

MINUTES
OF THE
FIRST ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
NORTHEAST FLORIDA ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL BAPTIST

CONVENED WITH
Liberty Free Will Baptist Church

October 15, 1955



The Next Session Will Be Held With

UNITY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

2816 Edison Avenue

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1956

PRESIDING OFFICERS

Rev. W. A. Hansley, Moderator Jacksonville, Fla.
Rev. J. C. Jamison, Clerk Jacksonville, Fla.

OFFICERS: 1955 - 1956

Rev. W. A. Hansley, Moderator Jacksonville, Fla.
Rev. J. C. Jamison, Assistant Moderator .. Jacksonville, Fla.
Harley Andreu, Clerk 640 Day Ave., Jacksonville, Fla.
Donald Dingman, Reading Clerk
653 Melba St., Jacksonville, Fla.
Rev. Q. Hansley, Treasurer Jacksonville, Fla.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. W. A. Hansley Jacksonville, Fla.
Rev. J. C. Jamison Jacksonville, Fla.
Harley Andreu Jacksonville, Fla.
Rev. S. H. Caudill Jacksonville, Fla.
Willard Barton Jacksonville, Fla.

ORDAINING COUNCIL and CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Rev. C. J. Pitts Jacksonville, Fla.
Rev. S. H. Caudill Jacksonville, Fla.
Rev. Q. Hansley Jacksonville, Fla.

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

L. W. Fortner 1437 Market St., Jacksonville, Fla.

PUBLICITY

Mrs. L. L. Farmer .. 1093 Woodstock Ave., Jacksonville, Fla.

MINISTERIAL ROLL

D. E. Bias 3543 Andrews St., Jacksonville, Fla.
G. W. Burkett 1617 E. 12th St., Jacksonville, Fla.
S. H. Caudill 5104 Highway Ave., Jacksonville, Fla.
W. A. Hansley 5856 Timuquanna Rd., Jacksonville, Fla.
Q. Hansley 5856 Timuquanna Rd., Jacksonville, Fla.
J. C. Jamison 2110 Forest Hills Rd., Jacksonville, Fla.
T. O. Morgan 2285 Orchard St., Jacksonville, Fla.
C. J. Pitts 540 James St., Jacksonville, Fla.

LICENTIATES

C. N. Burroughs 514 Nixon St., Jacksonville, Fla.

Church	Pastor	Clerk & Address	Members Received	Dismissed	Died	Total Membership	Paid Pastor	Funds to Ass'n	Meeting Days
First of Jacksonville	D. E. Bias	Bithey M. Wilcox 2947 Thomas St., Jacksonville, Fla.	18	7	0	66	\$1935.24	\$ 5.00	Full Time
Friendship	J. C. Jamison	Elizabeth Steel Rt. 6, Box 259x Mandarin, Fla.	2	4	0	23	.00	5.00	Full Time
Liberty	S. H. Caudill	Mamie Anderson 2372 Orchard St. Jacksonville, Fla.	12	0	2	58	210.00	5.00	Full Time
Unity	W. A. Hansley	W. L. Collins 218 Shortreed St. Jacksonville, Fla.	32	8	0	204	3390.00	10.00	Full Time
110th St. Mission	Q. Hansley	Jewell Hansley 5836 Timuquanna Jacksonville, Fla.	3	3	0	9	.00	5.00	Full Time

PROGRAM FOR THE FIRST ANNUAL SESSION
of
THE NORTHEAST FLORIDA ASSOCIATION

October 15, 1955

Morning Session

- 9:30—Song by Congregation
9:35—Prayer
9:40—Meeting called to order and Moderator's Message.
9:45—DevotionRev. Charles Jamison
9:55—Welcome AddressSister W. W. Peterson
10:00—ResponseBrother Joe L. Harvey
10:05—Call for letters, Read and enroll names of Delegates
and Ministers present.
10:30—Election of Officers.
11:00—Invite visiting Brothers and Sisters to seat with us.
11:05—Call for Corresponding Messengers.
11:10—Appointing of Committees.
11:30—Ten Minute Recess.
11:40—Worship Hour MessageRev. C. J. Pitts
12:45—Lunch.

Afternoon Session

- 1:30—DevotionRev. C. N. Burroughs
1:45—Executive and Committee Reports.
2:10—Treasurer and Ordaining Council Reports.
2:30—Call for Unfinished Business.
3:00—Adjournment.

PROCEEDINGS

The first annual session of the Northeast Florida Association of Free Will Baptist met at Liberty Church, 19th Street and Melson Ave., Jacksonville, Florida on October 15, 1955.

Morning Session

The Congregation was led in singing that wonderful old song, "My Redeemer" by Brother L. Fortner, followed by a prayer by Rev. C. J. Pitts.

The meeting was called to order by the moderator, Rev. W. A. Hansley. The theme of the moderator's message to the body was "Unity".

The opening devotion was conducted by the Rev. Charles Jamison, reading from Isaiah 54: 1-10, emphasizing Verse 2, "Lengthen Thy Cords and Strengthen Thy Stakes".

The program which was planned by the Program Committee was adopted to be followed as closely as possible.

The Address of Welcome was given by Sister W. W. Peterson. The Response by Brother W. L. Collins.

Call for Church Letters. With the receiving of the Letters, Brother Harley Andreu was appointed Reading Clerk. The Letters were read and adopted, delegates being seated as follows:

Liberty: Brother and Sister Vinning, Sister S. H. Caudill, Sister Mamie Anderson and Sister Geneva Tillis.

110th Street Mission: Sister Jewell Hansley.

Friendship: Brother and Sister W. N. Andreu, Sister Ethel Jamison and Sister Elizabeth Steel.

First of Jacksonville: Brother J. L. Alligood and Brother R. L. Armstrong.

Unity: Brother L. Fortner, Brother Willard Barton, Sister Kathleen Collins, Sister Arrow Jones and Brother Donald Dingman.

A Finance Committee was appointed by the Moderator composed of Brother W. M. Andreu, Brother J. L. Alligood and Sister Hazel Vinning.

A Digest Committee was appointed by the Moderator composed of Sister Kathleen Collins, Rev. C. J. Pitts and Sister Geneva Tillis.

Visiting Ministers were recognized and welcomed as follows:

Rev. Chester Pelt—Salem Association.

Rev. W. W. Eiland—Treasurer of Florida State Association.

Rev. D. E. Bias—Huntington, W. Va., called as Pastor by the First Church of Jacksonville.

Rev. J. L. Grizzard—North Florida Association.

Rev. Andrew Harvey—of the Methodist Denomination.

The Ministers from the Northeast Florida Association were recognized and seated as follows:

Rev. C. J. Pitts, Rev. Q. Hansley, Rev. T. O. Morgan, Rev. S. H. Caudill, Rev. W. H. Hansley and Rev. Charles Jamison.

The election of officer was entered into after prayer by Rev. S. H. Caudill asking God's Divine Guidance. Rev. W. A. Hansley was re-elected Moderator, Rev. Charles Jamison, Assistant Moderator.

The question then arose concerning the Deacons. A Motion was made and carried that all Deacons of the Churches be seated as standing members of the body and be allowed to vote.

Deacons recognized and seated as follows:

Brother W. M. Andreu, Brother W. L. Collins, Brother Cecil Vinning, Brother Willard Barton, Brother J. L. Alligood, Brother A. L. Armstrong, Brother G. W. Cloud and Brother Harley Andreu.

The election of officers continued, Brother Harley Andreu being elected Clerk, Brother Donald Dingman Reading Clerk, Rev. Q. Hansley, Treasurer and Brother L. Fortner, Music Director.

Motion was made and carried that the recess be omitted and to continue with the election of officers.

Rev. S. H. Caudill and Brother Willard Barton were elected members of the Executive Committee; Rev. C. J. Pitts, Rev. S. H. Caudill and Rev. Q. Hansley, Ordaining Council and Credential Committee; Sister L. L. Farmer, Publicity Committee.

Motion was made and carried that the Executive Committee compose the Program Committee.

The hour of worship having arrived, the congregation was led in the song service by Brother L. Fortner. The Message was brought by Rev. Chester Pelt, reading from Genesis, 1:26-28, using as his theme, "God's Grace". Dismissed by prayer for the lunch hour.

Dinner was provided by the ladies of the various Churches, which was indeed enjoyed by all, along with the fellowship.

Afternoon Session

Following the singing of the song "By and By", led by Brother L. Fortner, the afternoon devotion was conducted by Rev. D. E. Bias, reading from First Timothy 4:12-16, using as his theme, "The Duties of the Ministry".

The Moderator called the meeting to order and called for the reports of the Committees.

The report of the Credential Committee and the Ordaining Council was read and adopted. (See report)

The report from the Executive Committee was read and accepted. (See report)

The Constitution for the Association was read and drawn up by the Executive Committee and adopted after making a few minor changes. (See Constitution)

Other Committee reports were read and adopted as follows: Digest Committee, Finance Committee and the Committee on Committees. (See report)

A motion was passed that a free will offering be taken up to assist in the paying for the printing of the minutes. (Amount of offering \$22.56)

The Moderator called for new business.

Rev. Chester Pelt announced that the Florida State Ladies Auxiliary would meet at Piney Grove Church on October 22, 1955.

Rev. G. L. Grizzard announced that the Florida State Association would meet November 4-5, 1955, and that the Ministers and Deacons would convene November 3, 1955, and that Rev. D. E. Bias would bring the message. He also requested that this Association consider inviting the State Association to convene in Jacksonville in 1956.

A motion carried that a petitionary letter be prepared and that delegates be selected to attend the State Association.

The Moderator asked for volunteers to attend the Association as Delegates.

Those volunteering: Brother and Sister Donald Dingman, Sister G. W. Cloud and Brother and Sister Lester Yeomans.

A motion was passed that the required finances be sent by the delegates to the State Association.

A motion was made and carried that a committee be appointed by the Chair to prepare a uniform letter for the Churches to use in making reports to the Association.

Committee appointed: Sister G. W. Cloud, Rev. C. J. Pitts and Brother Cecil Vinning.

A motion was passed that when a Church of the Association was holding Revival Services that the other Churches give the fullest co-operation by supporting it with their presences and to lay aside their mid-week prayer service in order to give their fullest support.

A letter was read by Brother G. W. Cloud from Rev. Chester Huckaby in regards to the Superannuation Program and that Rev. K. V. Shutes would like to visit the churches in the Jacksonville area to present the program more fully.

A motion was passed that the Florida State Association be invited to convene in the Jacksonville area in 1956.

A motion was passed that if the State Association accepts the invitation, that the meeting be held at Unity Church.

A motion was made and carried to adjourn. The Session was adjourned after singing "Blest Be The Tie" and a prayer by Rev. J. L. Grizzard.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Committee on Committees

We, your Committee on Committees, recommend as follows: Christian Education and Missions, Unity; Support of Ministry and Sunday Schools, First; Obituary and Destitutions, Liberty; Resolutions and Temperance, Friendship; Superannuation and Denominational Literature, 110th St. Mission. We recommend that each Church appoint a Committee

of three (3) to report for the next association meeting in 1956.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. C. J. Pitts
(Mrs.) Geneva Tillis
(Miss) Jewell Hansley

Finance Committee

We, your Finance Committee, find the amount of \$30.00 sent in for Association purposes and that there is an expense of approximately \$10.00 for the cost of paper and material to print minutes. We recommend that the balance of this money be held in the treasury for other Associational purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

W. M. Andreu
Hazel Vinning
J. L. Alligood

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee reports that they have met twice for the purpose of setting a new date for the meeting of the Association and for the drawing up of the Constitution.

Respectfully submitted,

W. A. Hansley
Charles Brown
Willard Barton
J. L. Alligood
J. C. Jamison

Credentials Committee and Ordaining Council

We, your Credentials Committee and Ordaining Council wish to report as follows: Upon examination of Brother D. E. Bias, we find him in good standing where he came from and

since he has been called to the First Church here and accepted, we recommend that he be accepted under the watchcare of this body pending an official letter from his Church, after which he will be received in full fellowship. We also recommend Brother Charles Jamison's Ordination.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. W. A. Hansley

Rev. C. J. Pitts

Rev. S. H. Caudill

Digest Committee

The four churches and one mission with a total membership of 359 are in good spiritual condition. Received by letters, 67; for Baptism, 39; dismissed, 22; died, 2; five Sunday Schools with a combined enrollment of 224, 12 officials and 23 teachers; one league with enrollment of 68; 2 ladies' auxiliaries; 2 Bible Schools with enrollment of 165; paid Pastors a total of \$5,535.74; paid Evangelist \$331.47; Home Mission, \$25.00; Foreign Mission, \$245.00; Christian Education, \$100.00; Unified Program, \$120.00; building repairs, \$5,102.09; 8 Ordained and one Licensed Minister.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Collins

C. J. Pitts

Geneva Tillis

FAITH and PRACTICES OF THE FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Articles of Faith

1. **The Bible.** The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. **God.** There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the true Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe; and in the Scriptures as Father, Son and Holy Ghost, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore and obey.

3. **Christ.** Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified, He is now risen and glorified, and is our ever present Savior and Lord.

4. **The Holy Spirit.** The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God.

5. **The Government of God.** God Exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace, not otherwise provided for, as the the highest welfare of man requires.

6. **The Sinfulness of man.** Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherit a fallen nature, of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability, sin, and bcome guilty before God.

7. **The Work of Christ.** The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

8. **The Terms of Salvation.** The conditions of salvation are: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin and bcomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

9. **Election.** God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

10. **Freedom of the Will.** The human will is free and self controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.

11. **Salvation Free.** God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.

12. Perseverance. All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere on holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.

13. Gospel Ordinances. BAPTISM, or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel; FEET WASHING, an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be ministered to all true believers.

14. Tithing. God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ endorsed it in the Gospel (Matt. 23:23), and the apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God has prospered him." (1 Cor. 16:2).

15. The Christian Sabbath. The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works and activities, and for personal communion with God.

16. Resurrection, Judgment and Final Retribution. The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away unto eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

CHURCH COVENANT

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

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

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We will not forsake the assembling ourselves together for Church Conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel; nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the Church, of its poor, and its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in Love, endeavoring to "Keep the Unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace. To be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, promote the success of the Church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle Sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme, counting it our Chief in society,

constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come, and His Will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the success of Sunday Schools, and Evangelistic efforts for the Salvation of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

THE CHURCH AND IT'S ORGANIZATION

Organization

When several believers wish to be organized into a Church, they request a Council of a quarterly meeting or Association, which examines into the Christian character, doctrine, and fellowship of the applicants, and their ability to sustain a Church. If the examination is satisfactory, the organization proceeds as follows:

1. The Bible is presented as the only Yule of faith and practice.
2. A Church Covenant is adopted.
3. A Prayer of Consecration is offered.
4. The hand of fellowship is given by the Chairman of the Council.

When a Church already organized, or a Church from another denomination, wishes to unite with the Free Will Baptist denomination, a council is called the same as for the organization of a Church.

Officers of the Church

The Church then proceeds to elect it's officers, which are a Clerk, a Treasurer, a Pastor who acts as moderator in all Church meetings, and a Board of Deacons, who, with the Pastor, Clerk and Treasurer, constitute a committee to promote order, activity, attendance on the means of Grace, and efficient discipline of the Church. Deacons should possess sound piety, good business capacity, and large benevolence; they should be ordained by prayer and the laying on of hands by the Presbytery; they hold office at the pleasure of the Church during the maintainance of Christian Character, faithful service, and sound doctrine; they assist at baptism and the Lord's Supper, have care of the poor, and conduct religious meetings in the absence of the Pastor.

Meetings of the Church

1. Public worship upon the Lord's Day is to be faithfully observed and punctually attended.
2. A monthly Church conference, or covenant meeting is established, at which every member, or so far as practicable, should report personally or by letter.
3. Weekly meetings appointed for prayer and conference should be regularly attended by the Church; in these meetings all are at liberty to participate, regardless of office, age, sex or condition.
4. Meetings for business are held once in three months, generally two weeks before each session of the quarterly meeting, but items of business may be introduced and attended to at any regular meeting

of the Church.

(a) In these meetings, if the Pastor is not present, a Moderator is elected; and if the Clerk is absent, a Clerk Pro Tem is elected.

(b) No conversation or discussion is proper upon any subject distinctly before the meeting by a regular motion, properly sustained.

(c) If members are to be tried for misconduct, written notices of the charges and specifications of the same should be furnished to those accused, at least one week before the trial.

(d) If the charges are not confessed, the trial proceeds in regular order by the presentation of testimony, without personal disputation, or remarks from those not Church members.

(e) Questions of fellowship, expulsion and all other items of business of the Church shall be settled by a vote of the majority present, and this action shall be final provided public announcement of the intended action is made at the last regular meeting, and the quarterly meeting has no power to reverse it, but may, if deemed necessary, withdraw the hand of fellowship from a Church as a whole when it's action is inconsistent with sound doctrine of Christian policy.

Duties of the Church

1. The Ordinances of the Gospel are administered by ordained ministers, baptism as soon as practicable after conversion, and the Lord's Supper and feet washing at stated times, as fixed by a vote of the Church.

Every Church should sustain a Sunday School, the officer and teachers of which should be acceptable to the Church and generally members of it. (Note—For standard Sunday School, information can be obtained through the National Sunday School Secretary)

3. Churches should recognize and arrange, as far as possible, to do all kinds of work for Christ that are possible in all communities. To this end, every church member should be designated for some department of the Church work, and should accept such department as his special assignment.

4. Congregational singing is to be preferred and encouraged under the efficient direction of a choir or a leader.

5. Every Church should provide for the support of it's Pastor and other expenses, each member contributing thereto, tithes and offerings.

Government of the Church

1. The local Church is an independent body, so far as relates to it's own government, the transaction of it's business, the choice of it's officers, and the discipline of it's members.

2. Persons who believe the Truth as it is in Christ, and give evidence of true Piety, are, upon examination or recommendation, received into membership according to regular methods of the local Church and upon condition of Baptism.

3. Persons expelled from sister Churches for any cause or from

any Church for immorality, should not be received to fellowship without first giving satisfaction to the Church from which they are expelled.

4. The hand of fellowship is given by the Pastor, or other minister, to all persons on their reception by the Church, but it is not essential to Church membership.

5. Christians not eligible to membership in the Church, be recognized as in Christian fellowship and invited to participate in social and public worship, Sunday School work, missionary enterprise, and evangelistic work.

6. Letters of commendation are granted to members in good standing, who wish to change their Church relationship.

7. Ministers are received and dismissed by letter as other members, except when they come from, or go to another denomination, in which case a council of ministers should be called to advise respecting the action contemplated.

8. It is the duty of the Church to unite with some quarterly meeting or Association, and to report regularly by delegates and letter in form given in the Treatise. Such reports should definitely answer the following questions:

(a) What is the attendance and degree of interest in public worship, and in prayer meetings?

(b) How many are connected with the Sunday School?

(c) What provision is made for books and papers in the Sunday School?

(d) What is the average annual amount per resident member paid for home missions, foreign missions, superannuation, and the cause of education?

(e) Have you a stated Pastor who has the Certificate of Ministerial Standing from the yearly meeting or annual Association? What is the amount paid for the support of the Pastor, and expenses for public worship?

(f) Are there any special demands or encouragements for Church work?

(g) After the first session of the Quarterly Meeting after the first day of January of each year, the report should give the exact statement of the statistics as required for the records of the preceding year.

(h) Churches, or other bodies, are expected to elect as delegates members of the respective bodies represented.

Discipline of the Church

1. Public offences and trials are to be settled according to Matthew 18:15-17. Public offences are to be considered as against the Church, which by it's officers, is to pursue the same course as required in the case of individuals.

2. When a minority of a Church is aggrieved, a Council may be called by mutual agreement, or requested of the Quarterly Meeting. Such Council may be called simply for advice, or as a board of arbitration, whose decision shall be final.

3. When a member without providential reasons, absents himself from the meetings of the Church, or refuses it's support for one year,

it is considered a violation of the Covenant, and sufficient reason for dismissal.

4. Ministers who are subjects of discipline for unchristian conduct or for doctrine contrary to the Articles of Faith as set forth and believed by Free Will Baptists shall be tried according to Matthew 18:15-17, providing charges are made for public or private offenses, by any ordained Minister, who is in good standing in his respective Church and Association. When such charges are presented in writing, properly signed, or by the Church through it's official board, in which the Minister holds membership or by a Church which the said Minister is Pastor, providing all charges are duly signed by the presenter, or prosecutor.

(a) If the accused is dissatisfied with the decision of the Board or Committee who tries his case, he shall have the privilege to appeal to the Annual Conference or Association for consideration of the charges as preferred, and in case the higher body sustains the decision of the Committee or Council, the case is settled accordingly.

THE MINISTRY

Relation to the Church

1. Every Pastor is expected to be a member of a Church under his care, and no person is recognized as a member or minister of the denomination who is not a member of some Church in regular standing in the denomination.

2. When a Church desires that one of it's members should be licensed or ordained to preach the gospel, it requests the Quarterly Meeting or Association of which it is a member to examine, by Council, such member. The examination for License should refer to the piety and doctrines, the convictions and purposes respecting the work of the ministry, and the reputation for character and ability of the candidate, and his present and prospective educational and professional qualifications. The examination for ordination should include all that is required for License, and also satisfactory examination respecting the life and labors of the candidate, and his attainments of English education, Doctrinal and Pastoral Theology, and Homiletics.

3. A Minister from another denomination wishing to unite with the Free Will Baptist denomination must make application to a Church which requests action of the Quarterly Meeting or Association the same as for License or Ordination.

ASSOCIATION'S CONSTITUTION

Article I.

This Association shall be called the Northeast Florida Association of Free Will Baptist, and shall be composed of such regularly organized and well disciplined Free Will Baptist Churches and Quarterly Meetings, conveniently located, as may embody themselves under this Constitution.

Article II.

The conference of this Association shall consist of five delegates from each Quarterly Meeting and five delegates from each Church.

Article III.

The officers of this Association shall be a standing Clerk and Treasurer, and a Moderator who shall be chosen at every session of the Association, with assistants as may be found necessary.

Article IV.

Any well organized and well regulated Free Will Baptist Quarterly Meeting composed of such Churches as conform to the practices, and adopt the doctrines of the Free Will Baptist denomination, as published in the Treatise of their faith, and in the minutes of the National Association, and are in favor of all the benevolent enterprises of the denomination, may at any time on application by vote of this body, become a member thereof.

Article V.

The Association shall have power to discipline the Quarterly Meeting of which it is composed, and to exclude them for disorderly walk if labor proves unsuccessful, but in no case to reverse their decisions, nor to interfere with any of their internal regulations.

Article VI.

The sessions of this Association shall be held the Saturday before the third Sunday in October at which time it shall be the duty of the Quarterly Meetings and the Churches of which this Association is composed to represent themselves by letter, and delegates and report their standing, prospects and statistics; at which time the Association shall act upon such questions and topics as may be referred to it by it's respective Quarterly Meeting and Churches, and transact such other business not repugnant to this Constitution, nor to the practices of the denomination, as in it's judgement may promote the cause of Christ and the interests of the Churches and Quarterly Meetings within the limits of this Association.

Article VII.

This Association shall have power to adopt any regulation or by-laws, by two-thirds of the majority of the body present, not inconsistent with this Constitution, which may be deemed essential to the further regulation of it's session.

Article VIII.

This Constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the body present at any regular session, notice of such intended alteration having been given in writing and recording at the previous session.