


**MINUTES**  
*Of The*  
**Old Mount Zion Association**  
*Of*  
**Free Will Baptist Churches**

——  
**1949**  
——

**PROCEEDINGS**  
*of the*  
**108th Annual Session**

——  
*Convened at*  
**ROSE HILL CHURCH**

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH**  
**ANNUAL SESSION**  
of the  
**OLD MT. ZION ASSOCIATION**  
of  
**FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

---

Held With  
**ROSE HILL CHURCH**  
August 11 and 12, 1949

---

**OFFICERS**

**H. M. KNOX** ..... Moderator  
**WILLIE BOHANNAN** ..... Clerk

---

The next session of Old Mt. Zion Association will convene  
with Cottage Hill Church beginning at 10 o'clock on  
Friday before the Second Sunday in  
August, 1950. Elder Bruce Phillips

to preach the  
Introductory Sermon.  
Elder Horace Knox, his Alternate

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Association called to order by the Moderator, and in his absence, by the Clerk.
2. Introductory Sermon.
3. Letters from churches composing the Association called for, read, and messengers invited to seats.
4. Corresponding Associations.
5. Right hand of fellowship.
6. Call for letters from newly organized churches.
7. Election of permanent officers.
8. Reading the Constitution and Rules of Order by the Moderator or Clerk.
9. Appointment of Committees:  
    (a) Resolutions, (b) Finances, (c) Arrangements for Preaching, (d) Temperance, (e) Sunday Schools, (f) Obituary, (g) Condition of Non-represented Churches, (h) Union of Churches.
10. Reports of committees appointed at last Association and other unfinished business.
11. Reports of new committees.
12. New business.
13. Choosing place for next Association.
14. Who shall preach the Introductory Sermon?
15. Reading and adopting the minutes.
16. Adjournment.

# PROCEEDINGS

## FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Old Mt. Zion Association was called to order by our moderator, Elder H. M. Knox. Song - 'Amazing Grace.' Scripture reading by moderator, 13th ch. I of Cor. Prayer by Rev. R. A. Smith.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Elder Tom Day. Scripture - St. Luke 5:1-11. The splendid message proved the vital essence of his text, "Soul Winning." Rev. George Lynch, his alternate, concluded.

Church letters were then called for. The following responded. Delegates were given the right-hand of fellowship and invited to seats. Mt. Zion: Loy Archer, Velma Archer, Mabel Phillips. Pilgrim Rest: Bruce Grayham, Ivan Reynolds, Hulen Jones. New Hope: Marvin Wheeler, Donald Sigmon, Robert Neely, Hickory Grove; Alva Koontz, Mary G. Samuel, Gladys Lynch. Clear Creek: Willie Bohannon, Opal Hinds. Christian Home: Arvil McGinnis, Kate McGinnis, Della Evans. Clifty (Pleasant Valley): Lester Vanhook, Edd Stilley, Gladys Vanhook. Antioch: Helen Duvall, Jessie McKinney, Eu'a Wood. Shady Grove: Harvey Henson, Loy Bland, Francis Clark, Rose Hill; Ray Jennings, Clyde Walker, Tom Davis. Cottage Hill: Helen Lynch, Elsie Miles, Birtie Roles. Rock: Florence Fox. Farmer: Pearl Day, Annie Shepherd, Alyne Witt. Buckeye: Ora Trammel, Julia Vaughn, Homer Bragg.

### Sister Association

Old Union: Dora Dodson, Hazel Allred, Clyde Sugg.

### Newly Organized Church

Motion made and passed to receive Bohannon Church and delegates into our honorable body.

Bohannon: Jack Ledbetter, Roy Horton, Harrel Chancellor.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

ELDER H. M. KNOX ..... Moderator  
Sister Willie Bohannon ..... Clerk



## APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Divine Service: E. L. Howard, Arvil McGinnis, Lee Trammel.

Motion made to adjourn until 2:30. Elder Burl True and Elder Willie Capps chosen to fill the sacred stand Friday night. Dismissed in prayer by Elder George Been.

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Scripture reading by the moderator; Hebrews 3rd ch.: Prayer by Elder Ray Garrison.

Reading of "Rules of Order" and "Constitution" by the moderator.

## APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES (Continued)

Resolutions: George Been, Tom Day, Jack Hobbs.

Finance: Homer Bragg, Sister Loy Bland, Bertie Roles.

Temperance: Gladys Vanhook, Cecil Garrison, Mary Gladys Samuel.

Sunday School: Pearl Day, Gladys Lynch, Kate McGinnis.

Obituary: J. H. Roberts, Willie Capps, Robert Neely.

Union of Churches: Helen Lynch, Cecil Gladden, Harrel Chancellor.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: Motion made and carried to print the delayed obituary of Wm. H. Rackley with that of his wife.

Motion passed to have the following committee buy a communion set and other necessities for Old Mt. Zion Association; Tom Day, Mary Gladys Samuel, and Willie Bohannon.

Motion carried to accept money from a Rogers Church (by Rev. Willie Capps and Rev. Burl True, formerly of Rogers) to be applied on communion set and electric fan.

Report on Union of Churches received and committee discharged.

Report on Temperance received and committee discharged.

Report on Sunday School received and committee discharged.

Motion made to adjourn until 9:00 a.m. Saturday.

Divine Service committee selected Elder Cecil Garrison and Elder H. M. Knox to deliver 11:00 o'clock message Saturday.

Dismissed in prayer by Elder Tom Day.

### FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Elders Burl True and Willie Capps filled the stand; 64 took part in the communion service which followed.

### SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Scripture reading by the moderator, Romans 12th ch.  
Prayer by Elder Jack Hobbs.

Report on Finance received and committee discharged.

Report on Resolutions received and committee discharged.

Report on Obituaries received and committee discharged.

Motion made to adjourn until 2:00 o'clock.

Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Oscar Calvins.

Elder Cecil Garrison and Elder H. M. Knox then delivered the 11:00 o'clock message.

### SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Scripture reading by the moderator, 23rd ch. of Psalms.  
Prayer by Elder Bruce Phillips.

### MINISTERS' REPORTS

Elder George Lynch — Sermons preached, 82; married 2 couples; baptized 2; helped hold 1 revival; witnessed 3 conversions; sang at 21 funerals; miles traveled approximately 2,500; money received \$317.47; pastored 4 churches.

Elder Bruce Phillips — Pastored Mt. Zion Church full time; preached 69 sermons; baptized 3; conducted 3 funerals, assisted in one other; married 1 couple; served on the program committee of the Council Meeting; clerk of the Association; money received \$369.50; years in service, 13.

Elder Tom, Day — pastored 2 churches; helped in 6 revivals; sermons preached, 110; witnessed 36 conversions; received 29 into the church; baptized 15; helped organize 1 church; helped ordain 2 deacons; conducted 1 funeral, assisted in 3 more; married 6 couples; miles traveled, approximately 2,500; money received \$626.30; years in service, 2.

Elder George Been — pastored churches, none; preached introductory sermon at State Association; 1 at Mission Hall, Rogers; 1 at Mt. Zion Church; 9 funerals; made a number of sick calls; attended Sunday School and church regularly; served the Washington County singing convention as chaplin for 7 years and re-elected; 35 years in the ministry; attended the last 39 associations of Old Mt. Zion.

Elder Jack Hobbs — pastored 3 churches, two in Old Mt. Zion Association, one in Old Union; assisted in 2 revivals; received 3 additions to the church; preached 58 sermons; helped ordain 1 deacon; traveled 900 miles; money received \$135.84; years in service, 8.

Elder Elmo McKinney — gave an oral report.

Elder Willie Capps — gave an oral report.

Elder Horace Knox — gave an oral report.

Elder J. H. Roberts — helped in 4 revivals; witnessed 28 conversions; helped ordain 1 deacon; received about \$10.00 and the "Old Church" is still on fire for God.

#### DISTRICT EVANGELIST REPORT

Elder Cecil Garrison — revivals, 16; sermons preached, 235; professions witnessed, 152; additions to church, 62; baptized 58; churches organized, 1; ministers ordained, 1; deacons ordained, 2; performed 6 marriages; funerals 37; made several sick calls; miles traveled, 4922; free-will offering \$1503.69; council meeting offering \$258.11; car expense \$400.00; balance \$1361.80; years in service, 17.

Elected Bro. Cecil G'adden to the executive board for 1 term.

The Association unanimously re-elected Elder C. O. Garrison as District Evangelist.

The next association will convene with Cottage Hill Church. Elder Bruce Phillips to preach the introductory sermon. Elder Horace Knox, his alternate.



Adoption of minutes.

We are to be represented in the State Association by the following delegates:—Elder Cecil Garrison, Elder Tom Day; Elder George Been, Bro. Cecil Gladden and Sister Willie Bohannan.

Delegates to Old Union Association:—Elder Tom Day; Elder George Lynch; Elder Bruce Phillips; Elder Cecil Garrison, alternate.

### BILL OF THANKS

Be it resolved that we extend our heart felt thanks and appreciation to Rose Hill Church and community and the surrounding communities, for the loyalty and hospitality shown us during our stay among them through the entire session of the association. We pray that God's blessings continue to rest upon you.

Rev. George Been, Rev. Jack Hobbs, Rev. Tom Day

Rev. H. M. Knox, Moderator

Sister Willie Bohannan, Clerk

Motion carried to adjourn until next year to meet with Cottage Hill Church.

Dismissed in prayer by Elder Lonnie R. Stewart.

### SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Elder Lester Cline and Elder J. H. Roberts conducted the Saturday evening service.

### REPORT OF COMMITTEES

#### Union of Churches:

We, your committee of Union of Churches, submit the following report. We believe that by the representation of every church in the association that we have excellent unity. "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" Psa. 133:1.

By having perfect unity we attain our greatest strength.

Cecil Gladden, Helen Lynch, Harrel Chancellor



### Temperance:

We, your committee on Temperance, believe there is no greater evil than strong drink, or intemperance in any manner. We read in the word of God that, "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." Therefore, it behooves every Christian to take a firm stand against this evil by voice, vote, or in any way that opportunity affords. Since the future spiritual welfare of our nation rests on the shoulders of our young people, may we as a part of God's Church (denominated Free Will Baptist) do all in our power to do away with all intemperance by the help and grace of God.

Gladys Vanhook, Cecil Garrison, Mary G. Samuel

### Sunday School:

We, your committee on Sunday School, submit the following:—We believe all churches should maintain a Sunday School. As Christians, we believe parents should take their children to Sunday School and bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Prov. 22:6.

Pearl Day, Gladys Lynch, Kate McGinnis

### Finance:

We, your committee on finance, submit the following:

Clifty .....	\$ 2.30
Farmer .....	4.00
Shady Grove .....	4.60
Cottage Hill .....	1.20
Buckeye .....	5.00
Antioch .....	2.50
Rose Hill .....	2.85
New Hope .....	10.50
Rock .....	3.00
Mt. Zion .....	7.00
Clear Creek .....	2.00
Bohannan .....	4.00
Pilgrim Rest .....	7.75
Christian Home .....	2.50
Hickory Grove .....	4.75
TOTAL .....	\$ 63.95

Homer Bragg, Loy Bland, Bertie Roles.

## RESOLUTIONS

No. 1. Coming from Mt. Zion Church is the urgent request and advice that each of our local churches (seeing that state wide consolidation of schools threatens to deprive us of a place of public worship) will trust in God and cooperate your efforts in building you a church house owned by your church.

No. 2. Be it resolved that our pastors and evangelist acquaint our churches with our church covenant by reading and explaining to them and thereby educating them as to what is their obligated duty.

No. 3 Be it resolved we have a constitutional correction in section 6 by replacing the term "newly constituted churches" to "newly organized churches" so that it will harmonize with section 6 in the "Order of Business."

Rev. George Been, Rev. Jack Hobbs, Rev. Tom Day

## OBITUARIES

We, your committee on obituaries, find that death has called home 9 of our members from our association.

They are as follows:—

Joseph Pinley Holland, John Riley Barnes, Charley Shepherd, Ernest Koontz, Beckie Becker Creek, Ruby Irene Vanhook, Maggie Lawson, Lois Kiddy and Lucinda P. Rackley (also a delayed obituary of her husband, William H. Rackley, printed by request.)

Elder J. H. Roberts, Elder Willie Capps, Robert Neely

**Joseph Pinley Holland—**

Was born August 26, 1874 in Carroll County, Arkansas. He died May 4, 1949 at the age of 75 years 8 mos. and 8 days. His passing was at the home of his daughter, Cora Marshall.

He was converted June 20, 1943 and joined the Free Will Baptist Church at White Oak. He lived a Christian life to the end. Our loss is his eternal gain.

He married Minerva Holman, Feb. 3, 1894. To this union were born, 7 children all of whom survive. They are:

Cora Marshall Huntsville, Ark.; Sarah Shaddox, Clemmie Fanning, and Luther Holland all of Tulsa, Okla.; Jessie Ellis, King Hill, Idaho; Rule Holland, Crane, Mo.; Lee Holland, Salem, Oregon; also surviving are 2 brothers, Sam Holland of California and George Holland of Washington; 22 grand children and 18 great-grand children.

#### **Charley Riley Shepherd—**

Charley Riley Shepherd was born at Fullerton, Mo. He passed away Feb. 1949 at his home near Hindsville at the age of 68. He had been quite ill for five months. Mr. Shepherd was a veteran of the Spanish American War. He was a charter member of the Farmer Free Will Baptist Church and was elected a deacon. He served God and the church faithfully until death.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Annie Morehouse Shepherd, to whom he was married March 2, 1906 in Fayetteville; two sons, LeRoy of Huntsville, and Odie of Hindsville; three daughters, Mrs. Eva Hayes of Huntsville, Mrs. Pearl Day of Hindsville and Mrs. Wilma Stanphill of Ontario, Calif.; a sister, Mrs. Bell Lee of Corder, Mo, and 16 grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Doyle Alderson of Russe'llville and Rev. Cecil Garrison of Huntsville. Burial was in the Buckeye cemetery.

#### **John Riley Barnes—**

John Riley Barnes 73, died at 11 o'clock Saturday morning August 7, 1948, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Theo. Johnson, east of Springdale, Ark.

Mr. Barnes was born March 16, 1875, at Spring Valley, Ark., the son of Abner Perry Barnes and Mary Lila Joyce Barnes.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Maude Barnes; three daughters, Mrs. Theo. Johnson, Mrs. Milbourn Neil of Springdale, and Mrs. Wave Butler of Des Moines, Wash; three sons, Gordon of Downy, Calif.; Garland of Thelma, Calif.; and Glen of Springdale; one sister, Mrs. Green Mayfield of Mayfield, Ark.; one brother, Commodore Perry Barnes of Oklahoma, and twelve grandchildren.



Funeral arrangements were under the direction of Callison-Sisco funeral home. Ministers were Elder George Been and Elder Bruce Phillips. Burial was in the Joyce cemetery.

Bro. Barnes had been a faithful deacon of the Pilgrim Rest Church for a number of years and is greatly missed, but we know our loss is heaven's gain.

#### Ernest Newman Koontz—

Ernest Newman Koontz, son of Alva and Hazel Koontz, was born March 19, 1924 at La Crosse, Kansas, and died November 6, 1948 at Kansas City, Kansas. He came to live in Arkansas with his parents in 1935. Here he grew to manhood and received his education. He was baptized and joined the Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church in 1938 and remained a member until his death, always attending meetings there when he could be back home from his work in the city. He leaves to mourn him, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alva Koontz; three brothers, Daniel, Glenn and Keith; two sisters, Margaret and Janet; and his son, David. Ernest was a boy with a helpful, cheerful spirit, and will be sadly missed by his host of friends.

#### Beckie Becker Creek—

Beckie Becker Creek was born February 26, 1868 at Carthage, Mo., and departed this life February 1, 1949 at Hindsville, Ark., at the age of 80 years, 11 months and 5 days.

She moved from Missouri to Arkansas in early age. She was converted and joined the Free Will Baptist church at Burkshed where she remained a faithful member.

At the age of 17 she was married to George Calvin Gosvener. To this union were born two children.

She lost her first companion in death Jan. 2, 1915 and in later years of life was married to Jack Creek. Since his death, she has made her home with her daughter the past 19 years.

She is survived by one sister, Jane Hancock of Carthage, Mo.; one brothers, Hugh Becker of Hindsville, Ark.; two children, Willie Gosvener, of Vera, Okla.; Belle Roles of Hindsville, Ark.; 15 grandchildren and 30 great grandchildren; also a host of friends.

The family wishes to take this means of expressing their sincere thanks to the many friends who helped during her sickness and death.

**Ruby Vanhook—**

Ruby Irene Stafford was born July 15, 1908 to G. W. and Lula Stafford in Carroll County, but came to Clifty community at an early age—departed this life August 20, 1948 at the age of 40 years, 1 month and 5 days.

She was united in marriage to Mitchell Vanhook Jan. 20, 1934. To this union was born one daughter, Jimmie Jean, just 22 months old when her mother passed away.

Ruby was converted at the age of 14. She remained faithful to the end. In later years she united with the Clear Creek Free Will Baptist Church.

Besides her parents, husband and daughter, she is survived by two sisters, Mrs. J. C. Samuel of Rogers, Ark., Rte. 4; Mrs. W. H. Hankins of Huntsville; two brothers, Fred and Billie Stafford of Clifty, Ark.

Funeral services were held Aug. 22, at 2:00 p.m. at Clifty under the direction of the Brashears Funeral Home.

She always had a sweet smile for every one and was loved by all who knew her. The memory of her kind, thoughtful words and deeds lives on in the hearts of her many friends and loved ones as was evidenced by the gathering of a thousand people that paid final tribute at her funeral. Their love was also manifested by the many gorgeous flowers presented as a mournful tribute.

She had been ill three years but was a patient sufferer. Her faith in God never faltered. Her little daughter kissed her on the cheek the eve she died. Ruby said, "Mamma will take that to heaven with her." She lived a beautiful life—a wonderful testimony—a good example for anyone to follow. She never failed to do her best; her heart was true and tender. Her loved ones will ever remember her many thoughtful deeds. Ruby always saw the brightness of the gloomiest days. It is much easier understood now that she has gone away.

### In Memory of Ruby

There was a new made grave  
We can see when we close our eyes—  
Her spirit has gone to heaven  
But there her body lies.

When we cross the river  
And meet her over there,  
All will be peace and gladness  
In that heavenly home so fair.

We know she will be waiting  
And watching for us there  
When our work on earth is over  
And we, too, are gathered there.

While in this world of sorrow,  
We miss her every day;  
Miss her loving deeds of kindness  
And the things she used to say.

Long days we miss you, Ruby!  
Many times, for you, we'll weep;  
But through many years of sorrow  
"Precious memories" will your lived ones keep.

We know you were robed and ready,  
Waiting for the messenger to come  
To take you from pain and sorrow  
To your bright, eternal home.

You are singing with the angels  
And beckoning us to come  
And join you in that sweet refrain  
Where farewells are not known.

You passed from earth to heaven—  
We miss you from your place.  
Our home is dark without you,  
We miss the sunshine of your face.

We hope some day to join you  
With our loved ones that are here—  
There will be a great reunion  
When we meet you, Ruby dear!

Lois Kiddy—

Lois Kiddy was born June 19, 1898; departed this life June 14, 1949. Lois was born in Oklahoma but came to



Arkansas when a baby with her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Cap Kiddy. Lois' mother passed away soon after coming to Arkansas so she made her home with her grandparents, the late Rev. David Mason, a Free Will Baptist minister. When her grandparents passed away she returned to Oklahoma to keep house for her father. Lois was converted and joined the Free Will Baptist Church at Hickory Grove Sept. 1915. She lived her religion and kept the faith until the death angel came and took her away.

She leaves to mourn her passing the father, Cap Kiddy of Oaks, Okla., and a cousin, Charley Mason of Barnsdall, Okla.

Interment was in the Pryor Oklahoma cemetery.

She has gone to meet her Saviour  
Mother, loved ones gone before  
That were waiting up in Heaven—  
When she crossed the distant shore.  
Peaceful be thy silent slumber  
Peaceful in thy grave so low  
She no more will join our number  
Nor our joys or sorrows know.

A Friend, Mrs. G. W. Stafford

#### Maggie Lawson—

Elmina Magnolia Miles Lawson was born April 6, 1875 at Spring Valley, Ark., departed this life, Oct. 31, 1948. She professed a hope in Christ 1888 and joined the Free Will Baptist Church at Burkshed. She was a devoted Christian until death. She was united in marriage to Jake Lawson May 14, 1893. To this union were born 3 children, Estes Phillips, Hindsville, Ark., Atha Austin of Gering, Neb.; one child died in infancy; six grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

#### Lucinda P. Rackley—

Lucinda P. Lynch was born at Lowell, Ark., Oct. 26, 1856. She was married to William H. Rackley Dec. 28, 1879. To this union were born 9 children, 7 of which are living, 6 boys and 1 girl.

She is also survived by 2 brothers, Ben Lynch of Canon City, Colo., and Elbert Lynch of Rogers, Ark. While a young girl she embraced religion and united with Hickory

Grove Free Will Baptist Church and remained a faithful member until her death, Dec. 10, 1948 after a long illness, at the age of 92 years 1 month and 14 days. She passed away at Modesta, Calif. She was a loving wife and mother. Her motto and one she lived up to was, "Speak no ill of anyone." Our loss is Heaven's gain.

Wm. H. Rackley—

(By Request)

Wm. H. Rackley was born in Benton County, Ark., July 10, 1855 and died at Gentry, Ark., March 21, 1915 at the age of 59 years 8 months and 11 days.

He was married to Lucinda Lynch Dec. 28, 1879. To this union were born 9 children.

He professed a hope in Christ in youth and led a humble Christian life. He united with Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church and remained faithful until his death.

### MINISTERS

R. A. Smith, age 82	- - - -	Rte. 1, Marble, Arkansas
J. H. Roberts, age 77	- - - -	Springdale, Arkansas
C. Knox, age 77	- - - -	Rogers, Arkansas
George Been, age 68	- -	Rte. 2, Springdale, Arkansas
P. G. Kirk, age 63	- - - -	Rte. 5, Rogers, Arkansas
Claud Lynch, age 56	- - - -	Rogers, Arkansas
Clark Baker, age 49	- - - -	Rogers, Arkansas
Bill Oxford, age 48	- - - -	Rte. 5, Rogers, Arkansas
Bruce Phillips, age 46	- -	Rte. 2, Springdale, Arkansas
Jack Hobbs, age 45	- -	Rte. 4, Huntsville, Arkansas
H. M. Knox, age 43	- - -	Rte. 5, Rogers, Arkansas
Willie Capps, age 42	- - -	Rte. 5, Rogers, Arkansas
Sammie Lane, age 41	- - -	Rte. 5, Rogers, Arkansas
C. O. Garrison, age 39	- - - -	Huntsville Arkansas
George Lynch, age 39	- -	Rte. 1, Hindsville, Arkansas
Elmo McKinney, age 43	- - - -	Marble, Arkansas
Tom Pinkerton	- - - -	Enid, Oklahoma
Arnold Smith	- - - -	Rte. 4, Huntsville, Arkansas
Tom Day, age 38	- - - -	Rte. 1, Huntsville Arkansas
Burl True, age 43	- - -	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

### CHURCH COVENANT

Having been brought, as we believe, by the divine grace to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Preservor, we do now solemnly and joyfully covenant

and agree, by God's help, to walk together in brotherly love.

We, therefore, enter into covenant as members of this church, and as Christians, that we will watch over each other in love, sharing together each other's joys and sorrows; that we will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, nor omit the great duty of prayer for ourselves and others; that by Divine assistance we will endeavor to bring up those under our care in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; that in all things we will strive to exemplify our profession by a corresponding practice, to abstain from all sinful conformity to the world, to be just in our dealings, faithful in our agreements, and exemplary in all our deportment; that we will abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating liquor as a beverage; that we will contribute cheerfully according to our ability, to the support of the ministry, the expense of the church, the relief of the poor and the general spread of the Gospel.

In keeping this solemn covenant, may we ever enjoy the blessings and presence of the Great Head of the church, which is Jesus Christ the Saviour.

## **RULES OF ORDER**

1. At every sitting of the Association, business shall be opened and concluded by prayer by the Moderator or whomsoever he may request.
2. Ministers and deacons present are invited to seats, allowed to take part in debates on all subjects, and to vote.
3. Those who speak shall arise and address the Moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.
4. No motion shall be discussed without a second.
5. When a motion has been made and seconded, and a member opposes its discussion, the Moderator shall put the question "Shall it be discussed?" If negative, the question shall be dismissed.
6. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken separately.
7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.



8. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without special leave of the Moderator.

9. All questions shall be decided by a majority vote of all members present.

10. No member shall absent himself without special leave of the Moderator.

11. Minutes shall be leisurely read and corrected if necessary before the close of the Association .

12. At all future sessions of the Association, arrangements shall be made to insure two sermons, or other devotional exercises equivalent thereto, during each day of the session, and the chair shall announce just before adjournment who shall preach.

13. These Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after organization of the Association.

14. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.

## CONSTITUTION

From long experience, we, the members of the Church of God (denominated Free Will Baptist), being regularly baptized upon a profession of our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and being convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches to perpetuate a union among us, and to preserve and maintain correspondence with each other, do therefore ordain this Constitution for our better Church government.

Art. 1. MEMBERSHIP. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches of our union, not exceeding three messengers from each church, and upon producing letters, they shall be entitled to seats. All ordained ministers and deacons of said union shall be regular members, when present, by virtue of their office.

Art. 2. NAME. The members thus chosen and assembled with the ministers and deacons, to be denominated the Old Mt. Zion Association of Free Will Baptists, being composed of the several churches of our union, the Association having no power over the churches, reserving the right of withdrawing from any church becoming disorderly.

Art. 3. LETTERS. Letters from the different churches representing are to express their number in fellowship, including the names and addresses of ordained and licensed ministers, the number of members received upon profession of faith, by letter or recommendation, by restoration or denominational choice; the number of members dismissed by letter, excluded, and those having died since last Association. Churches, in sending their letters, may send obituaries of any who died during the year, that we may keep up the memorial of our dead.

Art. 4. DISMISSING MEMBERS. Our churches upon granting letters of dismissal to any of its members shall require a notice from the church receiving said letter to notify the church granting said letter that it has been received.

Art. 5. OFFICERS. The Association to have a Moderator, Clerk-Treasurer, elected annually for a term of one by the suffrage, and an Executive Committee of three, one member chosen each year for the term of three years, who shall have the authority to transact any business transactions of the Association between sessions of the Association and make a report to the Association annually.

Art. 6. NEW CHURCHES. Newly organized churches may be admitted to the Association, which are to petition by letter and delegates, and if upon examination, they are found to be orthodox and orderly, they may be received into the Association, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

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

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

Art. 9. MINUTES. The Association is to endeavor to furnish the churches with minutes of the Association in proportion to the amount paid by each church, the distribution to be made at the discretion of the Association.

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

Art. 11. SIGNATURES. 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.

Art. 12. AMENDMENTS. Amendments of this Constitution may be made, when necessary, by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular session.

Art. 13. NON-ATTENDANCE. The Association in case of failure of any church to attend, shall inquire into the case.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. GOD. We believe in one true and living, Triune God; composed of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, equal in divine Essence, Purpose, Power, and Glory.—John 1:1; I Cor. 8:6; St. John 10:30.

2. CHRIST. We believe that Jesus Christ is the divine Son of God, was with the Father and the Holy Spirit at the time of Creation, left the Courts of Heaven and came to this earth, took upon Himself the form of humanity, sin excepted, by being born of the Virgin Mary, manifested His power, was crucified, placed in Joseph's tomb, rose again the third day, completed the great plan of salvation, walked and talked with His disciples, publicly ascended to Heaven, and that He will descend again to gather His jewels home.—Isaiah 9:6; St. John 1:14; Luke 1:26-28; Matt. 14:13-21; Mark 16:9-19; Luke 24:50,53; Acts 1:9-12; Mark 15:22-47.

3. HOLY SPIRIT. We believe that the Holy Spirit has visited true believers in all ages, and especially since the ascension of the Son back to the Father, and His coming on the day of Pentecost. Has taken up His office work among all nations of people, as a Divine Reprover, Comforter, and Guide.—Judges 6:34; 11:29; St. John 16:8-14; Isaiah 63:10-12; Ephesians 4:30; Acts 8:17-20; Ezek. 36:27; Joel 2:28.

4. THE BIBLE. We believe the Bible, which is composed of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments was given by inspiration of God, is our way-bill from earth to heaven, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice.—II Peter 1:19-21; II Tim. 3:14-17; Daniel 10:21; Acts 1:16-17; Matt. 21:42.



5. THE FALL OF MAN. We believe that God created man good, gave a just law by which he should be governed, with the promise of reward for faithfulness and with penalties of punishment for disobedience. Gave man the power of free moral agency to choose the right and reject the wrong. But our first parents heeded the voice of the great enemy of souls, voluntarily transgressed the law of God, fell with their posterity under the just penalty of the same, and were unable of their own power to extricate or save themselves from the great dilemma into which they had fallen. God gave them the hope of salvation through the coming Christ.—Gen. 1:27; 2:16,17; Psalms 51:5; Gen. 3; 6:5; Rom. 5:12-19; John 3:6; Eph. 2:3.

6. REDEMPTION, SALVATION, ADOPTION. We believe that Jesus Christ by His birth, death, burial, resurrection, and ascension paid the purchase price for the redemption of the whole human race, arranged a pardon for all who come upon the Gospel terms; and a law of adoption into the Kingdom above.—Heb. 9:12; Gal. 3:13; 4:4-5; Titus 2:14; Heb. 1:4; St. John 3:16; Isaiah 15:22.

7. CONDITIONS OF SALVATION. We believe that all persons dying in infancy and all idiots are saved by the Atoning merits of the Son of God without any act on their part that persons coming to the years of accountability, transgressing the law of God, must upon their part, exercise faith in Jesus Christ through repentance toward God, at the completion of which pardon takes place in the mind of the Father and by the Holy Spirit they pass through the ordeal of regeneration, are washed in the blood of the Lamb and are planted in the Kingdom of Christ.—John 3; Matt. 19:13-22; I Cor. 7:10; Luke 18:16,17; St. John 4:11-16; Psalms 98:3.

8. SALVATION FREE. We believe that God desires the salvation of all; Christ died for all; the Gospel invites all; the Holy Spirit strives with all; and whosoever will may come and be saved on the terms of the Gospel.—I Peter 1:9-25; 2:9-25; Rev. 22:17.

9. BAPTISM. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of believers in water, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, in which are represented the burial and resurrection of Christ; also represents our death to sin, and only those who have come under the presidency of the elders are qualified to administer the same.—

Matt. 3:14-16; 3:5-6; I Peter 3:21; St. John 3:23; Acts 10:47; Matt. 28:19.

10. COMMUNION AND FEET WASHING. We believe that the Lord's Supper and the washing of the saints' feet are ordinances of the Gospel of Christ; the Lord's Supper was instituted by our Saviour to commemorate His broken body and shed blood for the sins of the world, and to show our remembrances of Him till He comes.

All Christians have a right to the Lord's Supper and should be invited "Let a man examine himself and so let him eat."

The washing of feet was instituted by our Lord at the same time that the Supper was instituted as an act of humility to show our love for each other, and both ordinances should be perpetuated by all Christians until His second coming.—Luke 22:19-20; I Cor. 11-29; St. John 13:1-17; Matt. 26: 26-29.

11. THE SABBATH. We believe that the Christian Sabbath should be observed as a day of rest and for the worship of God; that we should abstain from all sinful amusements and secular employments, works of mercy and piety excepted.—Exodus 20:11; 31:12-18; Deut. 5: 12-15; Ezek. 20:12; Matt. 28:1; Luke 23:56; Acts 13:42-48; Mark 2:27.

12. CALL TO THE MINISTRY. We believe in a divine call of the ministry; that God in His goodness and grace, impresses His ministers with the burden of lost souls, to the extent that the call becomes irresistible with personal contentment, that when they yield to the call and exercise the native gifts according to the Scriptures, with full reliance upon Him, He accompanies them in the person of the Holy Spirit to guide them in the way of truth and to bless their labors according to His purpose.—Jonah 1:1; er. 1:5; Mark 3:14; Acts 1:22-26; Matt 28:19.

13. THE INVISIBLE CHURCH. We believe that the Invisible or Spiritual Church is the redeemed in the aggregate, is the family of God, is composed of all true Christians of every congregation from righteous Abel to the restitution of all things, from every kindred, nation, tongue, and people.—Eph. 3:16-21; Heb. 12:22,23; I Pet. 2:5; Eph. 2:20-22; Acts 2:47; Matt. 16:18.



14. THE VISIBLE CHURCH. We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women, having obtained fellowship with the Lord and each other, agreeing to keep up a good discipline and doctrine according to the rules of the Gospel.—II Thess. 1:1; Acts 16:5; III John 1:10; Matt. 18:17; Acts 20:28; Revelation 1:4-20.

15. PERSEVERENCE. We believe that all true believers in Christ should persevere in divine grace, and in the knowledge of the truth, and that God's grace is sufficient to help them overcome all the obstacles of life, and that all the combined forces of the great enemy of souls on earth and in hell (or in his eternal abode) are not able to pluck them from His hand so long as they walk in the path of duty; but those who sidestep and wilfully refuse or neglect to perform their duty, they would backslide if persistently continued would be eternally lost.—II Peter 1:12; II Cor. 9:10; II Peter 1:4-8; 2:2; Rom. 8:35-39; Apostasy: II Peter 1:8-9; I Cor. 10:1-3; Heb. 12:15-17; I John 5:16; Heb. 1:6; I Tim. 4:1-2; Heb. 3:12; St. John 15:1-7; Matt. 12:31, 32.

16. CHRIST THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH. We believe that Christ is the Head of the Church, and that the government of the local church is with the body.—Col. 1:18-19; Matt. 16-18; Heb. 12:23; Matt. 21:42; Eph. 1:22; Acts 16:4-5.

17. SANCTIFICATION. Sanctification is a work of God's grace, by which the soul is cleansed from all sin and wholly consecrated to Christ. It takes place in regeneration, and the Christian can and should abide in this state to the end of life constantly growing in the grace and the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.—I Cor. 6:11; II Thess. 2:13; Heb. 12:14; Phil. 3:21; II Thess. 5:19-23; St. John 17:17-19; II Tim. 2:20,21.

18. THE RESURRECTION. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of the righteous and the wicked. When the resurrection shall take place, the soul and body shall be united, the righteous shall be received into everlasting happiness to reign with God forever, but the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment.—Matt. 28:6; John 5:28,29; I Cor. 15:51-58.



19. THE SOUL. The soul is endless, hence does not die with the body, but immediately after death enters into a conscious state of happiness or misery, according to the spiritual character here possessed.—Phil. 1:23; Luke 23:43; Rev. 6:9; Luke 16:19-25; Matt. 10:28.

20. JUDGMENT. We believe that there will be a general, universal judgment, when all men shall be judged according to their works, whether they be good or bad, and that immediately thereafter the wicked shall enter into everlasting punishment and the righteous into eternal happiness.—II Thess. 1:4-9; Rev. 14:9-13; Luke 16:23; Rev. 21:8; II Cor. 5:10; Matt. 12:36,37; Rev. 20:12,13; Acts 17:31.

## MEMORANDA

# MEMORANDA

# STATISTICAL REPORT

Church	Organized	Retiring Pastor	Pastor Elect	Church Clerk	Experience & Baptism	Recommendation	Received by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Died	Total Membership
Mt. Zion.	1866	Bruce Phillips	Tom Day	Ola Puryear	7					2	129
Pilgrim Rest	1911	Tom Day	Tom Day	Harry Wright	14			3		1	192
New Hope	1886	H. M. Knox	H. M. Knox	Robert Neely				1			39
Hickory Grove	1886	Tom Day	Bruce Phillips	Gladys Lynch				3		3	67
Clear Creek	1920	Geo. Lynch	Willie Capps	Willie Bohannon		1				1	17
Christian Home	1892	Geo. Lynch	Geo. Lynch	Kate McGinnis							30
Clifty	1892	H. M. Knox	H. M. Knox	Geo. Vanhook		1		2			84
Antioch	1910	Jack Hobbs	Jack Hobbs	Eula Wood						1	28
Shady Grove	1936	H. M. Knox	H. M. Knox	Esther Clark	3						28
Rose Hill	1937	Elmo McKinney	Elmo McKinney	Myrna Walker							31
Cottage Hill	1938	H. M. Knox		Elsie Miles							
Rock	1938	Geo. Lynch	Willie Capps	Florence Fox	7			2			68
Farmer	1945	Geo. Lynch	Bruce Phillips	Ethel Gladden	8		1	1		1	26
Buckeye	1945	Jack Hobbs	H. M. Knox	Ezra Clark	1						26
Bohannon	1949		Tom Day	Norma Chancellor	9	7					16