

CONVENTION OF
ORIGINAL
FREE WILL BAPTISTS



2005

Convention and Conference

Annual Reports

**MINUTES of the 136th ANNUAL SESSION
of the
PEE DEE ASSOCIATION
of
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS
in session at
Emerson Original Free Will Baptist Church
Columbus County, North Carolina**

October 15, 2005

The next session will be held at Mission Valley Original Free Will Baptist Church (Columbus County) on the Saturday before the third Sunday in October 2006 (October 14, 2006) beginning at 9:00 a.m.

PEE DEE ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

MODERATOR: Rev. Dean Cartrette, 409 Porter Rd., Tabor City, NC 28463
ASST. MODERATOR: Rev. Dr. Bobby Carden, PO Box 734, Bladenboro, NC 28320
CLERK: Dr. Danny D. McPherson, 69 Brice Ward Rd., Chadbourn, NC 28431
TREASURER: Ronny Settle, 2651 Whitehall Rd., Whiteville, NC 28472

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. Dean Cartrette	409 Porter Rd.	Tabor City, NC 28463
Rev. Dr. Bobby Carden	PO Box 734	Bladenboro, NC 28320
Dr. Danny D. McPherson	69 Brice Ward Rd.	Chadbourn, NC 28431
Ronny Settle	2651 Whitehall Rd.	Whiteville, NC 28472
Rev. Larry Greenwood	1783 Swamp Fox Hwy.	Tabor City, NC 28463

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. Dallas Byrd	PO Box 57	Clarendon, NC 28432
Rev. Michael Lyles	401 Sandy Bluff Rd.	Green Sea, SC 29545
Rev. James H. Nobles	122 Mercer Rd.	Chadbourn, NC 28431
Rev. Hollon Norris	8703 Old Stake Rd.	Tabor City, NC 28463
Rev. Garland Suggs	1280 Crusoe Island Rd.	Whiteville, NC 28472

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

F. J. Lee		Nakina, NC 28455
Marvin McPherson	1128 Garland Duncan Rd.	Chadbourn, NC 28431
Isaac Norris, Jr.	8195 Old Stake Rd.	Tabor City, NC 28463
Nelson D. Soles	1175 Carolina Rd.	Tabor City, NC 28463

ORDAINED MINISTERS

George Benton	305 E. Walter St.	Whiteville, NC 28432
Joseph B. Benton, III	2510 Ole King St.	Conway, SC 29526
Gary Bryan	1902 Horseshoe Rd.	Bladenboro, NC 28320
Dallas Byrd	PO Box 57	Clarendon, NC 28432
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	4144 Beaverdam Rd.	Chadbourn, NC 28431
Pete Cribb	18981 Peacock Rd.	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
Dewey Hilbourn	Route 1, Box 291	Tabor City, NC 28463
Michael Lyles	401 Sandy Bluff Rd.	Green Sea, SC 29545
James Howard Nobles	122 Mercer Rd.	Chadbourn, NC 28431
Hollon Norris	8703 Old Stake Rd.	Tabor City, NC 28463
Clyde Reaves	394 Indigo Flats E.	Tabor City, NC 28463
Rusty Rogers	1079 Richardson Rd.	Bladenboro, NC 28320
Robert Sellers	907 Stake Rd.	Tabor City, NC 28463
Timothy Ray Soles	1929 W. Dogwood Rd.	Loris, SC 29545
Edward Spivey	355 Spivey Rd.	Tabor City, NC 28463
Jackie B. Strickland	4058 Smyrna Rd.	Whiteville, NC 28472
Brooks C. Sykes	35 Ed Ward Rd.	Clarendon, NC 28432
Garland Suggs	1280 Crusoe Island Rd.	Whiteville, NC 28472
Daniel Tyler, Jr.	PO Box 267	Clarendon, NC 28432
William E. Ward	5360 Peachtree Rd.	Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

HONORARY MINISTER

Wade T. Jernigan	Pecan Tree Estates, No. 2	Lexington, OK 73051
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LICENTIATE(S)

Jerry Simmons

PROCEEDINGS

The One Hundred Thirty-sixth Annual Session of the Pee Dee Association of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina convened at Emerson Original Free Will Baptist Church in Columbus County, NC October 15, 2005.

The session opened as the congregation sang "Getting Ready to Leave This World." Moderator Rev. Dean Cartrette called the meeting to order gave the devotional services, taking his text from Jeremiah 37: 17-19, "A Word from the Lord". Rev. Henry Ward led the congregation in altar prayer.

Rev. Hollon Norris, pastor of Emerson Original Free Will Baptist Church, gave the welcome address with response by Rev. James Howard Nobles.

The moderator welcomed everyone and invited visitors to enjoy the association activities but reminded them that they could not take part in any business. Afterwards, the moderator 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 Revs. Joseph B. Benton, Gary Bryan, Freddie Edwards, Rusty Rogers, and Jerry Simmons were absent. Petitions for excuse were given for Revs. Benton and Edwards. Rev. Wadus Earl Clewis made a motion to grant their requests. The motion carried.

The moderator appointed the following committees:

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Clark Dowless, Woodie Etheridge, & Jerry Sarvis

OBITUARY: Shelby Causey, Shane Greenwood, & Lyn Ward

RESOLUTION: Timmy Locklear, Al Nobles, & Nelson Soles

Representatives from denominational enterprises gave brief reports on the efforts of their particular ministries. Rev. Buddy Sasser addressed the association bringing greetings on behalf of the convention and then introduced the following persons who reported on behalf of their ministries: Wesley Taylor (Camp Vandemere), Cliff Gray (Free Will Baptist Press), Mary Dudley (Sunday School Board), Rev. Bryant Hines (Cragmont), Dianne Riley (Mount Olive College), Ronnie Taylor (Retirement Home), and Russell Tyson (Laymen's League). Rev. William J. Godwin moved to accept the reports as information; motion was seconded and passed.

The congregation sang a hymn and collected an offering for the Children's Home.

Following a brief morning recess, the moderator called the house back to order.

Church letters were called for and read by the clerk.

The moderator called for the clerk to read the reports of the committees.

REPORTS

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We, your committee, recommend that all our churches, homes, and schools use the King James Version of the Bible and that all literature distributed in our churches be of the King James Version only. We also encourage our ministers to further their education at Mount Olive College and be active in supporting the college and its ministries. We also request that more material referring only to the King James Version be made available to local churches and that the material be free of references to other biblical versions.

Respectfully submitted,

Clark Dowless

Woodie Etheridge

Jerry Sarvis

Report was received, and the committee was dismissed by motion of Rev. James Howard Nobles.

RESOLUTION

We, the resolution committee, received one suggested resolution. Rev. Garland Suggs submitted the following resolution which we recommend for the Association's approval:

Be it resolved that all churches of the Pee Dee Association consult with the Ordaining Council of the Pee Dee Association for prior approval of anyone who is coming from another conference or denomination to supply the pulpit.

Respectfully submitted,
Timmy Locklear
Al Nobles
Nelson Soles

Report was received, the recommendation accepted, and the committee dismissed by motion of Alfred McPherson.

OBITUARY

We, your committee, regret to report that to the best of our knowledge, we had 21 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,
Shelby Causey
Shane Greenwood
Lyn Ward

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning balance (October 16, 2004)	\$659.57
Deposit from association	1523.50
Total (October 16, 2004)	\$2183.07

Checks for the past year	
# 397 Rev. Garland Suggs	141.43
# 398 Rev. Dean Cartrette	50.00
# 399 Dr. Danny McPherson	50.00
# 400 Mount Olive College	500.00
# 401 Ron Settle	50.00
# 402 Children's Home	188.00
# 403 Convention of Original Free Will Baptists	<u>490.00</u>

Total checks written during 2004-05	\$1469.43
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Balance (October 15, 2005)	\$713.64
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Respectfully submitted,
Ron Settle, Treasurer

Treasurer's report was accepted by motion of Rev. Dallas Byrd.

ORDAINING COUNCIL

The council met March 6, 2005, after receiving a letter from Cypress Creek Original Free Will Baptist Church asking the council to examine Rev. Don Squires for pastor of Cypress Creek church. The Council questioned Rev. Squires and recommended by a letter to Cypress Creek church that Rev. Squires become a member of the church. As soon as the church informed the Council that Rev. Squires had joined their church, the Council would schedule another meeting with him.

The Council met June 25, 2005, to discuss the matter about Rev. Jerry Simmons needing more time to complete his test because of health problems. Rev. Simmons stated that due to health problems he had been unable to adequately prepare. The council extended Rev. Simmons' license for one year from June 25, 2005. The Council informed Cypress Creek Original Free Will Baptist Church of their decision by letter and asked the church to inform the Council when Rev. Simmons had completed his test.

The council met on June 25, 2005 to re-examine Rev. Jackie Strickland for ordination papers. Rev. Strickland met or exceeded the requirements of the Council. Since Rev. Strickland was already an ordained minister, the council did not schedule an ordination service. However, the Council did conduct a prayer service with Rev. Strickland including the laying on of hands. Since Pine Level Original Free Will Baptist Church, by oversight, failed to send a letter stating that Rev. Strickland was in good standing in their church, the Council agreed to issue ordination papers after receipt of the letter. The letter of good standing was delivered to the Council on June 26, 2005, and Council issued Rev. Strickland his ordination papers that same day.

The Council met on August 6, 2005 after receiving a letter from Mt. Olive Original Free Will Baptist Church requesting that the Council meet with Rev. Brooks Sykes in that the church had selected Rev. Sykes as their pastor. Rev. Sykes met or exceeded the requirements of the Council. Since Rev. Sykes had resigned the Central Conference and had become a member of Mt. Olive Original Free Will Baptist Church, the Council re-instated Rev. Sykes' Pee Dee Association license.

The Council met on September 18, 2005, after receiving a letter from Cypress Creek Original Free Will Baptist Church informing the Council that Rev. Don Squires had joined their church and was in good standing with the church. The Council examined Rev. Squires, and he met or exceeded the requirements of the Council. The Council recommended to Rev. Squires that he complete Parts 3 and 4 of the test concerning Free Will Baptist Church government so that he would be better informed on this subject. Rev. Squires agreed to do so, and the Council approved Rev. Squires for ordination papers.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Hollon Norris, Chairman
Rev. Dallas Byrd, Secretary

Rev. William J. Godwin moved (seconded by Rev. Bobby Carden) to accept the report. The motion carried. Rev. Hollon Norris moved to extend the hand of fellowship to Rev. Jackie Strickland and Rev. Brooks Sykes and that the Executive Committee meet with Rev. Don Squires who was eligible to receive the right hand of fellowship but was absent at this association meeting—having been advised to be present. The motion carried, and the hand of fellowship was extended.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Following the 2004 Association, Rev. Wade Nealey submitted a letter to the clerk stating his decision “to go independent” and asked that his name be dropped from the Pee Dee Association roll of ministers. Rev. Nealey expressed his appreciation for his relationships throughout the Pee Dee and asked for continued prayers. The clerk accepted Rev. Nealey’s letter and sent a letter to that effect to members of the Pee Dee Association Executive Committee, the Ordaining Council, and all pastors of the churches of the Pee Dee Association.

Members of the Pee Dee Association Executive Committee (Rev. Bobby Carden, Rev. Dean Cartrette, Rev. Larry Greenwood, and Dr. Danny McPherson) met jointly with members of the Pee Dee Association Ordaining Council (Rev. Dallas Byrd, Rev. James Howard Nobles, Rev. Hollon Norris, and Rev. Garland Suggs) to discuss issues including but not limited to the following: the local church’s understanding and knowledge of Convention guidelines for the selection and licensing of ministers, ministerial obligations and duties as defined in *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists*; and individual, church-specific issues. As a result of the meeting, the Executive Committee has corresponded and/or conferred with individuals and groups to resolve issues of non-compliance and/or variance.

The Executive Committee (by consensus) selected Rev. Wade Jernigan to preach the Association message.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Dean Cartrette, Moderator
Rev. Bobby Carden, Assistant Moderator
Ron Settle, Treasurer
Rev. Larry Greenwood, Member at large
Dr. Danny McPherson, Clerk

Report was received by motion of Rev. Hollon Norris.

Rev. James Howard Nobles moved (seconded by Rev. Godwin) that because the minutes had been and are available in the *Yearbook* to omit the reading of the 2004 minutes. Motion carried.

OLD or UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Rev. William J. Godwin moved to select a home for the association meeting in 2006. Motion carried. Rev. James Howard Nobles invited the Association to meet at Mission Valley Original Free Will Baptist Church for the 2006 Association meeting scheduled for October 14, 2006. Rev. Garland Suggs moved that the invitation be accepted, and it carried.

Rev. James Howard Nobles moved to pay the officers the same as usual. The motion passed.

Rev. Hollon Norris moved to elect Association officers for 2005-06 and 2006-07. Motion passed. Rev. Norris moved to keep the same officers for the next two-year period. Motion passed.

Pee Dee Association

Rev. James Howard Nobles moved (seconded by Rev. William J. Godwin) that the Association give Emerson Original Free Will Baptist Church a standing vote of thanks for their hospitality. Motion carried.

Rev. Hollon Norris moved that the Pee Dee Association become a Mount Olive Bridge Builder by donating \$500 to the Pee Dee Association Bridge Builder Campaign. Motion passed.

Rev. Hollon Norris moved to recess out of business and to enter into the worship service. Motion carried. Rev. Wade Jernigan delivered the morning message: "You Made Your Bed; Die In It"—2 Kings.

Following the message, the moderator asked Rev. Larry Greenwood to return thanks for the lunch prepared by Emerson Original Free Will Baptist Church and to adjourn the Annual Meeting by benediction.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dean Cartrette
Moderator

Dr. Danny D. McPherson
Clerk

2005
ORIGINAL



FREE WILL BAPTIST

DIRECTORY

CHURCHES	2004	Active	Inactive	GAIN			LOSS			Net Change	Sunday School	Avg. SS Attend.	Ave. MW Attend.
				Baptism	Letter	Other	Deceased	Letter	Other				

Pee Dee Association

Beaverdam	737	737		9	5	3	3	2		749			
Charity													
Cypress Creek	67					6			1	72	83	66	
Emerson	127	127				1	2	2	6	118	168	149	149
Little Bethel	52	52								52	54	31	30
Macedonia													
Mission Valley	121	82	39	2			2			121	128	85	155
Mt. Beulah													
Mt. Calvary	114	60	54	4						118	85	58	60
Mt. Olive	45	33	12				1			44	50	40	40
Oak Grove	212	95	117						2	214		85	85
Pine Level													
Pleway	36	35	1			1				37		33	30
Pleasant Meadow	28	28					1		2	25	35	30	30
Thomasboro	18	18								18	18	15	15
Trinity	39	39			1	2	1		1	40	45	42	45
White Oak	114	59	55	6	2		3	4		115	82	56	77
Pee Dee Totals	1710	1365	278	21	8	15	13	8	10	1723	748	690	716

CHURCHES	2004	Active	Inactive	GAIN			LOSS			Net Change	Sunday School	Avg. SS Attend.	Ave. MW Attend.
				Baptism	Letter	Other	Deceased	Letter	Other				

Paul Palmer Conference

Jakin	41	41			3		1			43	19	14	20
Zion	135	60	75				1			134	30	17	32
Paul Palmer Totals	176	101	75	0	3	0	2	0	0	177	49	31	52