



The 107<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the  
**CONVENTION OF  
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

**May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019**

**OFWB**



**Growing in Grace**

**2016-2021**

Ministry & Conference Report Book

MINUTES of the 149<sup>th</sup> 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 20, 2018**

NOTE: Originally, the annual meeting was to convene at Macedonia Original Free Will Baptist Church. However, due to extensive flood damage from Hurricane Florence, today's session was moved to Beaverdam.

The next session will be held at Pireway Original Free Will Baptist Church (Columbus County) on the Saturday before the third Sunday in October 2019 (October 19, 2019) beginning at 9:00 a.m.

**PEE DEE ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**

**MODERATOR:** The Reverend Dean Cartrette

**CLERK:** Dr. Danny D. McPherson

**ASST. MODERATOR:** The Reverend Heath Conner

**TREASURER:** Ron Settle

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**MODERATOR**

The Reverend Dean Cartrette  
409 Porter Rd.  
Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 377-2109

**ASST. MODERATOR**

The Reverend Heath Conner  
727 Mt. Olive Rd.  
Bladenboro, NC 28320  
910 740-4454

**CLERK**

Dr. Danny D. McPherson  
69 Brice Ward Rd.  
Chadbourn, NC 28431  
910 642-5664

**TREASURER**

Ron Settle  
2651 Whitehall Rd.  
Whiteville, NC 28472  
910 840 – 3130

**MEMBER AT LARGE**

The Reverend Larry Greenwood  
1783 Swamp Fox Hwy.  
Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 840-2034

**ORDAINING COUNCIL**

The Reverend Dallas Byrd  
PO Box 57  
Clarendon, NC 28432  
910 640-7588

The Reverend James H. Nobles, Chairman  
122 Mercer Rd.  
Chadbourn, NC 28431  
910 653-4804

The Reverend F. Buddy Seay  
726 Woodrow Cribb Rd.  
Clarendon, NC 28432  
910 653-7777

The Reverend Kenneth Woolwine  
1881 Sommerset Rd. SW  
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28806  
304-712-5183

The Reverend Jamey Ward  
2892 Will Inman Rd.  
Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 653-9053

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

G.C. Bryan  
Bladenboro, NC 28320

Ricky Fowler  
3707 Walter Todd Rd.  
Clarendon, NC 28432

Marvin McPherson  
1128 Garland Duncan Rd.  
Chadbourn, NC 28431

Nelson D. Soles  
1175 Carolina Rd.  
Tabor City, NC 2846

**ORDAINED MINISTERS**

Jeff Barton  
304 Buck Rd.  
Maxton, NC 28364  
910 354-7379

Derek Batten  
15553 Peacock Rd.  
Chadbourn, NC 28431  
910 918-4179

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

Joseph B. Benton, III  
510 Ole King St.  
Conway, SC 29526

Gary Bryan  
1902 Horseshoe Rd.  
Bladenboro, NC 28320

Tommy Bryson  
241 Soles Rd.  
Whiteville, NC 28472  
910 641-0262

Dallas Byrd  
PO Box 57  
Clarendon, NC 28432  
910 640-7588

Bobby Carden  
PO Box 734  
Bladenboro, NC 28320  
910 863-3792

Eddie Carter  
495 Brewer Drive  
Red Springs, NC 28377  
910 257-7357

Dean Cartrette  
409 Porter Rd.  
Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 377-2109

Heath Conner  
727 Mt. Olive Rd.  
Bladenboro, NC 28320  
910 740-4454  
Pete Cribb  
18981 Peacock Rd.  
Whiteville, NC 28472

Freddie Edwards  
1799 Guyton Rd.  
Bladenboro, NC 28320

Rickey Evans  
2240 N. Old Georgetown Rd.  
Coward, SC 29530  
843 503-4400

Larry Greenwood  
6083 Swamp Fox Hwy. W.  
Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 840-2034

Drake Harper  
298 Ward Town Rd. S  
Whiteville, NC 28472

910 234-4948

William Hearl  
1115 Hwy. 548  
Conway, SC 29528  
843 365-9189

Donny Jernigan  
67 Sugar Plum Lane  
Whiteville, NC 28472  
910 625-7857

Johnny Johnson  
1898 Log Cabin Rd.  
Loris, SC 29569  
843 465 6897  
Paul Lambert  
4301 New Britton Hwy. E.  
Whiteville, NC 28472  
910 317-6223

Jimmy McNeill  
7680 Rennert Rd.  
Shannon, NC 28368  
910 827-2142

Wade McPherson  
Chevy Lane  
Chadbourn, NC 28431  
James Howard Nobles  
122 Mercer Rd.  
Chadbourn, NC 28431  
910 653-4804

Hollon Norris  
8703 Old Stake Rd.

Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 653-2430

Buddy Seay  
726 Woodrow Cribb Rd.  
Clarendon, NC 28432  
910 918-3446

Edward Spivey  
355 Spivey Rd.  
Tabor City, NC 28463

Clifford L. Strickland  
1740 Greenpond Rd.  
Loris, SC 29569

843 756-0936

Jackie Strickland  
4058 Smyrna Rd.  
Whiteville, NC 28472  
910 234-0791

Jamey Ward  
2892 Will Inman Rd.  
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

Kenneth Woolwine  
1881 Sommersett Rd. SW.  
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469  
304 712-5183

#### LICENTIATE(S)

Colton Reaves  
703 Bryce Street  
Whiteville, NC 28472  
910 770-2221

#### MEMBER CHURCHES OF THE ASSOCIATION

(for year ending June 30, 2018)

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

## PROCEEDINGS

The One Hundred Forty-ninth 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 October 20, 2018.

The session opened as the congregation sang "Glory to His Name." Moderator the Reverend Dean Cartrette called the meeting to order and gave the devotional services, taking his text from Micah 2: 3-4. Brother Ron Settle led the congregation in altar prayer.

The Reverend F. 'Buddy' Seay, pastor of Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church, gave the welcome address with response by The Reverend Dallas Byrd.

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. Branch Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church was represented by letter but no delegates; Trinity Original Free Will Baptist Church was represented by delegates but no letter. All other churches were represented by letters and delegates.

The roll of ministers was called. Revs. George Benton, Gary Bryan, Tommy Bryson, Eddie Carter, Pete Cribb, Freddie Edwards, Rickey Evans, Larry Greenwood, Drake Harper, Paul Lambert, Wade McPherson, Edward Spivey, Clifford Strickland, William Ward, and Sonny Williams were absent. Excuses were offered in behalf of Revs. George Benton, Pete Cribb, Freddie Edwards, Larry Greenwood, Paul Lambert, and Wade McPherson. The Reverend Hollon Norris made a motion to grant their requests (second by The Reverend Jamey Ward). Motion carried.

The moderator appointed the following committees:

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Bobby Cribb, Jackie Spivey, & Jamie Suggs  
OBITUARY: Leroy Gilley, Frankie Reaves, & Patricia Settle  
RESOLUTION: G.C. Bryan, Eugene Gaskin, & Timothy McGirt

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

The Reverend Gary Bailey, Director of Convention Services brought greetings on behalf of the Convention and then welcomed other guests to speak.

Gary Lee—President/CEO of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home

- shared information regarding the ministry's capital improvement campaign to replace the Home's oldest student cottages
- invited groups and individuals to the Children's Home "Friends and Family Day"—November 3

Gail Heath—Ministry of Christian Education

- reviewed the ministry's certificate program for Sunday school teachers—a two-part program
- also shared that the ministry is willing to loan the curriculum to churches and/or conferences/associations that would like to use it

The Reverend Harold Jones—Foreign Missions

- summarized the recent April Annual Conference in the Philippines
- indicated that currently the Original Free Will Baptists are thriving in at least eight countries but asked everyone to pray especially for those in India where threats continue to increase

Dr. John Hall—Editor at the Free Will Baptist Press

- explained some of the recent literature changes, particularly regarding the *Expositor* (The *Expositor* no longer follows the Standard Uniform Lesson Plan; therefore, its lessons do not correspond with the Press's literature. However, the Press does have support documents that churches can use in place of the *Expositor*.)

The Reverend Franklin Baggett—Interim Director of Home Missions and Evangelism

- explained that the ministry continues to become more financially solvent and is able to pay all "back" invoices
- mentioned main goals of the ministry: 1) to plant churches, 2) to support church revitalization; and 3) to support church evangelism

The Reverend Ronnie Taylor—Executive Director of the Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes

- shared that the Retirement Homes is currently serving 20 clients and has various other opportunities available for older members of local churches
- invited church officials to contact him if they have seniors in need of specific services

Dr. David L. Poole—President of the University of Mount Olive

- emphasized that he was a Christian and offered no apologies for being so
- shared his vision for the University (Dr. Poole became UMO's fifth president effective October 2018.)

The Reverend Rudy Owens—President of Carolina Bible Institute & Seminary

- provided background and information about the Institute
- shared various programs and degrees the Institute could offer at an affordable cost

All presenters asked for sincere prayer, and all emphasized that their main purpose is to seek the unsaved and bring them to salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ.

Brother David McPherson 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. The Reverend Jackie Strickland offered prayer.

The clerk called for and read church letters.

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,

G.C. Bryan

Eugene Gaskin

Timothy McGirt

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

### 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,

Bobby Cribb

Jackie Spivey

Jamie Suggs

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

### 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,

Leroy Gilley

Frankie Reaves

Patricia Settle

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

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning balance (October 14, 2017) 1681.17

Deposit from association 1636.25

TOTAL \$3317.42

#### Checks for the past year

# 503 Dr. Danny McPherson 125.00

# 504 The Reverend Dean Cartrette 125.00

# 505 Ronny Settle 125.00

# 506 OFWB Children's Home 182.25

# 507 The Reverend Dallas Byrd 51.35

# 508 Budget Printing 382.17

# 509 The Reverend Dallas Byrd 56.70

# 510 Convention of Original Free Will Baptists (yearbooks) 270.00

# 511 Dr. Danny McPherson (supplies) 148.37

TOTAL CHECKS FOR 2017 - 2018 \$1465.84

Balance (October 20, 2018) \$1851.58

Respectfully submitted,  
Ron Settle, treasurer

Treasurer's report was accepted by motion of The Reverend Buster Benton.

### ORDAINING COUNCIL

The Ordaining Council met with Bro. Johnny Johnson on November 11, 2017 after receiving a letter from Freedom Original Free Will Baptist Church recommending The Reverend Johnson for ordination as he is in good standing with his church. The Reverend Johnson successfully passed all his tests, and his ordination service was set at Freedom Original Free Will Baptist Church on January 14, 2018 (6:00 p.m.). The Reverend Jackie Strickland was chosen to preach The Reverend Johnson's ordination sermon. The Reverend Johnson met or exceeded the requirements of the council, and the council issued a certificate of ordination to The Reverend Johnny Johnson.

The Ordaining Council met with The Reverend Kenneth Woolwine on January 2, 2018 after receiving a letter from Pireway Original Free Will Baptist Church recommending The Reverend Woolwine for ordination as he is in good standing with his church. The Reverend Woolwine successfully passed all his tests, and his ordination service was set at Pireway Original Free Will Baptist Church on January 28, 2018 (6:00 p.m.). The Reverend Dallas Byrd was chosen to preach The Reverend Woolwine's ordination sermon. The Reverend Woolwine met or exceeded the requirements of the council, and the council issued a certificate of ordination to The Reverend Kenneth Woolwine.

The Ordaining Council met with The Reverend Dereck Batten on June 7, 2018 after receiving a letter from Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church recommending The Reverend Batten for ordination as he is in good standing with his church. The Reverend Batten successfully passed all his tests, and his ordination service was set at Beaverdam

Original Free Will Baptist Church on July 22, 2018 (6:00 p.m.). The Reverend Buddy Seay was chosen to preach The Reverend Batten's ordination sermon. The Reverend Batten met or exceeded the requirements of the council, and the council issued a certificate of ordination to The Reverend Dereck Batten.

The Ordaining Council met with Bro. Colton Reaves on May 24, 2018 after receiving a letter from Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church asking the council to examine Bro. Reaves for a minister's license. The council questioned Bro. Reaves on biblical truths and Free Will Baptist doctrine and found him to be sound in faith and doctrine. The council approved Bro. Colton Reaves as a licensed minister for one year.

The Ordaining Council met with The Reverend Jeff Barton on October 5, 2018 after receiving a letter from Cypress Creek Original Free Will Baptist Church recommending The Reverend Barton for ordination as he is in good standing with his church. The Reverend Barton successfully passed all his tests, and his ordination service was set at Cypress Creek Original Free Will Baptist Church on October 14, 2018 (6:00 p.m.). The Reverend Heath Conner was chosen to preach The Reverend Barton's ordination sermon. The Reverend Barton met or exceeded the requirements of the council, and the council issued a certificate of ordination to The Reverend Jeff Barton.

Upon approval by the Association, the Ordaining Council requests that the Pee Dee Association welcomes The Reverend Johnny Johnson, The Reverend Kenneth Woolwine, The Reverend Dereck Batten, and The Reverend Jeff Barton into the Pee Dee Association as ordained ministers by giving them the right hand of fellowship.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Pee Dee Association Ordaining Council  
The Reverend Dallas Byrd, clerk

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

NOTE:

1. The right hand of fellowship as ordained ministers was extended The Reverend Johnny Johnson, The Reverend Kenneth Woolwine, The Reverend Dereck Batten, and The Reverend Jeff Barton.
2. The right hand of welcome as a one-year licentiate was extended to The Reverend Colton Reaves.
3. Revs. Drake Harper and Sonny Williams were not present, so the Association will extend them the right hand of fellowship at the 2019 annual meeting.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Despite the recent devastation to families, homes, and churches that resulted from Hurricane Florence and subsequent flooding, the Executive Committee is thankful that, to the best of our knowledge, the spirit and commitment of our congregations are strong. While some of our sister churches incurred only minor damages, others were significantly affected—some even unable to have services in their buildings. Let us be fervent in our prayers and support as they recover. As always, 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.

In regard to damages resulting from Hurricane Florence, the Executive Committee will share a plan by which churches in the Association may financially support those churches that were damaged.

- On or before October 28, affected churches should contact McPherson indicating that they were damaged along with an approximate cost.
- On or before November 25, if possible, churches that wish to contribute to the disaster relief fund should mail their contributions to Ron Settle, treasurer.
- McPherson will prepare a flier to give to delegates with this information.
- The Executive Committee will recommend that the Association authorize the Executive Committee to disperse funds to the affected churches on "needs basis."

The Committee discussed its nomination for the Pee Dee Association representative to the Executive Committee of the Convention. The Reverend Buddy Seay is currently serving, and the Committee will recommend him to continue in that role.

The Executive Committee and the Ordaining Council met jointly on October 15, 2018 to review and update the ministers' roll and to discuss the frequent absences of some ministers at the annual Association meetings. McPherson will compile a list of ministers and their attendance at recent annual meetings. This list will be given to the Ordaining Council for their review and action.

The Reverend Jimmy McNeill was selected to deliver the Association message.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Brother Keith McPherson moved to accept the report; motion was seconded and carried.

The Reverend Jamey Ward moved to omit the reading of the 2017 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 from The Reverend Jackie Strickland.

April 2, 2018  
To the Ordaining Council  
Pee Dee Association

Please allow this letter to serve as my official resignation from the Ordaining Council. I appreciate the opportunity to have served these past eight to nine years. Due to my work schedule now, I no longer have the time to fulfill my obligations as I did in times past. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

The Reverend Jackie Strickland

The Reverend James Howard Nobles moved to accept The Reverend Strickland's resignation. Motion was seconded and carried.

The Reverend Dallas Byrd moved to take up the business of filling the vacancy on the Ordaining Council. Motion was seconded and carried.

The moderator opened the floor for nominations, and The Reverend Dallas Byrd nominated The Reverend Kenneth Woolwine. With no other nominations, Bro. Elgin Cribb moved to close the nominations. Motion was seconded and carried.

The moderator called for a vote to appoint The Reverend Kenneth Woolwine to the Ordaining Council, and he was unanimously approved.

The clerk reviewed the Executive Committee's plan to assist churches affected by Hurricane Florence and subsequent flooding. On or before October 28, affected churches should contact McPherson indicating that they were damaged along with an approximate cost. On or before November 25, if possible, churches that wish to contribute to the disaster relief fund should mail their contributions to Ron Settle, treasurer. McPherson will prepare a flier to give to delegates with this information. The Executive Committee will recommend that the Association authorize the Executive Committee to disperse funds to the affected churches on "needs basis."

McPherson moved, seconded by The Reverend James Howard Nobles, to accept the Executive Committee's recommendation. Motion carried. McPherson gave pastors and delegates fliers for their churches. After contributions are received and distributed, the Executive Committee will send a complete report to all churches.

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

Danny McPherson reminded the Association that this was the year to recommend their representative to serve on the Executive Committee of the State Convention. McPherson moved to accept the Executive Committee's recommendation and recommend The Reverend F. Buddy Seay to continue to serve as the Pee Dee Association representative on the Executive Committee of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The Reverend James Howard Nobles seconded the motion, and it carried.

The Reverend James Howard Nobles moved to select a home for the 2019 annual meeting. Motion carried. The Reverend Kenneth Woolwine invited the Association to meet at Pireway Original Free Will Baptist Church for the 2019 annual meeting scheduled for October 19, 2019. The Reverend Jamie Ward moved that the invitation be accepted; motion carried.

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

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

The Reverend Jimmy McNeill delivered the message, taking his text from Mark 11: 1-6.

The Reverend Dean Cartrette returned thanks for lunch prepared by Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church and adjourned the annual meeting with benediction.

Respectfully submitted,

The Reverend Dean Cartrette  
Moderator

Dr. Danny D. McPherson  
Clerk