

Minutes - -

Old Mount Zion

ASSOCIATION

Of

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES

1953

PROCEEDINGS

112TH ANNUAL SESSION

Convened at

HUNTSVILLE CHURCH

MINUTES
Of The
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH
ANNUAL SESSION
Of The
OLD MOUNT ZION ASSOCIATION
Of
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Held With
HUNTSVILLE CHURCH

AUGUST 7 - 8, 1953

OFFICERS

H. M. Knox Moderator
Willie Bohannan Clerk

The next session of Old Mt. Zion Association will convene with Shady Grove Church beginning on Thursday night before the Second Sunday in August, 1954.

Elder Bruce Phillips to preach the Introductory Sermon.
Elder George Been is 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 honorable moderator, Elder H. M. Knox. Opening song, "When We All Get to Heaven." Scripture reading by moderator, Ephesians 6:10-18. Prayer by Elder George Been.

A very timely message was rendered at 11:00 o'clock by our eldest minister, Eld. J. H. Roberts. Scripture reading, second chapter of I Cor., followed by prayer. Text: "Principals of Free Will Baptists that should stand and continue through the years." Concluded by standing together and singing, "I Shall Not Be Moved."

Church letters were then called for. The following responded. Delegates were given the right hand of fellowship by moderator, and invited to seats.

Mt. Zion, Marguerite Shaver, Paul Archer, Fred Archer; **Pilgrim Rest**, Harry Robinson, Jocie Robinson; **New Hope**, Troy Wight, Faye Wight, Donna Lea Stilwell; **Hickory Grove**, Sid Taylor, Mitchell Vanhook, Kendall Bohlen; **Clear Creek**, Lutie Jones, Mary Jane Bohannon, Eula Todd; **Christian Home**, John Davis, Arvil McGinnis, Eulena Casteel; **Clifty**, Fannie Prichett, Maggie Vanhook, Clarence Capps; **Antioch**, Jessie McKinney, Lois Holman, Eula Wood; **Shady Grove**, Burl Sigman, Edna Blackburn; **Rose Hill**, Tom Davis, Clyde Walker, Myrna Smith; **Cottage Hill**, J. L. Banks, Helen Lynch, Elsie Miles; **Farmer**, Annie Shepherd, Cordelia Jones, Odie Shepherd; **Buckeye**, Otis Fitch, Elsie Vaughn, Ora Trammel; **Bohannon**, Velma Shepherd, Nadine Ledbetter, Mary Hull; **Freedom**, Carl Snoderly, Georgia Mann, Mary G. Samuel; **Hickory Flatt**, Harmon Gibson, Stella Gibson, Marguerite Stevons; **Pleasant Valley**, Robert Grogan; **Huntsville**, Alvin Sparks, Delbert Bland, Zenia Moses.

(Sister Associations)

Old Union, Dora Dodson, Clyde Newberry, John Dodson; **Indian Creek**, Rev. and Mrs. O. T. Allred, Alice Finn; **Grand River**, Rev. Jake Gage.

(Newly Organized Churches Received)

Phillips Chapel, Frank Smith, Norma Horn, Pearl Day; **Rogers**, Ace Langham, L. D. Foster, Grace Ray.

Dismissed by Eld. C. O. Garrison.

Friday Afternoon Session

Song, "Amazing Grace." Scripture lesson, Psalm 23.
Prayer by Eld. Tom Day.

Election of Officers:

Elder H. M. Knox Moderator
Sister Willie Bohannon (R 3, Huntsville) Clerk

Appointment of Committees:

Resolutions, George Been, Willie Capps, Tom Day, Lee Trammel, Fred Archer. **Finance**, Robert Grogan, Elsie Vaughn, R. F. Smith, Clarence Capps, Troy Wight. **Divine Service**, Noel Easterling, Burl Sigmon, Harry Robinson, Marguerite Shaver, Norma Horn. **Temperance**, Pearl Day, Josie Robinson, Harvey Oxford, Faye Wight, Nadine Ledbetter. **Sunday School**, Grace Ray, Edna Blackburn, Helen Lynch, Stella Gibson, Donna Lea Stilwell. **Obituary**, Bruce Phillips, Cecil Garrison, Elmo McKinney, George Lynch, Amos Howard. **Union of Churches**, Loy Archer, Edward Stilley, Robert Neeley, Delbert Bland, Ezra Clark.

Reading of "Rules of Order" by Eld. H. M. Knox.

Reading of "Constitution" by Sis. Willie Bohannon.

Verbal reports given by tent committee. Elder Bruce Phillips, chairman; Elders Tom Day and Cecil Garrison. (Balance in treasury, \$7.20.)

Report of Divine Service Committee received and committee discharged. They elect as follows: Friday night service, Elders Vivan Rhodes and Jake Gage. Saturday, 11:00 o'clock, Elders Cecil Garrison and Bruce Phillips. Saturday night service, Elders Clarence Tice and Bill Williams.

The Financial Report of the Association given by Clerk, accepted by body without auditing books.

Report of Executive Board:

Mt. Zion	\$ 96.75
Pilgrim Rest	71.00
New Hope	11.00
Hickory Grove	
Clear Creek	14.00
Christian Home	15.75
Clifty	1.00
Antioch	
Shady Grove	5.00
Rose Hill	

Cottage Hill	
Rock	2.25
Farmer	8.70
Buck Eye	30.00
Bohannon	7.00
Freedom	125.35
Hickory Flatt	1.00
Pleasant Valley	10.75
Huntsville	39.37
Phillips Chapel	
Rogers	
Donations directly to Evangelist	43.81
Total	\$482.73

Elected Noel Easterling to Executive Board for term of three years.

Radio Program:

Sister Mary Gladys Samuel gives financial report of radio program and then resigns as clerk. Vada Netherton of Springdale, appointed to succeed Mrs. Samuel as clerk. Motion made and carried to continue radio program as it has been carried on for the past three years.

Motion made to adjourn until 9:30 Saturday a.m.

Dismissed in prayer by Eld. George Lynch.

Friday Night Service

Following group singing and prayer by Eld. J. A. Green, Eld. Vivan Rhodes opened the service using I Cor. 11:23-32 for a Scripture lesson. There were two conversions in mid-service. The message was concluded by Eld. Jake Gage. More than 200 engaged in the communion and feet washing.

Saturday Morning Session

Song, "The Unseen Hand," directed by Eld. Jake Gage. Scripture, Eccles. 5:1-16. Prayer by Eld. I. E. Hawley.

Report on Sunday School received and committee discharged.

Report on Temperance received and committee discharged.

Report on Union of Churches received and committee discharged.

Report on Finance received and committee discharged.

Motion carried to buy another communion set, more towels and pans (by clerk).

Motion carried to print 1,000 minutes, 50 to go to Old Union Association.

Motion carried to receive Obituary Committee's report and discharge same at the close of the 11:00 o'clock service.

Motion carried to print obituary of Alonzo Evans and make mention of Margaret E. Forrister in Memorial Service (done by special request).

Motion carried to adjourn until 1:30.

Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Rufus Young.

11:00 O'clock Message

Song, "I'll Be Satisfied." Prayer by Amos Howard. Scripture, Job 14:14-16, by Eld. Bruce Phillips who also introduced the services by comments on obituaries. Message by Eld. Cecil Garrison, Scripture, Mark 14:3-10. Very spiritual, followed by old time handshake, singing and shouting. Dismissed by Bro. Elbert Johnson.

Saturday Afternoon Session

Scripture lesson by Moderator, Haggai 1:2-11. Prayer by Eld. Bill Oxford.

Motion passed to appoint a committee to investigate Rock Church, as the Committee on Union of Churches reported it to be out of order and not in unity with the Association. Investigating Committee to Rock Church: Elders Cecil Garrison, George Been and Bruce Phillips. Investigating council to meet at Rock Church, August 14, 1953, and to report to the council meeting August 30, 1953, when convened with Mt. Zion Church.

Motion carried to accept resolutions numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, and to retain committee.

Examining Council for all Ordination Services appointed as follows:

H. M. Knox	term of 3 years
Tom Day	term of 2 years
Bruce Phillips	term of 1 year

Vote of thanks and appreciation given to District Evangelist following his report. The Association re-elected Eld. Cecil Garrison, District Evangelist.

The next session of Old Mt. Zion Association will convene with Shady Grove Church on Thursday night before the Second Sunday in August, 1954.

Introductory sermon, Eld. Bruce Phillips; Eld. George Been, alternate.

Delegates to Old Union Association: Cecil Gladden, Clyde Coatney, Elmo McKinney.

Delegates to Indian Creek Association: Tom Day, Cecil Garrison, I. E. Hawley.

Delegates to State Association: Elsie Vaughn, Pearl Garrison, Marguerite Shaver, Ethel Gladden, Hazel Easterling.

Adoption of minutes.

Motion carried to receive final report of Resolutions Committee and discharge same.

Motion carried to adjourn. Song, "God Be With You Till We Meet Again."

Benediction, Bro. Curtis Bearden.

Saturday Night Service

Group singing. Prayer, Bro. Lem Hatfield. Specials, "I Know I Have Salvation," and "I Can Tell You the Time." Devotional service. Special songs by Lynch quartet, "He Set Me Free," and "If We Never Meet Again." Message by Bro. Clarence Tice; Scripture, Mark 13:32-33; text, "Take ye heed, watch and pray." Service concluded by Bro. Bill Williams using Zephania 1:14 for his text. Benediction, Eld. J. H. Roberts.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Union of Churches:

We, your committee on Union of Churches, submit the following report. We believe that we have excellent unity among our churches with the exception of one. By investigation, we find that Rock Church is not in unity with the Free Will Baptist doctrine.

By having perfect unity we attain our greatest strength. Eph. 4:3—Endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of perfect peace.

/s/ Loy Archer, chairman

Temperance:

We, your committee on Temperance, believe there is no greater evil than strong drink. We, as God's people, realize that strong drink is one of the greatest downfalls of our nation. Let us pray that our nation may always be led and supported by the Christian people within it. May we, as God's people, do all within our power by

voice and vote to do away with this strong drink which is causing the downfall of many: not only by losing their lives here, but their precious souls also go into eternity without God.

“For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.” Proverbs 23:21.

/s/ Pearl Day, chairwoman

Sunday School:

We, your committee on Sunday School, offer the following as our report.

We believe Sunday School to be a very vital part of our worship, in-so-much as our Lord said, “Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” Prov. 22:6. We believe we should set the example by going and taking our children.

We resolve that our Free Will Baptist churches should strive to build better Sunday Schools.

/s/ Grace Ray, chairwoman

Finance:

Freedom	\$ 15.00
Clifty	3.75
Farmer	3.25
Shady Grove	6.60
Cottage Hill	3.00
Buckeye	5.50
Antioch	3.00
Rose Hill	3.00
New Hope	8.50
Rock	3.00
Mt. Zion	10.50
Phillips Chapel	25.00
Rogers	10.00
Clear Creek	3.00
Bohannon	3.00
Pilgrim Rest	10.00
Christian Home	5.25
Hickory Grove	2.30
Huntsville	12.11
Pleasant Valley	5.00
Hickory Flatt	4.00
Total	\$144.76

/s/ Robert Grogan, chairman

Resolutions:

No. 1—To the Old Mt. Zion Association. Be it resolved that each church give one dollar to the clerk of the association to help with expenses. Done by order of Buckeye Church assembled in conference this 26th day of July, 1953. /s/ H. M. Knox, mod.; Ezra Clark, clerk.

No. 2—Be it resolved that the 113th session convene on Thursday night before the second Sunday in August in order that we may have more time to transact business for the Lord.

No. 3—That attention be called to Article 3 of the Constitution of this Association, as terms of receiving members into the local church as, namely: (1) profession of faith, (2) by letter of recommendation, (3) by restoration, (4) by denominational choice, and (none on promise of letter): that we use these four terms and discourage the (promise of letter).

No. 4—That Article 1. Membership—be amended to read: All regularly ordained ministers and deacons of this Association becoming properly credentialed and in full fellowship and good standing in the church of which they are members shall be entitled to seats as a delegate, by virtue of their office.

No. 5—Be it resolved that we give adequate support and approval of Home Mission work in the bounds of Old Mt. Zion Association which includes much more than evangelism: such as conducting Bible Schools, Vacation Bible Schools, Sunday School Conventions, visiting our weak churches, and assisting those needing His assistance; since, Free Will Baptists from State to National Associations are emphasizing the need of Home Mission work, said work to be under the supervision of the Home Mission Board.

No. 6—Be it resolved that the churches of Old Mt. Zion Association, in all ordination services, comply strictly with the rules and regulations laid down by the Free Will Baptist denomination. Said procedure to be conducted by an examining council of three orthodox Free Will Baptist ministers of this Association to be chosen by the Association.

No. 7—Be it resolved that the churches of Old Mt. Zion Association go on record as denouncing the modern doctrine of a second works of grace ("following regeneration" and calling it the Baptism of the Holy Ghost),

as heresy, and unsound doctrine. We warn any church (endorsing such, or having members in their church that advocate such) to purge out such or stand the risk of losing their place in this Association.

No. 8 (Bill of Appreciation) Be it resolved that we extend to the Huntsville Free Will Baptist Church and community, and all who have assisted so lovingly and courteously, a vote of thanks for entertaining this Association during our stay among them. Also, we wish to express our appreciation and thanks to our faithful moderator and clerk of our Association—praying God's blessings upon them.

/s/ Rev. George Been, chairman

Obituaries:

We, your committee on Obituaries, find that death has called home seven of our members. They are: Rev. Calvin Knox, Brothers William Elbert Lynch, John Milton Hancock and C. J. Brodrick, and Sisters Bertie Lawson Roles, Nancy Jane Savage and Juanita Pauline Archer.

We were requested to print the obituary of Bro. Alonzo Evans and make mention of Sister Margaret Forriester in the memorial service.

/s/ Rev. Bruce Phillips, chairman

Calvin Knox—

Calvin Knox, a son of Monroe and Malissie Knox, was born near Mundell, Ark., April 5, 1873, departed this life May 26, 1953, being 80 years, 1 month and 21 days. His entire life was spent in the county in which he was born.

He was married to Mary Neeley, December 5, 1892. To this union was born 7 children. One daughter preceded him in death in infancy. He is survived by his wife and 6 children: Mrs. L. J. Shaw of Indiana; Mrs. G. E. Baker and Mrs. W. E. Cox of Bentonville, Ark.; Mrs. W. B. Fine and H. M. Knox of Rogers, Ark.; W. H. Knox of Calif.; 17 grandchildren; 20 great grandchildren; two sisters and one brother, Cora Morse, Margaret Riggs and Charlie Knox, all of Ft. Smith, Ark.

He was converted and became a member of the Free Will Baptist Church early in life; later, he was ordained to the work of the ministry. A member of the New Hope Church, he remained true to the faith and doctrine of same till death.

Elbert Lynch—

William Elbert Lynch, or Uncle Elbert as we all knew him, was born Aug. 19, 1866, departed this life at the home of his son, Arley, Oct. 13, 1952, at the age of 86 years, 1 mo., and 24 days. Having lived in this immediate settlement all his life, he will be greatly missed in church, among his relatives, and by the community. He had been a member of the Masonic Lodge for 61 years.

Mr. Lynch was married to Beulah Stamback, Jan. 1, 1892, who proceeded him in death June 5, 1939.

He was converted in early manhood, baptized and joined the Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church. He had been an ordained deacon many years, serving faithfully, a loyal member until failing health prevented. However, he kept faith in Christ until the last.

He leaves to mourn his passing, three children: Mrs. Arthur Vaughan, Rogers, Ark.; Isaac Lynch, Hindsville, Ark.; Arley Lynch, Rt. 1, Rogers, Ark.; one brother, Ben Lynch, Cannon City, Colorado; all were with him during his sickness and at his bedside in death; 12 grandchildren; 18 great grandchildren; one sister-in-law, Mrs. G. W. Stafford, Rogers, Ark.; one brother-in-law, Isaac Stamback, Rt. 3, Miami, Okla.

He has left this world of sorrow
For a place beyond the blue;
He has gone to meet his loved ones
Who were so faithful, tried and true.

We are so lonely here, without you daddy,
We miss your smiles, so dear—
But with our loving memories
We will keep you always near.

John Melton Hancock—

John Melton Hancock was born Feb. 23, 1892, departed this life at his home in Springdale, Jan. 23, 1953, at the age of 61 years, 11 months and 23 days.

He professed a hope in Christ and united with the Free Will Baptist Church.

He was married to Effie White, May 12, 1912. To this union was born 9 children, 4 boys and 5 girls. Survivors include his wife; 4 sons, Elbert Hancock of Fayetteville, Ark.; Walter, Elmer and Ralph, all of Springdale, Ark.; 5 daughters, Elsie Hinshaw, Hindsville, Ark.; Zella McGinnis, Opal Barran, Audie Robbins, all of Springdale, Ark.; Jessie Hancock of the home; 16 grand-

children; three brothers, Bert Hancock, Lenepah, Okla.; Lee Hancock, Osage, Okla.; Morgan Hancock, Springdale, Ark.; one sister Mrs. Martha White, Huntsville, Ark.

Funeral services were held at Mt. Zion Church, conducted by Rev. Bruce Phillips and Roy Murrell. Burial was in the Burk Shed Cemetery.

C. J. Brodrick—

Jefferson Brodrick, 78, passed away at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Leona Martin at Alhambra, Calif. Funeral services were held at Best, Ark., with Claude Lynch of Rogers officiating.

Mr. Brodrick, a native of Alabama, was a resident of the Best Community until he went to California a year and a half ago to make his home with his daughter. He was a member of the Cottage Hill Free Will Baptist Church.

Besides the daughter with whom he made his home, survivors include three other daughters, Mrs. Grace Martin and Mrs. Eva Evans, both of Pampa, Texas, and Mrs. Myrtle McKinney, Vista, Calif.; a son, Sidney Brodrick, Oceanside, Calif.; two sisters, Mrs. Cleo Weatherford, Poteau, Okla., and Mrs. Nora Wright, Birmingham, Ala.; 12 grandchildren, and three great grandchildren.

Mrs. Nancy Jane Savage—

Mrs. Nancy Jane Savage, 78, of the Pilgrim Rest Community, died at the Sims Convalescent home, Springdale, April 10 at 3:45 o'clock. She was the widow of Henry Savage, who died March 10, 1924.

She was born April 26, 1874 at Charleston, Ark., the daughter of Jonathan Garrison and Miranda Mitchell Garrison. She was a member of the Free Will Baptist Church at Pilgrim Rest.

Survivors are one son Martin Savage of Spring Valley, one daughter Mrs. Jess Hamilton of Springdale; one sister Mrs. Addie Joyce of Broken Arrow, Okla.; 15 grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held in the Pilgrim Rest Church with Rev. Cecil Garrison, Rev. Tommie Day and Rev. Bruce Phillips conducting. The Lynch quartet furnished the music.

Pallbearers were two grandsons, John D. Hamilton and Dennis Hamilton, and Harry Wright, Roy Wright, Ivan Reynolds and Wayne Vanzandt.

Burial was in the Joyce Cemetery.

Bertie Roles—

Bertie Lawson Roles was born June 25, 1886 near War Eagle, Arkansas, the daughter of John and Macy Lawson.

She passed away at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Miles near Best, June 18, 1953 at the age of 66 years, 11 months and 23 days.

Bertie was converted early in life and united with the Free Will Baptist Church of Cottage Hill. She was a faithful worker both in church and Sunday school as long as her health permitted.

She was united in marriage to Jessie (Bud) Roles of Spring Valley, Ark., March 23, 1913, who passed away September 18, 1949. To this union was born one daughter, Thelma, who preceded her in death January 16, 1948. Also one son, Therman, who passed away in fall of 1933.

Survivors are one granddaughter, Billie Kay Mashburn, of Best; one sister, Mrs. Arthur Bohlen, of Best; three brothers, Herm Lawson of Hindsville, Ark.; Ward and John Lawson of Hutchinson, Kansas; many neices and nephews, also many relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held at Mt. Zion Church, June 21, 1953, conducted by Rev. Cecil Garrison and Rev. Tommie Day. Music was furnished by the Lynch quartet who sang, "Nothing Between," "Precious Memories," and "If We Never Meet Again."

Pallbearers were her nephews, Troy and Eugene Roles, Ben and Lawrence Lawson, Fay and John Ervin Phillips. Burial was in the Burk Shed Cemetery.

In the graveyard she is sleeping,
Where the flowers gently bloom,
Lies the one we loved so dearly,
In the lonely silent tomb.

Peaceful be thy rest, dear Bertie,
'Tis sweet to breathe thy name,
While in life we loved you dearly,
Still in death we do the same.

She has lived a life of toiling,
And her labors here are done,
Cold in death her hands are folded,
Gone her sorrows, every one.

Earth has lost a precious jewel,
God's own hand was in it all,
In His wisdom He has called her,
She was ready for the call.

Juanita Pauline Archer—

Juanita Pauline Archer was born March 4, 1932, and passed away June 23, 1953 at the age of 21 years.

Survivors include her parents Mr. and Mrs. Paul Archer; 2 sisters, Betty Jo of the home, Mrs. Gene Griggs of Hindsville, Ark.; her maternal grandparents Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Joyner of Hindsville; her paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Archer of Clifty, Ark., also a number of other relatives and friends.

She was converted at the age of 14 and united with the Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Church, living a devoted Christian life. She was a faithful worker in the church as long as her health permitted.

Funeral services were held June 25, at 2:00 p.m. at Mt. Zion Church, conducted by Elders Tommy Day and Cecil Garrison. Burial was in Morris Cemetery. Pallbearers were Robert Joyner, Gilbert Joyner, Harry Joyner, Harvey Archer, Gene Grigg and Rex Bowlin.

William Alonzo Evans (by special request)—

William Alonzo Evans was born Oct. 18, 1879, departed this life Sept. 20, 1952.

He was united in marriage to Della McCoy, March 16, 1902. He was converted about 37 years ago.

Survivors include his wife, also 2 daughters, Mrs. Martin Lawson of Huntsville, Ark., Mrs. Earl Davis of Hindsville, Ark.; 15 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren; 2 brothers, Arvel Evans of Hindsville, Gordon Evans of Cherokee City, Ark.; 3 sisters, Mrs. Sam Hill, Treece, Kansas, Mrs. Dock Hill, Mayesville, Ark., Mrs. Jim Bewley of Tulsa, Okla. We wish to thank everyone who assisted in any way.

— Special Report —

(At Council Meeting, Mt. Zion Church, August 30, 1953)

We, your Investigating Committee on "Non-Unity" in the Rock Church, found the report of the Committee on "Union of Churches" to be justifiable. Eld. Bill Oxford and two other members confessed they had received the "Baptism of the Holy Ghost" after regeneration, and intended to stay with it, thus causing disunity among the other members. As a result, nine members lettered out of the church. Eld. Bill Oxford surrendered his credentials to us at this meeting, on August 14, 1953, and the Rock Church voted 7 to 1 to draw out of the Association.

/s/ Eld. Cecil Garrison, chairman, Eld. George Been,
Eld. Bruce Phillips.

District Evangelist's Report:

Revivals 18, sermons preached 201, conversions witnessed 141, baptized 50, additions to church 85, ordained deacons 12, helped organize 2 churches with 65 members, tried to pastor 2 churches, funerals 31, marriages performed 54, miles traveled 8,800;

money received from free will offerings\$1,792.78

money received from churches at council 482.73

total amount received\$2,275.51

traveling expense 514.80

balance left\$1,760.71

Twenty-one years in service.

/s/ Eld. Cecil Garrison

— Ministers Reports —

Elder Clyde Coatney: By the grace of God I was licensed to preach August 3, 1952; ordained June 28, 1953. Since being licensed I have tried to preach 94 sermons; helped in 6 revivals; witnessed 17 conversions; baptized 1; received \$131.98 in free will offering; at present I have regular monthly appointments in 5 communities, two of these are communities where there are no organized churches. Pray for me.

Elder I. E. Hawley: Sermons preached 21, have 1 regular appointment, married 3 couples, taught 21 nights Bible School at Huntsville, attended Indian Creek Association as delegate, received \$55.28 free will offering for travel expense. Following Paul's example, I take no pay for preaching. God will supply all our needs. May God continue to bless us all. "It is later than you think."

Elder George Been: Since last association I have tried to preach 16 sermons, 10 of them at my home church, Pilgrim Rest, five at Hickory Flatt, one memorial service at the Joyce Cemetery; one funeral, Uncle Elbert Lynch; married two couples, taught the adult Bible class at Pilgrim Rest, served as chaplain of the Washington County Singing Convention, did not keep record of miles traveled, received \$94.60.

Elder Bill Williams: During the past year I have, by the help and grace of God, pastored 1 church, held 4 revivals,

witnessed 10 conversions, baptized 5, witnessed 6 additions into the church, organized 1 prayer meeting, helped organize 1 church, helped ordain 4 deacons, assisted with 2 funerals, performed 2 marriages, preached approximately 89 sermons, received approximately \$403.10 in free will offerings.

Elder Steve Montgomery: Preached 57 sermons in regular appointments, held 2 revivals, witnessed 8 conversions, baptized 6, conducted 2 funerals, married 5 couples, traveled approximately 2,000 miles, free will offering \$256.57.

Elder Amos Howard: Pastored one church, helped in 14 revivals, witnessed 158 souls blessed, traveled approximately 22,000 miles, performed 7 marriages, funerals 8, money received from Mt. Zion Church \$792.23 not including my tithes, money received from free will offerings in revivals and other sources \$1,328.41, total \$2,120.64, expenses on car including depreciation \$850.00.

Elder Edward L. Stilley: By the grace of God I preached 50 sermons for the glory of God, free will offering \$51.81. I answered God's call to the ministry in 1949, ordained October, 1951.

Elder Tom Day: I have served as member of the State Executive Board, served as chairman and evangelist of radio program, pastored Phillips Chapel Church, funerals 9, marriages 4, witnessed additions to church 102, conversions witnessed 113, baptized 45, sermons preached 187, helped ordain 5 deacons, helped organize 1 church, miles traveled approximately 12,000, years in service 6, money received for radio service \$85.00, for revivals \$605.89, for pastoral work \$1,828.52, for funerals \$30.00, for marriages \$20.00, total \$2,569.41.

M I N I S T E R S

J. H. Roberts, age 81	Springdale, Arkansas
George Been, age 72	R 5, B 224, Springdale, Arkansas
P. G. Kirk, age 67	R 5, Rogers, Arkansas
Claude Lynch, age 60	Rogers, Arkansas
Clark Baker, age 53	Rogers, Arkansas
Bruce Phillips, age 50	R 1, Hindsville, Arkansas
Jack Hobbs, age 49	R 4, Huntsville, Arkansas
H. M. Knox, age 47	R 5, Rogers, Arkansas
Willie Capps, age 46	R 5, Rogers, Arkansas
Sammie Lane, age 45	R 5, Rogers, Arkansas

C. O. Garrison, age 43 R 6, Huntsville, Arkansas
 George Lynch, age 43 R 1, Hindsville, Arkansas
 Elmo McKinney, age 47 Rudd, Arkansas
 Tom Pinkerton Enid, Oklahoma
 Arnold Smith R 4, Huntsville, Arkansas
 Tom Day, age 42 R 4, Springdale, Arkansas
 Vivan Rhodes Huntsville, Arkansas
 Tom Ingmire, age 59 R 1, Hindsville, Arkansas
 Steve Montgomery, age 47 R 4, Huntsville, Arkansas
 Jack Ledbetter R 1, Huntsville, Arkansas
 Kenneth Shepherd R 1, Huntsville, Arkansas
 Ernest Corley Fayetteville, Arkansas
 Bill Williams, age 41 Rogers, Arkansas
 Francis Clark, age 45 R 1, Garfield, Arkansas
 Edd Stilley, age 23 R 2, Eureka Springs, Arkansas
 I. E. Hawley, age 72 Huntsville, Arkansas
 Dave Casteel Hindsville, Arkansas
 Clyde Coatney Berryville, Arkansas
 Alfred Glenn Vale, Arkansas
 Frank Laird
 Boyd Bennett
 Claude Hendrix Rogers, Arkansas
 Loyd Edmonson R 5, Rogers, Arkansas
 Amos Howard Springdale, Arkansas
 Joe Weldon Springdale, Arkansas

Licensed Ministers—

Clarence Tice Huntsville, Arkansas
 Rufus Young Springdale, Arkansas
 Burton Birchfield Eureka Springs, Arkansas
 Bob Evans Berryville, Arkansas

CHURCH COVENANT

Having been brought, as we believe, by the divine grace to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Preserver, 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 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.

C O N S T I T U T I O N

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 regularly ordained ministers and deacons of this Association becoming properly credentialed and in full fellowship and good standing in the church of which they are members, shall be entitled to seats as a delegate, 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 Baptist 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 of recommendation, by restoration or denominational choice (and none on promise of letter); 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 that it has been received.

Art. 5. Officers—The Association to have a Moderator, Clerk-Treasurer, elected annually for a term of one year by the suffrage, and an executive Committee of three, one member chosen each year for a 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 the 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; Ezekiel 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 the 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; Psalm 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; 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 presbytery 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 remembrance 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 purposes.—Jonah 1:1; Jer. 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, in the family of God, is composed of all true Christians of every congregation from righteous Able 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 Thes. 1:1; Acts 16:5; III John 1:10; Matt. 18:17; Acts 20:28; Rev. 1:4-20.

15. Perseverance—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 willfully 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 sins 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 17:19; 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.

14. 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 Thes. 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.

STATISTICAL REPORT

CHURCH	Organized	Retiring Pastor	Pastor Elect	Experience and Baptism	Recommendation.	Rec'd by Letter .	Dismiss. by Letter	Excluded	Died	Total Mem'ship..
Mt. Zion	1866	Amos Howard	Bruce Phillips	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	143
Pilgrim Rest	1911	Jack Ledbetter	Alfred Glenn .....	.....	.....	.....	38	.....	1	225
New Hope	1866	Bill Williams	H. M. Knox	2	.....	.....	5	.....	1	35
Hickory Grove	1866	Willie Capps	Willie Capps	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	58
Clear Creek	1920	Jack Ledbetter	Willie Capps .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
Christian Home	1892	George Lynch	Willie Capps .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	34
Clifty	1892	H. M. Knox	H. M. Knox .....	.....	2	.....	4	.....	.....	84
Antioch	1910	Elmo McKinney	Elmo McKinney	3	5	2	6	.....	.....	41
Shady Grove	1936	H. M. Knox	H. M. Knox	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	39
Rose Hill	1937	Elmo McKinney	Clyde Coatney .....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	32
Cottage Hill	1938	Bill Oxford	George Lynch	1	.....	.....	2	.....	2	14
Farmer	1945	Bruce Phillips .....	.....	.....	.....	2	4	.....	.....	30
Buckeye	1945	H. M. Knox	H. M. Knox .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	26
Bohannon	1949	Jack Ledbetter	Alfred Glenn .....	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	35
Freedom	1950	Bruce Phillips	Bruce Phillips	15	1	.....	3	.....	.....	73
Hickory Flatt	1951	George Lynch	George Lynch .....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	18
Pleasant Valley	1951	Cecil Garrison	Francis Clark	21	.....	8	2	.....	.....	57
Huntsville	1952	Cecil Garrison	Cecil Garrison	10	4	7	.....	.....	.....	65
Phillips Chapel	1952	Tom Day	Tom Day	45	40	53	4	2	.....	132
Rogers	1953	.....	Amos Howard	19	.....	18	.....	.....	.....	37