

*MINUTES OF*

*The Pilgrim Association*

*OF THE*

*Original Free Will*

*Baptist Churches*

*SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION*

*was held at the*

*Tedar Grove Free Will Baptist Church*

*Concord, North Carolina*

*September 27, 1969*

The next Annual Session will be held on the last  
Saturday in September at Oak Grove Free Will  
Baptist Church, China Grove.

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## ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Moderator ----- Rev. S. A. Graybeal  
Vice Moderator ----- Rev. Millard Hardman  
Clerk ----- Rev. and Mrs. James Ross  
Treasurer ----- Rev. Weldon Key

## Minister's Conference Officers

Moderator ----- Rev. Henry Sides  
Vice Moderator ----- Rev. Weldon Key  
Clerk ----- Rev. and Mrs. James Ross  
Treasurer ----- Rev. Weldon Key

## Ladies' Auxiliary Officers

President ----- Mrs. Odellia Vann  
Vice President ----- Mrs. Furr

## Trustees

Rev. W. C. Eggers                      Guss Cole                      Rev. S. A. Graybeal

## Ordaining Council

Rev. Colon Hudson, Rev. W. C. Eggers, Rev. Millard Hardman,  
Rev. Henry Sides, Rev. Lee Johnson

## MINISTER'S NAMES

### Name & Address

- Rev. Earl Ruff  
General Delivery, Kannapolis, N. C.
- Rev. Lee Johnson  
Box 234, Mt. Pleasant, N. C.
- Rev. L. C. Boatwright  
P. O. Box 173, Hiddinite, N. C.
- Rev. Colon Hudson  
Route 1, New London, N. C.
- Rev. W. C. Eggers  
840 Mutual Road, Gastonia, N. C.
- Rev. W. E. Tisenier  
515 Phins Street, Kings Mountain, N. C.
- Rev. Millard Hardman  
Route 1, Box 465, Mooresville, N. C.
- Rev. Henry Sides  
61 Roberta Road, Concord, N. C.
- Rev. Julius Hopkins  
P. O. Box 413, Jefferson, S. C.
- Rev. Jay Lee Barbee  
Route 4, Box 675, Kannapolis, N. C.
- Rev. L. B. Cochran  
Route 2, Box 304, Kannapolis, N. C.
- Rev. S. A. Graybeal  
709 Deaton Street, Kannapolis, N. C.
- Rev. Wildon Key  
Route 4, Box 412, Kannapolis, N. C.
- Rev. James C. Ross  
Route 2, Box 167, China Grove, N. C.
- Rev. W. W. Wright  
202 Phifer Street, Monroe, N. C.

## CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant.

We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction to the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions and social worship; and by self-denial, faith and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences; public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace to be careful to one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able promote the success of the church and of the gospel.

We will, everywhere, hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society, constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday schools, and the evangelistic effort for the salvation of the world.

## **RULES OF DECORUM**

- (1) The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
- (2) There shall be no conversation by members one with another so as to interrupt business while in session.
- (3) Every member wishing to speak shall first rise and address the Moderator.
- (4) No member shall interrupt a member while speaking.
- (5) We shall admit no other title in session but that of Brother and Sister.
- (6) Every member speaking shall attend to the subject under consideration.
- (7) No member shall speak more than twice on any one subject.
- (8) Every motion made and seconded shall be attended to unless withdrawn by the person who made it.
- (9) No member shall absent himself from the body without leave of the Moderator.
- (10) On all motions made where the vote of the body is taken, a majority shall prevail.
- (11) The Moderator shall have the same privilege to speak as any other member provided the chair is filled.
- (12) Any member transgressing the above rules shall be admonished by the Moderator.
- (13) Not less than 2/3 majority shall constitute a quorum.

## **PILGRIM ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST CONSTITUTION**

- (1) This Association shall be composed of delegates elected by churches of this body to represent the churches annually.
- (2) The Association when assembled, shall first elect a moderator and clerk.
- (3) Rules of decorum must be read immediately after the Association is assembled.
- (4) The Association will encourage a sound ministry such as presents CHRIST all sufficient SAVIOR that the plan of salvation presented by CHRIST, is strictly and definitely grace and as presented by the Gospel, will save all human beings who accept it.

- (5) Any minister in good standing with their Church or Association may be invited to a seat in our Council, take part in our deliberations and their name be enrolled in our minutes.
- (6) It is the duty of the Association to appoint or elect, Committees to take care of special business. Each Committee report must be in writing and turned in to the clerk for reading before the Assembly.
- (7) All questions presented to the Association by any Church or Minister shall be attended to.
- (8) Any Church wishing to unite with this Association may do so, by letter presented by delegates of said Church. The Church must accept our articles of faith and Church covenant.
- (9) The Association may withdraw from any Church who walks disorderly or violates any rule made and passed on by this body.
- (10) It is to be understood that this body assumes no higher authority than an advisory council.
- (11) Any Minister found casting his influence against any Church, or in any way marring the character unjustly of another Minister will be dealt with by the Ministers conference.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. The Bible. The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.
2. God. There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe; and in the Scriptures as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; yet as one God. infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore, and obey.
3. Christ. Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His Divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified. He is now risen and glorified, and is our everpresent Saviour and Lord.
4. The Holy Spirit. The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God.
5. The Government of God. God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of men requires.

6. The Sinfulness of Man. Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity therefore, inherit a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability, sin and become guilty before God.
7. The Work of Christ. The Son of God by His incarnation, life, suffering, death, and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free, and is the ground of salvation by faith.
8. The terms of Salvation. The conditions of salvation are: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's life to Christ as Savior and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith, the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin, and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.
9. Election. God determined from the beginning to save all who would comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.
10. Freedom of the Will. The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.
11. Salvation Free. God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.
12. Perserverance. All believers in Christ who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.
13. Gospel Ordinances. Baptism, or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel. Feet Washing, an ordinance teaching humility of universal obligation, and to be ministered to all true believers.
14. Tithing. God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ endorsed it in the Gospel (Matt. 23:23), and the apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him." (I Cor. 16:2a).
15. The Christian Sabbath. The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works, and activities, and for personal communion with God.
16. Resurrection, Judgment and Final Retribution. The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have



done good will come forth to the resurrection of life and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

## **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

- (1) The Ordination Council shall have Ministers' Conference authority in the interim.
- (2) The Ministers' Conference shall have authority to elect the Ordination Council.
- (3) All Ministers, licensed and ordained, shall have a seat, voice and vote to all Ministers' Conferences, and, along with all delegates, at Associational Conferences.
- (4) Any Minister failing to send a report to the Association in two (2) Annually Association shall be dropped.
- (5) The Executive Board shall have Associational authority in the interim.

## **RULES GOVERNING ORDINATION COUNCIL**

- (1) No minister may be granted license or certificate of ordination unless he presents a letter of recommendation from the church of which he is a member .
- (2) No licensed minister may be ordained under one year from date of license unless he is called to be a full time pastor.
- (3) All ministers being admitted to this association must promise to give up the credentials they hold from this association if and when he is adjudged by ministers conference to be disqualified to preach the gospel in compliance to our faith.
- (4) Council shall or ordain any person qualifying by rules of THE PILGRIM ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST.
- (5) Council shall not issue credentials to brethren who have two living companion without a Bible right.
- (6) This council must not use partiality in the issuance of credentials.
- (7) These rules must be read to each minister asking for entrance into this association.
- (8) This ordination council shall have ministers conference authority in the interim.

## ***Minister Report***

The Minister's Conference was called to order with Rev. Henry Sides at Cedar Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Sunday, December 30, 1968. Rev. and Mrs. Clifford Ross was elected Clerks of the Minister Conference. Rev. Graybeal, Moderator of the Association called Conference to elect a clerk. Rev. Sides made a motion that Rev. and Mrs. Clifford Ross be clerk. Voted 100%. Rev. Graybeal subject to pay the clerks \$20.00, voted 100%. Rev. Key made a move to go out of the Association. Rev. Key gave a report on the treasures report of what money was taken in money paid out. Rev. Ross discussed to go see Rev. Johnny Sprinkle, to see whether or not he was going back into the Missionary Baptist. Rev. Key made a move that the Ordain Council go to see these Brethren. Rev. Sides set the first Sunday in February as offering Sundya for the Children's Home. Dismissed by Rev. Key.

The Second meeting of the Minister's Conference was held at Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church with Rev. Graybeal. Rev. Graybeal led the song, "Some Day". Rev. Sides led in prayer, after which Rev. Graybeal asked Rev. Ross to read the scripture Psalm 20, 8 through 12, he brought a wonderful message, after which Rev. Sides declared the house in order. The Clerk read the minutes of the last meeting. Rev. Sides discussed P. Church and asked the Ministers Conference what he should do. it was subject that the church try him first. It was subject and passed that the Ordain Council send the Minister not attending the Minister's Conference a letter asking them to meet with the Ordain Council. Rev. Ross subject that the Minister's Conference be moved to Saturday. Moved by Rev. Graybeal. second Rev. Teasnier. Rev. Hudson invited the Conference to Faith Free Will Baptist Church.

The Third Conference met at Faith Free Will Baptist Church with Rev. Colon Hudson. Rev. Graybeal led the song "I Feel Like Traveling On." after which Rev. Graybeal read the scripture John 6. Rev Key led in prayer, after which the Conference was turned over to the Vice Moderator. The Clerk read the minutes of the last meeting. it was accepted. It was moved and seconded to drop the ministers that turn their license in. seconded by Rev. Graybeal.

The Annual Ministers Conference met at Cedar Grove Free Will Baptist Church with Rev. Sides. Mrs. Louise Cochran led the song, Give Me Your Hand. Rev. Sides welcomed each one to the conference. Rev. Ronald Creech led in prayer. Rev. Sides read the scripture and brought a wonderful message. he then called the house in order. he then asked Rev. Graybeal to take over. The clerk read the minutes and also page seven in the minutes books. Rev. Creech was given a seat in the Conference and the Association.

## ***Association Report***

The Association met at Cedar Grove Free Will Baptist Church with Rev. Sides. Mrs. Louise Cochran lead the song, "O I Want to See Him. Rev. Sides welcomed the Association after which he turned it over to Rev. Lee Johnson, who brought a wonderful sermn. Dismissed for lunch which was served by the ladies and enjoyed by all.

The Association re-opened with Mrs. Cochran leading the song, There is Power in the Blood. Rev. Cochran led in prayer. Rev. Sides then turned it over to the Moderator. Rev. Graybeal, called for nomination, Rev. Millard Hardman was nominated Vice Moderator, Clerks Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Ross, Treasurer Rev. Wildon Key. It was moved and seconded that the Church name and Pastor name and Clerks nme be put in the minutes books. The Committees were then named. The Singing Convention will be held the First Sunday in June at Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church. The second one to be at Faith Free Will Baptist Church, the third Sunday in September.

### **Committee Reports**

We your Finance Committee do hereby recommend the following: That each Church send twenty-five (25) cents per member.

Allen Morris, Guss Cole, Rev. Henry Sides, Rev. Wildon Key

We your Mission Committee do hereby recommend that each church send a free will offering to our Foreign Mission.

Mrs. Louise Cochran, Rev. Colon Hudson, Rev. W. E. Eggers

We your Children Home Committee do hereby recommend that each Church take an offering in November to be sent to the Children Home.

Mrs. Guss Cole, Rev. L. B. Cochran, Rev. Lee Johnson

We also will have a Sing the first Sunday in June at Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church and the second one at Faith Free Will Baptist Church in September.

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Allen Morris, Guss Cole, Rev. Wildon Key, Rev. Henry Sides

#### **MISSIONS COMMITTEE**

Louise Cochran, Rev. Colon Hudson, Rev. W. C. Eggers

#### **CHILDREN HOME**

Mrs. Guss Cole, Rev. L. B. Cochran, Rev. Lee Johnson

#### **SINGING CONVENTION**

Mrs. Guss Cole, Miss Patsy Cole

## Churches Paying

Cedar Grove .....	\$37.60
Oak Grove .....	\$68.00
Immanuel .....	\$40.00
Faith .....	\$15.00
New Hope .....	\$25.00

## Ministers Paying Dues

Rev. Henry Sides .....	\$4.00
Rev. L. C. Boatwright .....	\$4.00
Rev. Lee Johnson .....	\$4.00
Rev. J. C. Ross .....	\$4.00
Rev. W. C. Eggers .....	\$4.00
Rev. S. A. Graybeal .....	\$4.00
Rev. Millard Hardman .....	\$4.00
Rev. L. B. Cochran .....	\$4.00
Rev. W. W. Wright .....	
Rev. Wildon Key .....	\$4.00
Rev. Julius Hopkins .....	\$4.00
Rev. Jay Lee Barbee .....	\$5.00
Rev. Earl Ruff .....	
Rev. Colon Hudson .....	\$4.00
Rev. W. E. Tesenior .....	

## CHURCH NAMES AND CLERK ADDRESS

Faith Free Will Baptist Church, Albemarle, N. C.

Clerk—Mrs. Mary Hudson, Route 1, New London, N. C.

Pastor—Rev. Colon Hudson, Route 1, New London, N. C.

Cedar Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Concord, N. C.

Pastor—Rev. Henry Sides, 61 Robrta Road, Concord, N. C.

Immanuel Free Will Baptist Church, 405 N. Bostians St, China Grove

Pastor—Rev. Weldon Key, Route 4, Box 412, Kannapolis, N.C.

New Hope Free Will Baptist Church, Concord, N. C.

Clerk—Mr. and Mrs. Bill Wensil

Pastor—Rev. Millard Hardman, Rt. 1, Box 465, Mooresville, N.C.

Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church

Clerk—Mrs. Odlia Vann, 1017 E. 10th, Kannapolis, N. C.

Pastor—Rev. S. A. Graybeal, 709 Deaton St., Kannapolis, N. C.

## **Ladies Auxiliary**

**Church—Oak Grove Free Will Baptist**

**President—Mrs. Vann**

**Vice President—Mrs. McCain**

**Secretary—Miss Gail Elder**

**Treasurer— Mrs. Shirley Trexler**

**Money Received—\$449.62**

**Money Paid Out (also pounding)—\$295.31**

**Members—18**

**Average Attendance—15**

**Fee—\$3.00**

**Total in Treasury—\$154.31**

**Church—Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church**

**President—Mrs. Henry D. Sides**

**Vice President—Mrs. Harvey Hurlocker**

**Secretary—Mrs. Ella Mae Pressley**

**Treasurer—Mrs. Nora Knight**

**Member—15**

**Money Took In—\$146.00**

**Money Paid Out—\$10.00**

**Fee To Association—\$3.00**

**President—Doris Kirk**

**Vice Presidnet—Florence Burris**

**Secretary-Treasurer—Frances Treece**

**Members—14**

**Amount In Treasury—\$227.83**

**Fee To Association—\$3.00**

## SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

CHURCH	No. on Roll	Avg. Attendance	In Treasury At Beginning of Year	Received	Total	Paid Out	Balance
Cedar Grove .	46	25	177.00	1879.18	2056.18	1931.08	125.13
Faith	58	55	2150.00	2300.00	4450.00	406.00	4450.00
Immanuel	126	68					
New Hope	74	71					
Oak Grove	96	59					

## ANNUAL MINISTER'S REPORT

NAME	Sermons Preached	Revivals Held	Professions	Members Received	Members Baptized	Funerals Conducted	Homes Visited	Hospitals Visited	Weddings Performed	S. S. Lessons Taught	Money Given	Money Received	Approximate Miles Traveled	Expenses
Jay Lee Barbee	25		15			1	75	150	1		95.00		1,000	75.00
L. C. Boatwright	105	1	6	8	8	2	18	26				700.00		
L. B. Cochran	15		10		4	1	20	30	1		100.00	600.00	1,000	100.00
S. A. Graybeal	100	1	30	22	7	3	25	30	4		125.00	1300.00		150.00
Julius Hopkins	40					1	40	1		52	104.00		1,500	100.00
Colon Hudson	108		30	15	15			25	1	3	500.00	200.00	2,000	
Weldon J. Key	105		8	4		2	200	40	1	25	700.00	1040.00	1,200	
James C. Ross	20		2		4		30	15			200.00		300.00	100.00
Fred Earl Ruff	10						6	3		4	32.00			
Henry D. Sides	99			8	4	2	50	35	1		505.00	1188.32	1,200	200.00
Millard C. Hardman	147	1	29	8	3		381	27		9	655.00		21630	
W.C. Eggers	32	2	6	3			15				20.00	75.00	2,000	65.00
Lee Johnson	25						50	5	3		223.00		300	50.00

# ANNUAL CHURCH REPORT

Name Of Church	Rec'd. by Letter	By Baptism	By Statement	Total Rec'd.	Dismissed by Letter	By Erasure	By Death	Total Dismissed	Gain	Present Membership	Paid Pastor	Other Salaries	Paid for Evangelistic Purposes	Missions	Contributions to Children's Home	Contributions to Charitable Purposes	General Fund	Bldg. and Repairs	Indebtedness	Misc. Purposes	Value of Church Property
Oak Grove	2	15		27	2		3	5	17	169	1300.00					145.96		970.00		808.11	\$10,000.00
Faith	2	15	4	21						39			100.00			100.00	15.00				
Immanuel			4	4	5					67	1005.00		310.00	143.13		70.00	40.00	5212.90	3,465	2047.51	\$20,000.00
New Hope	2	4	2	8					7	74		135.00			25.00			150.00			\$15,000.00
Cedar Grove	2	4	2	8					4	32	1188.32	50.00			35.00	87.00	37.50	476.82		265.91	\$12,000.00



