

Original Free Will Baptists



YEARBOOK

1996

For July 1, 1994, Through
June 30, 1995

A B Bryan

**1995-96
YEARBOOK
FOR
ORIGINAL
FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

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Convention
of
Original Free Will Baptists
Ayden, North Carolina

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**MINUTES
of the
126th ANNUAL SESSION
of the
PEE DEE ASSOCIATION
of
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS
Met in Session with
Mt. Calvary Free Will Baptist Church
Columbus County, North Carolina
October 14, 1995**

The next session will be held with Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church in Columbus County, North Carolina, on Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1996 (October 19, 1996), beginning at 9 a.m.

Pee Dee Association Officers

Moderator: William J. Godwin, 726 Woodrow Cribb Rd., Clarendon, NC 28432
Clerk: Danny McPherson, 69 Brice Ward Rd., Chadbourne, NC 28431
Treasurer: Ron Settle, Rt. 2, Box 283-A, Whiteville, NC 28472

Executive Committee

The Reverend William J. Godwin, 726 Woodrow Cribb Rd., Clarendon, NC 28432
The Reverend Dean Cartrette, 409 Porter Rd., Tabor City, NC 28483
Danny McPherson, 69 Brice Ward Rd., Charbourn, NC 28431
Ron Settle, Rt. 2, Box 284-A, Whiteville, NC 28472
The Reverend Bobby Carden, P. O. Box 734, Bladenboro, NC 28320

Home Missions Committee

The Reverend George Benton, 305 E. Walter St., Whiteville, NC 28320
Jerry Bryan, 125 Bryan Rd., Bladenboro, NC 28329
Bud Williams, Tabor City, NC 28463

Investigation Committee

Dallas Byrd, Rt. 1, Box 213-A, Hallsboro, NC 28442
Horace Cartrette, Rt. 1, Chadbourne, NC 28431
James Howard Nobles, Rt. 1, Chadbourne, NC 28431

Ordaining Council

The Reverend James B. Hardee, Box 43, Elizabethtown, NC 28337
The Reverend J. W. Byrd, 3237 Elkins Rd., Hallsboro, NC 28442
The Reverend Hollan Norris, 8703 Old Stake Rd., Tabor City, NC 28463
The Reverend Garland Suggs, Rt. 4, Box 264, Whiteville, NC 28472
The Reverend Neil Harrelson, Rt. 2, Box 172, Tabor City, NC 28463

Custodians

Carson McPherson, Rt. 1, Chadbourne, NC 28431
D. F. Hester, Bladenboro, NC 28320
Shelton Sarvis, Tabor City, NC 28463
F. J. Lee, Nakina, NC 27455

Pee Dee Association

Ordained Minsiters

Kim Barnes, Rt. 1, Box 72, Clarendon, NC 28432
 George Benton, 305 E. Walter St., Whiteville, NC 28472
 Joseph Benton III, Rt. 8, Box 319, Conway, SC 29526
 Tony Buffkin, 1476 Hwy. 646, Loris SC 29569
 Dallas Byrd, Rt. 1, Box 213-A, Hallsboro, NC 28472
 J. W. Bryd, 3237 Elkins Rd., Hallsboro, NC 27442
 Bobby Carden, P. O Box 734, Bladenboro, NC 28320
 Dean Cartrette, 409 Porter Rd., Tabor City, NC 28463
 Wadus Earl Clewis, 175 Chair Factory Rd., Nakina, NC 28455
 Pete Cribb, Rt. 3, Box 298-A, Whiteville, NC 28472
 William J. Godwin, 726 Woodrow Cribb Rd., Clarendon, NC 28432
 James B. Hardee, Box 43, Elizabethtown, NC 28337
 Neil J. Harrelson, Rt. 2, Box 172, Tabor City, NC 28463
 Charles Hilbourn, 392 Mollie Rd., Whiteville, NC 28472
 Dewey Hilbourn, Rt. 1, Box 291, Tabor City, NC 28463
 Claude Housand, Rt. 1, Longs, SC 29586
 Jerome Jenrette, Rt. 1, Ash, NC 28420
 Michael Lyles, 401 Sandy Bluff Rd., Green Sea, SC 29545
 Dale Manning, P. O. Box 323, Tabor City, NC 28463
 Tommy Martin, 1388 Ward Town Rd. South, Whiteville, NC 28472
 Terry Wade Nealey, Rt. 1, Box 244-A, Chadbourn, NC 28472
 James Nobles, Rt. 2, Box 188, Tabor City, NC 28463
 James Howard Nobles, Rt. 1, Box 98-A, Chadbourn, NC 28472
 Casey Norris, 1152 Todd Town Rd., Clarendon, NC 28432
 Hollan Norris, 8703 Old Stake Rd., Tabor City, NC 28463
 Robert Sellers, Rt. 2, Tabor City, NC 28463
 Archie Smith, Rt. 1, Box 139-B, Clarendon, NC 28432
 Garland Suggs, Rt. 4, Box 264, Whiteville, NC 28472
 Daniel Tyler, Jr., Rt. 2, Box 193, Tabor City, NC 28463
 William E. Ward, 120 Peachtree Rd., Myrtle Beach, SC 29577
 Donald White, Rt. 1, Box 110-C, Clarendon, NC 28432

Honorary

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

Licentiates

Gary Bennett
 Larry Greenwood

Proceedings

The One Hundred Twenty-sixth Annual Session of the Pee Dee Association of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina convened at Mt. Calvary in Columbus County, North Carolina, on October 14, 1995.

This session was opened with the congregation singing "Rock of Ages." The Reverend William J. Godwin conducted the devotional services, taking his text from Ezra 9:8-9 and Matthew 9: 36-38. Altar prayer was led by the Reverend Hollan Norris.

The welcome address was given by the Reverend Garland Suggs, with response by the Reverend Jerome Jenrette.

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 Reverends Joseph B. Benton, III, J. W. Byrd, Pete Cribb, Dewey Hilbourn, Claude Housand, Archie Smith, and William E. Ward were absent.

Petitionary letter were called for and there were none.

The Moderator then appointed the following committees:

Devotional: Roland McPherson, Owens Ward, and Floyd Milsap

Periodical: Rodney Inman, Don Godwin, and Steve Sykes

Educational: Randy Spivey, E. B. Thompson, and Patricia Settle

Sunday School: Lynn Ward, Guy Long, and J. D. Sarvis

Ministerial: Neil Harrelson, Wade Nealey, and Charles Hilburn

Obituary: Jack Thompson, David Pitsinger, and Clifford Fowler

Resolution: Lloyn Knight, J. R. McPherson, and Kim Barnes

Finance: Gary Cribb, E. B. Clewis, and Robert Cartrette

Home Missions: Standing committee composed of George Benton III, Jerry Bryan, and Bud Williams

Investigation: Standing committee composed of Dallas Byrd, Horace Cartrette, and James Howard Nobles

The Devotional Committee returned and gave the following report:

We, your committee, beg leave to report that the Reverend James Howard Noble will bring the morning message.

Respectfully submitted,

Roland McPherson

Owens Ward

Floyd Milsap

The Devotional Committee report was received on motion by Kim Barnes and the committee was dismissed.

Ray Wells, president of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, reported on the work of the Convention and highlighted projects of particular denominational enterprises. He also emphasized the Convention theme for this year "The Call to Prayer." Bruce Dudley reported on the work of Home Missions; Bobby Taylor reported on the Children's Home, especially that it is now in its 75th year as a denominational ministry; Walter Sutton reported on the progress on the Retirement Homes; and Frank Harrison brought greetings and information from Mount Olive College. Reports were received as information on motion by the Reverend Hollan Norris.

The congregation sang "When I See the Blood" and an offering was received for the Children's Home.

Church letters were called for and read by the Clerk.

The body was dismissed for a short recess with prayer by the Reverend William J. Godwin.

The Association reassembled with the singing of "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms."

Following prayer, the Reverend James Howard Nobles brought an inspiring message from II Timothy 3:1.

The Association was dismissed for lunch with prayer by the Reverend Walter Sutton. The Reverend Garland Suggs gave thanks for the lunch.

The Association reassembled with the singing of "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" and altar prayer by the Reverend Wade Jernigan.

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

Reports

Periodical

We, your committee, beg leave 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 in all our churches.

Respectfully submitted,
Rodney Inman
Don Godwin
Steve Sykes

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

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, the church, and schools, such as Mount Olive College. As Free Will Baptists, we ought to support Mount Olive College. We also encourage our teachers and superintendents to participate in the certification program organized by the Sunday School Board, as well as other programs taught by the Free Will Baptist organizations.

Respectfully submitted,
E. B. Thompson
Patricia Settle
Randy Spivey

Report was received and the committee discharged on motion by Gary Cribb.

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, North Carolina. We also recommend that all Sunday School teachers encourage and help the youth become leaders as the will of God is wrought in their lives. We encourage our Sunday School teachers to set a good example by attending church and studying their lessons during the week.

Respectfully submitted,
Guy Long
J. D. Sarvis
Lynn Ward

Report was received and the committee dismissed on motion by the Reverend Tony Buffkin.

Resolutions

We, your committee, report that there were no resolutions presented today. However, we resolve and recommend that all ministers consider a time of prayer each day. Furthermore, whereas humans have only one mouth but two ears, let us take time to listen for God's answer.

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Barnes
J. R. McPherson
Lloyd G. Knight

Report was received and the committee dismissed on motion by Owens Ward.

Ministerial

We, your committee, beg leave to report that to the best of our knowledge, all ministers are in good standing at this time.

Respectfully submitted,
Neil J. Harrelson
Charles Hilburn
Terry Wade Nealey

Report was received and the committee dismissed on motion by the Reverend Dean Carterette.

Obituary

We, your committee, regret to report that to the best of our knowledge, we had 17 deaths during this past year.

We ask the congregation to stand and pause in silent prayer in memory of these brothers and sisters in Christ.

Respectfully submitted,
David Pitsinger
Jack Thompson
W. G. Fowler

Report was received and the committee dismissed on motion by Gary Cribb.

Finance

We, your committee, beg leave to report the following:

Old Funds	2,476.49
New Funds	1,107.77
Total	3,584.26

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Cartrette
L. B. Clewis
Gary Cribb

Report was received and committee dismissed on motion by the Reverend George Benton.

Treasurer's Report

Beginning balance—October 15, 1994	\$3,151.22
Deposit from Association	<u>1,136.36</u>
Total in account—October 17, 1994	\$4,287.58
Check 140—Retirement Homes	1,000.00
Check 141—Children's Home	119.36
Check 142—Free Will Baptist Press	51.74
Check 143—Free Will Baptist Press	105.96
Check 144—Convention of Free Will Baptist	<u>14.03</u>
Total checks written for 94-95	\$1,811.09
Balance as of October 14, 1995	\$2,476.49

Report was received on motion by Owens Ward.

Ordaining Council

On December 12, 1994, the Ordaining Council met with Brother Larry Greenwood. After receiving a letter from his church concerning his call into the ministry, council questioned him about his beliefs. The council found him sound in faith and doctrine and approved him as a licensed minister for one year.

The council met with the Reverend Casey Norris and the Reverend Tony Buffkin after they had served one year as licensed ministers. They were given examinations for ordination. These ministers met or exceeded the requirements set forth by the Pee Dee Association for ordained ministers. Ordination services were carried out at Emerson Free Will Baptist Church on February 12, 1995.

The council met with the Reverend Eddie Franks after he had served one year as a licensed minister. He was given an examination for ordination. He met or exceeded the requirements set forth by the Pee Dee Association for ordained ministers. Ordination

was carried out at Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church on March 26, 1995.

The council met with the Reverend Dale Manning and the Reverend Donald White after they had served one year as licensed ministers. They were given examinations for ordination. These ministers met or exceeded the requirements set forth by the Pee Dee Association for ordained ministers. Ordination services were carried out at Trinity Free Will Baptist Church on April 9, 1995.

The council met with the Reverend Michael Lyles after he had served one year as a licensed minister. He was given an examination for ordination. He met or exceeded the requirements set forth by the Pee Dee Association for ordained ministers. Ordination services were carried out at Mt. Beulah Free Will Baptist Church on June 25, 1995.

On July 16, 1995, the ordaining council met with Brother Gary Bennett. After receiving a letter from his church concerning his call into the ministry, council questioned him about his beliefs. The council found him sound in faith and doctrine and approved him as a licensed minister for one year.

The council met with the Reverend Tommy Martin on November 9, 1994, concerning him pastoring Cypress Creek Free Will Baptist Church. After receiving a letter from the Central Conference of SC and questioning him about his beliefs, the council found him sound in faith and doctrine. He submitted his old credentials and received credentials from the Pee Dee Association.

Respectfully submitted,

The Reverend James B. Hardee, *Chairman*

The Reverend Garland Suggs, *Secretary*

Report was accepted on motion of Gary Cribb.

Motion by the Reverend James B. Hardee to extend the "right hand of fellowship" to ministers joining the Association and the "right hand of welcome" to the licentiates. Motion carried.

Executive

We, your committee, beg leave to report that on February 2, 1995, a letter was received from the Central Association of Free Will Baptists requesting a letter giving the standing of the Reverend Brooks Sykes with our Association as he has united with that association. The Moderator contacted the members of this committee, and they approved the request of the letter giving him standing with this association. A letter was written and sent to the Central Association on March 8, 1995, stating that the Reverend Brooks Sykes was in good standing with the Pee Dee Association.

Furthermore, the Executive Committee met jointly with the Ordaining Council on August 29, 1995, to again discuss the matter of ministers who come into the Association being required to turn in their credentials to the Ordaining Council and being issued Pee Dee Association credentials. Representing the Ordaining Council at this meeting were the Reverend James B. Hardee, the Reverend Hollan Norris, the Reverend Garland Suggs. Following lengthy discussion, the Reverend Hollan Norris made a motion that current regulations regarding incoming ministers remain as they are; i. e., that a minister coming into the Pee Dee Association must relinquish his current license to the Association clerk for safekeeping and then will be issued Pee Dee Association credentials by the Ordaining Council. At such time as the minister parts with the Pee Dee Association, the Clerk will

return his former credentials to him. The Reverend Garland Suggs seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
William J. Godwin, Moderator
Dean Cartrette, Assistant Moderator
Danny McPherson, Clerk
Ron Settle, Treasurer
Bobby Carden, Member-at-large

Report was received by notion of Alfred McPherson.

Investigation

We, your committee, beg leave to report that we did not have to perform any investigation during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,
Dallas Byrd
James Howard Nobles

Report was received on motion of the Reverend Tommy Martin.

The reading of the minutes was omitted on motion by the Reverend James B. Hardee and vote of the association.

Old or unfinished business—none
New Business

The Reverend James Nobles made a motion to select a home for the association meeting in 1996. Motion carried. The Reverend James Howard Nobles invited the Association to Macedonia. the Reverend Garland Suggs made a motion to accept the after and the motion carried.

The Reverend Kim Barnes moved to pay officers the same as usual. Motion carried.

Danny McPherson, clerk, distributed dates and meeting places of the Pee Dee Association dating back from 1921 to 1995.

The Reverend James B. Hardee thanked the Association and churches for support to the Retirement Homes. He also moved that the Association give \$1,000 to the Retirement Homes. Motion carried.

The Reverend Tommy Martin moved to take up the business of electing association officers for the next two years. Motion carried. The following officers were elected:

William J. Godwin, Moderator; Dean Cartrette, Assistant Moderator; Danny McPherson, Clerk; and Ron Settle, Treasurer. Bobby Carden was elected as member-at-large for the Executive Committee.

The Reverend James B. Hardee moved that the Association give a standing vote of thanks to Mt. Calvary for hosting the meeting. Motion carried.

In general comments, the Reverend James B. Hardee thanked the association for their support to him during his 40 years of service as a minister in the Pee Dee Association. Owens Ward expressed his appreciation to the Reverend Kim Barnes and the Association

for their support and work at Charity Free Will Baptist Church. The Reverend Hollan Norris reminded member churches that historically, young preachers have been invited to preach at as many churches as possible. Officials should, therefore, invite those newly ordained ministers, as well as licentiates, as soon as possible.

Motion by the Reverend Hollan Norris that if there was not other business to come before the association that the meeting be adjourned by benediction. Motion carried and the Association was dismissed with prayer by the Reverend Hollan Norris.

Respectfully submitted,
William J. Godwin, Moderator
Danny McPherson, Clerk

Churches	1994 Members	Baptism	Gain Letter	Other	Deceased	Lost Letter	Other	Net Change	1995 Members	Sunday School	Active	Inactive	Avg. SS Atten.	Avg. MW Atten.
White Hill														
White Oak	6			12				12	18					18
White Oak Grove	131	3			2	1		0	131	93	83	48	50	50
Wildwood	25							0	25		25			25
Wintegreen	308	32	2		5	5		24	332	136			100	125
Eastern Totals	9139	186	153	18	118	100	8	131	9272	3942	3550	2976	3222	4669

Pee Dee Association

Beaverdam	709	11	2		6	4	1	2	711	392			392	
Charity	7	6						6	13	14			14	14
Cypress Creek	148	6		3	2	1		6	154	125	141	13	105	100
Emerson	111	5		3	2	5	4	-3	108	172			148	140
Little Bethel	53	5						5	58	62			45	42
Macedonia	110	5			1			4	109	50	75	34	50	50
Mission Valley	95	2		3			8	-3	92	89			60	60
Mt. Beulah	49	4	2	2	1		1	6	55	69	55		54	45
Mt. Calvary	104	3	1	3			2	5	5	109	53	56	50	52
Mt. Olive	90	2			1	1		0	90	50	30	60	50	50

