

Minutes
of the
Twenty-First Annual Session
of
Northeast Mississippi Association
of
Free Will Baptists



Convened With
FAWN GROVE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
September 29th and 30th, 1955

Next session will meet with the Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church on Thursday and Friday before the first Sunday in October, 1956. This church is about three miles northeast of Thaxton, Miss. and about ten miles west of Pontotoc, Miss.

Minutes

Northeast Mississippi Association of Free Will Baptist, Minutes of the Twenty-first annual session.

THURSDAY MORNING, SEPT. 29TH, 1955

The Twenty-first Annual Session of The Free Will Baptist of Northeast Mississippi, met with the Fawn Grove church, the moderator, Rev. L. D. Gibson being absent, the MD Protem took charge, Rev. M. L. Hollis. The Clerk being absent, the Moderator appointed Rev. Geo. C. Lee, Sr., as clerk protem.

The meeting was opened by a devotion by L. E. Duncan, song service by W. G. Prude, prayer by Rev. M. L. Hollis.

The moderator, took charge and the following business was attended to. The church letters were called for after the moderator appointed reading clerks, Rev. Wilburn Beasley, and Mrs. Hattie Duncan.

There was a move that we use the printed program as the order of business and it passed. The following churches represented by delegates and letter: Bethlehem, Depriest, Philadelphia, Damascus, East Tupelo, Fulton, New Gauley, Stetson Chapel, McGregory Chapel, Pearces Chapel, Amory, Antioch, Pleasant Grove, New Life, Beech Springs, Fawn Grove, Columbus, Lee's Chapel, White Hill, Springdale and Union Hill.

The moderator appointed a credential committee, and the following were appointed, Rev. Wilburn Beasley, Jim Gibson, and Charley Ard.

Recess at this time for 15 minutes.

Called together again by singing led by Brother Prude, after which the Rev. Geo. Lee, Sr., read from Matt. 28th. chapter and took for his subject, "Empty Tomb" and used two words, for text, "Come and Go."

Adjourned for lunch.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Called together by singing and prayer. Devotion was conducted by Rev. G. C. Price, prayer by brother Price.

The Moderator being called away for funeral, Mr. L. E. Duncan was appointed Moderator Protem during the absence of the Moderator.

The following committees were appointed, Resolution, L. E. Duncan, G. C. Price. Boyd May, W. O. Knight, Clelam Flarety.

Sunday School, Mrs. Kimball Crowsley, Mrs. W. R. Burk, Mrs. Ezell White.

Credential Committee, Ernest Ausby, Willie Smith, Ted Finley, J. D. Stepp, E. A. Vaughn.

League, Mrs. G. C. Lee, Sr., Mrs. M. L. Hollis, Mrs. J. C. Gibson, Aloys Whitterker, Mrs. L. B. Hill.

Temperance, D. D. Hollis, Mrs. W. K. Stubblefield, N. Morgan, Hattie Duncan and Mrs. Pearl Stone.

Obituary, Mrs. Effie May, Mrs. Goldie Moutry, Wanda Stepp.

Ladies Aid, Ola Bedford, Mrs. Wilburn Beasley, Ruby Sue Heard.

Finance, W. G. Prude, Norman Patterson, J. E. Smith, Martin May, Floyd Card.

LEAGUE REPORT

We, your league committee urge that all the leagues sponsor more activities for the young people in order to hold their interest and stress on league work. We recommend that other churches with leagues visit and help churches without leagues, also invite them to visit our leagues. We only find seven churches reporting leagues.

Signed: Committee

PARTIAL REPORT OF RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

This report purported to do away with the quarterly meeting but failed to pass. Another part of the report was to authorize the clerk to continue the issuance of good standing cards to ministers. It passed.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We, the christian literature committee want to call attention of our people to the more attractive literature now being published by our press and to urge our people to use it in our churches and Sunday schools exclusively where possible. Our National Sunday School Board is doing a wonderful job and needs our support and cooperation, and we urge our people to subscribe to and read our different church papers. Also, exclude from their homes all worldly publication that are not wholesome reading.

Mrs. Habson Waldon
David Lucas

There was a move made and properly sustained by second that the association carry out the order of the last association at Beech Springs, as to the association having an executive committee elected, and it was voted by the body that there be such committee and it be composed of the moderator, clerk and three men selected from the body.

The resolution committee brought in the following report, that we have this executive committee, and the following men were elected to work with the officers, Moderator and Clerk. They were elected to serve one, two and three years in order as they are elected, Charley Ard, one year, Pontoc; D. D. Hollis, Columbus, two years, and Rev. Wilburn Beasley, of Saltillo, as three year man.

There was a song at this time and adjournment for 15 minutes.

Called together again and the Sunday school committee made their report, as follows: We find that there are 18 Sunday schools in our association, with 1641 pupils enrolled. We would like to urge those churches who do not have Sunday Schools to organize one, and the Sunday Schools close by to help them to get one organized and going.

Signed by committee,

Mrs. Kimball Crowsley
Mrs. W. R. Burkes
Mrs. Weitt

THE TREASURERS REPORT

The treasurer made his report at this time, by W. G. Prude.

Rev. Wilburn Beasley, pastor of the Beech Springs church presented a good recommendation from the Cumberland Free Will

Baptist Association of Tennessee for membership in this association and was received into the fellowship of our association and given recognition as one of our active ministers.

PREACHERS REPORTS

The preachers present made their reports:

Greetings to The Northeast Mississippi Association of Free Will Baptist, when convened with the Fawn Grove church, on the 29th day of Sept. 1955. It is with true thankfulness to God that I am able to make the following report of my years work, ending the 29th day of Sept., 1955. I have preached 124 sermons, prayed many prayers, visited many sick folk, Baptised 6 persons, received into the church, 11 members, preached two memorial sermons, pastored two churches, conducted 16 funerals. Received from my work \$1303.85, traveled 5358 miles. My address is Calhoun City, Miss., Box 175, Geo. C. Lee, Sr.

Greetings: To Northeast Mississippi Association of Free Will Baptist, when convened with the Fawn Grove church on the 29th day of Sept., 1955.

It is with true thankfulness of heart that I am able to make the following report of my work ending Sept. 29th., 1955. I have preached 130 sermons, prayed many prayers, visited several sick, Baptised 11 converts, received into the church, 39 members, pastored one church, received from church pastored, \$2,600 dollars. Traveled 12,000 miles. My address is Saltillo, Miss., Wilburn Beasley.

Greetings to the Northeast Mississippi Association of Free Will Baptist when convened with the Fawn Grove church on Sept. 29th., 1955.

It is with true thankfulness of heart to God that I am able to make the following report of my years work ending Sept. 29th., 1955.

I have preached 94 sermons, prayed many prayers, visited some sick ones, received two into the church, preached one memorial sermon, conducted one funeral, received from church pastored, \$477.11. Received for Evangelistic work, \$222.30. Total received, \$699.41. Traveled 5219 miles. My address is Calhoun City, Miss., Rt. One. L. E. Winter.

Greetings: To The Northeast Mississippi Association of Free Will Baptist when convened with the Fawn Grove church on the 29th. day of Sept., 1955. It is with true thankfulness of heart to God that I am able to make the following report of my years work ending, Sept. 29th., 1955.

I have preached 130 sermons, Baptised 10 converts, received into the church, 27 members, conducted 3 funerals, received from church pastored, \$3225.00. Received for revivals, \$236.00. Total for the year, \$3461.00. Traveled 7500 miles. My address is Columbus, Miss. and New Orleans, J. D. O'Donnell.

Greetings: To the Northeast Mississippi association of Free Will Baptist when convened with the Fawn Grove church, on Sept. the 29th. 1955.

It is with true thankfulness of heart to God that I am able to make the following report of my years work, ending the 29th. day of Sept. 1955, I have preached 256 sermons, prayed many prayers, visited many sick people, baptised 14 converts, received into church 48 members helped ordain one Minister, and one Deacon, preached one Memorial sermon, licensed one preacher, pastored one church, conducted many funerals. Received from church pastored, \$3745.00.

Received for revival work, \$840.00, total for year, \$4585.00. My Address is East Tupelo, Miss., Luther D. Gibson. Traveled 23,000 miles.

Greetings: To the Northeast Mississippi association of Free Will Baptist, when convened with the Fawn Grove Church, on the 29th day of Sept., 1955. It is with true thankfulness to God that I am able to make the following report of my work ending on the 29th day of the following Sept., 1955. I have preached 134 sermons, prayed many prayers, visited many sick people, Baptised 16 converts, received into church 27 members, preached one commencement sermon, pastored 3 churches, conducted 3 funerals, received from pastoral work \$789.39 and for revival work, \$144.25. Total for year, \$935.25. My address is Pontotoc, Star Route, G. C. Price. Traveled 4863 miles.

Greetings: To the Northeast Mississippi Association of Free Will Baptist when convened with the Fawn Grove Church, on the 29th day of Sept., 1955.

It is with true thankfulness of heart to God that I am able to make the following report of my work for the year, ending the 29th. day of Sept. 1955. I have preached 76 sermons, prayed many prayers, visited many sick people, Baptised 2 converts, received 2 into the church, helped ordain one Minister, and 5 deacons, pastored 2 churches, conducted 6 funerals, received from the churches pastored, \$1417.52. Traveled 8421 miles. W. O. Knight; Amory, Miss.

Greetings: To the Northeast Mississippi Association of Free Will Baptist, when convened with the Fawn Grove church on the 29th. day of Sept., 1955.

It is with true thankfulness of heart to God that I am able to make the following report of my work for the year ending Sept. 29th., 1955. I have preached 26 sermons, prayed many prayers, visited many sick people, received \$58.62,, traveled 1014 miles. My address is Salitllo, Miss., RFD, Wayne Yarbrough.

Greetings: To The Northeast Mississippi Association of Free Will Baptist, when convened with the Fawn Grove Church, on the 29th day of September, 1955. It is with true thankfulness of heart to God that I am able to make the following report of my years work ending the 29th day of September, 1955. I have preached 186 sermons, prayed many prayers, visited many sick people, held 4 funerals, baptized 14 converts, received for my work in churches, \$2200.00 and for revivals \$300.00. Total received, \$2500.00. Traveled, 2400 miles. My address, is Columbus, Miss. RFD, M. H. Hollis. .

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your committee on temperance would recommend that we abstain from all intoxicating drinks, and that we be temperant in our ways of life, and abstain from all apperance of evil, that we as professed followers of Christ go about doing good every day.

D. D. Hollis
Mrs. W. K. Stubblefield
Mrs. Pearl Stone
Ben Morgan

Association adjourned till Friday morning, services at night. And the association had two fine meals served on the church ground that day. After supper, there was a call for another service in the house and it began with singing, and the moderator conducted a real old time testimony and prayer service. Much rejoicing. After the devotional, Rev. Wilburn Beasley brought a fine message, his subject was, "Giving our best to the Master" Using the lesson of the ala-

baster box of percious ointment put on the Savior. Homes were assigned and the days activities were over.

FRIDAY MORNING — SECOND DAYS SESSION

Called together by moderator, song and prayer by Ted Finley. Devotion was by Rev. W. O. Knight, using Luke 8th Chap. 29th verse.

The clerk read the minutes of the first days session and it was approved with some corrections.

There was a call for petitionary letters and the Randall Memorial Free Will Baptist Church of Memphis, Tenn., was presented. It was read and a vote was taken to receive the church into our association and it carried, the letter follows:

RANDALL MEMORIAL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

1475 Havana Street, Memphis, Tenn.

To the Northeast Mississippi association of Free Will Baptist, when convened with the Fawn Grove Church, Sept. 29th and 30th, 1955.

We send as delegates Mrs. Kermit Esther and Mrs. Irene Pruitt, whom we pray you to receive to sit with you in your deliberations.

State of religion good, members received since June 26th, 1955—6. Number baptised—5, Number dismissed—0. Total membership—27, condition of prayer meeting good. Condition of Sunday School, good, Average number of pupils—50, number of officers—3, number of teachers—5. Amount sent for associational funds \$5.00. Pastors name Kermit Esther, 364 Cossitt Place, Apt 7. Done in order of Randall Memorial Free Will Baptist Church, assembled, this 25th day of Sept., 1955. Remarks; We wish to join the Northeast Mississippi Association of The Free Will Baptist.

Rev. Kermit Esther, Moderator
James H. Graham, Clerk

REPORT OF HOME MISSION BOARD

Report of Home Mission Board for 1954-55. To the Northeast Mississippi Association, when convened with the Fawn Grove Church, on Sept. 29th, 30 1955.

Brought forward from 1954, Balance of	\$293.37
Oct. 16th W. G. Prude	33.40

	Debit
Exchange10
Oct. 18th M. L. Hollis, Columbus Meeting	\$150.00
Balance in bank at present time	\$176.67

E. E. Cowart,
Secretary and Treasurer

Cumberland Association of Free Will Baptist, Nashville, Tenn.
November 22, 1954

To: Rev. Wilburn Beasley, Pastor of Beech Springs, Church, Rt. 2 Saltillo, Miss.

Dear Brother Beasley:

At the meeting of the Cumberland Association Presbytery in its annual session held at the Oaklawn Free Will Baptist Church, Pleasant View, Tennessee, held Oct. 13-14, 1954, it was voted to give you a letter of recommendation from the Presbytery of the Cumberland Association.

Therefore: to whom it may concern:

We, the Cumberland Association of Free Will Baptist of Tennessee do hereby certify to the good character and fine deportment of the above addressed and do without hesitation fully recommend him as a good pastor and preacher of the gospel of Jesus Christ. He has worked in our association for about three years, and we are assured he will have God's blessings upon his ministry as he leaves us and enters the Lord's work elsewhere. He goes with out blessings and prayers for a great success.

Sincerely yours,
Cumberland Ass'n. Presbytery
E. Bayless McDonald, Clerk

REPORT OF BAPTIST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Yearly report of the District Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary, To: The Northeast Mississippi, when convened with the Fawn Grove Church, Sept. 29-30, 1955.

President, Mrs. Luther Gibson, East Tupelo, Miss.

Number of Auxiliarys reported, 4, Beech Springs, Columbus, East Tupelo, and Philadelphia.

1st. Enlistment Department; Enrolled at beginning of year, 68. Present enrollment, 74. Average attendance, 53.

2nd. Youth Department.

Number of youth Organization GTA—2, YPA—4.

Total membership, GTA—39, YPA—46.

Number of Stewardship Declamation contest held—1.

Number of Vacation Bible Schools—3.

Number of actual church Libraries—2.

\$60.00 contributed to Morganwood camp.

\$60.00 contributed to Bible College.

3rd. Study Course Department; Courses conducted, Stewardship—2.

Evangelism—1.

Number of daily bible readers—45.

4th. Program Prayer Department.

Number of special program held—1. Number of weekly prayer held—6. Total amount of self-denial offerings resulting from weeks of prayer, \$30.09. Total number of family altars—27. Total members observing prayer fellowship—30.

5th. Personal service Department:

Number making Soul-Winning efforts—55. Number Souls known to be saved—6. Number active in Community Missions—49. Total value of all contributions to Children's home—\$111.29.

6th. Publicity Department: Number subscribers to FWB paper—25.

District recording secretary,
Mrs. Jack Sherman,
Columbus, Miss.

AUXILIARY REPORTS FROM THE DIFFERENT CHURCHES

White Hill, Ladies Auxiliary report; Members enrolled—23. Sick visited—15, boxes and trays—20. Expenditures, Gifts for needy, \$15.00. Paints for cemetery and posts—\$3.88. Gifts for the needy—\$100.00. Total expenditures—\$118.88. Balance in treasury—\$10.37.

Mrs. Floyd Card, President
Mrs. Walter Fields, Vice-Pres.
Mrs. H. H. Lucious, Secretary

To The Free Will Baptist Association and Fawn Grove Church:

We, the Women's Auxiliary of McGregory's Chapel Church, wish to make the following activities reports:

We have 39 members on roll with an average attendance of 20. Due to the very serious illness in our community, which resulted in deaths, we bought groceries, also members of the Auxiliary took time about carrying groceries to these homes, other than what the Auxiliary paid them. During the Christmas Season, one of our members was unable to do her work. Our Auxiliary did her baking and delivered the food to her home. We also had as our project this year to buy song books for our church. With the cooperation of the Sunday School we bought sixty books. Also we did the following:

Sick visits	250	Disbursements	
Flowers to Aged at		Flavoring	\$ 16.80
Christmas	10	Chairs and blinds	21.00
Cards to sick	75	Gifts to sick	6.14
Trays to sick	10	Refreshments (Christ-	
Gifts to sick	1	mas Party)	4.50
Financial Receipts		Song books	43.75
Amt. brought forward		Cards	54.62
Oct. 1, 1954	\$ 51.07	Year books	12.50
Offerings	81.60	Flowers	26.25
Year Books	6.00	Total	\$185.56
Sale of Cards	52.95	Balance	\$ 8.57
Sale of Flavoring	6.60		
Refunds on song books	3.40		
Total	\$201.62		

We trust that the ensuing year our Auxiliary along with others of our Association may continue to grow.

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Shelby Bevill, Pres.
Star Rt., Thaxton, Miss.
Mrs. Bryant Maharry, Secty.
Pontotoc, Miss.

To The Northeast Mississippi Association: The Following is a report of our Auxiliary, Pearces Chapel Church.

We have approximately 20 who contribute to our auxiliary, some give of their time, others give love offerings. We have six regular members. We averaged meeting once a month.

1st. Monday is bible study.

Financial Report

Brought forward at close of 1954	\$ 66.24
Work and dues for year	92.10
Love offerings	85.70
Total	\$244.04

Expenditures

Chairs for church choir	\$ 78.00
Other incidentals for church	81.45
This includes, coffee urn, dishes for kitchen, shades for windows.	
Total	\$159.45
Food, flowers and gifts for sick and shutins	
Balance in Treasury	\$ 84.59

Mrs. Ida Price, Pres.
C. M. Cowart, Secty. & Treas.

Amory Free Will Baptist Church, Amory, Miss.

Report of the Auxiliary of the Free Will Baptist Church at Amory, Miss. from Oct. 27th, 1954 to Sept 27th, 1955.

Amount of money for the years work	\$131.99
This amount was made by selling cards, flavoring, serving suppers, and donations and membership dues.	
Amount paid out for year	\$130.49

Visits to sick	193
Trays to sick	67
Flowers	71
Cards	137
Gifts	51

Amount in Treasury	\$ 10.00
--------------------------	----------

Mrs. Boyd Jones, Treasury

LADIES AUXILIARY REPORT

There are 8 auxiliaries in the association. We find 21 churches represented and thirteen without an auxiliary. We urge the other churches to organize and find the good that you can accomplish and the many ways to raise your church funds and the joy of working for your church to make it a better place in which to worship. We have three churches that have youth auxiliaries, YPA's and GTA's. We urge the other churches to organize one. It will be a blessing to your church.

Signed by committee

The election of officers for another year came up at this time, and the following were elected, Rev. M. L. Hollis as Moderator, Rev. L. D. Gibson as assistant Moderator, Rev. Geo. C. Lee, Sr., Clerk, and Rev. W. O. Knight assistant, Brother W. G. Prude as Treasury.

It was moved to have the minutes published in book form this year. There was a new man elected on the superannuation board, to take place of the retiring man, and brother S. F. Chism, of Damascus was elected for the 5 yr. term. Brother Jim Gibson was elected on Home Mission Board for 5 year term.

There was move made and sustained to retain the present Evangelist and assistant for another year, Brother M. L. Hollis, and Brother L. E. Winter.

The next session of the association was voted to go to the Pleasant Grove church near Thaxton, Miss.

The quarterly meeting for the year was voted to the following places and times. First to East Tupelo, Thursday night before the 1st Sunday in January, 1955, thru Friday. The second to New Gauley, the Thursday night before the 1st Sunday in April. And the third one to Antioch, near Toccopola, Miss. in June, or the same time in June, Thursday night before the 1st Sunday in July.

Corresponding delegates were appointed as follows, To the Jasper, Rev. and Mrs. Wilburn Beasley. To Mt. Moriah, Rev. M. H. Hollis. To Little Brown Creek, Rev. Grover Price and Ted Finley.

OBITUARY REPORT

We your obituary committee make our report, We find from letters of the Association that there has been 15 members deceased since our last association. May we stand with bowed heads and humble hearts, for a moment of silent devotion to the memory of these dear souls. The following members have moved on to the other side to await the resurrection.

ANTIOCH CHURCH—Mrs. Y. A. Crowson, R. J. Winter and Roy Morris.

DAMASCUS CHURCH—E. O. Massey, Ester Alday.

DEPRIEST CHURCH—Mrs. Alice Threadgill.

EAST TUPELO CHURCH—Mrs. S. E. Mansel, Mr. G. M. Marcey.

SPRINGDALE CHURCH—Buster Bagott.

NEW GAULEY CHURCH—Mrs. Mary Brantley.

AMORY CHURCH—Mrs. Rowland Young.

PIERCE CHAPEL CHURCH—John Francis, Ernest Thompson, Eddie Wiggington.

Signed by Committee

To the National Association, which meets with the Free Will Baptist Church at Huntington, West, Va., in July of 1956. The following, Mrs. L. E. Duncan, Boyd Jones, Mrs. Boyd Jones, Ed Crider and Mrs. M. L. Hollis.

Delegates To State Line, Rev. Wilburn Beasley, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Duncan. Recessed at this time for a few moments. Called together again by singing, led by Ted Finley.

The Ordaining counsel met in the altar and the ordination service carried out. Rev. Wayne Yarbrough was ordained to the full work of the Gospel ministry by prayer and the laying on of hands by the Presbytery, and the following were ordained to the work of deacons. Mr. J. D. Stepp of the Pleasant Grove Church, and Brother Ernest Ownsby as licensed preacher was referred to his home church. And Brother S. F. Chism of the Damascus Church was ordained as deacon of that church. The counsel was composed of the Md. M. L. Hollis. the clerk, Rev. Geo. C. Lee, Sr., Rev. W. O. Knight, Charley Ard and brother Brown.

There was a move to adjourn this session, and it closed another great association. There was a standing vote of appreciation to the Fawn Grove church and community for their kind and generous hospitality while in their community.

Before the adjournment, there was read the following obituary report and we all stood in silent prayer after which we were led in the prayer by Mrs. Geo. C. Lee, Sr., in a very fitting prayer. After prayer there was song, "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be." led by Rev. Knight. The closing message was brought by Rev. Wayne Yarbrough, subject, "Retaining Our Identity As A Christian". It was a very interesting message.

CHURCH STATISTICS

AMORY—Our Deacons are—G. J. Robertson, Clyde Francis, D. H. Cannon, Geo. Robinson, R. L. McNeal, Sr., Boyd Jones, Loyal Tubb, Jack Crawford, W. J. Duncan and James Brown. Our delegates are—Mrs. Curtis Tears, Mrs. M. L. Hollis, and Mrs. Boyd Jones. Our clerk is—Mrs. J. C. Duncan and our pastor Rev. M. L. Hollis, Address, Amory, Miss.

Received by Baptism, 6, received by letter 5, dismissed by letter 4, deceased 1, Mrs. Royland Young. Total membership 271, Active 171, inactive 150. Sunday School enrollment 150, League enrollment 60. Women auxiliary 16. Men's Brotherhood 20. We have weekly prayer meeting.

ANTIOCH—Our deacons are—Lud Bevill, Zone Waugh and W. G. Hodges. Our delegates are—Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Tutor, J. H. Waldo and Ted Finley. Our clerk is Mrs. Nola Bevill and pastor, Rev. G. C. Price. Address is Toccopola and Pontotoc, Miss. Received by letter 1, dismissed by letter 5, deceased 3, Mrs. Y. A. Crowson, R. J. Winter and Roy Morris. Total membership 146, active 35, Sunday School enrollment 40. Meeting days 2nd and 4th Saturday eve, night and Sunday.

BEECH SPRINGS—Our deacons are—L. B. Hill, Norman Greely, Ezell Heatherly, John Stimbridge, C. L. Hill and Charley Cochran. Our clerk is—Jimmie Stimbridge, our pastor is Rev. Wilburn Beasley. Address, Saltillo, Miss. Our delegates are Bro. Earnest Ownby, Mrs. L. B. Hill, Mrs. Elgin Parker, Mrs. Wilburn Beasley and Miss Nancy Montgomery. Received by Baptism 11, received by letter 28, dismissed by letter 2. Total membership, 245. Active members 160. Sunday School enrollment 128. League enrollment 83, Women's Auxiliary 15. YPA's and GTA's 24. Prayer meeting regularly.

BETHLEHEM—Our deacons are C. J. Ard, M. M. Ramsey and S. W. Tucker. Our clerk is M. M. Ramsey and Pastor, Rev. W. O. Knight, Amory, Miss. Our address is Pontotoc, Miss. Our delegates are Mrs. W. K. Stubblefield and Mrs. Ola Ard. Received by Baptism 2, dismissed by letter 4. Total membership 90. Active 30, inactive 60. Sunday School enrollment 60.

1ST. CHURCH, Columbus Our deacons are—Silas Dolar, Letcher Fields, Floyd Clim, Erie Deas, Kimble Crawsly and Willie Brown. Our clerk is Mrs. Cecil Deas, our pastor is Rev. Paul Kettelman. Address Columbus, Miss. Our delegates are Mrs. Kimble Crawsley, Mrs. T. O. Sherman and Mrs. Bob Walden. Received by baptism 10, by letter 19, dismissed 7, deceased 1. Total membership 164, active 133, inactive 31, Sunday School enrollment 205, League enrollment 95, Ladies Auxiliary 29.

DAMASCUS—Our deacons are J. E. Smith, M. C. Johnson and Fred Chisalem. Our delegates are J. C. Gibson, Mrs. J. C. Gibson, and Mrs. Fred Chisalem. Our clerk is Mrs. C. C. McKee and pastor, Rev. R. C. McCoy. Address DeKalb, Miss. Received by Baptism 3, received by letter 1, dismissed 2. Deceased 2. Total membership 90. Active 50, Sunday School enrollment 25.

DEPRIEST CHAPEL—Our deacons are D. A. Willas, C. R. Hollis, and R. T. Cantrell, Kelley Ester. Our clerk is R. T. Cantrell and pastor is Rev. Roy Barnes. Address Gattman, Miss. Our delegates are Mrs. Burma Rea Heard, Miss Ruby S. Heard, Miss Genevia Cox and Mrs. Sam Jones. Total membership 82, Active 40, Sunday School enrollment 54.

EAST TUPELO—Our deacons are C. C. Davidson, W. C. Rea, L. E. Duncan, W. G. Prude, L. C. Bedford, D. P. Marcey, M. O. Haas, H. M. Murphy and H. A. Roberts. Our clerk is Jo Ann Parham and Pastor Rev. Luther Gibson, Tupelo, Miss. Our delegates are Mrs. Ezelle Witt, Mrs. Ola Bedford and Mrs. Alloys Whitaker. Received by Baptism 14, received by letter 34, dismissed by letter 7, deceased 2, Total membership 324, active 238, Sunday School enrollment 298, League enrollment 164. Women's Auxiliary 22, GTA's and YPA's 26. Weekly prayer meeting.

FAWN GROVE—Our deacons are John E. Brown, Roy Brown, Marvin Franks, B. G. Enlow and Bud Knight. Our delegates are Mrs. Marvin Franks, Mrs. Victor Howard, Chester Comer, Mrs. Victor Newenschwander. Our clerk is John E. Brown and pastor, Rev. M. L. Hollis, Amory, Miss. Our address is Mooreville. Total membership 207. Active 100. Sunday School enrollment 87, league 25.

FULTON—Our deacons are Marvin Jarrell, Orville Kennedy, and Troy Ballard. Our clerk is Mrs. Badine Stone, and pastor, Rev. M. L. Hollis, Amory, Miss. Our delegates are Mr. Willey Smith, Earnie Roberts, Mrs. Ila Boyd, and Mrs. Pearl Stone. Received by baptism, 1, by letter 2, dismissed by letter 2. Total membership 43, Sunday School enrollment 22.

LEE'S CHAPEL—Our deacons are G. G. Perkins, Blankston Edwards and Edd Perrigan. Our clerk is B. L. Perrigam and pastor, Rev. G. P. Perkins. Our delegates are Leaman Dawkins, Norman Patterson, and D. D. Hollis. Our address is Columbus, Miss. Total membership 63. Active 30. Sunday School enrollment 80. League 12. Weekly prayer meeting.

McGREGORY CHAPEL—Our deacons are W. B. May, A. A. Montgomery, Lonnie Merrit, Shelby Bevill and Lean Coker. Our clerk is Mrs. Iris Russell and Pastor Rev. Geo. C. Lee, Sr. Address Calhoun City, Miss. Our address is Pontotoc, Miss. Our delegates are Homer Bevill, Mrs. Boyd May, Floy Ard. Received by letter 6, dismissed by letter 2, total membership 91, active 76, Sunday School enrollment 60. Women's Auxiliary 39.

NEW GAULEY—Our deacons are W. M. Johnson, W. B. Griffin, Rupert Lunceford, Clarice Goodson, and James Goodson. Our clerk is Mrs. Dora Benning and pastor Rev. W. O. Knight and Rev. Geo. C. Lee called for 1955 and 56. Our delegates are, Mrs. Geo. C. Lee, Sr. and Mrs. Goldie Moutry. We have dismissed by letter 6. Total membership 125. Sunday School enrollment, 75.

NEW LIFE—Our deacons are Elbert Roberts, Julious Wages, and Ollin Sartin. Our delegates are Mary E. Cruce, Annie Oliver, Tempie Wages and Rubie McDonell. Our clerk is Mary E. Cruce, and pastor Rev. G. C. Price, Pontotoc. Received by Baptism 10, received by letter 2. Total membership 72, Active 34.

PIERCE'S CHAPEL—Our deacons are Clingan, C. R. Brasfield, and R. H. Pierce. Our clerk is Gilbert Johnson and pastor, Rev. M. L. Hollis, Amory. Our address is Smithville, Miss. Our delegates are Mrs. Hattie Duncan, Madge Robinson and Mrs. Ila Pierce. Received by Baptism 7, by letter 1, dismissed by letter 9. Deceased 3. Total membership 376. Active 221. Sunday School enrollment, 104. Woman's Auxiliary 6.

PHILADELPHIA—Our deacons are J. M. Smith, J. A. Russell and Tom Pettitt. Our clerk is Mrs. J. T. McArthur, pastor, Rev. Raymond Tilley. Our delegates Clelan Flaherty, Mrs. W. R. Burkes and Mrs. A. L. Hatalry. Address Philadelphia, Miss. Received by letter 3. Total membership 51. Active 37. Sunday School enrollment 52. League 38. Woman's Auxiliary 10. Prayer meeting 30.

PLEASANT GROVE—Our deacons are Jim Thomas, Wayne Thomas, A. J. Owen and John Bennett. Our clerk is J. D. Stepp, pastor Rev. Geo. C. Lee, Sr., Calhoun City, Miss. Our delegates are J. D. Stepp, Wanda Stepp, Mrs. Ida Carte. Received by baptism 4, dismissed by letter 1. Total membership 85. Address Thaxton, Miss. RFD.

SPRINGDALE—Our deacons are G. L. Dulin, Jodie Walker, Lonnie Cobb, R. V. Henderson and Kenneth Walker. Our clerk is Harold Taylor, pastor Joe Fredick, past year, Rev. W. O. Knight for another year. Our delegates are Mr. and Mrs. Men Morgan, Mrs. G. L. Dulin, Miss Louella Potts and Mrs. Milton Starns. Received by Baptism 4, by letter none, dismissed by letter 4, Deceased 1. Total membership 249. Active 110. Sunday School enrollment 85. We have weekly prayer meeting. Address Denmark, Miss.

STETSON CHAPEL—Our deacons are Martin May and Joe Bramblett. Our clerk is Mrs. Ila Inmon, and pastor Rev. G. C. Price. Address Pontotoc, our address is Toccopola, Miss., RFD. Received by baptism 6, dismissed by letter 2. Total membership 60. Active 25.

UNION HILL—our deacons are Herman Heith, Raymond Lofton and E. S. Brooks. Our clerk is B. M. Maxwell, our pastor, Rev. Wayne Yarbrough, Saltillo, Miss. Our address is Saltillo. Our delegates are Paul Witt, David Lucas, Herman Lucas and Ernest Smith. Received by baptism 1, received by letter 3. Total membership 143. Active 45, Sunday School enrollment 40, League 40.

WHITE HILL—Our deacons are Walter Fields. Our delegates are Floyd Card, E. O. Vaughn and Mrs. E. O. Vaughan. Clerk is Earl W. Shelly, pastor L. E. Winter. Received by baptism 1, dismissed 1, excluded 2. Total membership 61. Active 40. Sunday School enrollment 76. Woman's Auxiliary 23. Prayer meeting 25.

RANDALL MEMORIAL OF MEMPHIS, TENN.—Our deacons are Buford Pearce. Our delegates are Mrs. Kermit Esther and Mrs. Irene Pruitt. Our clerk is James H. Graham and Pastor, Rev. Kermit Esther, 1475 Havana St., Memphis, Tenn. Members received since June 1955 6, number baptised 5. Total membership 27. Sunday School attendance 50.

Statement of Finance Report. Treasury Report for The Year 1954-55

Credits brought forward		Debits	
from 1954	\$ 35.71	Association officers	\$ 20.00
Associational funds	169.12	W. S. Mooneyham	26.45
Childrens home	78.00	Childrens Home	78.00
Bible College	5.00	Morganwood Camp	858.94
N. E. Home Mission	5.00	Home Missions, N. E.	33.40
N. E. Superannuation	5.00	Nat'l Home Mission	112.65
Freewill Offerings	26.45	Bible College	461.69
Unified program by churches		Foreign Missions	455.69
Antioch	75.48	Superannuation, N. E.	335.53
Beech Springs	15.00	National Asso. Fee	5.00
Bethlehem	20.00	Minutes and postage	53.20
Columbus	579.86	Delegates to Nat. Asso.	66.00
Damascus	16.00	N.E. Asso. Forms	9.79
East Tupelo	1313.47	Asso. Program	2.50
Fawn Grove	10.00	Total	\$2518.84
Fulton	10.00	Bal. in Treasury	\$24.04
New Gauley	78.23	Brought forward, asso.	
Depriest Chapel	10.00	1955	\$ 24.04
Priceville	75.53	Receipts at Asso.	353.90
Springdale	10.00	Balance	\$377.94
Total	2542.85	M. L. Hollis, M. D.	
		Geo. C. Lee, Clerk	

ASSOCIATIONAL DIRECTORY

M. L. Hollis	Moderator
L. D. Gibson	Assistant Moderator
Geo. C. Lee	Clerk
W. O. Knight	Assistant Clerk
W. G. Prude	Treasurer
M. L. Hollis	Evangelist
L. E. Winter	Assistant Evangelist

HOME MISSION BOARD

Five Years	Leonard Hill
Four Years	Roy Brown
Three Years	Oliver Haas
Two Years	E. E. Cowart
One Year	Boyd Jones

SUPERANNUATION BOARD

5 Years	S. F. Chism
4 Years	Oscar Stembridge
3 Years	James Goodson
2 Years	W. O. Knight
1 Year	H. A. Roberts

QUARTERLY MEETING OFFICERS

George C. Lee	Moderator
L. E. Duncan	Clerk and Treasurer
Program Committee For Association	M. L. Hollis, John Brown
Program Com. For Quarterly Meeting	George C. Lee, L. E. Duncan
State Representative To General Board	W. G. Prude

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Charley Ard—1 Year	Pontotoc
D. D. Hollis—2 Years	Columbus
Rev. Wilburn Beasley—3 Years	Saltillo

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 the grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior 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 together with 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 churches, to harmonize the efforts of individual churches to one another in their 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 alterations having been given in writing and recorded at the next previous session.

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 Superannuation.

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 right 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 Scriptures 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 Scriptures 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 condition 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. 2nd chpt.; 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.—PERSEVERENCE—All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation. Rom. 6:18-22; Rom. 5:21.

Article 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 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 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."

Article 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 work, and activities and for personal communion with God. Deut. 5:12-14; Heb. 4:4.

Article 16.—RESURRECTION, JUDGEMENT 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 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.

Church Finances		Value Church Prop.	Value Parsonage	Total Debit	Rec. In Tithes	Rec. Free Will Offering	Loans	Total Recpt.	Pastor Salary	Pastor Exp.	Visiting Preachers	Evangelist	Singer and Pianist	Building Repairs	Morganwood Camp	Home Mission	Foreign Mission	Bible College	Suppera.	S.S. Lit. and Supplies	Ins.	Utilities	Beneovent	Incid.	Total Exp.	Association Fund	Unified Pro.	Total Ami. Sent	Children's Home	Gifts and Missions
Amory-----	36,800.00	12,200.00	1,832.49		5,551.03	1,832.49	5,551.03	2,600.00			115.00	160.00	280.00	1,697.28																
Antioch-----	5,000.00				893.96		893.96	503.05				114.00																		
Beech Springs-----	9,200.00	5,000.00	2,900.00	2,827.20	3,268.23	3,500.00	9,595.43	2,600.00	92.70			170.00	50.00	5,255.14	16.51	62.06	8.26	8.26	6.19	160.47	118.51									
Bethlehem-----	4,500.00			264.00	1,387.32		1,693.32	796.31			43.27	152.50	11.80	670.40		46.65	4.00	46.00	2.00	222.23										
1st Church of Columbus--	3,500.00	10,000.00	5,026.00	4,321.61	3,605.77		8,080.93	3,155.00			10.00	300.00		2,136.03		80.50	428.84	71.70												
Damascus-----	2,500.00			85.21	1,115.67		1,200.88	852.10				115.00							10.00		20.09	15.00	23.40	102.57	1,706.70	8,774.87	10.00	459.09	10.00	206.29
Depricst Chapel-----	2,500.00							215.00			5.00	50.00	25.00	15.45																
East Tupelo-----	50,000.00	7,500.00	23,000.00	8,260.37	4,279.11	23,000.00	39,872.30	3,745.00	115.00		70.00	150.00	85.00	28,613.47	588.98	29.00	501.87	483.99	220.87	881.92	245.55		24.22	635.08	390.85	37,452.55	10.00	20.00	25.00	15.00
Fawn Grove-----	4,000.00				1,165.15			591.45																						
Fulton-----	4,500.00				580.37			290.00			13.75	125.00		181.69		8.25														
Lee's Chapel-----	4,000.00		377.00	36.25	606.56			362.88			22.00	100.00		377.00																
McGregory-----	10,000.00			352.00	1,663.43			1,006.54			25.00	152.00	40.00			42.00			65.00	86.40	45.00	27.40		448.14		522.25	8.00	7.40	22.40	10.00
New Gauley-----	7,500.00			38.75	1,092.34			631.93			11.00	75.00	6.00	4.77		3.00	3.00	35.00		15.00	44.35	146.08	3.00	18.10	1,088.23	20.00	59.00	26.85		
New Life-----	3,000.00							229.19			17.00					3.00										3.00	7.00	10.00		
Pierce's Chapel-----	7,500.00			2,707.11				900.00			45.00	125.16	100.00	744.06				46.00			27.45	43.34		372.14	2,507.45	25.00		25.00	104.20	
Philadelphia-----	5,700.00				1,614.67			890.50						507.00		15.00				45.00	18.39	35.00		41.70	1,614.67	5.00		5.00		
Pleasant Grove-----	3,000.00							211.19					13.75	57.30												4.00	4.00	11.00	3.00	
Springdale-----	5,000.00			77.50	364.45			916.75				100.00		33.60				33.00			28.15		28.50				20.00	20.50		
Stetson Chapel-----	3,000.00				150.25			125.80			15.00	28.50	14.00	65.00									8.00				3.00	10.00		
Union Hill-----	2,500.00							419.25				70.00															7.00	10.00		
White Hill-----	3,000.00							477.11			20.00	90.00																10.00		
Randall Chapel, Memphis																												5.00		
Totals-----	178,700.00	34,700.00	33,135.49	16,262.95	29,995.43	7,632.49	74,947.33	16,569.60	202.70	564.37	2,077.16	625.55	40,136.26	690.49	563.96	1,000.97	1,083.72	233.06	1,693.09	740.33	1,908.38	1,150.65	4,247.78	76,276.27	194.65	641.99	353.50	507.13	629.37	