

Original Free Will Baptists



YEARBOOK

1994

For July 1, 1992, Through
June 30, 1993

**1993-94
Yearbook
for
Original
Free Will Baptists**

**1993-94
Yearbook
for
Original
Free Will Baptists**

Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0039

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of
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Ayden, North Carolina**

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**MINUTES
of the
124th ANNUAL SESSION
of the
PEE DEE ASSOCIATION
of
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS
Met in session with
Oak Grove Church
Bladen County, North Carolina
October 16, 1993**

The next session will be held with Cypress Creek Church in Columbus County, North Carolina, on Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1994, beginning at 9 a.m.

PEE DEE ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

MODERATOR: The Rev. William Jackie Godwin, Route 1, Box 46-C, Clarendon, NC 28432

CLERK: Jack Penny, Route 3, Box 258, Whiteville, NC 28472

TREASURER: Ron Settle, Route 2, Box 283-A, Whiteville, NC 28472

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Rev. William Jackie Godwin, Route 1, Box 46-C, Clarendon, NC 28432

The Rev. Dean Cartrette, Route 3, Box 70, Tabor City, NC 28483

Jack Penny, Route 3, Box 258, Whiteville, NC 28472

Ron Settle, Route 2, Box 284-A, Whiteville, NC 28472

The Rev. Bobby Carden, Box 734, Bladenboro, NC 28320

HOME MISSIONS COMMITTEE

The Rev. James B. Hardee, Box 43, Elizabethtown, NC 28337

The Rev. J. W. Byrd, Route 2, Box 290, Whiteville, NC 28472

The Rev. Hollan Norris, Route 2, Box 28-B, Tabor City, NC 28463

The Rev. Garland Suggs, Route 4, Box 264, Whiteville, NC 28472

The Rev. Neil J. Harrelson, Route 2, Box 172, Tabor City, NC 28463

INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE

Dallas Byrd, Route 1, Box 213-A, Hallsboro, NC 28442

Horace Cartrette, Route 1, Chadbourn, NC 28431

Steward Norris, Route 2, Box 26-AA, Tabor City, NC 28463

ORDAINING COUNCIL

The Rev. James B. Hardee, Box 43, Elizabethtown, NC 28337

The Rev. J. W. Byrd, Route 2, Box 290, Whiteville, NC 28472

The Rev. Hollan Norris, Route 2, Box 28-B, Tabor City, NC 28463

The Rev. Garland Suggs, Route 4, Box 264, Whiteville, NC 28472

The Rev. Neil J. Harrelson, Route 2, Box 172, Tabor City, NC 28463

CUSTODIANS

Carson McPherson, Route 1, Chadbourn, NC 28431

D. F. Hester, Bladenboro, NC 28320

Shelton Sarvis, Tabor City, NC 28463
 F. J. Lee, Nakina, NC 27455

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Kim Barnes, Route 1, Box 72, Clarendon, NC 28432
 George Benton, 305 East Walter Street, Whiteville, NC 28472
 Joseph B. Benton III, Route 8, Box 319, Conway, SC 29526
 Dallas Byrd, Route 1, Box 213-A, Hallsboro, NC 28472
 J. W. Byrd, Route 2, Box 290, Whiteville, NC 28472
 Tommy Bryson Jr., Box 1775, Whiteville, NC 28472-1775
 Bobby Carden, Box 734, Bladenboro, NC 28320
 Dean Cartrette, Route 3, Box 70, Tabor City, NC 28463
 Wadus Earl Clewis, Route 1, Box 24-A, Nakina, NC 28455
 Harvey Cribb, Route 3, Box 74-A, Tabor City, NC 28463
 Pete Cribb, Route 3, Box 298-A, Whiteville, NC 28472
 William Jackie Godwin, Route 1, Box 46-C, Clarendon, NC 28432
 James B. Hardee, Box 43, Elizabethtown, NC 28337
 Neil J. Harrelson, Route 2, Box 172, Tabor City, NC 28463
 Charles Hilbourn, Route 3, Box 243-E, Whiteville, NC 28472
 Dewey Hilbourn, Route 1, Box 291, Tabor City, NC 28463
 Claude Housand, Route 1, Longs, SC 29586
 Jerome Jenrette, Route 1, Ash, NC 28420
 Terry Wade Nealey, Route 1, Box 244-A, Chadbourn, NC 28431
 James Nobles, Route 2, Box 188, Tabor City, NC 28463
 James Howard Nobles, Route 1, Box 98-A, Chadbourn, NC 28472
 Hollan Norris, Route 2, Box 28-B, Tabor City, NC 28463
 Steward Norris, Route 2, Box 26-AA, Tabor City, NC 28463
 Robert Sellers, Route 2, Tabor City, NC 28463
 Archie Smith, Route 1, Box 139-B, Clarendon, NC 28432
 Garland Suggs, Route 4, Box 264, Whiteville, NC 28472
 Brooks Sykes, Route 1, Box 247-A, Clarendon, NC 28432
 Daniel Tyler Jr., Route 2, Box 193, Tabor City, NC 28463
 Levy J. Ward, Route 3, Box 52, Tabor City, NC 28463
 William E. Ward, 120 Peachtree Road, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

HONORARY

Wade T. Jernigan, Pecan Tree Estates, No. 2, Lexington, OK 73051

PROCEEDINGS

The One Hundred Twenty-fourth Annual Session of the Pee Dee Association of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina convened at Oak Grove Church in Bladen County, North Carolina, on October 16, 1993.

This session was opened with the congregation singing "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms." The Rev. Jackie Godwin conducted the devotional service, taking his text from Psalm 1. Altar prayer was led by the Rev. James Howard Nobles.

The welcome address was given by the Rev. James B. Hardee, with response by the Rev. Hollan Norris.

The Moderator welcomed everyone and invited visitors to sit with us during this session. He announced the house in order for business.

The roll of churches was called and all churches were represented by letter.

The roll of ministers was called and the Revs. Kim Barnes, Wadus Earl Clewis, Harvey Cribb, Claude Housand, Terry Wade Nealey, James Nobles, Archie Smith, and Levy J. Ward were absent. The Rev. Wadus Earl Clewis was excused as he had to work and the Rev. James Nobles was excused as he was out of town, upon proper motion by the Rev. James B. Hardee. The Revs. Archie Smith, Terry Wade Nealey, and Levy J. Ward were unable to attend due to being in poor health.

Petitionary letters were called for and there were none.

The Moderator then appointed the following committees:

Devotional: Fred Pait, Carl McPherson, and Floyd Milsap. (This committee was excused to select the minister to bring the morning message.)

Periodical: Terry Tyler, Michael Worley, and Bernice Suggs.

Educational: Robert Benton, Bobby Cribb, and Mary Benton.

Sunday School: J. D. Sarvis, Marie Long, and Dale Manning.

Ministerial: Daniel Tyler Jr., Robert Sellers, and Dewey Hilbourn.

Obituary: Hazel Hargrove, Owens Ward, and Jake McPherson.

Resolutions: Jerome Jenrette, George Benton, and James Howard Nobles.

Finance: Bruno Godwin, Eddie Ray, and Rhonda Smith.

Home Missions: This is a standing committee composed of Joseph B. Benton III, Jerry Bryan, and Bud Williams.

Investigation: This is a standing committee composed of Dallas Byrd, Horace Cartrette, and Steward Norris.

The Devotional Committee came back in and gave the following report: We, your committee, beg leave to report that the Rev. Wade Jernigan will bring the morning message.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Pait

Carl McPherson

Floyd Milsap

The Devotional Committee report was received on motion of the Rev. Garland Suggs and the Committee dismissed.

Reports were given on the Convention, Home and Foreign Missions, Retirement Homes, Free Will Baptist Press, Cragmont, Minister's Program, Sunday School Board, and the Church Finance Association by the Rev. C. H. Overman, executive administrator of the Convention. Report on the Children's Home was given by the Rev. Bobby Taylor. Reports were received as information on motion by the Rev. Garland Suggs.

The congregation then sang "Amazing Grace" and an offering in the amount of \$129.76 was taken for the Children's Home.

Church letters were called for at this time and read by the Clerk.

At this time, the following report was given by the Ordaining Council:

ORDAINING COUNCIL

We, your committee, beg leave to report that on August 8, 1993, the Council met with the Rev. George Benton after one year as a licentiate minister. Mr. Benton was given an examination for ordination. He met or exceeded the requirements set forth by the Pee Dee Association as an ordained minister. Ordination services were carried out at Cypress Creek Church on August 22, 1993.

On October 3, 1993, the Council met with the Rev. Dallas Byrd after one year as a licentiate minister. Mr. Byrd was given an examination for ordination. He met or exceeded the requirements set forth by the Pee Dee Association as an ordained minister. Ordination services were carried out at Emerson Church on October 10, 1993.

Respectfully submitted,

James B. Hardee, *Chairman*

Garland P. Suggs, *Clerk*

Motion by the Rev. Garland Suggs that this report be accepted and that the Right Hand of Fellowship into the Association be given the Revs. George Benton and Dallas Byrd. Motion carried and the congregation sang "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" and the Right Hand of Fellowship was given to these ministers.

The body was dismissed for a short recess with prayer by the Rev. James B. Hardee.

The Association reassembled with the singing of "What a Friend." Prayer was led by the Rev. Hollan Norris. The service was then turned over to the Rev. Wade Jernigan, who brought a very inspiring message from John 6:60-71.

The Association was dismissed for lunch with prayer by the Rev. Dean Cartrette. The Rev. James B. Hardee gave thanks for the lunch that had been prepared.

The Association reassembled with the singing of "Glory to His Name." The altar prayer was led by the Rev. Neil J. Harrelson.

The house was announced in order by the Moderator. He called for the committee reports and they were read by the Clerk.

REPORTS PERIODICAL

We, your committee, beg leave to report that we recommend to all our churches that we use the King James Version of the Holy Bible in our churches for both teaching and preaching and that we use literature printed by the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation in all our churches.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Worley
Terry Tyler
Bernice Suggs

Report received and the committee dismissed on motion by the Rev. Steward Norris.

EDUCATIONAL

We, your committee, beg leave to report that the first priority in education shall be the teaching of the King James Version of the Bible, God's Word in the home and the church, and schools, such as Mount Olive College. As Free Will Baptists, we ought to support Mount Olive College. We also should encourage our churches to purchase educational materials from the Free Will Baptist Press.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Benton
Mary Benton
Bobby K. Cribb

Report received and committee dismissed on motion by the Rev. Dean Cartrette.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We, your committee, recommend to all our churches in the Association that they use literature printed by the Free Will Baptist Press in Ayden, NC. We also recommend that all Sunday School teachers encourage and help the youth to become leaders as the will of God is wrought in their lives. We encourage our Sunday School teachers to set a good example for attendance and in studying their lesson during the week.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Long
J. D. Sarvis
Dale Manning

Report received and committee dismissed on motion by the Rev. Steward Norris.

RESOLUTIONS

We, your committee, beg leave to report, that the Pee Dee Association pass the following resolutions:

Resolution #1. WHEREAS, God has given the qualifications for preachers and deacons in 1 Timothy 3:1-13, and only men meet these qualifications;

Also, the *Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for the Original Free Will Baptists* on page 85 Section 2 states the qualifications; and, on pages 86-94, there are 36 references to the minister, each of which refers to the masculine and never once to the feminine;

WHEREAS, the Pee Dee Association has stated in its Minutes that they do not ordain women preachers or women deacons;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pee Dee Conference go on record that we will not allow women preachers or deacons transferring from another conference to be allowed to hold such office in this conference.

Resolution #2. WHEREAS, on Friday, May 28, 1993, the North Carolina General Assembly passed the Budget Bill SB-27, which contained HB-718, HB-625, HB-367, HB-496, HB-242, HB-615 (these bills contain legislation

which places our children in governmental control and authority above that of the parents);

WHEREAS, the governor of our State has proposed the bill, HB-718, entitled "Early Childhood Initiatives," which has been made part of Budget Bill SB-27, already passed by the State House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, this places in the hands of a private non-profit corporation \$60 million tax dollars over the next two years to be spent by a board of 29 people, 19 of whom are to be appointed by the governor, allowing this money to be spent without government control; and

WHEREAS, joined with this are House Bills HB-625, HB-367, HB-496, HB-242, and HB-615, which include undefined terms such as "developmental delay," "community protection teams," to deal with any child determined to be "neglected," setting up "parent educators" to be sent at will into homes where there are children from birth to three years of age; and

WHEREAS, this legislation will be an affront to parents, promoting unwarranted intrusions into homes, destroying parental right and subverting family prerogatives and values;

WHEREAS, the obvious absence of definitions for "code words" and phrases could be interpreted and applied to deny the right of home schooling and the very existence of Christian schools, and

WHEREAS, those who could perpetrate this assault are given immunity from any prosecution in civil matters by HB-242;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists convening at Mount Olive College on this date, September 16, 1993, go on record as opposing this legislation, in its entirety; and

That we urge people in our church in every county to contact their state representatives and senators and make their opposition known to them by phone and or letter, and

That a copy of this resolution be sent immediately to the Governor of our State, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we reaffirm our belief in the Judeo-Christian family structure which biblically clarifies that children belong to their parents and are not the property of any government or governmental entity.

Resolution #3. We, the Resolutions Committee, ask for a vote of the Pee Dee Association on *Minutes* or the *Yearbook*.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerome Jenrette

George Benton

James H. Nobles

Motion by the Rev. James B. Hardee to divide these three resolutions and vote on each one separately. Motion carried.

Vote was taken and Resolution #1 and Resolution #2 were accepted by the vote of the body. Vote was taken concerning Resolution #3 and the vote was in favor of the *Yearbook* and not *Minutes*.

Report received and committee dismissed on motion by the Rev. Tommy Bryson Jr.

MINISTERIAL

We, your committee, beg leave to report that as far as we know all our ministers are in good standing in our Association.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Tyler Jr.

Dewey Hilbourn

Robert Sellers

Report received and the committee dismissed on motion by the Rev. Dean Cartrette.

OBITUARY

We, your committee, regret to report that to the best of our knowledge, we have had 22 deaths during this past year. We ask the congregation to stand and pause in silent prayer in memory of these.

Respectfully submitted,

Jake McPherson

Owens Ward

Hazel Hargrove

Report received and the committee dismissed on motion by the Rev. Pete Cribb.

FINANCE

We, your committee, beg leave to report:

Old Funds	\$3,181.40
New Funds	995.76
Total	\$4,177.16

Respectfully submitted,
Rhonda Smith
Eddy Ray
Bruno Godwin

Report received and the committee dismissed on motion by the Rev. Dewey Hilbourn.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balance 11-1-92	\$3,226.17
Deposit 11-6-92	1,253.69
TOTAL	\$3,945.56
Check #125 Children's Home	\$ 218.69
Check #128 Foreign Missions	\$ 100.00
Check #129 Yearbook Pages	\$ 350.00
Check #130 Free Will Baptist Press	\$ 34.02
Check #131 Free Will Baptist Press	\$ 61.43
Total as of 10-16-93	\$3,181.40
Checks #126 & #127 Voided	

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Settle, *Treasurer*

Treasurer's report accepted on motion by the Rev. Hollan Norris.

HOME MISSIONS TREASURER'S REPORT

We, your committee, beg leave to report to the Pee Dee Association that we have \$302.90 in the treasury.

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph B. Benton III
Wilton (Bud) Williams
Jerry Bryan

Report received on motion by the Rev. Hollan Norris.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

We, your committee, beg leave to report that on May 4, 1993, we met regarding letters that were received from two factions of the Pine Level Church, asking for assistance, as there were problems in the church. After discussing the contents of these letters it was decided by the committee that we would meet with these members of the Pine Level Church in accordance with paragraph (A), page 100 of the *Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists*.

The meeting was set for Tuesday, May 18, 1993, at 7:30 p.m. at the Pine Level Church. A letter was written to Pine Level Church advising them of the time and date of the meeting and that their presence was required.

We met with the members of Pine Level Church on May 18, 1993, at the church for the purpose of inquiry, examination or questioning, that peace may be established in an orderly and godly manner, as they were having problems in the church. There were 14 church members and the pastor present at this meeting; and both factions that were having problems were present. Meeting was opened with prayer and after non-church members were asked to excuse themselves, the meeting was held with each member having the opportunity to give any information as

to the problems they were having. Several different things and occurrences were discussed and talked about, with order being maintained throughout the meeting. Solutions or actions taken to remedy the problems were reached and agreed upon by the members of the church and the committee. Meeting was then dismissed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
 William Jackie Godwin, *Moderator*
 Dean Cartrette, *Assistant Moderator*
 Jack Penny, *Clerk*
 Ron Settle, *Treasurer*
 Bobby Carden, *Member-at-Large*

Report was received on motion by the Rev. Tommy Bryson Jr.

INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE

No Report.

The reading of the Minutes was omitted on motion by the Rev. James B. Hardee and the vote of the Association. Old or unfinished business: None.

New business was called for and there was a motion by the Rev. James B. Hardee that the Association send \$300 to the Convention to aid in the upkeep of the Office of the Executive Administrator. Motion carried.

A letter from Ricky Fowler, with his credentials enclosed, requesting that his name be taken off the Association's Minister's Roll was read by the Clerk at this time.

Motion by the Rev. Steward Norris that his name be taken off the books as a minister in the Association. Motion carried.

The Rev. Joseph B. Benton III, requested that he be allowed to resign as Treasurer and member of the Home Missions Committee.

Motion by the Rev. Daniel Tyler Jr. that we grant his request. Motion carried.

Motion by Bro. Bud Williams that the Association get someone to replace Mr. Benton as Treasurer and member of the Home Missions Committee. Motion carried and the Rev. George Benton was selected to replace him.

Motion by the Rev. Daniel Tyler Jr. to elect officers for the Association for the next two years, in order.

The Rev. William Jackie Godwin was nominated and elected to serve as the Moderator.

The Rev. Dean Cartrette was nominated and elected to serve as the Assistant Moderator.

There was no Clerk or Treasurer elected to serve at this time. Several people were nominated for the office of Clerk, however each person that was nominated declined the nomination. Ron Settle, the Treasurer of the Association was considered, however as he was not present to accept or decline, no action was taken on his nomination. Motion by the Rev. James B. Hardee that the matter of getting someone to serve as Clerk be turned over to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee is to check with Ron Settle as to his serving as Clerk and if he is selected to serve, the Executive Committee would then select someone to serve as Treasurer. If he will not take the office of Clerk, the Committee will select someone to serve as Clerk and he will continue to serve as Treasurer.

The Rev. Bobby Carden was nominated and elected to serve as the Member-at-Large on the Executive Committee.

Motion by Charles Hilbourn to give Bro. Jack Penny a standing vote of thanks for his serving as the Clerk for a number of years. Motion carried and the standing vote of thanks was given.

Motion by the Rev. Tommy Bryson Jr. that the Association purchase a plaque and it be presented to Bro. Jack Penny in appreciation for his years of service as the Clerk of the Association.

Motion by the Rev. Hollan Norris that we find a home for the Association next year. Motion carried and an invitation was extended by Cypress Creek Church, which was accepted.

Motion by the Rev. Steward Norris that we give the members of Oak Grove Church a standing vote of thanks for their hospitality and for their hosting of the Association. Motion carried.

Motion by the Rev. Garland Suggs that we pay the officers the same as usual. Motion carried.

Motion by the Rev. Hollan Norris that if there was no more business to come before the Association that we adjourn by benediction. Motion carried and the Association was dismissed with prayer by the Rev. Bobby Carden.

Respectfully submitted,
 William Jackie Godwin, *Moderator*
 Jack Penny, *Clerk*

