

# THE CALLED OUT PEOPLE OF GOD



**Go... Tell the Story**

**The 95th Annual Session  
of the  
Convention of  
Original Free Will Baptists**

**May 22 – 24, 2007**

**Reports Book**

**MINUTES of the 137th ANNUAL SESSION**  
**of the**  
**PEE DEE ASSOCIATION**  
**of**  
**ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS**  
**in session at**  
**Mission Valley Original Free Will Baptist Church**  
**Columbus County, North Carolina**

**October 14, 2006**

The next session will be held at Mt. Olive Original Free Will Baptist Church (Columbus County) on the Saturday before the third Sunday in October 2007 (October 20, 2007) 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. 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 |
| Rev. Brooks Sykes    | 35 Ed Ward Rd.         | Clarendon, NC 28432  |

**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   |
| 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   |
| 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 |

**LICENTIATE(S)**

Jerry Simmons

**PROCEEDINGS**

The One Hundred Thirty-seventh Annual Session of the Pee Dee Association of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina convened at Mission Valley Original Free Will Baptist Church in Columbus County, NC October 14, 2006.

The session opened as the congregation sang "Jesus Hold My Hand." Moderator Rev. Dean Cartrette called the meeting to order gave the devotional services, taking his text from Psalms 9:1-5. Rev. Larry Greenwood led the congregation in altar prayer.

Bro. Ricky Fowler, member of Mission Valley Original Free Will Baptist Church, gave the welcome address with response by Rev. George Benton.

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 EXCEPT Mt. Beulah Original Free Will Baptist Church were represented by letter and delegates.

## Pee Dee Association

The roll of ministers was called, and Revs. Wadus Earl Clewis, Charles V. Cribb, Dewey Hilbourn, Michael Lyles, Clyde Reaves, Jerry Simmons, Timmy Soles, Don Squires, and Williams Ward were absent. Petitions for excuse were given for Revs. Dewey Hilbourn, Michael Lyles, and Don Squires. Rev. James Howard Nobles made a motion to grant their requests. The motion carried.

The moderator appointed the following committees:

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Shirley Brown, GC Bryan, & Ken Nealey

OBITUARY: Dale Beck, Bobby Cribb, & Jerry Sarvis

RESOLUTION: Rev. George Benton, Woody Etheridge, & 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 ministry: Wesley Taylor (Camp Vandemere), Mary Dudley (Sunday School Board), Rev. Bryant Hines (Cragmont), Hope McPherson (Mount Olive College), and Ronnie Taylor (Retirement Home). Nancy Hardee, Pee Dee Association representative on the Free Will Baptist Press Board, also shared information regarding the Press. Rev. Pete Cribb, pastor of Charity Original Free Will Baptist Mission, also shared an update on the Whiteville mission. Bro. Dale Beck 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,

GC Bryan

Shirley Brown

Kenneth Nealey

Report was received, and the committee was dismissed by motion of Rev. Robert Sellers.

### RESOLUTION

We, the resolution committee, received one suggested resolution. The Pee Dee Ordaining Council submitted the following resolution which we recommend for the Association's approval:

*Be it resolved that the Clerk of the Association write a letter to all ministers who are absent from the meeting today (unless otherwise excused) informing them that is their duty to attend the association meeting each year as set forth in the Rules of Order.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. George Benton  
Woodie Etheridge  
Nelson Soles

Report was received, the recommendation accepted, and the committee dismissed by motion of Rev. Robert Sellers.

### 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,  
Dale Beck  
Bobby Cribb  
Jerry Sarvis

Report was received, and the committee was dismissed by motion of Rev. Robert Sellers.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

|                                                 |               |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Beginning balance (October 15, 2005)            | \$713.64      |
| Deposit from association                        | 1556.50       |
| Total (October 17, 2005)                        | \$2270.14     |
| Checks for the past year                        |               |
| # 404 Rev. Garland Suggs                        | 125.00        |
| # 405 Dr. Danny McPherson                       | 50.00         |
| # 406 Rev. Dean Cartrette                       | 50.00         |
| # 407 Ron Settle                                | 50.00         |
| # 408 Mount Olive College                       | 500.00        |
| # 409 Rev. Wade T. Jernigan                     | 100.00        |
| # 410 Children's Home                           | 150.00        |
| # 411 Convention of Original Free Will Baptists | <u>245.00</u> |

Pee Dee Association

|                                     |           |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Total checks written during 2005-06 | \$1270.00 |
| Balance (October 14, 2006)          | \$1000.14 |

Respectfully submitted,  
Ron Settle, Treasurer

Treasurer's report was accepted by motion of Rev. Hollon Norris.

### ***ORDAINING COUNCIL***

The council met on October 15, 2005, after receiving a letter from the Wilmington Conference of Pentecostal Free Will Baptists requesting a letter of good standing for Rev. Daniel Tyler. The Council voted to send a letter of good standing for Rev. Tyler and asked the Wilmington Conference to send a letter of acceptance so that we could remove Rev. Daniel Tyler's name for the Pee Dee Conference of Original Free Will Baptists.

The Council met on October 2, 2006 to re-license Rev. Jerry Simmons since his license had lapsed. Rev. Simmons stated that he needed more time to complete his test because of his handicapping condition.

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

Rev. George Benton moved to accept the report. The motion carried.

### ***EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE***

On February 7, 2006, the Executive Committee received a letter signed by seven church members from Pleasant Meadow Original Free Will Baptist Church citing concerns with the pastor, Rev. Wadus Earl Clewis. The Executive Committee and the Ordaining Council met with these persons and Rev. Clewis on Sunday, March 19, 2006 (2:30 pm) at Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church.

On March 19, 2006, the Executive Committee received a letter signed by 14 other persons attending Pleasant Meadow Original Free Will Baptist Church (nine of whom are church members) asking to meet with the Executive Committee to discuss the issues within the church. The Executive Committee and Ordaining Council met with this group Wednesday, April 12, 2006 (6:30 pm) at Pleasant Meadow Original Free Will Baptist Church.

Following these meetings, the Executive Committee and the Ordaining Council of the Pee Dee Association of Original Free Will Baptists met in a called conference on April 12, 2006 (7:30 pm) at Pleasant Meadow Original Free Will Baptist Church and issued the following findings and required actions:

1. Clear and convincing evidence does not exist to substantiate the charges stated in the February 7, 2006 letter from members of the Pleasant Meadow Original Free Will Baptist Church;

Pee Dee Association

2. Because a "shadow of suspicion and concern" exists and for the spiritual welfare of the church, its membership, and its pastor, Pleasant Meadow Original Free Will Baptist Church shall be under the watchcare of the Executive Committee for a period of one year beginning April 13, 2006 and ending April 30, 2007;
3. The pastor (Rev. Wadus Earl Clewis) shall be under the watchcare of the Ordaining Council Committee for a period of one year beginning April 13, 2006 and ending April 30, 2007, during which time he is expected to fulfill all ministerial and pastoral duties;
4. Members of the Executive Committee and the Ordaining Council must be invited to and must attend all conferences (regularly scheduled or called) beginning April 13, 2006 through April 30, 2007. It shall be the responsibility of the church clerk or the pastor to contact the Executive Committee clerk, Dr. Danny McPherson (910 642-5664) to arrange for representatives to attend the conferences;
5. Church members who willfully disturb and/or interrupt worship services or church proceedings shall be censured and immediately placed on probation for a period of no less than one year beginning at the time of disturbance; and
6. Other measures may be implemented as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.

In other business, the Executive Committee (by consensus) selected Rev. Edward Spivey 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 Bro. Dale Beck.

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 2005 minutes. Motion carried.

**OLD or UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Rev. James Howard Nobles moved to select a home for the association meeting in 2007. Motion carried. Rev. Brooks Sykes invited the Association to meet at Mt. Olive Original Free Will Baptist Church for the 2007 association meeting scheduled for October 20, 2007. 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.

Pee Dee Association

Rev. Hollon Norris moved to remove Rev. Michael Lyles from membership on the Ordaining Council since he was joining another Conference. Motion passed.

Rev. Garland Suggs moved to appoint Rev. Brooks Sykes to the Pee Dee Association Ordaining Council filling the position vacated by Rev. Michael Lyles. Motion passed.

Rev. Jackie Strickland referred to an article in the *Free Will Baptist* that alluded to the ordination and use of females as ministers of the Gospel. Rev. Strickland moved that the Executive Committee of the Pee Dee Association prepare and send a letter to the Executive Committee of the Convention stating the Pee Dee's opposition to the ordination and use of females as ministers/preachers of the Gospel. The motion was seconded. Following much discussion and realization that the Association/Conference (such as the Pee Dee) is the highest tribunal within the Convention and, therefore, establishes policies and procedures governing itself and its member churches, Rev. Strickland withdrew his motion.

Rev. William J. Godwin moved that the Association give Mission Valley Original Free Will Baptist Church a standing vote of thanks for their hospitality. Motion carried.

Rev. William J. Godwin moved that the Pee Dee Association become a Mount Olive Bridge Builder by donating \$500 to the Pee Dee Association Bridge Builder Campaign. Motion carried.

Rev. James Howard Nobles moved to recess out of business and enter into the worship service. Motion carried. Rev. Edward Spivey delivered the morning message.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dean Cartrette  
Moderator

Dr. Danny D. McPherson  
Clerk