

MINUTES
OF THE
NINETEENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF
Northeast Mississippi Association
OF
Free Will Baptist

●

Convened with the
PHILADELPHIA FREE WILL
BAPTIST CHURCH
ON OCTOBER 1 — 2, 1953

●

WIN 81, 81 d

The next session will be held with the Beech Springs Free
Will Baptist Church on Thursday and Friday before
the first Sunday in October, 1954.

MINUTES
OF THE
NINETEENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF
Northeast Mississippi Association
OF
Free Will Baptist

●
Convened with the
PHILADELPHIA FREE WILL
BAPTIST CHURCH
ON OCTOBER 1 — 2, 1953

●
The next session will be held with the Beech Springs Free
Will Baptist Church on Thursday and Friday before
the first Sunday in October, 1954.

**NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS
MINUTES OF THE NINETEENTH ANNUAL SESSION**

THURSDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 1, 1953

The nineteenth session of the Northeast Mississippi Association of Free Will Baptists was held with the Philadelphia Free Will Baptist Church.

The session opened with singing and prayer by Rev. G. C. Price. After more singing and prayer by Rev. George Lee, the moderator, Rev. Luther Gibson, took charge and gave all a hearty welcome.

A motion and a second was made to enter business and another was made to accept the printed program as the guide for the meeting. Both were adopted.

The Moderator appointed Mrs. Luther Gibson and Mrs. Cecil Deas as reading clerks. The letters were read and delegates seated after motion and second.

The moderator appointed a Committee on Committees and then welcomed all our friends and visiting delegates to our session. This was followed by a short recess.

After recess business was resumed. The moderator appointed the resolutions and credentials committee.

Song by Bro. George Lee. Prayer by Bro. Whitehead. The moderator announced the morning speaker, Rev. Paul Long. He brought a timely message using Luke 19:8-10 as a text. He spoke on "Heaven in the Home." Some of his points were: Conditions for Heaven in our home, (1) Begin right (2) Invite Christ in (3) Have Family altar (4) Offer thanks (5) Let love reign.

After the message and a word from the Host Pastor, Bro. Knight dismissed the morning session. A delicious lunch was served by the ladies of the church.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The afternoon session opened with singing and prayer after which the moderator introduced a visitor, Bro. Whitehead, to bring our devotional in the place of the clerk, Rev. J. D. O'Donnell. Bro. Whitehead brought an inspiring devotional from John 15:1-6.

The moderator then appointed the following committees from the report of the Committee on Committees: Sunday School, Ladies' Auxiliary, League, Christian Literature, Temperance, Obituary, and Finance. Motion and second to accept. Carried.

Ministers reports read and adopted.

Report of the Credentials Committee made and accepted with commendation.

Partial report of the resolutions committee made and articles number 1 and 2 were adopted after discussion. (see committee reports).

The program committee for 1954 session was appointed: The Host Pastor for next year, Mrs. Kimble Crossley, Mrs. Tom Haney.

The League committee made its report and it was accepted after motion and second.

Mrs. Crossley, secretary of the NE League Rally, urged that the churches who did not have a league ask for help and organize one. The moderator also made comments encouraging leaguers in their work. Several others gave commendable remarks on league work.

Committee on Ladies' Auxiliaries made their report and it was accepted after the reports of seven auxiliaries and 1 G. T. A. were read.

Temperance committee report read and adopted.

Mrs. Luther Gibson was given permission to speak a word to the members of the Ladies' auxiliaries about mission studies.

The moderator discussed a report system for Sunday Schools.

The Sunday School committee made an oral report. They urged that each church have Daily Vacation Bible School. Also that parents teach stewardship to their children. It was adopted after discussion. In the discussion it was urged that anyone supporting worldly places of amusement not be elected as officers and teachers of the Sunday School. Mrs. Gibson urged attendance at the convention. Mrs. Crowson urged pupils to read daily Bible readings.

Bro. George Lee gave a hearty invitation to all to attend the Northeast Mississippi Sunday School Convention which will meet at the Antioch Free Will Baptist Church near Toccopola on Sunday after Thanksgiving.

Bro. E. E. Cowart read the report of the Home Missions Board. It was adopted after discussion.

Bro. Lee gave the amount in the Superannuation treasury, \$691.09, in the absence of the treasurer. Report accepted.

The resolution committee recommended that the Host Pastor and deacons select the speaker in the place of speakers who could not attend. Bro. Lee was chosen for the speaker at the evening service. Bro. Herbert Stalnaker was to fill the place of Bro. G. P. Perkins on Friday morning.

The host pastor, Rev. M. H. Hollis, gave the report of the Placement committee for those staying overnight.

THURSDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

The service was begun with a spirited singing service in charge of Bro. M. H. Hollis. He called on several to assist in directing the music.

Bro. M. L. Hollis then took charge of the service for a fine old time testimony meeting. Almost everyone participated. After the testimony meeting, Bro. Lee brought a wonderful message using as a subject, The Virgin Birth. It was a fine assertion of the doctrine.

FRIDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 2, 1953

The Friday session opened with singing led by Bro. W. G. Prude and prayer by Bro. Lee. The moderator then introduced the devotional speaker, Rev. Herbert Stalnaker. He used Luke 5:26, "We have seen strange things," as an inspirational thought to spur us forward in the work.

The previous days minutes were read by the clerk. Committee reports called for.

The Christian Literature committee made its report. It was adopted after discussion.

The treasurer of the association made his report. It was adopted after motion and second.

The resolution committee made its final report. All its work has passed except item number 5 (see COMMITTEE REPORTS).

The moderator as chairman of the Christian Education Board gave a report of amount sent to our Bible College from Mississippi. The amount was \$2196.95.

Roy Brown was elected as five year member of Mission Board.

James Goodson was elected as five year member of the Superannuation Board.

Rev. George Lee resigned as a member of the Home Mission Board and Bro. Oliver Haas was elected to finish his four year term.

Corresponding delegates appointed were as follows: Mt. Moriah, M. L. Hollis; Vernon, M. L. Hollis and L. E. Winters; Alabama State Association, M. L. Hollis and Herbert Stalnaker; Little Brown Creek, Luther Gibson, G. C. Price, and W. G. Prude.

A question was asked by the Clerk concerning the full-time evangelist. Moved and seconded to elect. Not passed.

Bro. M. L. Hollis was elected as part time evangelist after the adoption of item 6 of the resolutions committee report.

Bro. W. G. Prude made several remarks concerning progress on the Morganwood Camp and the need to get behind the work.

The report of the Obituary Committee was read and adopted with standing prayer led by Bro. Lee.

Bro. Boyd Jones was elected as delegate to the National Association which meets in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

Move and second to adjourn business passed.

After a short recess the morning message was delivered by Rev. M. L. Hollis. He used part of the 27th chapter of Acts as a basis for his message.

After another fine meal served by the ladies of the church, the delegates from twenty churches reluctantly parted, hoping to meet again for another session as rich in blessing as this one.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES: Rev. Paul Long, Mr. C. O. Flaherty, Mr. James Goodson, Mrs. Kimble Crossley, Mrs. Hollis Frances.

CREDENTIALS: Rev. G. C. Price, Rev. G. C. Lee, Mr. Ed Smith.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Mr. R. V. Henderson, Mrs. Paul Long, Mr. H. G. Cooper.

LADIES' AUXILIARY: Mrs. Lucille Johnson, Mrs. Boyd Jones, Mrs. Cecil Deas.

LEAGUE: Mrs. Oliver Haas, Mrs. G. C. Lee, Mrs. Willie Bryant.

CHRISTIAN LITERATURE: Rev. J. D. O'Donnell, Mr. Wayne Tudor, Miss Janie Ruth Bailey.

TEMPERANCE: Mr. A. C. Hollis, Mr. Jim Baxter, Mr. Milton Smith.

OBITUARY: Rev. Herbert Stalnaker, Mrs. Shelby Bevill, Mrs. M. H. Hollis.

FINANCE: Rev. W. O. Knight, Mr. Fred Chisholm, Mr. J. C. Ard.

DELEGATES

AMORY: Mrs. Boyd Jones, Mrs. James Streety.

ANTIOCH: Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Tudor.

BETHLEHEM: Laverta Stubblefield, Bertie Faye Stubblefield, Gertrude Graham.

BEECH SPRINGS: Mrs. Mavis McCarty, Mrs. Onner Dillard, Mr. John Stembridge.

COLUMBUS: Mrs. Cecil Deas, Mrs. Eloise Crossley, Miss Willie Cole. Alternates: Mrs. Hobson Waldon, Mrs. Joe Allen, Mrs. James Lotspeich.

DEPRIEST CHAPEL: Mrs. R. T. Cantrell, Mr. Joe Hollis, Mr. Sam Jones. Alternates: Mrs. D. A. Williams.

DAMASUS: Mr. and Mrs. Fred Chisolm, Mr. Chester Johnson, Alternates: Mr. D. L. Warren.

EAST TUPELO: Mrs. Luther Gibson, Mrs. Polly Haas.

FULTON: Mrs. Delbert Dodson, Mrs. Pearl Stone, Mrs. Lillie Bennett.

LEE'S CHAPEL: Mr. Hollis Dawkins; Mr. A. C. Hollis, Mr. Bankston Edwards.

McGREGOR'S CHAPEL: Mrs. Boyd May, Mrs. Andrew Montgomery, Mrs. Shelby Bevill.

NEW LIFE: Mrs. Annie Oliver, Mrs. Ruby McDonald.

NEW GAULEY: Mrs. Rosie Cozart, Miss Jamie Ruth Bailey, Mrs. Estelle Lee.

PRICEVILLE: Mrs. Paul Long, Mrs. Ralph Riley, Mrs. Opal Stevens.

PEARCE'S CHAPEL: Mr. J. M. Knight, Mrs. J. S. Johnson, Mrs. Hollis Frances.

PLEASANT GROVE: Mrs. Ida Carter, Mrs. Stella Conlee, Mr. Charles Russell.

PHILADELPHIA: Mr. C. O. Flaherty, Mrs. H. G. Cooper, Mrs. Willie Bryan.

SPRINGDALE: Mr. Charlie Fox, Mrs. Charlie Fox, Mrs. R. V. Henderson.

UNION HILL: Mr. E. F. Harris, Mrs. Bertie Lucas, Mr. Hollard Smith. Alternates: Ruth Lucas, Lorean Stanford.

WHITE HILL: Mr. Floyd Card, Mrs. Christine Springer, Mr. E. O. Vaughn. Alternates: Mrs. E. O. Vaughn.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

RESOLUTIONS: We your Resolution Committee recommend:

1. A program committee to be appointed to prepare the program for next session each time. Passed.

2. That certificates of good standing be printed and issued to our ministers in good standing at each session of our association. These are to be in billfold size. Passed.

3. That the Home Mission Board be authorized to sell the trailer. Passed.

4. That the paper, The Messenger, be discontinued. Passed.

5. That we have a promotional field man for the Home Mission Board and that he be elected or appointed by the association. The duties of which would be to make a survey for tent revivals. His expenses to be paid by the board. This was not passed.

6. That the association elect a part time evangelist and that the Home Mission Board be authorized to act upon the plea of any minister in this association to hold a tent meeting when they may think necessary. Passed.

7. That we give this church and its fine people a rising vote of thanks for its wonderful hospitality, delicious food, and Christian fellowship. Passed.

8. That the ministers of the association set a date in the near future and get together to organize a minister's conference for the purpose of unifying our work so that we may be more united in our efforts. Passed.

LADIES' AUXILIARY: There are seven auxiliaries in the Association. There is one Go-Tell-Auxiliary (at Tupelo). We find after reading the different reports from the organized Auxiliaries that they have worked on many projects to help make the churches a better place in which to worship. We would like to urge the other churches who do not have an auxiliary to organize and find out for themselves how much good can be accomplished and the fund you can have.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE: We your committee on credentials find all our ministers in good standing in the Association so far as we know and no other ordinations are asked at the time. We recommend that each church report the liscensed and ordained members belonging to it each year.

FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE: We urge that we put more stress on League work. We recommend that the churches with leagues visit the other churches and put on programs thereby getting them interested in league work and also help them to organize where possible. Nine churches have leagues. Eleven do not. Those who do not are Antioch, New Life, Springdale, Pearce's Chapel, Bethlehem, Damascus, Lee's Chapel, Depriest's Chapel, Pleasant Grove, Union Hill and White Hill. Will you please contact a league near you and ask them to help you organize one.

CHRISTIAN LITERATURE: We want to call the attention of our people to the more attractive literature now being published by our press and to urge our people to use it in their Sunday Schools exclusively where possible. Our National Sunday School Board is doing a great job and need our cooperation.

We urge our people to select choice literature for their children and exclude worldly publications from their homes. We also recommend that our people subscribe to as many of our church papers as possible.

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE: Let each of us abstain from all evil. We should be temperate in our every day life. Let us at all time beware of and stay away from the places that sell alcoholic beverages. We should be temperate with each other in our everyday life as we come in contact with each other.

We urge each minister as well as laymen to be temperate in their conduct with those whom we associate with so that they may see Christ in our life.

We urge that our people cast their votes in elections only for men of good character. Let us strive to be found at all times where we would like to be when Christ comes again. Let us live wholly for the Lord.

IN MEMORIAM

WE, your obituary committee, find that eight of our members have passed away since our last session. They are as follows:

Pleasant Grove—Mrs. Leslie Todd

East Tupelo—A. D. Shelton

Pearce Chapel—B. F. Brasfield, John Stafford

New Gauley—W. A. Caulder, Mrs. Layna Vaughn and
Troy Northington

Bethlehem—H .A. Graham

May we so live that we will all meet again, never to be separated.

	Number Sermons Preached	Converts Baptized	Number People Received Into Church	Number Ministers Helped to Ordain	Number Deacons Helped to Ordain	Number Ministers Licensed	Memorial Sermons Preached	Number Churches Pastored	Funerals Conducted	Number Weddings	Received from Churches Pastored	Received for Revival Work	Total Received	Miles Traveled
Milton Crowson	71							1			\$ 385.	\$ 151.	\$ 536.00	25,000
Luther Gibson	365	15	25		2	1		2	many		\$4075.	\$ 965.	\$5040.00	25,000
M. H. Hollis	185	15	20		1			3			\$1800.	\$ 600.	\$2400.00	19,000
M. L. Hollis	416	64	132		2	1	2	3	71	5	\$3200.		\$ 3200.	24,000
W. O. Knight	93	9	16		2			2	1		\$1738.		\$1738.00	8,564
G. C. Lee, Jr.*	15												\$ 500.00	15,000
G. C. Lee, Sr.	124	6	8	1	1		1	2	15	5	\$2244.		\$2244.00	3,000
Paul Long	99	2	2					1			\$1810.		\$1810.00	12,000
G. P. Perkins	70				1			1			\$ 300.	\$ 120.	\$ 420.00	6,000
J. D. O'Donnell	111	11	24		1		1	1	3	18	\$2900.	\$ 102.	\$3002.00	2,000
G. C. Price	146	5	10				1	4	3		\$ 893.	\$ 217.	\$ - 1110.	8,115
L. E. Winter	118		2					2	1		\$ 447.	\$ 159.	\$ 918.	6,515

*Traveled this summer with college quartet; now enrolled as student in college.

TREASURER'S REPORT

OCT. 2, 1952 — SEPT. 15, 1953

RECEIPTS

1952 Balance	\$267.06
At 1952 session	351.40
Amory	256.43
Antioch	154.50
Beech Springs	107.55
Columbus	440.81
Damascus	10.00
East Tupelo	511.52
New Gauley	89.45
Pearce Chapel	79.57
Philadelphia	28.00
Pleasant Grove	1.80
Priceville	188.93
Springdale S. S.	4.65

EXPENDITURES

Associational officers	\$ 20.00
H. M. Gas and fixtures	10.97
Children's Home	90.00
Bible College	383.88
Foreign Missions	385.88
NE Home Missions	786.11
Nat'l Home Missions	91.54
NE Superannuation	237.83
Nat'l Superannuation	37.00
Morganwood Camp	200.05
Nat'l dues and mileage	55.00
Minutes	89.25
Mailing minutes	4.88
Postage	6.24
Checkbooks printed	1.60
Bank Charges	.90
Receipt Books	5.10
Cut for Messenger, (carried over)	4.90
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$2411.13
Balance in treasury	\$80.54
Checks received after September 30th	176.41

The following churches sent letters authorizing that their part of N. E. Home Mission Funds be sent to treasurer or Morganwood Camp beginning with second quarter 1953: Columbus, East Tupelo, New Gauley, and Beech Springs

Treasurer: W. G. Prude

STATISTICAL TABLES

AMORY

Received by baptism	5
Letter of recommendation	7
Total Membership	233
Active	143
Inactive	90
S .S. Enrollment	150
League enrollment	60
Ladies auxiliary	22
Prayer meeting	yes
Value of church building	\$25,000.00
Value of parsonage	12,000.00
Indebtedness	2,405.38
Free Will Offerings	7,450.07
Total receipts	7,450.07

Pastor:

Rev. M. L. Hollis
9th Avenue North
Amory, Mississippi

Expenditures:	
Pastor's salary	\$2250.00
To visiting preachers	287.50
Evangelist	265.00
Singer and pianist	325.00
Building and repair	1607.65
Home Missions	173.00
Foreign Missions	76.88
Christian Education	76.88
Superannuation	70.48
Benevolences	67.80
Insurance	114.62
Incidentals	1821.06
Total expenditures	7135.87
Funds sent with letter	10.00

Clerk:

Beatrice Smithson
706 3rd Street N.
Amory, Mississippi

ANTIOCH

Received by baptism	1
Letter of recommendation	4
Dismissed by letter	7
Total membership	179
Active members	50
S. S. enrollment	50
Value of church building	\$5000.00
Tithes and offerings	1784.63
Total receipts	1784.63

Pastor:

Rev. G. C. Lee
Calhoun City, Miss.

Expenditures:	
Pastor's salary	\$1216.30
Evangelist	127.00
Home Missions	61.00
Foreign Missions	32.50
Christian education	110.62
Superannuation	19.82
Benevolences	32.00
Insurance	29.44
Total expenditures	1643.68
Funds sent with letter	25.00

Clerk:

Mrs. Lynn Hodges
Toccopola, Miss.

BETHLEHEM

Received by baptism 2
 Letter of recommendation 2
 Deceased 1
 Total membership 93
 Active 30
 Inactive 63
 Value of building \$3500.00
 Pastor:
 Rev. W. O. Knight
 Amory, Mississippi

Expenditures:
 Pastor's salary \$762.30
 Visiting preachers 15.00
 Evangelist 149.00
 Singer and Pianist 10.00
 Total Expenditures 936.30
 Funds sent 43.00
 Clerk:
 W. M. Ramsay
 Route 2
 Pontotoc, Miss.

BEECH SPRINGS

Received by baptism 5
 Letter of recommendation 4
 Dismissed 1
 Total membership 145
 Active 103
 S. S. enrollment 101
 League enrollment 66
 Ladies auxiliary 12
 Prayer meeting yes
 Value church building \$8000.00
 Received in tithes 882.79
 Freewill offerings 1537.19
 Miscellaneous 415.39
 Total receipts \$2835.37
 Pastor:
 Rev. Luther Gibson
 East Tupelo, Miss.

Expenditures:
 Pastor's salary \$920.00
 Evangelist 125.00
 Singer and pianist 25.00
 Building and repair 368.06
 Home Missions 25.00
 Christian education 75.50
 Benevolences 343.70
 Insurance 104.00
 Incidentals 203.97
 Total expenditures \$2180.23
 Funds sent 25.00
 Clerk:
 Mr. L. B. Hill
 Route 2, Saitillo, Miss.

COLUMBUS

Members received 24
 Members dismissed 6
 Total membership 202
 S. S. enrollment 174
 League enrollment 70
 Ladies' Auxiliary 30
 Prayer meeting yes
 Value church property \$40000.00
 Tithes received \$4179.36
 Offerings \$3674.92
 Total receipts \$7854.28
 Funds sent with letter 158.50
 Pastor:
 Rev. J. D. O'Donnell
 209 17th Street South
 Columbus, Mississippi

Expenditures:
 Pastor's salary \$2900.00
 Visiting ministers 225.00
 Morganwood camp 37.00
 Repairs 193.12
 Foreign and Home Missions 111.46
 Unified Program 540.84
 Children's Home 217.27
 Insurance 116.84
 Parsonage debt 1167.00
 Incidentals 1277.42
 Total expenditures \$6935.95
 Clerk:
 Mrs. Thomas Jones
 2606 7th Avenue N.
 Columbus, Mississippi

DAMASCUS

Received by letter 1
 Dismissed by letter 4
 Total membership 90
 Active 50
 S. S. enrollment 30
 Prayer meeting yes
 Value church building \$300.00
 Total receipts \$1474.68
 Funds sent with letter 15.00
 Pastor:
 Rev. M. H. Hollis
 Philadelphia, Miss.

Expenditures:
 Pastor's salary \$640.00
 Visiting ministers 211.95
 Singer and pianist 15.00
 Building and repair 462.53
 Home Missions 10.00
 Foreign Missions 4.00
 Christian education 4.00
 Superannuation 2.00
 Incidentals 75.00
 Total expenditures \$1414.48
 Clerk:
 Mrs. Covert McKee
 Route 6, Dekalb, Miss.

DEPRIEST'S CHAPEL

Received by baptism	7
Received by letter	5
Dismissed by letter	1
Total membership	79
Active	35
S. S. enrollment	40
Value church building	\$3500.00
Total receipts	807.30
Pastor: Not elected	

Expenditures:	
Pastor's salary	\$235.00
Evangelist	60.00
Buildings and repair	445.80
Christian education	25.00
Benevolences	7.50
Incidentals	30.00
Total expenditures	\$807.30
Funds with letter	25.00

Clerk:

R. T. Cantrell
Gattman, Miss.

EAST TUPELO

Received by baptism	6
Received by letter	6
Dismissed	7
Deceased	1
Total membership	266
Active	180
S. S. Enrollment	204
League enrollment	79
Ladies' auxiliary	24
Prayer meeting	yes
Value church building	\$25,000.00
Value parsonage	8,000.00
Received in tithes	6,792.99
Offerings	3,200.09
Miscellaneous	1,564.77
Total receipts	12,391.16
Pastor:	

Rev. Luther Gibson
East Tupelo, Mississippi

Expenditures:	
Pastor's salary	\$3155.00
Gift	100.00
Visiting ministers	215.00
Travel expenses	70.00
Evangelist	334.63
Singer and pianist	50.00
Building and repair	3152.09
Equipment	1011.02
Home Missions	1475.10
Foreign Missions	227.92
Christian education	1345.25
Superannuation	75.00
Benevolences	295.50
Insurance	153.51
Incidentals	113.31
Total expenditures	\$11,773.72
Funds sent with letter	25.00

Clerk:

Miss Jo Ann Parham
East Tupelo, Mississippi

FULTON

Total membership	37
S. S. enrollment	34
League enrollment	20
Value church building	\$ 5,000.00
Total receipts	630.00
Funds sent	25.00

Expenditures:	
Pastor's salary	\$385.00
Visiting ministers	122.50
Singer and pianist	10.00
Benevolences	18.00
Insurance	9.05
Total expenditures	\$544.55

Clerk:

Miss Tommie Rea Dodson
Fulton, Mississippi

FAWN GROVE

Received by baptism	3
Letter of recommendation	2
Total membership	180
Active	100
S. S. enrollment	100
League enrollment	75
Value church building	\$5000.00
Funds with letter	\$10.00
Pastor:	

Rev. M. L. Hollis
Amory, Mississippi

Expenditures:	
Pastor's saalry	\$308.00
Visiting preachers	50.00
Evangelist	108.00
Building and repair	440.00
Incidentals	15.00
Total expenditures	\$921.00

Clerk:

Mr. W. L. Bean
Dorsey, Mississippi

LEE'S CHAPEL

Members dismissed	3
Total membership	85
Active members	45
S. S. enrollment	84
Prayer meeting	yes
Total receipts	\$772.33
Pastor:	

Rev. L. E. Winter
Calhoun City, Miss.

Expenditures:	
Pastor's salary	\$342.13
Visiting preachers	34.85
Singer and pianist	10.00
Total expenditures	\$609.13
Funds sent with letter	5.00

Clerk:

Mr. B. L. Perrigin
Star Route
Columbus, Mississippi

McGREGOR'S CHAPEL

Received by baptism	7
Received by letter	5
Dismissed by letter	3
Total membership	75
Active	71
S. S. Enrollment	60
League enrollment	30
Ladies' auxiliary	20
Value church building	\$7000.00
Total receipts	\$2047.13
Pastor:	
Rev. W. O. Knight	
Amory, Miss.	

Expenditures:	
Pastor's salary	\$975.40
Visiting ministers	35.00
Evangelist	201.00
Building and repair	774.93
Christian education	25.00
Insurance	37.80
Total expenditures	\$2047.13
Funds sent with letter	7.50
Clerk:	
Mrs. Iris Russell	
Star Route, Thaxton, Miss.	

NEW GAULEY

Members received	5
Dismissed by letter	6
Deceased	2
Total membership	175
S. S. enrollment	83
League enrollment	10
Prayer meeting	yes
Value church building	\$7500.00
Total receipts	\$1741.14
Funds sent with letter	36.75
Pastor:	
Rev. G. C. Lee	
Calhoun City, Mississippi	

Expenditures:	
Pastor's salary	\$1001.34
Visiting ministers	204.48
Singer	27.34
Building and repair	170.77
Foreign Missions	25.00
Christian education	249.70
Benevolences	42.10
Unified program	64.45
Incidentals	114.10
Total expenditures	\$1898.88
Clerk:	
Mrs. Clyde Goodson	
Calhoun City, Mississippi	

NEW LIFE

Received by baptism	1
Total membership	56
Active	20
Value of building	\$1500.00
Total receipts	252.58

Expenditures:	
Pastor's salary	\$198.58
Building and repair	50.00
Home Missions	4.00
Total expenditures	\$252.58
Funds with letter	3.50

PEARCE'S CHAPEL

Received by baptism	2
Letter of recommendation	1
Dismissed by letter	1
Deceased	3
Total membership	464
Active	221
S. S. enrollment	142
Value of property	\$10,000.00
Total receipts	2,226.65
Funds sent with letter	5.00
Pastor:	
Rev. M. L. Hollis	
Amory, Mississippi	

Expenditures:	
Pastor's salary	\$950.00
Visiting preachers	60.00
Evangelist	139.40
Singer and pianist	100.00
Building and repair	300.00
Insurance	27.45
Incidentals	69.55
Unified program	127.96
Free Will Messenger	15.00
Children's home	125.00
Total expenditures	\$1914.36
Clerk:	
Gilbert Johnson	
Route one, Smithville, Miss.	

PHILADELPHIA

Received by baptism	6
Letter of recommendation	4
Dismissed by letter	2
Total membership	49
Active	46
S. S. enrollment	54
League enrollment	43
Prayer meeting	yes
Value of building	\$5,400.00
Indebtedness on property	\$1,185.00
Total receipts	\$2,008.36
Pastor:	
Rev. M. H. Hollis	
Philadelphia, Miss.	

Expenditures:	
Pastor's salary	\$950.00
Evangelist	81.45
Building and repair	845.00
Home Missions	15.00
Foreign Missions	6.00
Christian education	6.00
Superannuation	3.00
Insurance	16.64
Incidentals	84.34
Total expenditures	\$2008.36
Funds sent with letter	4.00
Clerk:	
Mr. J. T. McArthur	
P. O. Box 231	
Philadelphia, Miss.	

PLEASANT GROVE

Dismissed by letter 2
 Deceased 1
 Total membership 70
 Active 40
 Value church building \$7500.00
 Pastor:
 Rev. L. W. Winters
 Calhoun City, Miss.

Expenditures:
 Pastor's salary \$166.70
 Visiting preachers 15.00
 Singer and pianist 30.00
 Funds sent with letter 11.00
 Clerk:
 Wayne Thomas
 Star Route, Thaxton, Miss.

PRICEVILLE

Received by baptism 2
 Dismissed by letter 1
 Total membership 108
 Active 67
 S. S. Enrollment 60
 League enrollment 50
 Prayer meeting yes
 Value church building \$4500.00
 Total receipts \$295.49
 Funds sent with letter 20.00
 Pastor:
 Rev. Paul Long
 East Tupelo, Miss.

Expenditures:
 Pastor's salary \$1810.00
 Visiting preachers 25.00
 Evangelist 150.00
 Singer and pianist 50.00
 Building and repair 91.57
 Home Missions 85.00
 Foreign Missions 37.78
 Christian education 179.78
 Superannuation 28.37
 Benvolences 23.10
 Church bus 278.34
 Incidentals 197.37
 Total expenditures \$2956.31
 Clerk:
 Mr. Ralph Riley
 Tupelo, Miss., Route 4

SPRINGDALE

Received by baptism 17
 Letter of recommendation 3
 Dismissed by letter 7
 Total membership 262
 Active 110
 S. S. Enrollment 80
 Prayer meeting yes
 Value church building \$5000.00
 Received in tithes 87.60
 Freewill offering 374.77
 Total receipts 462.37
 Pastor:
 Rev. Joe Frederick
 Hackleburg, Alabama

Expenditures:
 Pastor's salary \$995.90
 Visiting preachers 25.00
 Evangelist 141.70
 Building and repair 240.00
 Home Missions 12.00
 Benevolences 83.70
 Insurance 31.21
 Incidentals 64.75
 Total expenditures \$1594.26
 Funds sent with letter 31.20
 Clerk:
 Harold Taylor
 Denmark, Mississippi

UNION HILL

Total membership 145
 Active 45
 S. S. Enrollment 67
 Value church building \$2500.00

Expenditures:
 Pastor's salary \$547.00
 Visiting preachers 15.00
 Home Missions 5.00
 Funds sent with letter 9.00

WHITE HILL

Received by baptism 3
 Letter of recommendation 2
 Dismissed by letter 3
 Total membership 62
 Active 30
 S. S. Enrollment 50
 Prayer meeting yes
 Value church building \$3000.00
 Freewill offerings \$111.50
 Pastor:
 Rev. G. C. Price
 Pontotoc, Miss

Expenditures:
 Pastor's salary \$528.38
 Visiting preachers 105.20
 Evangelist 125.15
 Building and repair 12.50
 Christian education 27.00
 Total expenditures \$798.23
 Funds with letter 20.00
 Clerk:
 Mr. E. O. Vaughn
 Eupora, Mississippi

REPORT OF HOME MISSION BOARD

Report to the Northeast Mississippi Association of Free Will Baptists when convened with the Philadelphia Church, October 2, 1953.

Our board met twice during the year, March 3 and August 4. At these meetings the following deliberations and agreements were reached, to-wit:

1. The postponement of the beginning of a full-time evangelist and arrangement for as many meetings as possible with funds at hand.
2. Love offering to be taken, one night only, at each meeting for pianist and siger.
3. A meeting to be sponsored at Booneville, Mississippi on May 10, 1953.
4. Investigate the possibilities of meetings at West Point and Louisville.
5. The evangelist to be paid seventy-five dollars a week.
6. For Rev. Gibson to hold a meeting at Meridian.

At the August 4 meeting the following members were present: Rev. G. C. Lee, chairman; W. B. Griffin. Rev. Luther Gibson, assistant evangelist was present and other members of board were notified. The following actions were taken by the board at this meeting.

1. To sponsor a meeting at Meridian, September 21-30.
2. Authorization to clerk to pay for advertisement, transportation of the tent to and from Meridian, rentals, lights, the evangelist seventy-five dollars per week, and all other expenses necessary to carry on this revival.

HOME MISSION BOARD FINANCIAL REPORT

Total receipts up to September 26, 1953	\$917.68
Total expenses up to September 26, 1953	131.80
Amount on hand	785.88

List of Expenses in Booneville Revival

Rent on lot	\$ 20.00
Lights	6.65
Evangelist	75.00
Advertising and printing	7.65
W. G. Prude (labor and travel).....	22.50
Total Expenses	\$131.80
Total received in offerings	132.52
Balance.....	.72

LADIES' AUXILIARY REPORTS

WHITE HILL

Members enrolled	10
Sick visited	12
Flowers	13
Boxes and trays.....	8
Expenditures:	
Funeral Sprays	\$25.50
Gifts for needy	10.00
Floor mats and glue	19.20
Total expenditures	54.70
Total in treasury	13.55

McGREGOR'S CHAPEL

Number enrolled	20
Average attendance	12
Trays to sick	10
Visits to sick	33
Cards to sick	15
Offerings	\$9.50
Number of meetings	6

BEECH SPRINGS

Members	12
Sick visits	199
Cards	38
Trays	13
Fruit baskets	2
Brought forward	\$ 3.56
Receipts	73.54
Expenditures	61.84
Balance	11.70

COLUMBUS

Members	30
Chapters read	3800
Sick Visits	1301
Cards sent	243
Trays sent	98
Flowers for sick	174
Gifts for sick	264
Receipts:	
Brought forward	\$ 55.24

Men's Fellowship	126.75
Auction sale	52.70
Free Will offerings	62.96
Sale of cards.....	225.68
Flavoring	2.00
Rags sold	1.00
Bible Story books	211.35
Bazaar	112.91
Floor wax	70.00
Cleaning church	155.00
Year books	10.50
Bonus for cards	22.28
Refund for cards	2.25
Donation on carpets	52.90
Total receipts	\$1163.52

Expenditures

Cards	\$ 142.89
Bible Story books	146.06
Shower prizes	3.02
Bible College organ	12.31
Fellowship suppers	4.40
Refreshments	9.62
Carpet for church auditorium	668.00
Altar rail	102.50
Flowers for church and sick	12.96
Stamps	2.00
Auxiliary year books	15.78
Fruit cakes for orphanage	8.70
Total expenditures	\$1128.24
Balance in treasury	35.28

EAST TUPELO

Number members on roll	24
Average attendance	16
Number sick visits made	719
Number cards sent to sick	784
Number of children adopted	1
Approximate value of clothing sent to child.....	\$65.00
Number of Tithers in Auxiliary	12
Gifts to Orphanage	2 Quilts
Number trays sent out	69
Number flowers sent to the sick	43

Financial Report of the Auxiliary**Received**

Balance brought forward Jan. 10, 1952	\$ 12.87
---	----------

Dues Collected	63.60
Chicken supper.....	36.37
Get-Well Cards	10.00
Minature Aprons	168.36
Flavoring	25.00
Christian Education	10.00
Donation and Love offerings	47.93
Special Offerings for Missions	18.18
Total Recieved	\$392.31

Expenditures

Youth Camp	\$ 40.00
Bible College	32.50
Rug for Nursery	47.00
Payment on Organ for Bible College	24.00
Gifts for Sick	17.50
Baskets of Fruit.....	7.00
Literature	8.00
Pulpit Furniture	178.36
Foreign Missions	18.18

Total Expenditures \$372.54

Balance in Treasury\$ 19.77

PEARCE'S CHAPEL

Balance from last year	\$ 75.36
Special offerings	106.90
Dues and work	26.53

Expenditures:

Paid on Church addition	140.00
Dishes for kitchen	26.46
Flowers	3.00

Activities:

Bible study—1
 Visited many sick
 Sent many cards, flowers, and trays.
 Quilts quilted—7
 Members—6

Balance in treasury\$ 41.33

AMORY

Receipts\$221.67

Expenditures

for Cards ,extract, soap, gifts, flowers, telephone
 calls, books, love offering for sick, donation on piano.... 203.13
 Balance in treasury\$ 18.54

EAST TUPELO G. T. A.

Number enrolled	22
Canvassed community	3 times
Study courses	1
Programs per month by youth	3
Open house and parent visits	2
Visited home for aged monthly	

Financial report:

Receipts	\$24.49
Expenditures	17.75
Balance in treasury	6.74

Financial Statement of Free Will Baptist Messenger 1952-1953**CREDITS:**

Amory	\$ 15.00
Antioch	15.00
Beech Springs	15.00
Belk	15.00
Bethlehem	6.00
Columbus	25.00
Damascus	7.50
East Tupelo	56.00
McGregor Chapel	10.00
New Gauley	15.00
New Lebanon	15.00
Pearce Chapel	15.00
Philadelphia	15.00
Priceville	15.00
Springdale	7.50
Union Hill	5.00
Red Bay	15.00
Individual Subs	11.00
Miss. League Rally	3.00
N. E. S. S. Convention	3.00

TOTAL.....\$284.00

DEBITS:

8 Issues of Messenger	\$280.00
Mailing Supplies	4.54

TOTAL\$284.54

Balance—\$0.54

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 obligation 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 the grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences: public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able to promote the success of the church and of the gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principles sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society; constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of Missions, the success of Sunday schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world, and may the God of peace sanctify us wholly and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

CONSTITUTION

Section 1. This organization shall be known as the Northeast Mississippi Association of Free Will Baptist and shall be composed of ministers, deacons, clerks, and delegates of the various churches of this Association.

Section 2. The purpose of the Association shall be to bring together our churches throughout North Mississippi for a closer union among our people and the establishment of new churches in our state.

Section 3. This association shall be composed of Churches of the above named territory with the like bodies of same Faith and practice which may be hereafter admitted.

Section 4. Each church shall be allowed three delegated representatives and they must be duly appointed by their church while in conference and bear credentials from the same to this body.

Section 5. Visiting ministers and delegates may be seated as advisory members of this body.

Section 6. It shall not be the purpose of this Association to usurp authority over the churches but to recommend such measures as would promote unity of action among the church, to harmonize the efforts to accomplish good, and make each other more proficient in their undertakings for good.

Section 7. This constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of the yearly meeting at any session, notice of such intended amendment or alterations having been given in writing and recorded at the previous sessions.

Section 8. There shall be an ordaining council, elected by the Association, to inquire into, and examine each applicant for ordination to preach the Gospel of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and make recommendations to the Association for the ordination of said applicant. This council shall be composed of three ministers and two laymen.

Section 9. There shall be a Board of missions, a Board of Superannuation, and Board of Christian Education.

RULES OF DECORUM

Section 1. The officers of this Association shall consist of a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk, and Treasurer who shall be elected at the close of each session by a majority of the delegates present.

Section 2. This Association shall hold its session annually beginning on Thursday and continue through Friday before the first Sunday in October.

Section 3. The Moderator shall have the privilege to appoint all committees.

Section 4. The clerk shall have the right to supervise the printing of the minutes and shall be allowed \$10.00 for his services; Treasurer, \$5.00 ;and Moderator, \$5.00, for their service.

Section 5. No member shall be absent from the body without leave of the Moderator.

Section 6. All members desiring to speak shall arise, address the Moderator, and personal reflection shall be avoided.

Section 7. All motions made and seconded shall be open for discussion, but debate may be shut off any time by a majority of the members of the Association.

Section 8. If any proposition or motion under debate contain two

or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member and the vote taken separately.

Section 9. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded on the minutes unless so ordered at the time.

Section 10. No one shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject, and not more than ten minutes at a time; without special leave from the body.

Section 11. All questions shall be decided by a majority of the members present.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

Article 1. THE BIBLE—The Scripture of the OLD and NEW Testaments were given by inspiration of God and are our infallible Rule of Faith and Practice. I. Cor. 1:21; Matt. 28:19-20; Rom. 1:16.

Article 2. GOD—There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe, and in the Scripture as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are to supremely love, adore, and obey. I Cor. 8:6; Isa. 40:28.

Article 3. 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 Saviour and Lord. I Tim. 2:5-6; Heb. 2:9; St. John 3:16.

Article 4. THE HOLY SPIRIT—The Scripture assigns to the Holy Spirit all attributes of God. He is the reprover, comforter, guide and sanctifier of men. St. John 16:7-8; Acts 2:45; Eph. 2:1.

Article 5. THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD—God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all being and all things by maintaining the constitution and the laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of man requires. Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47; I Tim. 2:4.

Article 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 become guilty before God. Gen. 2:17; Gen. 3:19.

Article 7. THE WORK OF CHRIST—The Son of God by His incarnation, life, suffering, death and resurrection affected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith. Acts 3:19; Matt. 28:19-20; Eph. 2:5-10.

Article 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 Saviour and Lord with purpose to live and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the domination of sin and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death. Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30; Rom. 10:10.

Article 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. Matt. 28:20; I Cor. 1:21; Matt. 25:31-46.

Article 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. Tit. 2d chp. Rev. 2:10-15.

Article 11. **SALVATION FREE**—God desires salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will come and take the water of life freely. Gal. 1:13-14; Rev. 22:17.

Article 12. **PERSERVERANCE**—All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation. Rom. 16:18-22; Rom. 5:21.

Article 13. **GOSPEL OBEDIENCE**—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 administered to all true believers. Acts 8 Chpt.; I Tim. 5:10; Luke 22:49.

Article 14. **TITHING**—God commanded tithes and offerings in the old Testament; Jesus Christ indorsed 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."

Article 15. **THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH**—The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employment and amusement, for rest, worship, holy work, and activities and for personal communion with God. Deut. 5:12; Heb. 4:4.

Article 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 ill unto the resurrection of damnation, then the wicked will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal Life. Jno. 5:28-29; II Cor. 5:10; I Cor. 15:23.

ASSOCIATIONAL DIRECTORY

L. D. GIBSONMODERATOR
M. L. HOLLISASS'T. MOD.
J. D. O'DONNELLCLERK
MILTON CROWSON ASS'T. CLERK
W. G. PRUDE TREASURER

MISSION BOARD

FIVE YEARSROY BROWN
FOUR YEARSOLIVER HAAS
THREE YEARSE. E. COWART
TWO YEARSBOYD JONES
ONE YEAR RAYMOND CROSSLEY

SUPERANNUATION BOARD

FIVE YEARS JAMES GOODSON
FOUR YEARSW. O. KNIGHT
THREE YEARSH. A. ROBERTS
TWO YEARSC. O. FLAHERTY
ONE YEAR CLARICE GOODSON