

Minutes
Of The
Fifty-Second Annual Session
Of The
Northeast Mississippi
Association
Of
Free Will Baptist
When Convened With
Pleasant Grove
Free Will Baptist Church
October 11, 1986
At
Pontotoc, Mississippi

The Next Session Will Meet With The
Eggville Free Will
Baptist Church

Tupelo, MS
Saturday Before The Second Sunday
in October, 1987

THE NORTHEAST ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

GENERAL OFFICERS

MODERATOR.....Rev. J. M. Creech
P. O. Box 41, Tupelo, MS 38801
ASSISTANT MODERATOR.....Rev. Bill VanWinkle
208 Farrar Drive, Rt. 3, Fulton, MS 38843
CLERK - TREASURERMr. T. J. Armstrong
Rt. 1, Smithville, MS 38870, Phone 601-651-4798
ASSISTANT CLERK - TREASURERLenorse Stricklen
Rt. 2, Box 373, Pontotoc, MS 38863

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1987--Rev. O. L. Fields, Columbus, MS 39701
1988--Rev. Leander McAdams, Columbus, MS 39701
1989--Rev. Al Hamm, Columbus, MS 39701
1990--Rev. Bill Robinson, Tupelo, MS 38801

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

1987--Rev. L. E. Winter, Randolph, MS 38864
1988--Rev. VanWinkle, Fulton, MS 38843
1989--Rev. Phil Davis, Mantachie, MS 38855
1990--Rev. Gerald Gann, Tupelo, MS 38801
1991--Rev. Bobby Greene, Saltillo, MS 38866

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

1987--Rev. Milton Fields, Columbus, MS 39701
1988--Rev. Jerry Hooper, Booneville, MS 38829
1989--Rev. James Hudson, Smithville, MS 38870

MORGANWOOD CAMP BOARD

1987--Rev. Milton Fields, Columbus, MS 39701
1988--Rev. J. M. Creech, Tupelo, MS 38801
1989--Rev. J. V. Mills, Pontotoc, MS 38863
1990--Rev. Mike Creech, Smithville, MS 38870
1991--Bro. Watson Marlin, Tupelo, MS 38801

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

1987--Rev. Doug Ferguson, Houlka, MS 38850
1988--Rev. Mike Creech, Smithville, MS 38870
1989--Rev. J. V. Mills, Pontotoc, MS 38863

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

1987--Bro. Robert Spruiell, Amory, MS 38821
1988--Bro. H. G. Cooper, Philadelphia, MS 39350
1989--Rev. Randy Settle, Tupelo, MS 38801

CHURCHES

Antioch
Rt. 1
Randolph, MS 38864

Beech Springs
Rt. 3 Box 202
Saltillo, MS 38866
Ph. 601-842-4148

Bethlehem
Rt. 2
Pontotoc, MS 38863

Damascus
Rt. 1
Dekalb, MS 39328

Eggville
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Fawn Grove
Rt. 1
Mantachie, MS 38855

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1800 Main St.
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P.O. Box 332
Philadelphia, MS 39350

First Free Will Baptist
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P. O. Box 249
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Oxford, MS 38655
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Rev. George Crowden
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Mrs. Bobby Frizzell
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Miss Madgie Robinson
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Mrs. Kathlynn Plunk
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Will Baptist
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Springdale
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Ph. 601-234-0451

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Rev. Al Hamm
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Pontotoc, MS 38863

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1209 Sandlin Rd.
Fulton, MS 38843

Rev. Paul Long
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DELEGATES - 1986

ANTIOCH - Tom Fagan, Millie Grace Pettit, Uline Hooper, Melda Fagan, Dwight Vance.

BEECH SPRINGS -

BETHLEHEM - Shiela Graham, Joan Harrison, Donna Strilen

DAMASCUS - Jimmie Weathers, J. H. Smith

EGGVILLE -

FAWN GROVE - Carolyn Franks, Lois Comer, Joan Davis, Hilma Marlin

AMORY FIRST -

COLUMBUS FIRST -

PHILADELPHIA FIRST - Sis. Wilda McAdams, Sis. Margerette Cooper

WEST MEMPHIS -

FULTON - Jane Hargett, Bobby Hargett

AMORY MAIN ST. -

McGREGORS CHAPEL -

NEW GAULEY -

NEW LIFE - Amy Day, Becky Wages, Anne Oliver, Gennise Ferguson, Hazel Garnett

OXFORD FIRST -

PEARCE CHAPEL - Mrs. James Hudson

PLEASANT GROVE - Mike Thomas, Mary Sullivan, Carolyn Nichols, Sue Massey

SMITHVILLE FIRST - Inez Armstrong

SPRINGDALE -

TUPELO -

VICTORY -

HARMONY - Harold Chandler, Carol Chandler, Margie Trull

WHITE HILL - Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Fields, Mrs. Darlen Packer

MINUTES

Northeast Mississippi District Association of Free Will Baptist

**January 11, 1986 at Fawn Grove F.W.B. Church
Mantachie, MS**

8:30--Registration

9:00--Song Service led by Randy Settle--"Sun Light". Special by Living Praise Trio--"When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder."

9:10--Devotional by Rev. L. E. Winter-Psalms 11.

9:20--Announcements by Rev. Phil Davis

9:25--Seating of delegates by Moderator Rev. Bill Robinson fill in on Credentials Committee.
Rev. Don Johnson and Rev. Herbert Stalnaker filled in the Nominating Committee.

9:30--Roll Call--20 churches reporting. Moderators instructions to committees meeting at recess.

9:35--Recess

9:50--Song service--Prayer for Herman Jones and Leander McAdams who are sick. Prayer offered by Grady Daniel.

10:00--State Mission Report by Rev. Bill VanWinkle. We are still short \$4,000.00 on Building Fund.

10:20--Report of Committees--Resolutions (see report)

Credential (see report) Nominating (see report).

10:45--Treasurer's Report

10:50--Miscellaneous business--none. Report of Youth Rally. Next Rally will be at Tupelo F.W.B. Church March 8, 1986 with the Life Action Ministries presenting "AMERICA YOU ARE TOO YOUNG TO DIE" -- Be there for this program.

11:00--Morning worship--Song service--"Joy Unspeakable." Rev. J. M. Creech prayed the blessing on offering and it was received. Specials by Living Praise Trio from F.W.B. Bible College. Message by Rev. Frank Breeden from F.W.B.B.C. John 8:53,9.

12:00--Adjourn--Lunch--Prayer by Rev. Phil Davis.

CREDENTIALS REPORT

We the credentials committee of the Northeast Mississippi association recommend the following:

1. Information--We have received letters of good standing for Rev. Norlen Jones and Rev. Jerry Hooper.

2. We recommend that Rev. Paul Long be received into our association. We have received his letter of good standing from the Little Brown Association.

3. We recommend that Rev. Doug Ferguson Pastor of New Life F.W.B., standing from Cumberland association, Tennessee.

4. We recommend that Rev. Dale Ford, pastor of Main Street Free Will Baptist Church, Amory, be accepted into our Association. We have received his letter of good standing from the Vernon Association, Alabama.

5. We recommend that Rev. Thomas Parrish be granted a letter of good standing to the Bible Belt Conference of Free Will Baptist of South Carolina.

Respectfully Submitted
The Credentials Committee
Rev. Eddie L. Vincent
Rev. L. E. Winter
Rev. Billy VanWinkle
Rev. Bill Robinson
Rev. Phil Davis

RESOLUTION REPORT

1. We recommend that we give \$150.00 from the general fund to the F.W.B.B.C. group and extend our grateful appreciation to them for their coming.
2. We recommend that we give a rising vote of thanks to the Fawn Grove Church for their gracious hospitality.
3. We recommend that we appoint men of regular attendance of our meetings to positions of leadership in our association.

Respectfully Submitted
Rev. Jerry Hooper
Rev. James Hudson
Rev. Milton Fields

NOMINATION REPORT

Moderator: Rev. J. M. Creech
Asst. Moderator: Rev. Bill VanWinkle
Youth Camp-1990: Rev. Mike Creech

Respectfully Submitted
Rev. Don Johnson
Rev. Herbert Stalnaker
Rev. J. V. Mills

MINUTES

Northeast Mississippi District Association of Free Will Baptist
April 12, 1986
Columbus First F.W.B. Church
Columbus, MS

8:30--Registration

9:00--Song service led by Dr. Milton Fields. "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart." Mrs. Hope VanWinkle at piano. Prayer by Rev. George Crowden.

9:10--Devotional by Rev. Don Johnson Psalms 133.

9:20--Announcements. (Host Church) Dr. Milton Fields.

9:25--Seating of delegates by Moderator. Fill in Credential Rev. George Crowden and Rev. Al Hamm.

9:30--Roll Call--Moderators instructions to Committees. 9:35--State Mission report by Rev. J. L. Gore. Also report of State Masters Men which met at Roasevelt State Park in September. Encouragement to support Missions. Pastors and workers Conference and State C.T.S. Competition.

9:45--Recess Committees meet.

10:00--Song Service--"At The Cross" Prayer by Rev. Paul Long.

10:10--Report of Committees--Credential (see report) Resolutions (see report) Prayer on advance Mission program Rev. Mike Creech.

10:35--Treasurers report.

10:45--Miscellaneous Business. Voted to give Michelle Vincent \$150.00 as a Summer Missionary to France. Rev. Mike Creech placed on C.T.S. Committee to replace Rev. Billy Trull. Rev. Ronald Creech spoke on Project Jehoiada and then led in prayer.

11:00--Morning worship--Song "Work Till Jesus Comes." Offering--Prayer by Rev. Leander McAdams. Special in song "Beulah Land" Dr. Fields, Mrs. Fields and Mrs. Blevins. Message--Rev. Ronald Creech--Rev. 21.

12:00--Adjourn--Prayer by Bro. Letcher Fields

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

We recommend Bro. Harvey Luke into our fellowship. We have received a letter of good standing and he has filled out his questionnaire satisfactorily. (passed)

We met with Bro. Bobby Green, the new pastor at Beach Springs Church. He was given a questionnaire to fill out. (passed)

Respectfully Submitted,
Billy VanWinkle
Al Hamm
Phil Davis
L. E. Winters
George Crowden

RESOLUTIONS

1. WHEREAS Michelle Vincent is a Bible College student from our Association who will be representing our Foreign Missions Department in France during the summer of 1986, be it resolved that this Association make a special commitment to her account and we further recommend that each church in this association be encouraged to take a special offering or make a commitment to her account during the month of April. (passed)
2. We recommend that we give the First Church of Columbus a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality today. (passed)
3. We recommend that each church in this association be encouraged to participate in the 50-Advance emphasis during the months of May and June and that we take time for special prayer for this program. (passed)
4. We recommend that we give Brothers Gore and Creech a show of appreciation as they share their ministries with us today. (passed)

Respectfully Submitted
Grady Daniel
James Hudson
Milton Fields

MINUTES

**Northeast Mississippi District Association
of Free Will Baptist
Pearce Chapel Free Will Baptist Church
Smithville, MS
July 12, 1986**

8:30--Registration

9:00--Song service led by Rev. Mike Creech. Mrs. Carla Creech at piano. Song number 338 - "Stand Up For Jesus".

9:10--Devotional--Rev. Jerry Hooper - Matthew 23:1-12.

9:20--Announcements (Host Church) - Rev. James Hudson.

9:25--Seating of Delegates by Moderator. Rev. George Crowden and Rev. Jerry Hooper appointed to serve temporarily on Credential Committee.

9:30--Roll Call - Moderator's Instructions to Committees.

9:35--Recess (Committees Meet).

9:50--Song service--Number 265 - "Victory In Jesus". Prayer by Rev. Doug Ferguson.
 10:00--State Mission Report by Rev. Bill VanWinkle. Proposed mission to be established at Southaven.
 10:20--Report of Committees--Credential (See Report). Resolution that we give a rising vote of thanks to Host Church. - passed.
 10:45--Treasurer's Report--See Report.
 10:50--Miscellaneous Business--Motion made to give Captain Robert Cooper \$200.00 - Not Passed. Report of Youth Camp by Rev. Mike Creech. Rev. J. L. Gore gave report on State Mission and Target '90 with a goal of 5,000 attendance in Mississippi on last Sunday in October, 1986. Voted to give Free Will Baptist Bible College \$125.00 ADVANCE Cards explained by Rev. Mike Creech.
 11:00--Morning Worship--Song number 66 - "Rescue The Perishing". Offering - Prayer by Rev. Leander McAdams. Song number 144 - "We've A Story To Tell To The Nations". Two specials in song by Paula Dabbs and Susan Wright. Prayer by Rev. George Crowden. Message by Rev. Bobby Green - II Timothy 4:1-8. Song - "Wherever He Leads Me I'll Go".
 12:00--Adjourn. Prayer by Rev. J. M. Creech.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Credentials Committee, recommend that Brother Lenarse Strickland, the new pastor at the Bethlehem Church, be received into our association upon receiving a Letter of Good Standing from the South Mississippi Association.

We also recommend that Brother Bobby Green, the new pastor at Beech Springs, be received into our association. We have received a Letter of Good Standing.

Bill VanWinkle
 George Crowden
 Jerry Hooper

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

To give host church a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality today.

MINUTES

**NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF F.W.B.
 PLEASANT GROVE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
 PONTOTOC, MS
 OCTOBER 11, 1986**

9:15--Registration
 9:20--Song service--Led by Rev. Mike Creech. "Standing On The Promises".
 9:30--Devotional--Rev. Lenarse Strickland. Phil 4:13-John 5:20.
 9:40--Appointment of Committees--Rev. Doug Ferguson fill in on Credential Committee--Rev. Bill Robinson fill in on Resolution Committee. Nomination Committee (See Report).
 9:50--Welcome by Rev. J. V. Mills.
 10:00--Report of Mississippi Missions--Rev. Bill VanWinkle Morganwood Camp report--(see report).
 10:10--Recess--Prayer request by Rev. Crowden and prayer by Rev. Phil Davis.
 10:25--Song service "When We All Get To Heaven" Prayer by Rev. Paul Long. Credential Committee report--(see report). Resolutions Committee report--(see report). Obituary Committee report--(see report). Digest of Reports. Treasurer's report--(see report). Christian Education report. Ladies Auxiliary report--(no report). Childrens Home report--Eldridge, AL. (no report).
 10:50--Miscellaneous Business--Motion to give clerk \$100.00 honorum (passed) Rev. Bill Robinson spoke concerning T.V. and radio spots.
 10:55--Sunday School report--Bro. H. G. Cooper. Election of officers.

11:00--Song Service--"Amazing Grace." Prayer by Bro. H. G. Cooper. Mike and Ann Thomas--special in song. Offering. Message--Rev. Phil Davis--Eph. 2:18-22.
12:00--Adjourn Meeting--Prayer by Rev. J. V. Mills. Lunch

THE REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

We, the Credentials committee of the Northeast Mississippi Association recommend the following:

1. Point of information;

We have received a letter of good standing for Rev. Lenarse Stricklen from the South Mississippi Association.

2. We have received a request from the South Mississippi Association for a letter of good standing for Rev. Billy Truill. We recommend this letter be granted.

3. We have received a request from the Indian River Association FL. for a letter of good standing for Rev. Harvey Luke. We recommend this letter be granted. (all passed)

Respectfully Submitted,
(Credentials Committee)
Bill VanWinkle
Doug Ferguson
Gerald Gann
L. E. Winter
Phil Davis

RESOLUTIONS

1. Be it resolved, we, the Northeast Mississippi Association give the Pleasant Grove church a standing vote of appreciation for the invitation, hospitality and fine food presented today.

2. Quarterly meetings will be held as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1. January--Tupelo | 2. April--New Gauley |
| 3. July--Antioch | 4. October--Eggville |

3. Be it resolved that the Christian Education Committee continue on the Youth Rallies for our association, because of the interest and value to our youth.

4. Be it resolved that we the Northeast Mississippi Association send out a copy of the Credentials Committee's report of October 8, 1977 to every preacher to re-emphasize Ministers absenteeism.

5. Whereas at the present, this Assoc. has a separate designated meeting for Sunday School Convention, and whereas the interest seems to be short of full potential. Be it resolved we the resolution committee recommend that this separate meeting be eliminated and designated one quarterly meeting (April) to have as its centered theme S. S. enlargement with executive committee over program. (passed)

Submitted,
Jerry Hooper
James Hudson
Bill Robinson

1986 OBITUARY COMMITTEE REPORT

ANTIOCH - Mrs. Eula Finly, Mrs. Almeda Winter
SMITHVILLE FIRST - Mrs. Dorothy Riggan
FAWN GROVE - Mrs. Sybil Butler
NEW LIFE - Mrs. Irene Roberts
PEARCE CHAPEL - Mrs. Eron Riggan, Mrs. Lucille Johnson
BETHLEHEM - Mr. Brock Graham
TUPELO - Mr. Hubert Post
NEW GAULEY - Annie Bell Kelmen, Vivian Rogers, Veatrice Smith

OBITUARY COMMITTEE

Mrs. Inez Armstrong
Mrs. H. G. Cooper
Mrs. Watson Marlin

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Moderator.....	J. M. Creech
Assistant Moderator.....	Bill VanWinkle
Clerk/Treasurer.....	T. J. Armstrong
Asst. Clerk.....	Lenarase Stricklen
Exec. Committee.....	Bill Roberson (1990)
Credentials Committee.....	Bobby Green (1991)
Resolutions Committee.....	James Hudson (1989)
Morganwood Camp Board.....	Watson Marlin (1991)
Nomination Committee.....	J. V. Mills (1989)
	to replace T. J. Barnard Doug Ferguson (1987)
Christian Education.....	Randy Settle (1989)

TREASURER'S REPORT

1985-86

Balance on Hand, Oct. 12, 1985	568.08
Church letters and offering annual Assn.	747.63
Church letters and offering January	492.00
Church letters and offering April	541.00
Church letters and offering July	397.63
Total Cash and Receipts	2746.34

DISBURSEMENTS

Miss. State Annual Fee	50.00
Miss. State Assn. of F.W.B. Missions	400.00
F.W.B. Bible College-General Fund	225.00
F.W.B. Bible College-Rev. Frank Breeden & Trio	150.00
F.W.B. Bible College-Development	200.00
F.W.B. Foreign Missions-Crawson Acc.	100.00
Smithville Postmaster-postage & envelopes	82.54
T. J. Armstrong - Clerk Honorum	100.00
Miss. State Assn. of F.W.B.-Designated Messenger	25.00
Miss. State Assn. of F.W.B.-National Dues	240.00
Star Printing-minutes	443.08
Michelle Vincent-France Missions	150.00
Total Disbursements	2165.62
 Cash on Hand Oct. 11, 1986	 580.72

DEACONS

AMORY FIRST - James Taylor, Norris Robison.
AMORY MAIN STREET - Troy Dewitt, William Pucket.
ANTIOCH - W. G. Hodges, Zone Waugh, Clark Davis
BEECH SPRINGS - Elzie Harris, J. T. Alexander, Jim Stenbridge, Harvey Shackelford.
BETHLEHEM - Paul Stubblefield, Clayton Harrison, Frank Stubblefield, Jimmy Foreman, Thomas Crawford.
DAMASCUS - S. F. Chisolm, J. H. Smith, N. T. Gibson.
EGGVILLE - Herman Keith, John M. Lamb, Jr., Rayvon Lofton, Karrie Weathers.
FAWN GROVE - John Brown, Roy Brown, Russell Burcham, Charles Comer, Marvin Franks.
FIRST COLUMBUS - Vertis Smith, Ron Blevins, Gene Lanier.
FIRST PHILADELPHIA - H. G. Cooper, Sr.
FIRST WEST MEMPHIS - Allen Adams, Sidney Phelps.
FULTON - Wayne Wood, Wendell Brown, Charles Grimes, Grover Parmer, Terry Harrell, Bobby Hargett.
MCGREGORS CHAPEL - Winston Akers, John Long, Leistor Russell.
NEW GAULEY - John Cozart, James Goodson, Curtis Bryant, Clarice Goodson, David L. Doler, Carl Bryant.
NEW LIFE - J. B. Oliver, Theron Tallant, Herman Moultrie, Sonny Collins, Charles Garrett.
OXFORD - Glen Clark, William Burrow, Simon Taylor, Charlie Burnes, Wright Davis, Leslie Spence.
PEARCE CHAPEL - Hurston Noe, C. R. Brasfield, Trannie Sullivan, Mel Horne, Jr., Mickey Dabbs, A. V. Armstrong, Rodger Pearce, T. L. Cowley.
PLEASANT GROVE - Chris Holcomb.
SMITHVILLE FIRST - T. J. Armstrong, John Clingan, Darrell Stafford.
SPRINGDALE - Kenneth Walker, Lester Dulin, inactive, Jody Walker, inactive.
TUPELO - Ralph Riley, H. A. Roberts, Oliver Haas, Wallace Reid, Ed Harrell, Jolly Winders, Rex Reese.
VICTORY - Jimmy Harrell.
WHITE HILL - Madero Nemes, James Card, Clifford Fields.
HARMONY -

MORGANWOOD YOUTH CAMP

Financial Statement: October 1, 1985 through September 30, 1986

October 1, 1985 Balance\$1,257.43

RECEIPTS:

Amory FWB Church - Main St.	\$ 398.00
Bethlehem FWB Church	801.75
Columbus FWB Church	100.00
Fawn Grove FWB Church	705.61
Pearce Chapel FWB Church	90.26
Pleasant Grove FWB Church	20.00
Tupelo FWB Church	485.59
White Hill FWB Church	57.87

Refund Lights/Phone	874.72
Insurance Refund	27.85
Camp Fees/Snack Shop	3,470.53
Transferred from Savings (Bldg.)	3,600.00
TOTAL	10,632.17

DISBURSEMENTS:

Auburn Water	180.39
Tombigbee Electric	1,374.84
South Central Bell	636.23
I.F.M. Insurance	960.00
Doctor & Hospital Fees ('85-'86)	162.10
Transfer to Savings Account	1,000.00
Camp Evangelist	460.00
Cash for Snack Shop	200.00
Groceries from Snack Shop Money	240.00
Printing, Postage, Misc.	129.81
Recreational Activities & Supplies	626.22
Gas Bus	17.50
Bread, Milk	55.54
Bill Timbes	143.62
Pepsi Cola	208.30
Borden's Inc.	113.06
Institutional Foods	1,636.23
Cemco Supply (Fan)	344.23
Bass Corp (A/C)	474.40
Senter Transit Mix	414.40
Building & Repairs	1,421.89
Plumbing & Repairs	520.38
TOTAL	11,327.64

Balance September 30, 1986	561.96
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GOLDEN SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Balance October 1, 1985	4,427.33
Transferred from checking account	1,000.00
Interest	293.79
TOTAL	5,721.12
Drawn out for Building	3,600.00
Balance September 30, 1986	2,121.12

**REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE
TO
NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST
JULY 9, 1983**

Proposed to By-laws: Duties of Standing Committees

- 1. He must present a letter of request from his local church and a letter of good standing from his previous association at any session of the Northeast Association.**
- 2. He shall be required to fill out the questionnaire provided to him by the Credentials Committee.**
- 3. He must then be examined by the Credentials Committee on or before the next session of the Association following the session the request for membership was received.**

- 4. He will then be recommended to the Association by the Credentials Committee to be received.**
- 5. In the event his letter of good standing is pending from his previous association, he will not be allowed to hold office or to have voting privileges in this Association unless he is sent as a delegate from his local church.**
- 6. Upon receipt of the letter of good standing, he shall then have full privileges of membership in the Association.**

**** However, if steps 1 through 3 have been successfully completed, the new minister may be accepted into the fellowship of the Northeast Mississippi Association in the session which said requirements are fulfilled. He then shall have all rights and privileges of membership in the Northeast Association.**

Passed in Oct. 1983.

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF
THE NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS AND MORGANWOOD YOUTH CAMP
Revised and adopted October 8, 1977**

**ARTICLE I
Name**

This organization shall be known as the Northeast Mississippi Association of Free Will Baptists.

**ARTICLE II
Purpose**

The purpose of this association shall be to bring together our churches throughout North Central Mississippi for a closer union among our people and to harmonize the efforts of individual churches as we seek to fulfill the Great Commission.

**ARTICLE III
Treatise of Faith and Practice**

The body adopts the Treatise of Faith and Practice of the National Association of Free Will Baptists and the accompanying Articles of Faith. However, this association grants no judicial authority to the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

**ARTICLE IV
Membership**

Section 1

This Association shall be composed of churches in the general area of North Mississippi.

- (1) The church must be recommended for membership by a member church of the Northeast Association.
- (2) The church shall be examined on matters of faith and practice by the Executive Committee of this Association and, if found to be sound, recommended to the Association for membership.
- (3) The church shall be received under the watch care of this Association for the period of one (1) year; after which upon maintenance of sound doctrine and practice, it shall be received by vote into full fellowship of the Association and voting privileges.

Section 2 - Representation

Each church shall be allowed five (5) delegated representatives and they must be duly appointed by their church while in conference and bear credentials from the same to this body.

The deacons and ministers of each church in good standing with this association shall be standing delegates along with the officers of this association.

Section 3

This association shall not usurp any judicial authority over any of its member churches.

ARTICLE V Officers

The officers of this association shall consists of Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk-Treasurer, and Assistant Clerk-Treasurer, the same being elected at the close of each annual session by a majority vote of the delegates present and shall hold office until their successors are elected and installed. Officers of this association shall be members of local churches in good standing with this association.

ARTICLE VI Boards and Committees

Section 1

The Executive Committee is a standing committee composed of five (5) members. One member is the Moderator of the Association who serves as chairman. The other four (4) members are elected by this Association and serve terms up to four (4) years each, with a member going off each year.

Section 2

Morganwood Camp Board is a standing board composed of five (5) members to be elected by the Northeast Association in annual session for the terms of one (1) to five (5) years. This board shall operate under the camp Constitution and By-Laws approved by the Association.

Section 3

The ordination of men into the gospel-ministry is basically the function of the local church. However, this association shall elect a standing credentials committee composed of five (5) ministers serving up to five (5) years each with one (1) member going off each year.

Section 4

The Resolutions Committee is a standing committee comprised of three (3) members serving a three (3) year term with a member going off each year.

Section 5

All boards and committees, appointed or elected, that fails to perform their duties or make reports as directed by this Association, shall automatically be terminated and another board or committee shall be appointed or elected. The Chairman of the terminated committee shall not be re-elected to this committee for at least one (1) year; the other members may succeed themselves.

Section 6

This Association shall elect such boards and committees as are necessary to effectively fulfill its purpose.

ARTICLE VII

Meetings

The Association shall meet on the Saturday before the second (2nd) Sunday in January, April, July and October. The October meeting will constitute the annual session. The Executive Committee shall have the right to alter meetings in case of conflict.

ARTICLE VIII

Relationship to Other Bodies

This Association shall be a member of the Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists and shall be entitled to representation in that body.

ARTICLE IX

Amendments

This Constitution may be altered or amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the delegates present at any session: Notice of such intended alterations having been given in writing before recess session to be voted on after recess session.

BY-LAWS

1. The Executive Committee shall act on behalf of the Association when the Association is not in session and shall report its actions to the Association. The Executive Committee shall serve as the Examining Committee of churches desiring membership as set forth in Article IV, Section 1, Paragraph 2 of the Constitution.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1

The duties of the Moderator shall include presiding at the meeting of the Association, serving as Chairman of the Executive Committee and appointing other committees not covered by the Constitution.

Section 2

The duties of Assistant Moderator shall include presiding at the request of the Moderator or in his absence and assisting the Moderator in such ways as may be covered by the Constitution.

Section 3*

The duties of the Clerk-Treasurer shall be to record and publish the minutes of the Association and handle and disburse monies belonging to the Association. He shall issue a financial statement at each meeting.

*The Treasurer shall receive an honorarium at the annual meeting, the amount to be determined by the Association.

Section 4

The duties of the Assistant Clerk-Treasurer shall be to assist the Clerk-Treasurer at his request.

Section 5

The officers of Section One (1) through Four (4) shall serve as the Program Planning Committee for the Association.

Duties of Standing Committees

Section 1

The Resolutions Committee shall present to the Association any resolutions they deem necessary for the Association to vote on. These resolutions shall be submitted in writing.

Section 2*

The Credentials Committee shall serve as an Examining Committee for licensing and ordaining of ministers and deacons upon the request of the local church. Also, examine all ministers who wish to become a member of this association. The Credentials Committee shall expedite all correspondence regarding credentials. When requested, this committee may serve as an ordaining committee.

*See Appendage.

RULES OF DECORUM

(A) It is recommended that any member leaving the body secure permission from the Moderator, except by adjournment.

(B) All motions made and seconded shall be open for discussion but debate may be shut off any time by majority of the members of the Association.

(C) 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.

(D) Motions made and lost shall be recorded on the minutes unless so ordered at the time.

(E) No one shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject and for no more than ten minutes at a time without special leave from the body.

(F) All questions shall be decided by a majority of the members present.

(G) Matters not covered in the above statement shall be decided according to Robert's Rules of Order or another written parliamentary authority.

(H) These By-Laws may be altered or amended by two-thirds majority vote of delegates present at any session; notice of such intended alterations having been given in writing at the morning session to be voted on in the afternoon session.

*Appendage-A person desiring ordination into the Gospel ministry and to become a member of this association must present a letter of request for a license from the church of which he is a member. Following an oral examination, a candidate must serve one (1) year as a licentiate. After one (1) year the candidate may apply for ordination when requested by the candidate's home church. He must take and pass a written examination provided by the Credentials Committee. The candidate may be ordained in his home church or at an Associational meeting using the Credentials Committee as the Ordination Council for the service if he so desires.

A person desiring membership in this Association must present a letter of request from his local church and a letter of good standing from his previous Association. Upon reception of the letter of good standing, the minister shall have full privileges of the Association.

The following outline for licensing and ordaining ministers shall be followed:

SUGGESTIONS FOR ORDAINATION PROCEDURES

- I. When a candidate comes to be licensed, a file should be set up for the candidate by the Ordination Council. This should include:
 - A. Candidate's name
 - B. Address
 - C. Names of people who will give testimonies concerning the candidate's character.
 - D. A credit reference which will show the candidate's business relationships.
 - E. A synopsis to show his ministerial activities; where he is preaching, etc.
 - F. Candidate's marital status
 - G. What he is doing toward his education
 - H. An oral examination be given to his Biblical knowledge which should cover:
 1. General facts
 2. Ability to explain the basic Biblical concepts.
 - I. A statement concerning the doctrinal position which should include:
 1. The candidate holds a sound, clean-cut position in agreement with the basic fundamentals of Christianity.
 2. The candidate holds a sound, clear-cut position in agreement with the distinctive doctrines of the Free Will Baptist Denomination.
 - J. That a candidate be set aside for a period of one (1) year before ordination.
- II. Candidate who comes for ordination after one (1) year should be given a written examination of which a copy is included.

SUGGESTED WRITTEN EXAMINATION

This examination should be written in ink or typed on 8½ x 11 paper. Please be neat and sign each page. Feel free to use your Bible, other books, or whatever you may need to help you express yourself in answering these questions. Each member of the Ordaining Council will read your examination and if they have any further questions, they will ask them of you when you appear before the Ordaining Council.

GENERAL

Briefly tell of your conversion and give reasons for your assurance of salvation.

How long have you been a Free Will Baptist?

Why do you want to be ordained?

Give a short account of your call to preach.

Do you meet the qualifications of I Timothy 3:1-7?

Do you have a family?

Number of children.

Have you or your wife ever been divorced?

What is the extent of your education? Elementary Grades

High School Colloge Other

What is your attitude toward intoxicating beverages, tobacco, drugs, or wordly amusements?

DOCTRINAL

Do you believe without reservation that the Bible is the verbally inspired infallible Word of God and that is the only rule of faith and practice?

What do you believe about evolution and the Gensis account of Creation?

What is the gospel?

What is salvation?

How would you proceed to explain the way of salvation to a lost soul?

Explain your own views on baptism.

What is the meaning of the Lord's Supper?

Should feet washing be observed? Explain

What do you believe about apostasy and the perseverance of the believer?

Give your interpretation of the following doctrines:

God

Deity of Christ

The Virgin Birth of Christ

The Work of the Holy Spirit

Repentance

Faith

Justification

Regeneration

Atonement

Sanctification

Final Judgement

Heaven

Hell

Satan

Second Coming

Resurrection

What is the church?

Who is eligible for membership?

How should the church discipline a member?

How should the work of the church be financed?

What are the duties of a minister?

DENOMINATION

Who is a Free Will Baptist?

What is meant by the term "free moral agent?"

Have you read the Treatise completely and do you subscribe to the doctrines and practices that are outlined in it?

Is there anything in the treatise that you do not believe or would not teach?

If you ever change your views on any of these doctrine, what would you do?

What are the grounds for relinquishing your ordination credentials?

What is the relationship for the local church to the denomination?

Do you solemnly pledge to earnestly contend for the faith once delivered to the saints and to faithfully uphold the Free Will Baptist doctrines outlined in the Treastise?

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION FOR MORGANWOOD YOUTH CAMP

ARTICLE I

Name

The camp shall be known as Morganwood Youth Camp of the Northeast Mississippi Free Will Baptist Association.

ARTICLE II

Purpose

Morganwood Youth Camp was conceived and constructed by Christian men and women for the purpose of challenging young people through Bible teaching and Christian recreation in a camp atmosphere.

ARTICLE III

Board Member

Section 1 - Members

This board is a standing board comprised of five (5) members elected by the Northeast Association in annual session for the term of one (1) to five (5) years. This board shall be under the supervision of the Northeast Mississippi Association of Free Will Baptist. This board shall meet bi-monthly.

Section 2-Duties

The board shall be responsible for the:

1. Election of the Camp Director and Assistant Camp Director at their November meeting.
2. Securing and supervision of Custodian and his duties.
3. Election of a Secretary-Treasurer, Chairman and Vice-Chairman.
4. Pre-camp preparation of camp facilities.
5. Maintenance and camp improvements.
6. All members shall be required to sign all deeds, notes, contracts, etc.
7. Rental of camp facilities.

Secton 3 - Secretary-Treasurer

1. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected by the camp board.
2. It shall be his responsibility to pay all bills, when presented and signed by authorized camp personnel, also all bills for lights, notes, as approved by the board. All bills account to be paid by check.
3. He shall present an annual financial statement to the Northeast Mississippi Association of Free Will Baptist.
4. He shall be present on camp opening day to receive registration funds for deposit.

Section 4-Camp Director

1. Be responsible for setting up camp and calendar
2. Be responsible for camp program and personnel
3. Be responsible for all disciplinary action during the camping session.
4. He will authorize the printing and mailing of applications forms and advertising materials at the discretion of the board.
5. Attend all board meetings.

CHURCHS	CHURCH MEMBERSHIP	MEMBERS RECEIVED	MEMBERS DISMISSED	SUNDAY SCHOOL ROLL	CTS ROLL	WOMEN'S AUXILIARY ROLL	MASTERS MENS ROLL
ANTIOCH	70	5		65	55	14	9
BEECH SPRINGS	127	31	8	92	57	20	
BETHLEHEM	90	4	2	80	45	13	15
DAMASCUS	54	5	1	16			
EGGVILLE							
AMORY FIRST	169	9	12	91	4	14	
COLUMBUS FIRST	120	2	18	105		17	
PHILADELPHIA							
WEST MEMPHIS							
FULTON	105	1	1	59	47	17	
MAIN STREET							
MCGREGORS CHAPEL							
NEW GAULEY	114	2	5				
NEW LIFE	44	3	1	35			
OXFORD							
PEARCE CHAFEL	278	17	12	140	79		
PLEASANT GROVE	61	3	3	60	35	21	10
SMITHVILE FIRST	98	7		99	62	12	8
SPRINGDALE				65		12	
TUPELO	438	8	12	210	75	14	
VICTORY							
FAWN GROVE							
HARMONY	20			15		4	
WHITE HILL				20			