baptist Church

The special committee on budget recommendations met with Brothers Roy Bozeman and Herman Grubbs present. We, your committee, suggest that the association adopt the following:

1. The ten per cent method of financing.
2. That 25 per cent be sent to the state treasurer to support the unified budget.
3. That the remainder be spent for whatever projects the association may adopt for itself.

Herman Grubbs

We, the finance committee, find that money sent in during the year by the churches is as follows:

Capital City	\$ 29.00
First Church of Quincy	15.00
Kight's Chapel	20.00
Lake Bradford	26.00
Macedonia	32.00
Mt. Carmel	146.94
Mt. Olive	18.00
Oak Hill	3.00
St. John's	8.00
Tallahassee	16.00
Tampa Church	16.00
Total	<hr/> \$329.94

Kight's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church

We, your nominations committee, recommend that the quarterly meetings be held as follows:

December 28, 1957—At Kight's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church and that we organize a district league convention.

March 29, 1958—At the Tallahassee Free Will Baptist Church and that we organize a district league convention.

June 28, 1958—At the Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist Church and hold a regular quarterly meeting.

August 30, 1958—At the First Free Will Baptist Church of Quincy and organize a district Sunday school convention.

We further recommend that the next annual session meet with the Capital City Free Will Baptist Church and that Rev. T. F. Carlton preach the introductory sermon.

Mt. Carmel Free Will Baptist Church

TREASURER'S REPORT

CASH	
Balance October 12, 1956	\$229.15
Annual, Mt. Carmel, October 13	48.00

December 29, 1956, at Oak Hill	45.00
March 30, 1957, at Tampa	63.00
June 29 at St. John's	90.11
September 28 at Lake Bradford	134.55
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	\$609.81

PAID OUT

October 28, 1956, Moderator	\$25.00
Clerk	25.00
October 29, 1956—10% to State	4.80
November 2, State Association Fee	20.00
December 31, Minutes	75.00
10% to State	4.50
March, 10% to State	6.30
Postage	2.20
June 29, Youth Camp	17.00
10% to State	7.21
July, Expenses to National Association	75.00
October 3, 10% to State	13.45
October 4, Bible	5.95
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	\$281.41
Balance in Treasury October 11, 1957	\$328.40

Minutes of Quarterly Meetings

December 29, 1956, we met at the Oak Hill Free Will Baptist Church. There were 9 church Letters, 19 delegates, 10 ministers and a total of \$45.00 sent in for associational purposes. Kight's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church was reinstated in this body. The special committee gave a partial report on rules and regulations for consideration of this body. 1956 Minutes were distributed. Adjourned.

March 30, 1957, we met with the First Free Will Baptist Church of Tampa. There were 8 church Letters, 13 delegates, and 6 ministers and a total of \$63.00. The Lake Bradford Free Will Baptist Church was added to this body. Sisters Doris Norman, Lillian Grubbs and Doris McDaniel were appointed to bring in a report as the state league board.

Ordaining council reports: Brother E. J. Norman and Brother Bass have been ordained as ministers, and Brother Allen as a deacon. Brother Calvin Bagley was ordained as minister during this session. Churches were asked to consider sending 10% of their total collection to this body. Motion carried to present ordaining council with funds to buy Bibles to present during ordaining of ministers. Adjourned.

June 29, 1957, we met at St. John's Free Will Baptist Church with 9 church letters, 23 delegates, 7 ministers and a total of \$73.11. The First

STATISTICAL TABLE

Church	County	Clerk and Address	Pastor and Address	Members Received	Dismissed	Total Membership	Paid Pastor	Other Church Expenses
Capitol City	Leon	Mrs. D. L. Hale, 2205 Thomasville Rd., Tallahassee, Fla.	Huey B. Long, 2131 Dellview Drive, Tallahassee, Fla.	2		27	\$1,040.00	\$1,767.27
First Church, Quincy	Gadsden	Mrs. M. H. Cleveland, % Police Dept., Quincy, Fla.	K. J. Esther, Gen. Del., Quincy, Fla.		2	25	1,035.00	860.00
Kight's Chapel	Suwannee	Mrs. Maude Cartier, Rt. 3, Box 163, Live Oak, Fla.	J. B. Stewart, Rt. 5, Box 270, Live Oak, Fla.	2		21	70.00	42.33
Lake Bradford	Leon	Melvin Herndon, Rt. 4, Box 396, Tallahassee, Fla.	E. J. Norman, Star Route Box 45, Tallahassee, Fla.	22		42	417.03	651.68
Macedonia	Jefferson	J. B. Smith Jr., Rt. 1, Box 247, Lamont, Fla.	Paul Irvin, Newton, Ga.			21	589.49	104.90
Mt. Carmel	Taylor	Hugh Davis, Perry, Fla.	H. A. Grubbs, Rt. 1, Box 137, Perry, Fla.	6		72	1,188.74	1,991.95
Mt. Olive	Polk	Mrs. Sarah Whitaker, P. O. Box 278, Highland City, Fla.	Dewey Jones, 1807 Lime St., Plant City, Fla.	2	1	42	440.47	233.47
Oak Hill	Suwannee	Mrs. J. G. Brim, Rt. 5, Box 271, Live Oak, Fla.	C. W. Burkett, Jacksonville, Fla.	1		44	211.54	59.13
St. John's	Taylor	J. G. Mathis, Perry, Fla.	T. F. Carlton, Rt. 1, Perry, Fla.	66		101	826.69	1,200.00
Tallahassee	Leon	Ben E. Coxwell, 2810 South Wood Drive, Tallahassee, Fla.	Rufus Hyman		7	27	421.77	222.35

Free Will Baptist Church of Tampa was granted a letter of dismissal. A report on the youth camp session was given by Sister Doris McDaniel, and a special collection of \$17.00 was taken for camp building fund. Special committee completed their report on rules and regulations, and each church is to receive a copy for study. A budget committee was appointed as follows: Rev. H. A. Grubbs, Rev. Roy Bozeman and Rev. Huey B. Long. A program committee: Rev. Huey B. Long, Rev. K. J. Esther and Brother Coy Green. Motion was carried to pay expenses of 2 delegates to National Association. Adjourned.

September 29, 1957, we met at Lake Bradford Free Will Baptist Church with 8 church letters, 15 delegates, 9 deacons and 8 ministers. The special program committee report was accepted to use in connection with our quarterly meetings. Brother R. B. Miller was ordained as deacon of Lake Bradford Church. Adjourned.

L. A. Grubbs, Moderator
Lillian Grubbs, Clerk

Constitution

Article 1. This shall be the constitution of the North Florida Association of Free Will Baptists.

Article 2. The object of the annual conference shall be to promote Christ's Kingdom among men by means in strict conformity to the Holy Scriptures.

Article 3. This conference shall be composed of ministers and active deacons who are members of churches belonging to this body, and of delegates from these churches. Each church shall have three delegates for the first 100 members or fraction thereof and one additional delegate for each additional 100 members of fraction thereof.

Article 4. The delegates from each church shall bear to the conference a letter certifying their appointment, showing the condition and statistics of the church and giving a statement of all funds raised during the year for denominational or other benevolent purposes.

Article 5. Meetings: (1) The sessions of this association shall be held on Saturday before the second Sunday in October.

(2) This association shall sponsor a quarterly meeting to be held on Saturday before the fifth Sunday in each quarter whose representation shall be the same as that of the association.

Article 6. Finances: (1) The general expense of the association shall be provided by each church according to its ability. The moderator and clerk shall receive twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) each per year, and the remainder of the money shall be used for minutes, postage and any other expense that may occur.

(2) Each church is requested to send 10% of its income to the treas-

urer of the quarterly meetings, and the association, for the different phases of the denomination work.

Article 7. The officers of this body shall be a moderator, an assistant moderator and a secretary-treasurer, who shall be elected annually for a term of one year and shall be assisted, if needed, by out-going officers. These officers shall be installed at the close of each annual session.

Article 8. This conference may at each regular meeting elect as many boards or standing committees as may be necessary in carrying out its benevolent purposes. These shall keep a record of their proceedings and make a report at each regular meeting of the conference.

RECOMMENDED CHURCH DECORUM

1. Each local church is a distinct and independent organization with full authority to manage its own internal affairs, elect its officers, receive, dismiss, discipline and exclude members. But this principle of independence is not held as a law of isolation; on the contrary, churches conveniently situated associate and cooperate in all things which tend to advance the common cause of Christ's Kingdom on earth.

2. The church may choose a pastor annually at the last conference in the associational year; or if it prefers, it may choose a pastor for an indefinite length of time, to continue from year to year, as long as they may deem it profitable to keep up the connection.

3. When a pastor wishes to resign a church he shall give the church a sixty (60) day notice; or when the church wishes to call a pastor it shall give the present pastor a sixty (60) day notice.

4. The pastor shall be moderator of the church, but when the moderator is absent or does not sit, the members of the church shall select one of the deacons to sit in his place.

5. There shall be two or more deacons in the church whose duty it shall be to superintend the collection and distribution of all contributions, and to assist the pastor in administration of the Lord's Supper and Washing the Saint's feet.

6. The deacons shall take notice of such members as refuse or neglect to partake of the Lord's Supper and endeavor to ascertain the cause that the same may be laid before the church in conference if necessary.

7. Some suitable member shall be elected clerk and it shall be his duty to do all the recordings and writing pertaining to the business of the church and to preserve a file of the minutes of the association.

8. When a clerk is elected, all of the books, minutes, etc., belonging to the church shall be delivered to the church, then to the new clerk.

9. Some suitable member shall be elected treasurer whose duty it shall be to distribute all funds as directed by the church.

10. A board of trustees shall be elected to serve indefinitely. They shall hold title to all property and convey said property in the discretion of

a four fifths ($4/5$) majority of those present in conference after announcement of at least thirty (30) days in advance.

11. Conference shall be opened and conducted as follows: (1) Prayer unless divine service has just been concluded and usually then; (2) invite visitors to seats; (3) read minutes of last conference; (4) read the treasurer's report; (5) check absentees; (6) call for acknowledgements; (7) ask for committee reports; (8) call matters of dealing; (9) elect officers when elections are due; (10) call for new and miscellaneous business; (11) close by motion and vote, and with appropriate services.

12. It shall be the duty of every church member to attend each conference meeting, if possible, for at that time the pastor is requested to instruct the church by giving plain and pointed lessons on doctrine, discipline and rules of holy living.

13. Any male member who shall fail to attend, or request exemption three successive conference meetings, and any church member who may be generally remiss in attending meetings of the church shall be cited to appear in conference and answer for his or her conduct; but the church may exempt members from this upon their request.

14. When the moderator calls for absentees, the clerk shall inform the church which male members have been absent from three successive conferences, and the moderator shall appoint some brethren to cite each of them to the next conference.

15. A vote shall not be taken upon a question without a move and second, and on all important questions the vote shall be taken by rising to the feet.

16. Visitors called in as help from sister churches shall be permitted to speak, make motions or seconds, but they shall not vote.

17. A motion to amend shall be the only motion in order while another move and second is before the conference, except a motion to table.

18. No member shall leave the house during conference without a sufficient cause, nor engage in conversation or whispering without being called to order by the moderator.

19. All discussions in conference must be conducted with calmness and good feeling. Those who speak must rise to their feet, and keep to the point in debate.

20. No one shall speak more than three times on the same subject without permission from the moderator, nor shall the remarks of anyone be longer than five minutes without permission of the conference.

21. When the moderator speaks he must address some brother as moderator until he finishes speaking.

22. No one shall be interrupted while speaking unless it be necessary to call him to order.

23. No member shall be expelled unless he has been cited verbally or in writing to attend his trial provided his residence be known to the church.

24. Expelled members may be restored to fellowship on their petition if their walk since expulsion has convinced the church that they have sincerely repented of their former evil.

25. When a witness, not a member of the church, is introduced he shall not be examined until the church has agreed to hear the testimony of the witness.

26. The evidence in every case of dealing and acknowledgment shall be recorded in the church book.

27. Only members in good standing are dismissed from the church, and these for no other reason than to unite with some other church. Such members receive letters of honorable dismissal, but are under the watch care of the same church until they are received into some other. A withdrawal without such letter is equivalent to excommunication and treated as such by the church.

28. Any person who confesses Christ may join the church by letter, baptism, statement, or restoration; but in all cases baptism must have been accomplished.

ASSOCIATION DECORUM—BYLAWS

1. The moderator shall call the association and quarterly meeting together as directed under the constitution.

2. Every minister, deacon and delegate shall attend.

3. The moderator shall see that order is preserved and submit all actions to the body. He shall have the same right of speech as any other member, but appoint some other brother as chairman while speaking. He shall not have the right to vote unless it be in case of a tie, then he may cast the deciding vote. The moderator shall be ex-officio member of all boards and committees.

4. The vice-moderator shall assume the duties, rights and privileges of the moderator in his absence.

5. No member of the general conference shall be at liberty to withdraw without leave of the moderator.

6. All business shall be brought before the body by a move and second. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject, and not more than ten minutes each time without permission from the body.

7. If any member, in the judgement of the conference, shall show anger in his discussion on any subject, he shall forfeit his seat in that conference.

8. No minister, deacon or delegate shall, during the sitting of the general conference, be at liberty to fill any place, as to preaching or hearing at the stage, only as liberty shall be granted by the conference.

9. Only one person shall be allowed to speak at a time and he must rise to his feet and address the moderator. No person shall be disturbed while speaking so long as he keeps to the point in debate, except by the

moderator, and then only to call him to order. The speaker must not use abusive language or personal reflections upon anyone.

10. No minister shall be considered in good standing that officiates in the rites of matrimony where either party has been divorced after becoming a Christian, except it be for fornication.

11. No minister or deacon shall be considered in good standing with this body who lives or teaches contrary to the rules and regulations of this body and the Bible.

12. All ministers serving churches in this association shall preach at least one sermon each year on doctrine and the covenant.

13. No church shall be recognized in this body who does not commune and wash feet at least twice each year and who does not have conference at least quarterly. The pastor's salary, number of conferences, and the number of communion and feet washing services shall be contained in the associational letter.

14. Each conference shall open with suitable devotions and prayer and close with prayer.

15. The minutes of the conference shall be signed by the moderator and clerk.

16. These bylaws may be amended in the general conference by a majority vote.

Church Covenant

Having been brought, as we believe, by divine grace to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Preserver, we do now solemnly and joyfully covenant and agree, by God's help, to walk together in brotherly love.

We, therefore, enter into covenant as members of this church and as Christians, that we will watch over each other in love, sharing together each other's joy and sorrows; that we will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, nor omit the great duty of prayer for ourselves and others; that by divine assistance we will endeavor to bring up those under our care in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; that in all things we will strive to exemplify our profession by a corresponding practice to abstain from all sinful conformity to the world, to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in all our deportments; that we will abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage; that we will sustain the worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrine of this church; that we will contribute cheerfully, according to our ability, to the poor and the general spread of the gospel.

THE ORGANIZATION OF A CHURCH

1. When any number of believers desire to be organized into a Free Will Baptist church, they are examined by one or more regular Free Will Baptist ministers in reference to their Christian character, doctrines and

ability to sustain a church. If the examination is satisfactory the applicants are organized into a church as follows: The Bible is presented as the only rule of faith and practice. The Church Covenant is adopted. A prayer of consecration is offered. The hand of fellowship is given and the officers are elected and installed.

2. After being thus constituted, they shall be at liberty out of the number of regularly ordained ministers to choose a pastor who shall preside over them.

THE MINISTRY

1. No member of our connection shall be at liberty to take upon himself the public ministry of the Word unless he feels divinely called and make report of same to the church. If the church shall be satisfied with the qualifications and call of this person, she may grant him license to preach the gospel, signed by the pastor and the clerk.

2. If he is found useful, the church may recommend said person to the ordaining council. The recommendation shall be signed by the pastor and clerk of the church where the applicant holds membership.

3. It shall be the duty of said council to examine such applicants as may come before them for ordination on the principles and doctrines of the Bible and practices of the original Free Will Baptist church, and on his ability to expound the gospel. If he is found worthy, said council shall furnish him with a certificate of ordination after they have ordained him by fasting, laying on of hands, prayer, a charge and the hand of fellowship.

4. When a minister of another denomination desires to unite with one of our churches as a minister, he first becomes a member of some church, then in his case the proceedings are the same as those in ordaining a licentiate.

5. A. The minister, for disorder or transgression, shall be dealt with by the church where his name is enrolled, or by any church over which he presides as pastor.

B. The offended church shall report him by letter, signed by the clerk and the moderator, to the ordaining council who shall examine him. The council will the cancel his credentials, put offender on probation as a licentiate, or hold him in good standing. Whatever the finding, a full report will be made to offended church.

6. The church against a minister shall not receive an accusation but at the mouth of two or three witnesses (Matthew 18:16).

7. Ministers and preachers shall be considered members, and their names continue with the church where they first became members, until regularly dismissed.

ASSOCIATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Committee shall be composed of one member from each church, recommended to the annual conference by the church.

The moderator of the association shall act as chairman until the com-

mittee holds an organizational meeting, at which a chairman and a secretary will be elected from its membership. A brief record of all business will be submitted to the annual conference for approval.

DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEE:

1. To act on all matters pertaining to the association as it is the association between conferences.
2. To settle differences between churches; to settle differences between a church and a minister; and any other matters a local church is unable to settle.
3. To assist other conference officers in furthering the goals of this association and to aid ministers in proclaiming God's Word to all churches.

CARD OF THANKS

We, the preachers, deacons, delegates and visitors, wish to extend our heartfelt thanks for your fellowship and love you have shown the association from the Macedonia Church.

May God lead and guide you in everything you do.

E. J. Norman

FREE WILL BAPTIST ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe that there is but one living true and eternal God, the Father, of whom are all things from everlasting to everlasting, glorious and immutable in all His attributes (1 Corinthians 8:6; Isaiah 40:28).
2. We believe that there is one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, the only begotten Son of God, born of the virgin Mary whom God freely sent into this world, because of the great love wherewith He loved the world, and Christ as freely gave Himself a ransom for all; tasting death for every man, who was buried and rose again the third day, and ascended into heaven from whence we look for Him the second time in the clouds of heaven at the last day to judge both the quick and the dead (1 Timothy 2:56; Hebrews 2:9; St. John 3:16; Revelation 1:7; Acts 24:15; 1 John 2:2).
3. We believe that there is one Holy Ghost, the precious gift of the Father through His dear Son, unto the world; who quickeneth and draweth sinners home to God (St. John 16:7-8; Acts 2:4; Ephesians 4:4-6; Ephesians 2:1).
4. We believe that in the beginning God made man upright and placed him in a state of glory without the least mixture of misery, from which he voluntarily, by transgression fell, and by that means brought on himself a miserable and mortal state subject to death (Genesis 2:17; 3:19).
5. We believe that God is not willing that any should perish; but that all should come to repentance and the knowledge of the truth, that they might be saved, for which end Christ hath commanded the gospel to be preached among all nations and to every creature (Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47; John 3:15-17; 7 Timothy 2:4).

6. We believe that no man shall suffer in hell for want of a Christ who died for him, but as the Scripture has said, for denying the Lord that bought them because they believe not in the name of the only begotten Son of God, unbelief therefore being the cause why the just and righteous God of heaven will condemn the children of men; it follows against all contradictions that all men at one time or an other, are found in such capacity as that through the grace of God they may be eternally saved (Acts 17:30; Mark 6:6; Hebrews 3:10; 1 John 5:10).

7. We believe the whole Scripture is infallibly true, and that they are the only rules of faith and practice (2 Timothy 3: 16, 17).

8. We believe in the doctrine of general provision made of God in Christ, for the benefit of all mankind who repent and believe the gospel (Luke 14:16-20; Luke 13:3-5; Luke 24:47; Matthew 28:19, 20; Acts 3:19; Mark 1:15).

9. We believe that sinners are drawn to God, the Father, by the Holy Ghost, through Christ His Son, and that the Holy Ghost offers His divine aid to all the human family, so as they all might be happy, would they give place to His divine teaching whereas such who would not receive the divine impressions of His Holy Spirit shall at a future day, own their condemnation just, and cause themselves with their own damnation for wilfully rejecting the offers of sovereign grace (Matthew 11:27; St. John 6:44-65; Psalm 1:1; Titus 2:11, 12; Jeremiah 22:29).

10. We believe that men, not considered simply as men, but ungodly men, were of old ordained to condemnation, considering such who turn the grace of God into lasciviousness, denying the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ who bought them, and therefore, shall bring upon themselves swift destruction but we observe that they and such the apostle saith because they receive not the love of the truth that they might be saved, therefore, the indignation and wrath of God is upon every soul of man that doeth evil, living and dying therein for there is no respect of persons with God (Judges 1:4; 2 Peter 2:1, 2; 2 Thessalonians 2:11, 12; Romans 2:9-11).

11. We believe that all children dying in infancy, having not actually transgressed against the law of God, in their own persons are only subject to the first death, which was brought on them by the fall of the first Adam and not that any of them dying in that state shall suffer punishment in hell by the guilt of Adam's sin, for of such is the Kingdom of God (1 Corinthians 15:2; Matthew 18:2-5; Mark 9:36, 37; Matthew 19:14).

12. We believe that good works are the fruits of a saving faith and that in the use of the means of grace, and not out of the use of those means, eternal life is promised to men (Revelation 22:14, 15; Isaiah 1:19, 20; Matthew 7:8; Jeremiah 6:16; Luke 13:34, 35).

13. We believe that no man has any warrant in the Holy Scriptures for justification before God through his own works, power or ability, which he has in and of himself, only as he by grace is made able to come to God, through Jesus Christ; believing the righteousness of Jesus Christ to be im-

puted to all believers for their eternal acceptance with God (Romans 4:24; Acts 8:20, 21).

14. We believe that all things are foreseen in the wisdom of God, so that God knoweth whatever can or cannot come to pass upon all supposed conditions, yet not having decreed any person to everlasting life, out of respect or mere choice, farther than He hath appointed the Godly unto life and the ungodly who die in sin unto death (Hebrews 4:13; Proverbs 8:22, 31; Matthew 25:31-46).

15. We believe, as touching gospel ordinances, in believers' baptism. laying on of hands, receiving of the sacrament in bread and wine, washing the saints' feet, anointing the sick with oil in the name of the Lord, fasting. prayer, singing praise to God and the public ministry of the Word, with every institution of the Lord we shall find in the New Testament (Mark 16: 15, 16; Acts 8:17, Acts 19:6; Luke 22:19, 20; John 13:5-17; James 5:14).

16. We believe the gospel mode of water baptism is by immersion, and the believers are the only subjects for baptism (Matthew 3:16; Mark 1:9, 10; Acts 2:38, 39; Romans 6:4; Colossians 2:12).

17. We believe in a general resurrection of the dead and a final judgment at the last day (John 5:28, 29; 2 Corinthians 5:10).

18. We believe the happiness of the righteous is eternal and the torments of the wicked are endless (Matthew 25:46).