

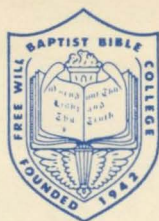
MINUTES
OF THE
FORTIETH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
NORTHWEST BRAZOS ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Convened With
FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Of
CROWELL, FOARD COUNTY, TEXAS
On the 30th Day of August to September 1, 1949

Will convene with the Vernon Church on Tuesday
before the 1st Sunday in September, 1950.

MODERATOR.....REV. H. H. HASTON
ASSISTANT.....REV. W. W. WINTERS
CLERK.....SIS. WILLIE BELLE NALL
ASSISTANT CLERK.....SIS. LUE BLACKWOOD

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM, MONETT, MO.



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented by

Rev. Damon Dodd

PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday—30th

Moderator called Association to order. Moved and seconded we go into the Business Session. Moderator called for reading of letters. The following churches responded: Vernon, Memphis, and Crowell. Letters received and delegates seated.

Prayer by Bro. Rufus Nall.

Memphis delegates: Sis. I. H. Gilchrest, Sis. R. V. Jones and Sis. H. C. Gilchrest.

Report of Memphis Church:

Members	12
Value of Church property.....	\$1,000.00
Amount paid pastor.....	320.80
Evangelistic work.....	51.00
Building and repairs.....	140.44
Incidentals	21.50
Home Missions.....	20.00
Publications and Literature.....	12.00

Vernon delegates: Sis. Lulu Cox, Sis. Lou Blackwood, Sis. Bertha Kenyon.

Report of Vernon Church:

Members	56
Value of Church property.....	\$2,000.00
Building and repairs.....	116.87
Orphans Home.....	45.00
Repairs	18.00
Love offering.....	21.00
Home Missions.....	30.00
Foreign Missions.....	50.00
Sunday School literature.....	13.25
Paid Pastor.....	138.16
Revival	53.51
Lights, water and gas.....	28.08
Flowers	12.50

Crowell delegates: Bro. Jodie Brown, Bro. Charlie Hinkee, Sis. Willie Bell Nall, Sis. Mattie Polk.

Report of Crowell Church:

Members	65
Value of Church property.....	\$3,000.00
Paid on Church.....	300.00

Gas and lights.....	26.45
Janitor	35.00
Evangelistic work.....	32.00
Pastor	501.55
Collection for year.....	900.54

Motion and second that we give the Moderator power to appoint all committees. See list of committees.

Committees:

Pulpit—Sis. T. H. Gilchrest, Sis. Lue Blackwood, Bro. Charlie Hinkle.

Resolutions—Bro. J. W. Golden, Rev. M. T. Holly, Rev. Jim Rogers.

Temperance—Sis. H. C. Gilchrest, Bro. Jodie Brown, Sis. Willie Belle Nall.

Obituary—Sis. Lue Blackwood, Sis. Mattie Polk, Sis. T. H. Gilchrest.

Sunday School—Rev. Jim Rogers, Rev. Oren Washburn, Sis. T. H. Gilchrest.

Finance—Bro. Charlie Hinkle, Sis. H. C. Gilchrest, Sis. Lue Blackwood.

Extended hand of fellowship to all delegation and authorities.

Rules of Order read by Moderator.

Adjourned for evening service.

Evening Service

Evening service by Rev. M. F. Holly.

Prayer by Rev. H. H. Haston.

Scripture text—Luke 4:16.

Dismissed by prayer.

Wednesday Services

Services opened Wednesday morning by song. Prayer by Rev. M. F. Holly. Scripture reading by Rev. H. H. Haston; I Cor. 13.

Duties of Executive Committee read by Rev. H. H. Haston. Motion and second that Bro. J. B. Estes be a member of Executive Committee for 3 years.

Pulpit Committee report. Rev. Owen Washburn; devotional service—Psalms 24. Morning message by Rev. Rufus Nall—II Cor. 10. Dismissed by prayer by Sis. T. H. Gilchrest.

Wednesday Afternoon

Service called to order by song. Prayer by Bro. J. B. Estes. Scripture reading.

Pulpit Committee reported Rev. W. D. Haston to bring afternoon devotional service; Rev. Jim Rogers to bring afternoon message.

Temperance Report:

We, your Temperance Committee, resolve to be temperant in all worldly goods unbecoming to Christians and to vote against all alcholic drinks that we come in contact with in our daily lives, our government, and our church. Sis. Willie Belle Nall. Sis. H. C. Gilchrest, Bro. Jodie Brown.

Executive Committee recommended Rev. H. H. Haston, Rev. M. T. Holly, Bro. J. B. Estes. This committee to ordain 2 ministers and license 3 ministers during the Association.

Motion carried that we have 100 minutes printed.

Motion carried that a Printing Committee be elected. Rev. Rufus Nall and Rev. H. H. Haston elected.

Moderator announced meeting place of the State Association to be at Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Texas, on Tuesday night before the 1st Sunday in November. Sis. T. H. Gilchrest and Sis. Lue Blackwood elected as our delegates. Motion carried that our delegates be recommended for our National Association.

Business adjourned for service.

Devotional by Rev. W. D. Haston. Message and prayer by Rev. Jim Rogers. Scripture text—Eph. 4. Dismissed by Bro. J. W. Golden.

Wednesday Evening

Wednesday evening service opened by songs. Prayer by Sis. W. W. Winters.

Pulpit Committee report for evening service: devotional by Bro. J. W. Golden. Message by Rev. W. W. Winters. Scripture text—II Cor. 11. Prayer by Rev. H. H. Haston. Dismissed by Rev. Clark Brown.

Thursday Services

Services opened Thursday with songs and prayer by Rev. W. W. Winters. Rev. H. H. Haston read Jer. 33.

Church Covenant read by Moderator H. H. Haston.

Pulpit Committee reported Rev. Rufus Nall to bring Devotional service. Rev. Jim Rogers to bring 10:00 o'clock message.

Memphis Church will get Quarterly Conference on Friday night before the 5th Sunday in October. Rev. M. T. Holly was elected Moderator for Quarterly Conference. Rev. W. W. Winters Assistant Moderator.

Rev. H. H. Haston was elected Yearly Moderator. Rev. W. W. Winters as Assistant Yearly Moderator. Sis. Willie Belle Nall was elected Clerk and Sis. Lue Blackwood as Assistant Clerk. The Association for the next year will be at Vernon, Texas. Business adjourned for service to meet back at 1:30 o'clock.

Songs by class. Prayer by Rev. Ouren Washburn. Special song by Sis. H. C. Gilchrest, Sis. T. H. Gilchrest. Devotional service by Rev. Rufus Nall. Message by Rev. Jim Rogers. Scripture text—Matt. 6. Dismissed by Rev. W. D. Haston.

Thursday Afternoon

Service started with song service and prayer by Sis. T. H. Gilchrest. Scripture reading by Rev. H. H. Haston.

Pulpit Committee report: Rev. W. D. Haston to bring devotional service. Rev. M. T. Holly afternoon message.

Committee reports called for. Reports as follows.

Sunday School:

We have 136 on our Sunday School roll at Vernon, Salt Creek, Memphis, and Crowell. We are proud of this report and pray that it will continue to grow each Sunday.

Sis. T. H. Gilchrest
Rev. Ouren Washburn
Rev. J. E. Rogers

Resolutions:

We, your Resolutions Committee, recommend the following resolution: That the Association render thanks to the good people of Crowell for their hospitality and their brotherly and sisterly fellowship. We pray God His richest blessings to ever be upon them.

Rev. M. T. Holly
Rev. J. E. Rogers

Obituary:

We, the Obituary Committee, find that the following

members from the Northwest Brazos Association have departed from our midst during the year: Romona Brown, age 13; Leon Nall, age 4, and Bro. C. E. Dunn from Crowell Church; Lettie Byard, age 88, and D. F. Pritchard, age 75, from the Memphis Church. We extend our sympathy and ask that this body stand in silent prayer for those who are left bereaved.

Sis. T. H. Gilchrest

Sis. Lue Blackwood

Association elected another Trustee for new church property. Trustees as follows: Rev. M. T. Holly, Rev. H. H. Haston, Bro. Charlie Hinkle.

Business adjourned for service.

Song by class. Prayer by Sis. Lue Blackwood. Evening message by Rev. M. T. Holly. Scripture text—Ecclesiastes 12. Dismissed by Bro. Charlie Hinkle.

Thursday Night

Service started by song and special prayer for Sis. Emma Brown. Prayer led by Rev. M. T. Holly. Pulpit Committee report: Rev. Clark Brown devotional, and Rev. H. H. Haston, message.

The Executive Committee, Rev. M. T. Holly, Rev. H. H. Haston, Rev. W. W. Winters, ordained Rev. Clark Brown and Rev. Rufus Nall to preach the Gospel, and licensed Rev. Ouren Washburn, Rev. Jim Rogers, and Rev. W. D. Haston for Gospel work.

The list of ordained ministers in our Association: Rev. T. P. Curley, 1229 East First Street, Tulsa, Okla.; Rev. C. C. Lamb, Vernon, Texas; Rev. Mrs. J. B. Estes, Box 1302, Memphis, Texas; Rev. H. H. Haston, Route 2, Paducah, Texas; Rev. M. T. Holly, Route 2, Cozy Camp, Lubbock, Texas; Rev. Heber Johnson, Route 2, Vernon, Texas; Rev. Rufus Nall, Gen. Del., Benjamin, Texas; Rev. Clark Brown, Route 1, Foard City, Texas. Licensed ministers: Rev. Jim Rogers, Vernon, Texas; Rev. Ouren Washburn, Paducah, Texas; Rev. W. D. Haston, Paducah, Texas.

Ordained deacons: Bro. J. W. Golden, Crowell, Texas. Bro. J. R. Webster, Crowell, Texas; Bro. Andy Hinkle, Crowell, Texas; Bro. J. B. Estes, Memphis, Texas.

Moved and seconded that all committees be released.

Minutes read and approved.

Motion carried that we will convene with the Free

Will Baptist Church of Vernon, Texas, on Tuesday night before the first Sunday in September, 1950. Adjourned for service.

Evening/message by Moderator, Rev. H. H. Haston.
Dismissed in prayer by Rev. W. W. Winters.

Rev. H. H. Haston, Moderator
Sis. Willie Belle Nall, Clerk

RULES OF ORDER

1. Every session shall be opened and closed with prayer.

2. Those who speak shall rise and address the Moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.

3. No motion shall be discussed without a second.

4. When a motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be separated by a vote on request of any member.

5. Motion lost shall not be recorded.

6. No one shall speak more than twice on any subject without leave of the Moderator.

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

8. No one shall leave the association without permission of the Moderator.

9. Arrangements shall be made for two or more sermons each day of the Association, or other equivalent services.

10. The Rules of Order shall be read by the Moderator immediately after the organization of the Association.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe in one true and living God, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and these are equal in Divine Essence, Power and Glory. Rom. 1:20; John 1:1.

2. We believe that Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the written and revealed Word of God and infallible rules of faith and practice. II Tim. 3:16, 17.

3. We believe that God created man good and gave him holy commandments whereby he should live holy;

but that he voluntarily disobeyed the commandments of God, transgressed the law and fell under the just condemnation of the same, whereby all mankind are sinners, not by constraint, but by choice, being partakers of the sinful nature attained by the fall of Adam, and that man is not able to save himself; but we see Jesus, for the suffering of death, crowned with glory that He, by the Grace of God, tasted death for every man. Matt. 1:21; Heb. 2:9.

4. We believe that Christ, by His burial and resurrection, purchased our pardon and offered it freely to all mankind upon the condition of repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He now commands all men everywhere to repent, therefore He sayeth: "Look upon Me and be saved all ye ends of the earth, for I am God and there is none else." Matt. 4:17; Isa. 45:22; Acts 20:21; Acts 17:30.

5. We believe that adult persons must be regenerated and born of the spirit of God if they inherit eternal life. John 3:3; Rom. 5:1-13.

6. We believe that infants and idiots are saved by the merits of the Son of God. Jonah 4:11; Mark 10:14; Luke 18:10.-

7. We believe that all Christians persevere in grace and be faithful to the end if they inherit eternal life, for blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the Tree of Life and enter in through the gates of the city. Rev. 22:14.

8. We believe that baptism by immersion is the Apostolic mode, even the burial of the believer in water, and that Christ, who is our life, showed this humble example to His children and bid us walk therein. John 2:22; Matt. 3:16; Rom. 6:2-5; Matt. 28:15-20.

9. We believe that God, in His goodness, displays His powers of grace in a great degree in calling and qualifying His servants by the teachings of the Holy Ghost and by the instruction of His blessed word to go forth and preach life and salvation. He bids us freely to come, and nothing prevents the salvation of any but their own rejection and sinful refusal to come. I Cor. 12:3; Eph. 3:8; Rev. 22:17; Isa. 55:1.

10. Sec. 1. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper and washing of the Saints' feet to be Gospel ordinances. John 13:4, 5.

Section 2. We believe the keeping of the Lord's Day holy and abstaining from worldly lusts and carnal cares, and the assembling ourselves together is an ornament which prepares and beautifies the Soldiers of the Cross to march on in the army of the Lord. Matt. 26:28.

11. We believe that none have a right to baptism only those who have living hope in the Lord Jesus Christ, and none have a right to administer the ordinance only those who are called of God and have come under the hands of the Presbytery of Elders; and each church ought to have a pastor, deacons and clerk chosen by the church, and continue the same in office during the good pleasure of the same; and in dealing with disorderly members reference should be made to the 18th chapter of Matthew and other Scriptures relative to dealing with disorderly members. In all cases a majority shall rule, except in receiving members, which shall be unanimous. Tit. 1:5; Acts 14:23; II Cor. 6:6.

12. We believe it to be the duty of each church to assemble themselves together once a month, and it is the duty of the pastor when setting forth the Lord's Supper and washing the Saint's feet to invite all Christians. Heb. 10:26; I Cor. 11:27, 28.

13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, of both just and unjust—the resurrection of the just to glory and immortality in the presence of God. The unjust to everlasting shame and banishment from the presence of God. II Thes. 1:4-11; Rev. 20:10 and 11:12; Job 19:26.

CONSTITUTION

From a long series of experience, we, the Church of Jesus Christ, being regularly baptized upon the profession of our faith in Christ, are convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches to perpetuate union and communion amongst us, and to preserve and maintain a correspondence with each other, and we do hereby adopt this Constitution for our church government.

1. The Association shall be composed of delegates chosen by the different churches in our union and not exceeding four from each church, and, on producing letter, shall be entitled to seat.

2. Letters from the different churches shall express their number of members, number received by experience,

letter of recommendation, dismissed, excluded, restored, and those who have died since our last Association.

3. The members thus chosen to be denominated the Northwest Brazos Association of Free Will-Baptists.

4. This body shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor have ecclesiastical power over churches, reserving the right of withdrawing from any church becoming disorderly. However, the Association shall have the power, for good cause, to revoke the license or credentials of any minister, licensed or ordained by any church within its jurisdiction, and to exclude the delegates from its session when they, or church, become disorderly or fail to keep good report.

5. The Association to have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, chosen by vote of members present.

6. Newly constituted churches may be admitted to the Association, which shall petition by letter and delegates, and if, upon examination, they be found to be orthodox and orderly, they may be received into the Association, the body extending the hand of fellowship.

7. No question from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it has first been discussed in its own church.

8. Every oral motion, seconded, shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

9. The Clerk shall assign each church its quota of minutes.

10. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular file of the minutes of the Association in a book kept for that purpose.

11. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if needed, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the close of the Association.

12. No amendment shall be made to this constitution without first being adopted by three-fourths of the churches in the Association.

13. The Presbytery is composed of all the ordained authorities in the Association. Any three members of the Presbytery may ordain a minister to preach the Gospel.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, through Jesus Christ, and adopted the foregoing practice as our confession of faith we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God and agree to the following Church Covenant:

1. We solemnly covenant before God that we will strive, by His assisting grace, to exemplify our profession by a corresponding practice. We covenant and agree as members of the church and as Christians to watch over each other in love for the mutual upbuilding of the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace, to be careful of each others reputation, to confess our faults one to another, to strengthen the feeble and kindly admonish the erring, and to labor together for the upbuilding of the church, the denomination and the salvation of sinners.

2. We promise that we will faithfully and constantly maintain family prayer and religiously instruct those under our care.

3. We covenant and agree to use our influence to sustain the regular public worship of God, contributing according to our ability and circumstances for the support of the ministry and other church expenses among us that we will be benevolent to the needy, and especially to the poor of our church.

4. We promise that as far as we shall be able we will attend upon public worship and the social meetings of the church and regularly report ourselves at monthly conferences, and that we will walk in all the ordinances of the Lord's House.

5. And we covenant and agree that we will abstain from all vain amusements and simple conformities to the world, that we will not traffic in the use, nor furnish to others, intoxicating beverages, and that we will sustain the benevolent enterprises of our denomination as missions, education, Sabbath schools, moral reform, and all others that tend to the glory of God and the welfare of men. And may the God of Peace sanctify us Holy, preserve us blameless until the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ that we may join the glorified around the throne of God in escribing blessings, honor, glory and power to Him that sitteth on the throne and the lamb, forever. Amen.

