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Original Free Will Baptists



YEARBOOK

2000

For July 1, 1999, Through
June 30, 2000

**1999-2000
YEARBOOK
FOR
ORIGINAL
FREE WILL
BAPTISTS**

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2000

**Convention
of
Original Free Will Baptists
Ayden, North Carolina**



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Convention
of Original Free Will Baptists
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Pee Dee Association

**MINUTES
of the
130th ANNUAL SESSION
of the
PEE DEE ASSOCIATION
of
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS
in session at
Cypress Creek Free Will Baptist Church
Columbus County, North Carolina
October 16, 1999**

The next session will be held at Little Bethel Original Free Will Baptist Church (Horry County) on the Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 2000 (October 14, 2000) beginning at 9:00 a.m.

PEE DEE ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

MODERATOR: Rev. William J. Godwin, 726 Woodrow Cribb Rd., Clarendon, NC 28432

ASST. MODERATOR: Rev. Dean Cartrette, 409 Porter Rd., Tabor City, NC 28463

CLERK: Dr. Danny D. McPherson, 69 Brice Ward Rd., Chadbourne, NC 28431

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

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. William J. Godwin, 726 Woodrow Cribb Rd., Clarendon, NC 28432

Rev. Dean Cartrette, 409 Porter Rd., Tabor City, NC 28463

Dr. Danny McPherson, 69 Brice Ward Rd., Chadbourne, NC 28431

Ronny Settle, Route 2, Box 283-A, Whiteville, NC 28472

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

HOME MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Rev. George Benton, 305 E. Walter St., Whiteville, NC 28472

Jerry Bryan, 125 Bryan Rd., Bladenboro, NC 28320

Bud Williams, Tabor City, NC 28463

INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE

Horace Cartrette, Route 1, Chadbourne, NC 28431

Rev. Larry Greenwood, 6083 Swamp Fox Hwy. W., Tabor City, NC 28463

Rev. Casey Norris, 1152 Todd Town Rd., Clarendon, NC 28432

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. Dallas Byrd, 177 Elbow Rd., Hallsboro, NC 28442

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

Rev. James H. Nobles, 122 Mercer Rd., Chadbourne, NC 28431

Rev. Hollan Norris, 8703 Old Stake Rd., Tabor City, NC 28463

Rev. Garland Suggs, 1280 Crusoe Island Rd., Whiteville, NC 28472

Pee Dee Association
CUSTODIANS

D.F. Hester, Bladenboro, NC 28320
E. J. Lee, Nakina, NC 28455
Carson McPherson, Route 1, Chadbourn, NC 28431
Shelton Sarvis, Tabor City, NC 28463

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Carl Barker,
George Benton ,305 E. Walter St., Clarendon, NC 28432
Joseph B. Benton, II, Route 6, Box 319, Conway, SC 29526
Tommy Bryson, 1388 Ward Town Rd. S., Whiteville, NC 28472
Dallas Byrd ,177 Elbow Rd.,Hallsboro, NC 28442
Bobby Carden, PO Box 734, Bladenboro, NC 28320
Dean Cartrette, 409 Porter Rd.,Tabor City, NC 28463
Wadus Earl Clewis, 175 Chair Factory Rd., Nakina, NC 28455
Charles V. Cribb, 960 Old Cribbtown Rd., Whiteville, NC 28472
Pete Cribb, Route 3, Box 298A, Whiteville, NC 28472
Freddie Edwards, 1799 Guyton Rd., Bladenboro, NC 28320
William J. Godwin, 726 Woodrow Cribb Rd., Clarendon, NC 28432
Larry Greenwood, 6083 Swamp Fox Hwy. W., Tabor City, NC 28463
James B. Hardee, PO Box 43, Elizabethtown, NC 28337
Charles Hilburn, 392 Mollie Rd., 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
Michael Lyles, 401 Sandy Bluff Rd., Green Sea, SC 29545
Tommy Martin, 1388 Ward Town Rd. S., Whiteville, NC 28472
Terry Wade Nealey, Route 1, Box 255A, Chadbourn, NC 28431
James Howard Nobles, 122 Mercer Rd., Chadbourn, NC 28431
Casey Norris, 1152 Todd Town Rd., Clarendon, NC 28432
Hollan Norris, 8703 Old Stake Rd., Tabor City, NC 28463
Robert Sellers, 907 Stake Rd., Tabor City, NC 28463
Archie Smith, Route 1, Box 139B, Clarendon, NC 28432
Timothy Ray Soles, 1929 W. Dogwood Rd., Loris, SC 29545
Garland Suggs, 1280 Crusoc Island Rd., Whiteville, NC 28472
Daniel Tyler, Jr., PO Box 267, Clarendon, NC 28432
William E. Ward, 120 Peachtree Rd., Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

HONORARY MINISTER

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

PROCEEDINGS

The One Hundred Thirtieth Annual Session of the Pee Dee Association of Original Free Will Baptists convened at Cypress Creek Free Will Baptist Church in Columbus County, NC October 16,1999.

The session opened as the congregation sang "I'll Fly Away." Rev. William J. Godwin called the meeting to order, and Rev. Dean Cartrette conducted the devotional services, taking his text from Psalm 1:1-2. Altar prayer was led by Rev. Hollan Norris.

Rev. Dr. Tommy Bryson, pastor of Cypress Creek Free Will Baptist Church gave the welcome address, with response by G. C. Bryan, Jr.

The moderator welcomed everyone and invited visitors to enjoy the association activities but reminded them that they could not take part in any business. He announced the house in order for business. A motion was made, properly seconded, and passed to allow Kipling Godwin and Casey Norris to assist in today's proceedings in the absence of Danny D. McPherson and Ron Settle (clerk and treasurer, respectively). The roll of churches was called, and all churches were represented by letter. The roll of ministers was called, and Revs. Gary Bennett; Joseph B. Benton III; Wade Earl Clewis; Freddie Edwards; Claude Housand; Jerome Jenrette; Wade Jernigan; Tommy Martin; Archie Smith; and Daniel Tyler, Jr. were absent. Petitions for excuse were given for Revs. Benton, Edwards, Housand, Jenrette, and Ward. Rev. George Benton made a motion to excuse those, and the motion passed. Petitionary letters were called for, and there were none. The moderator then appointed the following committees:

DEVOTIONAL: Gary Davenport, Harris Blanton, and Marie Long

PERIODICAL: GC Bryan, Jr.; Harry Norris; and Guy Long

EDUCATIONAL: Robert Sellars, Lyn Ward, and Shirley Brown

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Lewis James, Wade Nealey, and Larry Cartrette

MINISTERIAL: Charles Cribb, Tommy Bryson, and Larry Greenwood

OBITUARY: Horace Hardee, Wilbur Ward, and Frankie Reaves

RESOLUTION: Owens Ward, Michael Lyles, and JR McPherson

FINANCE: Wayne Cartrette, Ken Blackmon, and Irvin Brown

HOME MISSIONS: Standing committee composed of George Benton, Jerry Bryan, and Bud Williams

INVESTIGATION: Standing committee composed of Horace Cartrette, Larry Greenwood, and Casey Norris

The Devotional Committee returned and gave the following report: We, your committee, have selected Rev. Dr. Tommy Bryson, to deliver the morning message.

Respectfully submitted, Gary Davenport, Marie Long, Harris Blanton

The Devotional Committee report was received by motion of Rev. James B. Hardee, and the committee was dismissed.

Rev. David Charles Hansley, General Administrator of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, reported on the work of the convention and highlighted projects of particular denominational enterprises. He encouraged all churches to pray for the ministries of the Free Will Baptists and to discover avenues by which each church could enhance its spiritual mission. Rev. Hansley summarized the current projects of the Church Finance, Home Missions, Foreign Missions, and the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation. Afterwards, representatives from other denominational enterprises gave a brief report on the efforts of their particular ministries. Visiting the association from denominational ministries were Rev. Bruce Dudley (Retirement Homes), Rev. Frank Harrison (Mount Olive College), Mary Dudley (Sunday School Board), Rev. Fred Baker (Minister's Program), and Dr. Bobby Taylor (Children's Home). Faye Bryant (District Youth Leader from Cypress Creek Free Will Baptist Church) reported on behalf of the district and state youth organizations. Rev. Dallas Byrd moved to accept the reports as information; motion was properly seconded and passed.

The congregation sang "Amazing Grace" and collected an offering for the Children's Home.

Church letters were called for and read by the acting clerk.

Delegates and guests were dismissed for a short recess with prayer by Rev. William J. Godwin.

The association reassembled for the morning message. Following prayer by Rev. Bobby Carden, Rev. Tommy Bryson delivered the morning message.

The association was dismissed for lunch with the invocation given by Rev. Frank Harrison.

After lunch, the association reconvened, singing "Heaven's Jubilee." Rev. Garland Suggs led delegates and visitors in prayer.

The moderator announced the house in order for business. Rev. Bobby Carden made a motion to move into new business before the committee reports were read. The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Rev. Dean Cartrette moved to select a home for the association meeting in 2000. Motion carried. Delegates from Little Bethel Original Free Will Baptist Church volunteered for the 2000 association meeting scheduled for October 14, 2000. Rev. James B. Hardee moved to accept the invitation, and it carried.

Rev. James Howard Nobles moved to elect officers for the next two years. The motion carried. Rev. James B. Hardee moved to retain the same officers for the next term. The motion passed. Officers for 2000 and 2001 are as follows: Moderator: Rev. William J. Godwin; Asst. Moderator: Rev. Dean Cartrette; Treasurer: Ron Settle; Clerk: Dr. Danny D. McPherson; and Member at Large: Rev. Bobby Carden.

Rev. Hollan Norris moved that the association give Cypress Creek Original Free Will Baptist Church a standing vote of thanks for their hospitality. Motion carried.

Rev. James Howard Nobles then moved that the order of business return to the original agenda, beginning with the reading of the reports. Motion carried. Due to an afternoon conflict, the moderator (Rev. William J. Godwin) asked the assistant moderator (Rev. Dean Cartrette) to assume the duties of the chair for the remainder of the meeting.

The assistant moderator called for the clerk to read the following 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 likewise that we use literature printed by the Free Will Baptist Press in all our churches.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Norris

Guy Long

GC Bryan, Jr.

Report was received, and the committee was discharged by motion of Rev. Dallas Byrd.

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 Holy Bible (God's word) in the home, the church, and schools such as Mount Olive College. We encourage our ministers to further their education at Mount Olive College and as Free Will Baptists, 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 organization.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Sellers
Lyn Ward
Shirley Brown

Report was received, and the committee was discharged by motion of Rev. George Benton.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We, your committee, recommend to all our churches that they strive prayerfully and carefully to promote and maintain an effective and efficient Sunday School. We further recommend that the Sunday School use every means possible (within the will of God) to encourage and help the youth as well as new converts. Extreme care should be taken to select Christian officers and teachers. We recommend that our Sunday Schools use literature printed by the Free Will Baptist Press (Ayden, NC). Finally, we recommend that churches in the Pee Dee Association utilize the resources provided by the Free Will Baptist Sunday School Board.

Respectfully submitted,
Wade Nealey
Larry Cartrette
Lewis James

Report was received, and the committee dismissed by motion of Rev. Michael Lyles.

RESOLUTION

We, the resolution committee, submit the following resolution:

Be it resolved that each church in the Pee Dee Association begin a weekly visitation program to support the Harvest 2000 campaign, to increase Sunday School enrollment, and to assist new converts.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Lyles
JR McPherson
Owens Ward

Mike Worley moved to accept the report, but the motion failed-14 in favor and 21 opposed. Rev. Hollan Norris moved to dismiss the resolution committee, and the motion carried.

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,
Rev. Larry Greenwood
Rev. Charles V. Cribb
Rev. Dr. Tommy Bryson, Jr.

Report was received, and the committee dismissed by motion of Frankie Reaves.

OBITUARY

We, your committee, regret to report that to the best of our knowledge, we had 32 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,
Wilbur Ward
Frankie Reaves
Horace Hardie

Report was received, and the committee dismissed by motion of Rev. George Benton.

FINANCE

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

Old funds.....\$1386.07
New funds.....\$1329.50
TOTAL.....\$2715.57

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Blackmon
Wayne Cartrette
Irvin Brown

Report was received, and the committee was dismissed by motion of Rev. Dallas Byrd.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balance (October 17, 1998)	971.96
Deposit from association	1260.99
Balance (October 20, 1997)	2232.95

Checks for the past year	
#352 William J. Godwin	50.00
#353 Danny D. McPherson	50.00
#354 Ron Settle	50.00
#355 Children's Home	150.49
#356 Retirement Homes	500.00
#357 Press	46.39

Total checks written during 1998-99	\$846.88
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Balance (October 16, 1999)	\$1386.07
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Yearbooks for this year have not been paid for. At this time the yearbooks have not arrived.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Settle, Treasurer

Treasurer's report was accepted by motion of Rev. Larry Greenwood.

HOME MISSIONS TREASURER'S REPORT

As of September 18, 1998 the balance in the Home Missions account was \$256.01. No money was withdrawn, but a service charge of \$125.45 was applied to the account leaving a current balance of \$129.56.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. George W. Benton, Treasurer
Jerry Bryan

Report was received by motion of Rev. Dallas Byrd. Rev. Tommy Bryson moved that the Executive Committee evaluate the current need for this committee and its fund. If, in their opinions, the account is no longer needed, the money should be moved into the Association General Fund. The motion carried.

ORDAINING COUNCIL

On August 1, 1999, the council met with Rev. Charles Vernon Cribb 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 Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church August 8, 1999.

The council met with Rev. Carl Barker in August 1999 after receiving a letter from Trinity Original Free Will Baptist Church requesting approval for Rev. Barker to become their pastor. After meeting with Rev. Barker, the council recommended he study "The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government of the Original Free Will Baptist Church." The council also asked Rev. Barker to secure a letter of good standing from the Central Conference of South Carolina of which he was already a member. The council planned to meet with Rev. Barker again in approximately three months. The council met with Rev. Barker today (October 16, 1999) and now recommends him as an ordained minister in the Pee Dee Association.

The council received a letter from the Pee Dee Association's Executive Committee concerning the status of Rev. Tony Buffkin. In response to concerns of the Executive Committee, the Ordaining Council contacted Bro. Buffkin about his poor conduct in upholding the standards of an ordained minister in the Pee Dee Association of Original Free Will Baptists and his affiliation with other denominations that did not concur with the Original Free Will Baptist doctrine. Bro. Buffkin did not wish to meet with the council concerning this issue, because he had become licensed with another organization. He stated he would voluntarily return his credentials to the council. After some weeks, the council had not received Bro. Buffkin's credentials. Therefore, he was contacted again. Bro. Buffkin said he had searched for his credentials but assumed they were lost in a recent move. He assured the council that if they were found he would return them to the council.

By adoption of this report, the council declares to the Pee Dee Association and the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists that Brother Tony Buffkin is no longer an ordained minister in the Pee Dee Association or the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. James B. Hardee, Chairman
Rev. Garland Suggs, Secretary

Report was accepted by motion of Rev. James B. Hardee.

Rev. James B. Hardee moved that Revs. Charles V. Cribb and Carl Barker be received into the full fellowship of the association and that they receive the right hand of fellowship. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE

We, your committee, report that in August 1999 representatives of the Pee Dee Association Executive Committee met with the Ordaining Council of the Association at their request.

Members of the Ordaining Council expressed concern that frequently they were presented with questions or concerns regarding ministers of the association. However, the Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government yet allow necessary flexibility for the Ordaining Council to investigate issues which come to their attention, the Executive Committee recommends the following resolution.

Whereas "it shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to act with the same authority as the Conference during intervals between sessions on matters concerning ministers, churches, and other business;" and

Whereas members of the Ordaining Council need flexibility to investigate issues regarding ministers of the Association;
Therefore, be it resolved

1. that when issues regarding any minister of the association come to the Ordaining Council's attention, the Chairman of the Ordaining Council must present a written request to investigate the situations to the Chairman of the Executive Committee.
2. that when the Chairman of the Executive Committee receives the written request, he has fourteen (14) days to review the situation with members of the Executive Committee and send a written response authorizing or denying investigation by the Ordaining Council.
3. that upon approval from the Executive Committee, the Ordaining Council has thirty (30) days to conduct their investigation and file a written review of their findings with the Chairman of the Executive Committee.
4. that the Ordaining Council's actions be limited to investigations and recommendations.
5. and that no summary actions be levied except by the Executive Committee with consultation of the Ordaining Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. William J. Godwin, Moderator

Rev. Dean Cartrette, Asst. Moderator

Mr. Ron Settle, Treasurer

Rev. Bobby Carden, Member at Large

Dr. Danny D. McPherson, Clerk

Report was received by motion of Rev. James Howard Nobles. Members of the Ordaining Council requested that a copy of this report be forwarded to all their members.

INVESTIGATION

We, your committee, beg leave to report that we did not have to perform any investigative duties during the past year. Please remember your Investigation Committee in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Dale Manning
Rev. Casey Norris
Horace Cartrette

Report was received by motion of Rev. Dallas Byrd.

The reading of the minutes was omitted by motion of Rev. James Howard Nobles.

OLD or UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Rev. Garland Suggs moved that Gary Bennett's name be removed as a licensed minister as he had surrendered his license. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS continued

Rev. Hollan Norris moved that the Association donate \$50 to all denominational enterprises. The motion carried.

Rev. James B. Hardee moved that if there was no other business to come before the association that the meeting adjourn by benediction. Motion carried and Rev. Michael Lyles dismissed the association with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. William J. Godwin, Moderator
Dr. Danny D. McPherson, Clerk

CHURCHES	1998 Membership	Active	Inactive	GAIN			LOSS			Net Change	Sunday School	Avg. SS Attend.	Avg. MW Attend.
				Baptism	Letter	Other	Deceased	Letter	Other				
Pee Dee Association													
Beaverdam	721			19	0	3	18	1	0	723	423	423	400
Charity	17			0	0	0	0	0	0	17	14	10	20
Cypress Creek	73	81	0	6	0	14	0	3	9	81	80	75	75
Emerson	102			7	1	8	1	0	1	116	139	131	127
Little Bethel	56			0	0	0	0	5	0	51	67	45	42
Macedonia	116	45	71	2	0	0	1	0	1	116	45	55	50
Mission Valley	104			9	0	1	2	0	1	111	134	92	85
Mt. Beulah	50	43	9	12	8	0	2	0	16	52	60	50	47
Mt. Calvary	110	61	57	9	0	0	1	0	0	118	80	53	52
Mt. Olive	87			12	0	2	2	0	54	45	66	65	65
Oak Grove	223	149	76	4	5	0	4	3	0	225	149	70	98
Pine Level	37	24	20	0	5	2	0	0	0	44	43	40	40
Pineyway	35			0	0	0	1	0	0	34	60	30	30
Pleasant Meadow	33			0	0	0	0	0	0	33	44	40	40
Thomasboro	12	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	38	38	38
Trinity	56			4	2	0	0	7	10	45	45	46	46
White Oak	119	66	57	5	0	0	0	2	0	122	82	60	75
Pee Dee Totals	1951	481	290	89	21	30	32	21	92	1945	1569	1323	1330