



The 106th Annual Session of the
**CONVENTION OF
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

May 23th, 2018

OFWB



Growing in Grace

2016-2021

Ministry & Conference Report Book

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MINUTES of the 148th ANNUAL SESSION
of the
PEE DEE ASSOCIATION
of
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS
in session at
Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church
Columbus County, North Carolina

October 14, 2017

The next session will be held at Macedonia Original Free Will Baptist Church (Columbus County) on the Saturday before the third Sunday in October 2018 (October 20, 2018) beginning at 9:00 a.m.

PEE DEE ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

MODERATOR: Rev. Dean Cartrette

ASST. MODERATOR: Rev. Heath Conner

CLERK: Dr. Danny D. McPherson

TREASURER: Ron Settle

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MODERATOR

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

Rev. Heath Conner
727 Mt. Olive Rd. Bladenboro, NC 28320
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CLERK

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Rev. F. Buddy Seay
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Rev. Jackie Strickland
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Rev. Jamey Ward
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Chadbourn, NC 28431

Nelson D. Soles
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Tabor City, NC 28463

ORDAINED MINISTERS

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305 E. Walter St.
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910 740-4454

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Freddie Edwards
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Bladenboro, NC 28320

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Middlesex, NC 27557
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James Howard Nobles
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910 653-2430

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Tabor City, NC 28463
910 653-9053

William E. Ward
5360 Peachtree Rd.
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577
843 458-9531

Jeff Westerfield
1273 Hinnant Rd.
Selma, NC 27576
301 751-6037

Sonny R. Williams, Jr.
43 Phillips Road
Selma, NC 27576
919-634-8578

LICENTIATE(S)

Jeff Barton

Derek Batten

Johnny Johnson

Kenneth Woolwine

MEMBER CHURCHES OF THE ASSOCIATION

(for year ending June 30, 2017)

<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>PASTOR</u>
Beaverdam	Rev. Buddy Seay
Branch Chapel	Rev. Rickey Evans
Cypress Creek	Vacant
Emerson	Rev. Heath Conner
Freedom	Rev. Jackie Strickland
Little Bethel	Rev. Dean Cartrette
Macedonia	Rev. Jamey Ward
Mission Valley	Rev. Paul Lambert
Mt. Beulah	Rev. William Hearl
Mt. Calvary	Rev. Jimmy McNeill
Mt. Olive	Vacant
Oak Grove	Rev. James Howard Nobles
Pine Level	Rev. Hollon Norris
Pireway	Vacant
Pleasant Meadow	Vacant
Thomasboro	Rev. Dallas Byrd
Trinity	Rev. Larry Greenwood
White Oak	Rev. Dr. Bobby Carden

PROCEEDINGS

The One Hundred Forty-Eighth Annual Session of the Pee Dee Association of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina convened at Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church in Columbus County, NC, on October 14, 2017.

The session opened as the congregation sang “There Is Power in the Blood.” Moderator Rev. Dean Cartrette called the meeting to order and gave the devotional services, taking his text from Isaiah 1: 1 – 4, 10, and 16 – 18. Rev. George Benton led the congregation in altar prayer.

Rev. F. ‘Buddy’ Seay, Pastor of Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church, gave the welcome address with response by Bro. Elgin Cribb.

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 Trinity Original Free Will Baptist Church were represented by letter and delegates.

The roll of ministers was called. Revs. Buster Benton, Gary Bryan, Eddie Carter, Larry Greenwood, Drake Harper, Donny Jernigan, Paul Lambert, Wade McPherson, Hollon Norris, Edward Spivey, Clifford Strickland, William Ward, and Sonny Williams were absent. Excuses were offered in behalf of Revs. Buster Benton, Paul Lambert, Hollon Norris, and Edward Spivey. Rev. George Benton made a motion to grant their requests (second by Bro. Ricky Fowler). Motion carried. The moderator called for a moment of silence in memory of Rev. Robert Sellers, a long-time minister of the Pee Dee Association who died since the 2016 annual meeting.

The moderator appointed the following committees:

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Leonard Alford, Wayne Tyler, & Mike Worley

OBITUARY: Bobby Cribb, Woodie Etheridge, & Paul Nobles

RESOLUTION: Jeff Barton, Patricia Settle, & Jackie Spivey

The moderator invited representatives from the denominational ministries to present their reports. Those present reviewed the work of their particular ministries:

Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, President of the NC Convention of Original Free Will Baptists began by sharing his personal vision as president of the Convention and that is “the value of the ministry of the local church;” also reviewed status of Home Missions & Evangelism;

Ila V. Penny—Pee Dee representative on the Children’s Home Board: shared statistics of those served and invited groups and individuals to visit the Children’s Home;

Gail Heath—Ministry of Christian Education: reviewed the ministry’s services as well as information regarding the annual Life Conference 2018— “Making a Difference” (encouraged churches to enter nominations for the Sunday school superintendent of the year and Sunday school teacher of the year);

Darren Davenport—Free Will Baptist Press: shared recent and forthcoming updates and improvements related to equipment, technology, and print resources;

Rev. Freddie Edwards—Pee Dee representative on the Retirement Homes Board: gave a summary of current status and services offered; and

David L. McPherson, Pee Dee representative on the University of Mount Olive Board of Trustees: shared growth in student enrollment and learning opportunities for those interested. McPherson also shared that the UMO current president, Philip Kerstetter, has announced his retirement effective the end of the 2017-2018 academic year; presidential search procedures for a new president have begun.

Rev. Rickey Evans moved to accept the reports as information; motion was seconded and carried.

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. Rev. Heath Conner offered prayer.

Church letters were called for and read by the clerk.

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

REPORTS

RESOLUTION

We, the resolution committee, have no resolutions to bring at this time.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Barton
Patricia Settle
Jackie Spivey

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

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 request that more material exclusive 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,
Leonard Alford
Wayne Tyler
Mike Worley

Report was received, and the committee was dismissed by motion of Rev. Jamey Ward.

OBITUARY

We, your committee, regret to report that to the best of our knowledge, we had 28 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,
Bobby Cribb
Woodie Etheridge
Paul Nobles

Report was received, and the committee was dismissed by motion of Rev. Pete Cribb.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning balance (October 15, 2016)	\$2727.61
Deposit from association (10/17/2016)	1565.00
Deposit from association (10/31/2016)	1636.00
Deposit from association (11/8/2016)	1000.00
Deposit from association (11/14/2016)	7208.46
Deposit from association (12/1/2016)	6733.23
Deposit from association (12/13/2016)	<u>200.00</u>

Total deposits \$18642.69

TOTAL \$21070.30

Checks for the past year	
#492 & #493	Void
# 494 Rev. Dean Cartrette	125.00
# 495 Dr. Danny McPherson	125.00
# 496 Ron Settle	125.00
# 497 OFWB Children's Home	231.00

# 498 Mission Valley OFWB Church	2000.00
# 499 White Oak OFWB Church	15832.69
# 500 Budget Printing	80.06
# 501 Budget Printing	480.38
# 502 Convention of Original Free Will Baptists (yearbooks)	<u>\$390.00</u>

TOTAL CHECKS FOR LAST YEAR \$19389.13

Balance (October 14, 2017) \$1681.17

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Settle, Treasurer

Treasurer's report was accepted by motion of Rev. Jimmy McNeill.

ORDAINING COUNCIL

The Ordaining Council met with Bro. Johnny Johnson on November 15, 2016 after receiving a letter from Freedom Original Free Will Baptist Church asking the council to examine Bro. Johnson for a minister's license. The council questioned Bro. Johnson on biblical truths and Free Will Baptist doctrine and found him to be sound in faith and doctrine. The council approved Bro. Johnny Johnson as a licensed minister for one year.

The Ordaining Council met with Rev. Kenneth Woolwine on January 3, 2017 after receiving a letter from Pireway Original Free Will Baptist Church asking the council to examine Rev. Woolwine for a minister's license. The council questioned Rev. Woolwine on biblical truths and Free Will Baptist doctrine and found him to be sound in faith and doctrine. The council approved Rev. Kenneth Woolwine as a licensed minister for one year.

The Ordaining Council met with Bro. Derek Batten on August 10, 2017 after receiving a letter from Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church asking the council to examine Bro. Batten for a minister's license. The council questioned Bro. Batten on biblical truths and Free Will Baptist doctrine and found him to be sound in faith and doctrine. The council approved Bro. Derek Batten as a licensed minister for one year.

The Ordaining Council met with Bro. Jeff Barton on October 10, 2017 after receiving a letter from Cypress Creek Original Free Will Baptist Church asking the council to examine Bro. Barton for a minister's license. The council questioned Bro. Barton on biblical truths and Free Will Baptist doctrine and found him to be sound in faith and doctrine. The council approved Bro. Jeff Barton as a licensed minister for one year.

Respectfully submitted,

The Pee Dee Association Ordaining Council

Rev. Dallas Byrd, clerk

Rev. Dallas Byrd moved to accept the report. Motion was seconded and carried.

NOTE:

1. The right hand of fellowship as ordained ministers was extended to Rev. Jeffrey Westerfield.
2. The right hand of welcome as one-year licentiates was extended to Rev. Kenneth Woolwine, Bro. Jeff Barton, Bro. Derek Batten, and Bro. Johnny Johnson.
3. Revs. Drake Harper and Sonny Williams were not present, so the Association will extend them the right hand of fellowship at the 2018 annual meeting.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee is thankful that, to the best of our knowledge, all is well among our churches. Still, we urge ministers and local congregations to remain faithful in their unity of the spirit, in their commitment to the local church, in their ministry to the saved and unsaved, and above all, in their absolute devotion to God.

The Executive Committee met Sunday, November 27, 2016 (2:00 p.m.) at Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church. At the annual session on October 15, 2016, the Pee Dee Association took action approving \$1500 from the Association account plus other donations from member churches to be used to assist churches within the Pee Dee that were damaged during Hurricane Matthew. Members of the Executive Committee were directed to distribute the funds to the affected churches. Total collections equaled \$18,032.69.

Beaverdam	3997.73
Branch Chapel	7208.46
Cypress Creek	200.00
Emerson	1000.00
Little Bethel	150.00
Macedonia	200.00
Mt. Olive	149.00
Oak Grove	287.00
Pine Level	340.50
Pireway	1000.00
Pee Dee Association	1500.00
Pee Dee Union #2	1000.00
Flood's Chapel FWB Church	1000.00

Two churches were most affected by the hurricane and subsequent flooding: Mission Valley and White Oak. Mission Valley experienced water damage in its fellowship hall as a result of minimal flooding, but the water soon receded allowing them to host our annual meeting. White Oak, however, was significantly damaged. Their fellowship hall and basement were under several feet of water. The basement is the space where most Sunday school classes meet. Not only was their physical structure significantly damaged but also materials and supplies. Church members refurbished the fellowship hall, doing much of the work themselves, but the church facility and basement required extensive contract work and expense. With these thoughts in mind, the Executive Committee took action awarding \$2000 to Mission Valley and \$15,832.69 to White Oak. NOTE: A \$200 contribution was received after the Executive Committee met, so the Committee will meet again to disburse that donation as well.

Letters were sent to all member churches stating all financial actions and the Executive Committee's actions.

Rev. Rickey Evans was selected to deliver the Association message.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dean Cartrette, Moderator
Rev. Heath Conner, Assistant Moderator
Ron Settle, Treasurer
Rev. Larry Greenwood, Member at large
Dr. Danny McPherson, Clerk

Rev. George Benton moved to accept the report; motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. George Benton moved to omit the reading of the 2016 Association minutes because minutes are printed annually and made available to all churches and are also available via the *Yearbook*. Motion carried.

OLD or UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

The clerk read the following letter of appreciation from White Oak Original Free Will Baptist Church.
September 21, 2017

White Oak Original Free Will Baptist Church
PO Box 734
Bladenboro, NC 28320

Pee Dee Association of the Original Free Will Baptists
Dr. Danny McPherson, Ed.D.
69 Brice Ward Rd.
Chadbourn, NC 28431

Dear Dr. McPherson and the Pee Dee Association of OFW Baptists:

On behalf of our church congregation and our pastor, Rev. Dr. Bobby Carden, I would like to thank you all for the generous donations that you provided toward the repair and restoration of our church.

As you know, it has been a busy and sometimes trying eleven months for us. But by the grace of God and the love of our fellowmen, the work is almost completed. Our church is more beautiful and well-built than ever before. We could not have accomplished this without our wonderful friends and concerned Christians who made contributions of prayers, money, time, and material. Thank you all. Please thank the following churches and organizations in your meeting on October 14, 2017: Beaverdam, Branch Chapel, Cypress Creek, Emerson, Little Bethel, Macedonia, Mt. Olive, Oak Grove, Pine Level, Pireway, the Pee Dee Association, Pee Dee Union #2, and from the Western Conference, Flood's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

It is easy to become discouraged when bad things happen, but our spirit has been renewed. We know God always enables us to do what He wants us to do. Thank you again for your contributions and your continued prayers.

Prayerfully yours,

Rev. Dr. Bobby Carden. Pastor
Peggy Pope, Church clerk

Rev. James Howard Nobles moved to pay officers as usual. Motion was seconded and passed.

Rev. James Howard Nobles moved to elect officers for the next two-year term ending October 2019. Motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. James Howard Nobles moved to elect the same officers. Motion was seconded and carried. Therefore, officers are as follows:

Rev. Dean Cartrette, moderator

Rev. Heath Conner, assistant moderator

Bro. Ronny Settle, treasurer

Bro. Danny McPherson, clerk

Rev. Larry Greenwood, member-at-large of the Executive Committee

Rev. James Howard Nobles moved to select a home for the annual meeting in 2018. Motion carried. Rev. Jamey Ward invited the Association to meet at Macedonia Original Free Will Baptist Church for the 2018 annual meeting scheduled for October 20, 2018. Rev. James Howard Nobles moved that the invitation be accepted; motion carried.

Rev. Rickey Evans moved that the Association give Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church a standing vote of thanks for their hospitality. Motion was seconded and carried.

Bro. Elgin Cribb from Pireway Original Free Will Baptist Church offered sincere appreciation to those from Branch Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church and all others who assisted with replacing the steeple on the Pireway church.

Rev. James Howard Nobles moved to adjourn the annual meeting of the Pee Dee Association and to enter worship service. Motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. Rickey Evans delivered the message titled "Being the Man of God."

Rev. Dr. Tommy Bryson returned thanks for lunch prepared by Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church and adjourned the annual meeting with benediction.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dean Cartrette
Moderator

Dr. Danny D. McPherson
Clerk