



Palmer Association of Free Will Baptists

**Minutes: Annual Meeting, January 13, 2024
Tabernacle Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, NC**

The Palmer Association of Free Will Baptists met on Saturday, January 13, 2024, at Tabernacle Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston, NC, for the annual meeting. The moderator, Rev. B.L. Eford welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with prayer. The clerk, Rev. Kevin Woolard, gave a roll call of churches. Nineteen churches were represented. The reading of the minutes was approved by the body.

The financial report was distributed to all in attendance and read by the clerk, Rev. Kevin Woolard on behalf of the treasurer, Rev. Kevin Justice, who was unable to attend the meeting. The balance in checking as of 1/12/24 was \$11,487.29. The treasurer's report was approved by the body.

The credential's committee (Rev. Mike McCauley, Rev. Milton Worthington, Rev. Gerald Fowler) advised they had spoken with Ray Brown, chairman of the board of deacons, of Gray Branch Free Will Baptist Church in Deep Run, NC about joining the Palmer Association. Rev. Ray Brown is the pastor of the church but was unable to be present for the meeting. Rev. Mike McCauley stated the committee would report back to the body at the upcoming meeting regarding going forward with membership.

The executive committee recommended the following amendments to be made to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Palmer Association. The amendments were approved by the body.

Article 7 – Meetings:

Section 1: The annual session of the association shall meet in January as scheduled by the Executive Committee.

Section 2: The fellowship meetings shall meet in April and October as scheduled by the Executive Committee.

Section 5 – Provision for Membership

- A. Ministers** – Each ordained and licensed minister who is a member in good standing is expected to attend the regular meetings. In the event an absence becomes necessary a letter should be sent to the association stating the circumstances. When a licensed or ordained minister is attending an educational institution and is unable to attend, a letter should be sent to the association stating the same. Regular attendance and communication should be maintained with the association to remain in good standing.

- C. Churches must pay the yearly annual association dues or communicate to the Moderator or Clerk a financial hardship in order to remain in good standing. Failure to do so in a two-year period will be interpreted as a decision on the church's part to dissociate with the Palmer Association.

The clerk, Rev. Kevin Woolard, reported that a monthly Palmer preacher's fellowship has been planned for Monday, February 5th at Tabernacle Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston, starting at 10:00 am. Preachers are encouraged to attend for a time of Bible devotion and prayer together before eating lunch at Fat Baby's Restaurant in Kinston. The goal is to visit the various churches in the association and encourage fellowship with one another.

The moderator, Rev. B.L. Efird recognized Ms. Linda Stepps, representative for Harvest Free Will Baptist Childcare Ministries in Duffield, VA. She thanked the association for the continued prayers and financial support toward the ministry. Rev. Larry Anderson, representative for Free Will Baptist Family Ministries in Greenville, TN, was also recognized. Bro. Larry stated he was new to the position and looked forward to partnering with the Palmer Association churches.

The business session was concluded, and lunch was provided by the host church.

The worship service commenced with congregational singing and special music provided by the host church. Rev. Cody Mansfield preached an encouraging message from Matthew 15:29-39 entitled "He's Still Jesus!" highlighting Christ's miracle of feeding the 4,000. The following points were made: (1) When the multitude is large, He's still Jesus; (2) When the men are lacking, He's still Jesus; (3) When the means are little, He's still Jesus; (4) When the miracle is lifted, He's still Jesus. The meeting was closed in prayer by the moderator.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Kevin Woolard, Clerk



Palmer Association of Free Will Baptists

**Minutes: Quarterly Meeting, April 13, 2024
Temple Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, NC**

The Palmer Association of Free Will Baptists met on Saturday, April 13, 2024, at Temple Free Will Baptist Church in Winterville, NC. The meeting was called to order by the moderator, Rev. B.L. Efird. Greetings were extended to those in attendance and thanks expressed to Temple Free Will Baptist Church for hosting the meeting and providing lunch.

The business session was called to order by the moderator, followed by a role call of churches by the clerk, Rev. Kevin Woolard, and a seating of delegates. Seventeen churches were represented. The minutes of the January 2024 annual meeting, held at Tabernacle Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston, NC, were read by the clerk and accepted by the body.

The treasurer's report was provided by the moderator on behalf of the treasurer, Rev. Kevin Justice. According to the report, the Palmer Association has a balance of \$13,576.96. The treasurer's report was accepted by the body. No other business was brought forward for discussion or approval.

The North Carolina State Promotional Director, Rev Reuben Cason, was present at the meeting and shared an update on several ministries and praise items throughout the denomination. Rev. Carl Miller, representing Harvest Free Will Baptist Childcare Ministries expressed special thanks to the Palmer for continued support and prayers. Rev. Larry Anderson, representing Free Will Baptist Family Ministries, greeted the association and expressed a desire to partner with the Palmer churches in raising support for the ministry.

The host pastor, Rev. Terry Mosely, shared a challenging message from Philippians 4:4-6 - Joy in Ministry. The key elements to having continued peace in the ministry for the Lord is rejoicing, praise, prayer, and thanksgiving. The service concluded with a time of prayer and thanksgiving unto the Lord. The host church provided a delicious meal for a time of warm fellowship.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Kevin Woolard, Clerk