

MINUTES OF THE
55TH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE OHIO
STATE ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL BAPTIST

REV. MIKE STOKES, CLERK

The 55th annual session of the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptist met June 25-26, 1993 at Heritage Temple Free Will Baptist Church, Columbus, Ohio. The theme of the convention was "Walking with Christ." Richard Davis served as song leader with Myra Leonard at the piano and Joyce Harrell, organist.

FRIDAY MORNING

The meeting was opened by the congregation singing, "Thou Art Worthy" and "Majesty."

Clerk Mike Stokes called the meeting into session and introduced the Moderator Edwin Hayes.

The moderator introduced the pastor of Heritage Temple, Dr. Billy Sharpston, who welcomed the association to Columbus and to Heritage Temple.

Moderator Edwin Hayes offered prayer for the meeting.

The moderator's message to the association was taken from Song of Solomon 2:15. His thoughts centered around the idea of our walk with Christ and the enemy believers face.

The clerk then informed the association that all credentials were in order and the moderator seated the voting delegates in the center aisles.

The clerk was then called on to give the General Board report. Item #1 Board members present 13, absent 5. The board voted on and approved Mike Mounts as proxy for Delmar Sparks from Franklin; Ernest Phillips for Merlin Teets from Meigs; and Blain Etterling for Willie Booth of Cornerstone. Item #2 the Executive Committee report was given by the clerk. Item #3 the Board of Directors report was given by chairman Forest Chamberlin. Brother Chamberlin informed the General Board that Clifford Ball has resigned as a member of the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors also reported that Brother and Sister Alton Loveless will be leaving the state of Ohio in December of this year, to assume the position of General Director of the National Sunday School and CTS Department in Nashville, Tennessee. The Board of Directors recommends that the report and project budget of the Ambassador Bookstore and State Office be adopted. The General Board recommends that the Board of Directors be allowed to exceed the budget if necessary during the transition period of the Promotional Secretary. Item #4 The CTS report was given by Manuel Lopes. Brother Lopes reported that the CTS Department will be sending a record number of

young people to compete in NYC this year. Item #5 The General Board recommends that the following resolution be sent to the National Association when it convenes in Louisville, Ky this year: Be it resolved that we, the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptist wish to make it known that: 1) we support the Foreign Mission Board's statement of affirmation in support of our Free Will Baptist Church covenant, and its full acceptance by our missionaries; 2) we further feel that they have been led by God in their decision concerning our mission program; 3) we support their decision and believe that they have upheld our Free Will Baptist covenant, and ; 4) that Rev. Eugene Waddell, the entire staff, and our elected board have our full and complete support. Item #6 The Ohio Mission Board report was given by Roy Hutchinson. Item #7 The Executive Secretary report was given by Alton Loveless. Brother Loveless reported that the 1992-93 fiscal year has been the best of the 18 years since the beginning of our operation in 1974. The General Board recommends that the report and projected budget of the Ambassador Bible Book Store and State Office be adopted. Item #8 There was a motion and second that the Promotional Secretary organize efforts to raise \$20,000.00 necessary for us to host the National Association Convention in Cincinnati, in 1997. Item #9 Moderator Hayes then appointed the chairman of committees as follows: Wendell Combs, Business; Don Hix, Resolution; Forest Dyer, Obituary; Mike Mounts, Appreciation. A motion carried to receive the General Board report.

The moderator then completed the appointment of committee members to serve during the convention. Those appointed to the Business committee were Ernie Phillips and Manuel Lopes. The Resolution committee consisted of Bill Hayes and Allen Williams. Appointed to the Obituary committee were Roy Hutchinson and Mark Leonard. Those serving on the Appreciation committee were Carl Dunn and Jim England. The moderator appointed Bill Chadwich, Paul Keener and David McGowan to fill vacancies on the Nomination committee for this year.

The moderator called for congregational singing while the convention welcomed Bob Shockey, John Herman, Fred Warner, Melvin Worthington, Herman Hershey, Mark and Kathy Paschal, Eugene Webb, and Bob Legg who were visiting with us.

Moderator Hayes then called for reports from various state and national departments.

Roy Hutchinson gave the report of the Ohio Mission Board. Home missionaries Roy Roach, Zanesville; Willie Booth, Lancaster; David McGowan, Hamilton each gave a report of their work. A motion carried to receive this report.

Manuel Lopes gave the CTS report. A motion carried to receive this report.

Fred Warner gave a report of the National Foreign Mission Board. A motion carried to receive this report.

Melvin Worthington gave a report of the National Executive office. A motion carried to receive this report.

There was a motion and second to adjourn from business until the afternoon session. Carried.

Richard Davis led the congregation in singing to begin the worship service.

An offering of \$147.50 was received from the congregation.

Special singing by Tom Dooley.

Rev. Alton Loveless, was introduced to bring the message. His subject was "Walking with Christ-Through Present Dangers. "

The convention then recessed for lunch.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

After congregational singing Rev. Mike Harrell gave devotional thoughts and led in prayer.

Moderator Edwin Hayes then introduced Forest Chamberlin to give the report of the Board of Directors. A motion carried to receive this report.

Alton Loveless gave the report of the State Office and Book store. Brother Loveless announced a change in Nationals Convention fees from \$10.00 to \$25.00 in 1994. That means the fee for Ohio next year will be \$35.00 for each church. There was a motion and second to receive this report and adopt the projected budget. Carried.

There was a motion and second to approve item 3 of the General Board report granting the Board of Directors authority to exceed, if necessary, the budget during the transition period of the Promotional Secretary. Carried.

There was a motion and second to change article VII item 2 of our constitution. After discussing, this motion was tabled until the next day of business.

The moderator then introduced Eugene Webb to give a report of the Free Will Baptist Home for Children located in Greenville, Tennessee. Brother Webb announced a homecoming at the Childrens Home Oct. 9, 1993. A motion carried to receive this report.

Bill Hayes corresponding messenger to the Ky. State Association gave a report of his visit to Inez Free Will Baptist Church on June 18-19.

The moderator then appointed Bill Hayes as corresponding messenger to the Ky State Association in 1994; and Bill Jones to the Oklahoma State Association.

Bob Shockey gave a report of Free Will Baptist Bible College. Brother Shockey reported that enrollment is up almost 12% over last year. Twelve students from Ohio are enrolled for the 1993-94 school year. A motion carried to receive this report.

Barbara Chaffin gave a report of the Ohio Woman's Auxiliary. We have 4 districts with 20 auxiliaries and 6 auxiliaries who are not in a

district. For a total of 26 auxiliaries with a membership of 330. Dr. Mark and Kathy Paschall, missionaries to Ivory Coast were speakers this year. The state project for 1993-94 is \$14,000.00 to be divided by our Home Missionaries and two Foreign Missionaries. New officers elected were: Clara Widding, President; Sandy Mounts, Vice President; Leita Cook, Secretary; Kathryn Rapp, Treasurer; Barbara Chaffin, Field Worker; Mary Bussey, Member at Large; Brenda Henderson, Member at Large; Geri Baker, Member at Large. A motion carried to receive this report.

Herman Hersey gave a report of the Free Will Baptist Foundation and Board of Retirement. Brother Hersey announced his retirement at the end of this year. A motion carried to receive this report.

Roger Reed gave a report of the National Sunday School and Church Training Department. Brother Reed announced his retirement at the end of this year. A motion carried to receive this report.

The moderator then called on the clerk to read item #5 of the General Board report which was a resolution to be sent to the National Association when convened in Louisville, Ky. in July of this year. A motion carried to adopt. Item #8 which authorizes the Promotional Secretary to begin efforts to raise \$20,000.00 necessary for Ohio to host the National Convention in Cincinnati in 1997. Approved.

Delegate A.J. Dooley gave a report of the National Association meeting. A motion carried to receive this report.

Moderator Hayes then appointed delegates to the National Association meeting in Louisville, Ky July 18-22. Delegates appointed were: A.J. Dooley, Rose Ferguson, Jean Blair, Evelyn Chamberlin, Shirley Hutchinson.

A motion carried to adjourn from business until Saturday morning.

FRIDAY EVENING

Mark Leonard led the congregation in singing "Come Thou Fount."

Robert Prichard welcomed the congregation and ask Roy Roach to lead in prayer.

Manuel Lopes then presented CTS awards to division winners who will represent Ohio in national competition.

Special music and singing by Columbus First Church Choir, under the direction of Debra Paxton; Nathan Booth, CTS instrumental winner, Canaanland, Marantha Singers, The Heritage Boys, And Sherri France, Ambassador winner.

An offering of \$309.50 was received from the congregation.

Rev. Roger C. Reeds was introduced to bring the message. His subject was "Walking With Christ-With a Powerful Defense." His text Colossians 2:7.

SATURDAY MORNING

At 9:30 A.M. Richard Davis led the congregation in singing a

medley of songs.

Bill Hayes read Luke 9:49-50 and brought devotional thoughts and led in prayer.

Committee reports were then called for. Business: The Committee recommends that the Ohio State Association fiscal year be changed to coincide with the fiscal year of the National Association. Which changes the reporting period from June to June, to January through December. A motion and second carried to adopt this change.

Obituary: Since we last met in June of 1992, the following fellow believers have gone to be with the Lord: Rev. Arnold Moore, Roy Travis, Dixie Blair, Hollis Maberry, Estill Daniels, Gaylor Poling, Danny Helton, Mildred West, Merlin Teets, Frank Fowler, Otha Fowler, Lloyd Castle, Rev. John Reese, Rev. Henry Hawkins, Hazel Johnson, Roberts Lavender, Elmer Turner, William Bobst, Ted Fulk, Charles Dunken, Ruth White, Virginia Porter, Lutisha Moore. A motion carried which ask the congregation to stand in a moment of silence to remember these who have gone to be with the Lord, followed by a prayer offeren by Calvin Evans.

Appreciation: To Brother Edwin Hayes, Moderator, the Executive Committee for planning and executing the convention, the Heritage Temple Church for their warm welcome and the use of their facilities, the State Office, preachers, committees, boards, singers, musicians, and Clifford Ball for his 17 years service on the Board of Directors. The committee ask for a standing vote of appreciation. Granted.

There was a motion and second to take up a motion tabled the previous day, a motion which would change Article VII item #2 of our constitution to read as follows: "The Board of Directors shall have the right to employ a Promotional-Secretary who shall serve as Treasurer of the association and be responsible for handling all monies of the association except in cases where this responsibility shall be expressly delegated by the General Board or by this association. In the event any organization within the supervision of this board becomes large enough that it becomes necessary to have separate directors or managers, then this board may be empowered to hire these, and each report to the Board of Directors." Voted on and approved.

Nominating Committee: Moderator, Edwin Hayes elected; Assistant Moderator, Robert Prichard elected; Clerk, Mike Stokes elected; Assistant Clerk, Oziel Jeffries elected; General Board, Forest Dyer, Little Miami elected; Danny Laney, Lawrence elected; Marvin Dale Markim, Jackson elected; Bruce Beal, great Lakes elected; Delmar Sparks, Franklin elected; John Jeffrey, Cuyahoga-Lorain elected; Jerry Newman, Central elected; David McGowan, Tri-State elected; Delmon Rose, Northeastern elected; Ernest Phillips, Meigs elected to fill a term which ends in 1994; Board of Directors, Carl Dunn elected to serve a full term; Bill Hayes to fill an unexpired term of Clifford Ball which ends in 1995; State CTS Board, Manuel Lopes elected: State Mission Board,

Paul Etterling; Nominating Committee, Paul Keener elected; Executive Committee, Wendell Combs, David McGowan, Jerry Newman, John Jeffrey, elected.

Clerk Mike Stokes then read the report which will be sent to the National Association meeting in Louisville, Ky July 18-22. Approved.

A motion carried to adjourn from business.

Assistant Moderator Robert Prichard led the worship service.

An offering of \$91.31 was received from the congregation.

Special singing by the Kings Messengers.

Rev. Bill Sharpston was introduced to bring the message. His subject was " Walking With Christ-Unto a Perfect Development. "

Benediction.

2