

**PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF ALABAMA**

FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION
Russellville Free Will Baptist Church
Russellville, Alabama

OCTOBER 24, 25, 1975
MINUTES

1976 SESSION
South Highland Free Will Baptist Church
Muscle Shoals, Alabama

AUGUST 27, 28, 1976

OFFICERS FOR 1976

Moderator	Rev. Walter Jaggers
504 Green Ave, Cordova, Alabama	
Assistant Moderator	Rev. A. J. Lambert
Rt. 6, Jasper, Alabama	
Clerk	Mrs. Lorene Ryland
235 Branch St., Cordova, Alabama	
Assistant Clerk	Mrs. Louie Bates
P. O. Box 12, Graysville, Alabama	
Treasurer	Rev. William Baird
Rt. 2, Box 183A, Leighton, Alabama	
Assistant Treasurer	Mrs. William Baird
Rt. 2, Box 183A, Leighton, Alabama	

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Three year term	Rev. A. J. Lambert
Two year term	Rev. Carlton Lambert
One year term	Rev. H. A. Pitts

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Five year term	Rev. Louie Bates
Four year term	Rev. Milton Fields
Three year term	Rev. James Pittman
Two year term	Rev. Carlton Lambert
One year term	Rev. Ronnie Edgil

PROGRESSIVE DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY OFFICERS (1974)

President	Mrs. Jo Ann Riggs
Vice President	Mrs. Verna Malone
Secretary-Treasurer	Mrs. Betty Capps

The Woman's Auxiliary Convention convened with the Florence Free Will Baptist Church on March 1, 1975. Our meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by our President, Mrs. Jo Ann Riggs. Song, "Rescue the Perishing," led by Jim Williams. Prayer by Brother Harold Pitts. Mrs. Elizabeth Murphy gave the welcome address. Mrs. Elree Randolph gave the response. Morning devotional was given by Mrs. Merle Dyer, with thoughts taken from Psalm 150. Minutes of the 1973 meeting were read. MS&C. The treasurers report was accepted. Roll call and seating of delegates.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED:

RESOLUTION: Elree Randolph, Millie Suggs, Essie Collins

FINANCE: Helen Fields, Betty Sargent
 APPRECIATION: Clytee Pitts, Verla Ryland, Janice Burcham
 REGISTRATION: Nancy Childers, Frances McGee
 NOMINATING: Thelma Lindsey, Merle Dyer, Evelyn Bevis

Special song, "The Breaking of the Bread," by Jim Williams. Our guest speaker, Trula Cronk gave the message using scripture from 1 John and Matthew 22. She emphasized the problem in every religion is, "What to do about our sin?" Dismissed for lunch.

Afternoon session began with a song led by Mrs. Helen Fields and prayer by Betty Monday. The message for the afternoon by Trula Cronk entitled "Surprise by Joy." She shared some of her experiences in India. Later a question and answer time with our missionary. State delegates were appointed as follows: Louie Jaggars, Mrs. Ed Ledlow, Mrs. W. F. Ryland, Mrs. A. M. Wallace, Frances McGee, Betty Sargent, Merle Dyer, Jewell Smith, Helen Canada, Carol James and the district delegate to the State meeting, Mrs. A. J. Lambert. Adjourned with prayer.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

RESOLUTION:

We, the resolution committee, report the following:

1. That all money from local auxiliaries be sent to the district treasurer, who in turn will send it to the State and the State to the National.
 - A. Superannuation
 - B. WNAC Emphasis
 - C. Pre-Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas
 - D. Co-Laborer
 - E. Student Loan
2. That all Auxiliaries be encouraged to attend the prayer retreat.
3. That each local auxiliary give name and address of officers to the district secretary so a mailing list can be available.
4. That all local auxiliaries mail their money for the state project for this year to our present treasurer within the next two weeks.

APPRECIATION:

We, the appreciation committee, want to express our appreciation to the host church for the warm hospitality, bountiful lunch, and the inspiring message by Trula Cronk.

FINANCE:

We, the finance committee, have examined the records and found them in order.

REGISTRATION:

26 visitors, 16 delegated, and 2 ministers.

OFFICERS FOR THE COMING YEAR:

President Mrs. Barabara Danley
 Vice President Mrs. Jo Ann Riggs

Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Sue White
 Assistant Mrs. Betty Capps
 Mission Prayer Chairman Mrs. Ray Sides
 Mission Study Chairman Mrs. Merle Dyer
 Mission Action Mrs. Louie Jaggars

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Oct. 24, 1975

Session opened by singing "He Keeps Me Singing." Prayer offered by Rev. Charles Hollingshead. We sang "Jesus Saves." Rev. Eustus Riggs, pastor of host church gave a warm welcome to everyone. Response to the welcome by Rev. Charles Hollingshead. He told us how glad he was to be back in Alabama.

Called to order by clerk, Mrs. Louie Bates. 17 standing delegates—preachers and deacons. 16 churches representing.

Credential Committee appointed: Earnest Sargent, A. M. Wallace, H. A. Pitts.

Letters read and accepted. Delegates seated. M.S. to receive, carried.

CORDOVA: Lorene Ryland

DOVERTOWN: Verla Ryland, Mimie Hyche, Denise Gurganus, Mary Foster

ELDRIDGE: David Kent

OAK GROVE: Mrs. Lee Williams, Mrs. Louie Bates

HARMONY: Guy Grissom, Hayden Lowery, Mrs. Grace Lowery

SOUTH HIGHLAND:

FAYETTE: Sheryl Nickles

JASPER: Mrs. Walden, Mrs. Willie Barnes, Mrs. Julie Honeycutt

ENSLEY: Mrs. Martha Hill, Mrs. Ada Tidewill, Mrs. Ruby Dickerson

SULLIGENT: Hattie Harrison, Bonnie Sargent

NORTHPORT: Mrs. H. A. Pitts, James D. Crowe, Samuel Key

RUSSELLVILLE: Charles Bray, Walker Cummins, Jo Ann Riggs, Ida Cummins, Elree Randolph

TOWNLEY:

SULPHUR SPRINGS:

CAVE SPRINGS: Clairon Carroll, Glena Borden, Mrs. Bernice Carroll

FLORENCE:

Moderator appointed Committee on Committee:

William Baird, W. H. Ryland, Ron Edgil

Visitors, Rev. Dennis Hagood, Jasper Association

Mrs. Lorene Ryland was appointed to assistant clerk.

Dismissed for 10 minutes intermission.

The eleven o'clock worship service opened with singing, "At the Cross" "Joy Unspeakable" and "At Calvary." Rev. and Mrs. Ed Ledlow sang "All Because of God" "Amazing Grace." Rev. James Walden brought the message, using Scripture Genesis 6, Mark 3, Ephesians 4, prayer before the message, "Grieving God by hardening our hearts, by being disobedient to God, when we are out of God's will, we forget God's correction." Just remember calvary and our hearts will be softened, Jesus is coming. The main thing is, is our heart prepared to meet Him? Closing with prayer. Invitation was offered that the

unsaved might be saved, singing, "My Jesus I Love Thee." Dismissed for lunch, prayer for food, Rev. W. H. Ryland.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The afternoon session opened with singing, "Victory in Jesus" and "Rescue the Pershing." Rev. Ron Edgil gave the devotional using John 21:15, "Lovest thou me?" Prayer after reading Ephesians 5:18.

PARTIAL REPORT OF CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE:

We, the credential committee of the Progressive association, have examined letters from different churches making up the association. We find them in order. We, therefore, recommend all delegates be seated and giving a voice in the 44th session of Progressive Association. Sulphur Springs failed to give names of deacons for cards of good standing, (no names, no cards). M.S. & C. to accept.

CHILDREN'S HOME REPORT:

Rev. A. J. Lambert gave a short report on this due to the absence of Rev. Carlton Lambert, because the harvest drive was on, he was unable to leave the home. M.S. & C. to receive the information.

YOUTH CAMP REPORT:

By Rev. Steve Nichols. M.S. & C. to receive as information.

Camp Director—Steve Nichols

Camp Evangelist—Al Hamm

This years camp can be rated with the best that we have had. There were 13 decisions for salvation and numerous other commitments made to the Lord. The spiritual atmosphere in the services and classes were a blessing.

Total in camp—181

Workers—26

Campers—150

Children—5

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

Balance on Hand \$2.54

Receipts:

Offerings from churches 230.16

Youth Rally offering (Jan.) 70.00

Campers' fees 3,933.00

Progressive Association treasurer 150.00

Camper Reservation fees 179.00

Sub total 4,562.16

Total (receipts and balance) 4,564.70

Expenditures

Camp rental 3,933.00

Camp reservation fee 200.00

Smith Printing Co. 15.67

Marion Davis Printing Co. 18.96

Postmaster 8.00

Church Training Service 57.90

Smith Christian Supply 7.48

Al Hamm-Evangelist 125.00

Christian Bookstore 24.93

Townley FWB Church (refund) 25.00

Steve Nichols (sports supply & postage) 34.08

Total Expenditures 4,450.02

Balance on Hand 114.68

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Nichols

REPORT OF THE CTS YOUTH RALLY 1974-75

Financial:

Balance brought forward \$29.60

Received during the year 251.16

Total to account for 280.76

Total paid out 281.83

Balance in treasury (1.07)

We had six youth rallies during the year with each being moderately attended. Representatives from the Progressive Association CTS Rally to the State Competition in Dothan won in seven of the seventeen categories. These winners were: Donna Fraizer, Jasper; Pam Boshell, Townley; Suzanne Sudduth, Northport; Ginger Boshell, Townley; Youth Choir, Jasper; Bible Tic Tac Toe, Russellville; and Sharon McCombs, Ensley. Of these representatives to National competition, three placed at the national level. They were the Bible Tic Tac Toe team from Russellville which is now number one in the nation and Ginger Boshell and Sharon McCombs who were both first alternates in their respective categories.

M.S. to accept information.

Milton Fields,

Youth Rally Director

Gentlemen:

I regret that I am unable to be with you for this session. Here are the reports which I was scheduled to give to the body.

Insofar as the report of the Youth Rally is concerned, I handed in a copy of the treasurer's report at the July session which met at Fayette. This is a partial report from that time. (The clerk was given a copy of the financial report

for last year.) We have had only one rally. That was during the month of October and it met at Ensley. The next rally will meet at Townley on November 15th with the December rally meeting with the First Church of Jasper on December 13. All rallies are at 7:00 p.m.

M.S. & C. to receive information.

The State Board of Education has had an executive meeting since the last Progressive Association and we have decided to recommend to the state that each church be encouraged to contribute to the Board Treasury so that we will be able to continue the practice begun this year of aiding our contestants as they travel to the National Association. We plan a rally on the third Saturday in January which will hopefully meet in Montgomery. The site of the June state CTS Competition has not been determined. Due to the large size of the meetings (approximately 650 this past January and 525 plus in June we are limited in places where we can go. If you have suggestions then please contact me so I can forward those suggestions to the board.

M.S. & C. to receive information

Sincerely in Christ,
Milton Fields

Motion to adjourn until Saturday morning at 10 o'clock. M.S. & C.
Prayer by Earnest Sargent.

FRIDAY NIGHT

H. A. Pitts, Moderator: Youth night.

Opened by singing, "Lily of the Valley." Prayer by Rev. Eustus Riggs. Singing, "The Solid Rock" and "When I See the Blood." Rev. H.A. Pitts brought the devotion and his thoughts were pertaining to the solid rock. Rev. and Sister Ledlow sang a duet, "Must I Go" and "Empty Handed." Offering was received to go to the youth camp. \$40.60 was received. We sang, "Standing on the Promises." Sister William Baird sang a solo, "Sheltered in the Arms of God." Rev. William Baird brought the night message, his title, "Movie House Religion" 2 Timothy 3:15. We are living in a time of make believe, Matthew 28:19-20. We have a form of prayer life not sincere like God would have us to be. Closing prayer by Rev. Charles Hollingshead.

SATURDAY MORNING

October 25, 1975

Opened with singing, "Praise the Lord" and "Sunlight." Prayer by Brother Key. Devotion by Rev. Earnest Sargent. Thought, Power at the altar of God.

RESOLUTIONS REPORT:

Whereas:

We, the resolutions committee recommend that the Progressive Association change the dates of the annual and quarterly meeting because of the

conflict with the dates for the meetings of the childrens home trustees and the annual harvest drive.

We recommend the annual meeting be Friday A.M. and Saturday before the last Sunday in August. We recommend the quarterly meetings be the last Saturday in November, February, and May. M.S. & C. Rev. James Pittman, Rev. Ron Edgil and Rev. Hershel Beard. (We will omit the November meeting this time.)

OBITUARY:

We, your obituary committee, report the following with sorrow, the passing of some of our beloved members during the past year. Our hearts go out to each family and church who has suffered such loss. We trust our loss will be Heaven's gain. We ask the congregation to stand in silent prayer in memory of those gone on and for the loved ones left behind. The names of the deceased are as follows:

Harmony: Brother Will Combell, Brother Percy Posey and Sister Lenice Norman.

Oak Grove: Sister Flora Tubbs, Brother Carl Hanley, and Brother W. T. Lowe.

Cave Springs: Brother William (Bill) Burks and Brother Rufus Holladay.

Russellville: Brother Jesse Williams.

Dovertown: Brother Claude Hyche and Brother William Sides.

Cordova: Sister Lois Sargent and Brother Louis Sides.

APPRECIATION:

We, your appreciation committee, would like to thank the Russellville church for inviting the association to meet with them, the speakers for the wonderful messages, the host church for the fine meals and hospitality shown us while we have been here by a standing vote of thanks. Sister Harold Pitts, Sister Lee Williams and Sister Lorene Ryland. M.S. & C.

NOMINATION:

We submit the following to serve for the coming 1976 year.

OFFICERS:

Moderator	Rev. Walter Jagers
Assistant Moderator	Rev. A. J. Lambert
Clerk	Sister Lorene Ryland
Assistant Clerk	Sister Louie Bates
Treasurer	Rev. William Baird
Assistant Treasurer	Sister William Baird

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Three Year	Rev. A. J. Lambert
Two Year	Rev. Carlton Lambert
One Year	Rev. H. A. Pitts

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Five Year	Rev. Louie Bates
Four Year	Rev. Milton Fields

Three Year Rev. James Pittman
 Two Year Rev. Carlton Lambert
 One Year Rev. Ron Edgil
 M.S. & C.

We recommend that we receive Charles Hollingshead into full fellowship of the Progressive Association. M.S. & C. We gave the handshake of fellowship, while we sang "Amazing Grace." He then gave a talk on Christian counseling clinic to be set up in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Resolution lay on the table.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEE:

RESOLUTION:

1. Rev. James Pittman
2. Rev. Hershel Beard
3. Rev. Ron Edgil

TEMPERANCE:

1. David Kent
2. Clarion Carroll
3. J. M. Ryland

OBITUARY:

1. Verla Ryland
2. Bonnie Sargent
3. Bernice Carroll

APPRECIATION:

1. Mrs. H. A. Pitts
2. Mrs. Lee Williams
3. Mrs. Lorene Ryland

NOMINATING:

1. Eustus Riggs
2. James Walden
3. Walter Cummings

AUDITING:

1. Ed Ledlow
2. Guy Grissom
3. Vira Walden

Respectfully submitted,

William Baird, W. H. Ryland & Ron Edgil
 Oct. 24, 1975

April 26, 1975

We met with Sulligent Church, 13 churches present. Devotion by Rev. A. J. Lambert. Mrs. Louie Bates was appointed as Assistant Clerk by Moderator Rev. A. J. Lambert. Rev. J. D. O'Donnell spoke on Operation Partnership. Rev.

W. H. Ryland delivered the morning message. Thoughts, Second coming of Christ, using Matthew 28, and John 14. Lunch served by host church. Devotion by Rev. J. D. O'Donnell, "Serving the Lord." A letter of good standing was granted to Rev. Joe Jones to unite with the Cumberland Association in Nashville, Tennessee. Oak Grove be granted the privilege to ordain Brother Leo Lipsey as a deacon in his home church.

That Brother E. B. Ledlow be received in full fellowship of the Progressive Association.

Youth camp report by Brother Baird, encouraging all our youth to attend camp.

July 26, 1975

Meeting with Fayette Church, 14 churches represented. Devotion by James Walden. Thoughts, "Who So Ever Will." Brother Stanley Outlaw from Bible College recognized and welcomed. James Pittman gave report on youth camp. Rev. Tom Malone brought the message. Thoughts, "Kept by the Power of God." 1 Peter 1:8.

Lunch served by host church. Brother Pitts gave the devotion. Brother James Walden received into the Progressive Association. Doug Ferguson, licensed for another year. Brother Richard James be granted a license. Read by Lorene Ryland. M.S. & C. The annual meeting will meet with South Highland Free Will Baptist Church, Muscle Shoals, Alabama, August 27, 28, 1976

November no meeting:

February 28, 1976. The quarterly meeting meets with Harmony FWB Church, Rt. 2, Leighton, Alabama 35646.

May 29, 1976 quarterly meeting meets with Dooertown FWB Church, Dooertown, Alabama.

DELEGATES TO STATE ASSOCIATION:

Cordova: Lorene Ryland
 Dooertown: Verla Ryland
 Ensley: Mrs. Ed Ledlow
 Florence:
 Harmony: Hayden Lowery
 Fayette: Mrs. A. M. Wallace
 Jasper: Mrs. James Walden
 Northport: Mrs. Harold Pitts
 Oak Grove: Mrs. Louie Bates
 Russellville:
 South Highland:
 Sulpher Springs:
 Sulligent: Mrs. Bonnie Sargent
 Cave Springs: Mrs. Ron Edgil
 Eldridge: Mrs. Betty Lambert
 Townley: Mrs. Milton Fields
 One at Large: Mrs. A. J. Lambert
 Mr. and Mrs. Clarion Carroll

Rev. Ron Edgil sang a solo, "The Longer I Serve Him." Special prayer was requested by Rev. H. A. Pitts that Ron Edgil might be healed of his hearing defect. Our hearts were blessed from this prayer. We sang, "Stand Up For Jesus." Rev. W. H. Ryland prayed. Rev. Steve Nichols brought the morning message using Philippians 2:1-11 followed with prayer. To live a life of harmony we must have love for one another. Are we really living the life in harmony as a child should?

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE: Final Report

We have examined letters from Townley and Florence and we recommend that Florence send in their fee to the association clerk along with their statistics that did not appear on their letter. The Townley Church was in order except of fee, they paid \$10.00 and it should be \$17.40.

We have examined Charles Harbison, Charles J. Higginbotham, Alex Oberneder for ordination on request that they be ordained.

We request that Guyn Pugh & William A. Wilson be licensed for one year.

We recommend that Eric Murphy be referred to the next quarterly meeting to be accepted as an ordained minister from West Virginia.

We recommend that any person or persons coming before the credential committee for ordination send in their questionnaire to the credential committee with answers before a particular association meeting so the committee will have time to study some before the actual ordination. M.S. & C.

Dismissed for lunch by Rev. Eustus Riggs.

Credential Committee:

Rev. Carlton Lambert

Rev. James Walden

Rev. William Baird

North Youth Director	Rev. James Pittman
Assistant North Youth Director	Rev. William Baird
South Youth Director	Rev. Milton Fields
Assistant South Youth Director	Rev. James Walden
North Youth Camp Director	Rev. James Pittman
South Youth Camp Director	Rev. Walter Jagers

M.S. & C.

Nomination Committee:

Eustus Riggs

James Walden

Walker Cummings

AUDITING COMMITTEE REPORT:

We have checked the treasurer's book and found everything in order. The youth camp and board of Christian education books are not available for auditing. E. B. Ledlow, Vina Walton and Guy Grisom. M.S. & C.

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE:

We, the temperance committee, would urge the pastors and members of

the Progressive Association to reaffirm their convictions against sinful amusements and protect against sins of this age. David Kent, Clarion Carroll, and J. M. Ryland. M.S. & C.

QUARTERLY MEETINGS REPORT:

January meeting was at Townley, 14 churches represented. Brother Eustus Riggs gave the morning devotion. The clerk called the meeting to order. Brother Milton Fields gave a report on the youth rally. We had special prayer for Brother Joe Ange. Brother Ed Ledlow brought the morning message from Philippians 4:10. Theme, "Christ Is The Answer." Lunch served by host church. Devotion by Rev. William Baird, using 1 Samuel 14:36. Youth camp ground given by Rev. James Pittman. Rally day set March 13. Youth camp report date June 9-13.

Two brethren were licensed to preach: Billy Brown, Northport. Ronald Gurganus, Dovertown. That Richard Davis be ordained. Rev. Ed Ledlow gave report on State Home Missions. Ordination service given by H. A. Pitts.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Song, "Onward Christian Soldiers." Prayer by Rev. Ed Ledlow.
To divide the youth camp meetings north and south. M.S. & C.

ORDINATION SERVICE:

Rev. Steve Nichols gave the charge, Rev. Ed Ledlow gave the prayer. All ordained power to come and pray and lay on hands. Rev. H. A. Pitts leading the prayer. Closing with right hand of Christian fellowship singing, "Amazing Grace." Rev. Ed Ledlow directed the song for this session.

M.S. & C. to adjourn. Dismissed in prayer by Brother Guyn Pugh.

Moderator of this meeting	Rev. A. J. Lambert
Assistant Moderator	Rev. H. A. Pitts
Acting Clerk	Mrs. Lorene Ryland

Mrs. Lorene Ryland

1976 CHURCHES AND PASTORS

CORDOVA—Rev. Walter Jagers, 507 Green Ave., Cordova, Ala. 35550
DOVERTOWN—Rev. W. H. Ryland, 100 Highland St., Cordova, Ala. 35550
ELDRIDGE—Rev. Carlton Lambert, Box 8, Eldridge, Ala. 35554
ENSLEY—Rev. E. B. Ledlow, 2306 Ave. G., Birmingham, Ala. 35218
FAYETTE—Rev. Steve Nichols, Temple Ave., Fayette, Ala. 35555
FLORENCE—Rev. Tom Malone, 165 Chaparral, Florence, Ala. 35630
JASPER—Rev. James Walden, 501 East 2nd St., Jasper, Ala. 35501
NORTHPORT—Rev. Harold Pitts, 2600 15th Ave., Northport, Ala. 35476
OAK GROVE—Rev. Louie Bates, P. O. Box 12, Graysville, Ala. 35073
RUSSELLVILLE—Rev. Eustus Riggs, Rt. 1, Box 68E, Russellville, Ala. 35653
SOUTH HIGHLAND—Rev. James Pittman, 608 E. State St., Muscle Shoals, Ala. 35660

SULPHUR SPRINGS—Rev. James Pickett, 3206 Star Route, Mulga, Ala. 35118
 SULLIGENT—Rev. Earnest Sargent, P. O. Box 532, Sulligent, Ala. 35587
 TOWNLEY—Rev. Milton Fields, Drawer F. Townley, Ala. 35587
 HARMONY—Rev. William Baird, Rt. 2, Box 183, Leighton, Ala. 35646
 CAVE SPRINGS—Rev. Ron Edgil, Rt. 1, Town Creek, Ala. 35672

OTHER MINISTERS

Rev. Jimmy Aldridge, Mission Protestante, B.P. 24, Agnibekrou, Rep. of Ivory Coast, Africa
 Rev. Rickey Jagers, P. O. Box 707, Lander, Wy.
 Rev. Aubrey Rosser, Columbus, Miss.
 Rev. L. C. Estill, Rt. 1, Cordova, Ala. 35550
 Rev. A. J. Lambert, Rt. 6, Cordova, Ala. 35550
 Rev. Hershel Beard, Rt. 5, Russellville, Ala.
 Rev. J. M. Pace, Rt. 5, Russellville, Ala.
 Rev. Clifford Holland, Florence, Ala.
 Rev. Eric Newply, Florence, Ala.
 Rev. Charles Hollingshead, North Port, Ala.
 Rev. Alex Oberneder, Russellville, Ala.
 Rev. C. B. Burrell
 Rev. Jackie Higginbotham
 Rev. Charles Harbison
 Rev. Richard Davis
 Rev. Ronald Gurganus

CHURCHES AND CLERKS

CORDOVA—Joyce Pittman, 111 Cliff St., Cordova, Ala. 35550
 DOVERTOWN—Mrs. Dan Sargent, Rt. 1, Box 21, Cordova, Ala. 35550
 ELDRIDGE—Brother David Kent, Box 8, Eldridge, Ala. 35554
 ENSLEY—Mrs. Sue Bobo, 1322 Woodward Rd., Birmingham, Ala. 35228
 FLORENCE—Margaret Thrift, Auburn St., Florence, Ala. 35630
 HARMONY—Mrs. Betty Jeffreys, Rt. 2, Leighton, Ala. 35646
 FAYETTE—Mrs. Leurs Hindman, Rt. 5, Fayette, Ala. 35555
 JASPER—Louise Haynes, Rt. 2, Box 34-A, Nauvoo, Ala. 35578
 NORTHPORT—Mrs. Merle Dyer, 2700 26th Ave., Northport, Ala. 35476
 OAK GROVE—Mrs. Mary Holt, Rt. 2, Box 819, Gardendale, Ala. 35071
 RUSSELLVILLE—Mrs. Grady Randolph, P. O. Box 83, Russellville, Ala. 35653
 SOUTH HIGHLAND—Mrs. Charles Davis, 900 Buena Vista, Muscle Shoals, Ala. 35660
 SULLIGENT—Margaret Price, P. O. Box 681, Sulligent, Ala. 35586
 SULPHUR SPRINGS—Mrs. Helen Canada, Rt. 5, Box 300, Northport, Ala. 35476
 TOWNLEY—Mrs. Betty Dutton, Rt. 2, Box 120, Carbon Hill, Ala. 35549
 CAVE SPRINGS—Mr. Harold Fretwell, Rt. 3, Town Creek, Ala. 35672

CHURCH DEACONS

CORDOVA

Winford Russell, 103 McCrory St., Cordova, Ala. 35550
 Earl Richardson, Rt. 1, Box 211, Cordova, Ala. 35550
 C. C. Winsett, E-25 Reservoir St., Cordova, Ala. 35550
 Jesse Ryland, 235 Branch St., Cordova, Ala. 35550
 Wesley Carter, Rt. 1, Cordova, Ala. 35550
 Jerry White, Cordova, Ala. 35550
 Clyde Pittman, 111 Cliff St., Cordova, Ala. 35550
 W. L. McKay, Cordova, Ala. 35550

DOVERTOWN

Dan Sargent, Rt. 1, Box 21, Cordova, Ala. 35550

ENSLEY

C. W. O'Donnell, 1724 27th St., Ensley, Ala. 35218
 Huey Pickett, 1856 Princeton Ct., S. W. Birmingham, Ala. 35211
 W. A. Rawles, 1728 27th St., Ensley, Ala. 35218
 Loyd Martin, Rt. 3, Box 343, Adamsville, Ala., 35005

FAYETTE

A. M. Wallace, Rt. 6, Fayette, Ala. 35555
 Reese Henderson, Harding Ave., Fayette, Ala. 35555
 Doyle Simmons, W. Blackburn St., Fayette, Ala. 35555
 Brother Gillum

FLORENCE

James Melton
 George Capps
 Ed Britnell

JASPER

Robert Barnes, Holly Grove Rd., Jasper, Ala. 35501
 Ray Bevis, 1602 Hwy. 78 E., Jasper, Ala. 35501
 J. D. Glasgow, Parrish, Ala.
 Clyde G. Hood, Nauvoo Rd., Jasper, Ala. 35501
 Bobby J. Sargent, 1109 10th St., Jasper, Ala. 35501

NORTHPORT

Sebron Kuykendall, 4—C Country Club Hills, Tuscaloosa, Ala. 35401
 Samuel Key, 1605 24th St., Northport, Ala. 35476
 X. L. Truhett, 36 Biscayne Hills, Northport, Ala. 35476
 James E. Reese, 2512 16th Ave., Northport, Ala. 35476

OAK GROVE

E. J. McClure, 209 Westwood Drive, Birmingham, Ala. 35215
 Charles Thrasher, Rt. 2, Box 848-B, Gardendale, Ala. 35071
 Leo Lipsey

RUSSELLVILLE

J. B. Whitehead, Rt. 7, Hester Heights, Russellville, Ala. 35653

G. W. Kilpatrick, Rt. 2, Tuscomb, Ala. 35674
P. W. Kimbrough, Rt. 7, Russellville, Ala. 35653
Hobson Wilson, N. Jackson St., Russellville, Ala. 35653
Grady Randolph, P. O. Box 83, Russellville, Ala. 35653
Edwin Kimbrough, Rt. 3, Russellville, Ala. 35653

SOUTH HIGHLAND

Marion Taylor, 203 Main St., Florence, Ala. 35630
Charles Davis, 900 Buena Vista, Muscle Shoals, Ala. 35660

SULLIGENT

C. E. Birmingham, Sulligent, Ala. 35586
Ray Birmingham, Sulligent, Ala. 35586
J. Q. Boyett, Sulligent, Ala. 35586
Hezzie Harrison, Sulligent, Ala. 35586
Richard Mansell, Sulligent, Ala. 35586

TOWNLEY

Fred Smith, Townley, Ala. 35587
R. M. Edgil, Townley, Ala. 35587
Alfred Boshell, Townley, Ala. 35587
Donald G. Sparks, Carbon Hill, Ala. 35549

HARMONY

Durwood Posey

CAVE SPRINGS

Harold Fretwell
Roy Houston
Cletus Christian
Horace Jeffreys
Quinton F. Simmons
Don M. Landers
Hubert Blankenship
Lewis Anderton
Rob Landers

FORM OF CHURCH CONFERENCE

1. Call the church to order
2. Call for the peace of the church.
3. Opportunity for membership.
4. Inviting visiting brothers and sisters to sit with us.
5. Reading of minutes.
6. Any acknowledgements.
7. Reports of committees.
8. Unfinished business
9. New business
10. Adjournment.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Jesus 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 of 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 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 in 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 of 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.

LETTER OF DISMISSION

This certifies that _____, 19__

is a regular member of the _____ Free Will

Baptist Church at _____, in good

standing as such. We commend _____

to the fellowship of God's people, and is this day dismissed from the church and is privileged to unite with any other evangelical church.

Pastor

Clerk

RULES OF DECORUM

1. This association shall be opened and closed with singing and prayer.
2. The officers elected at the previous session shall begin their administration at the close of each regular session.
3. Only one person shall speak at a time. They shall arise and address the moderator and when recognized they shall proceed.
4. No person shall be interrupted while speaking by anyone except by the moderator and not by the moderator unless he breaks the rules of order.
5. The person speaking must adhere to the question subject and shall not use words of personal reflection.
6. No person shall speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the association and not more than five minutes at a time.
7. No member shall laugh or whisper in time of public speaking.
8. No member shall address another except by the application of Brother or Sister.
9. No member shall absent himself without leave of the moderator.
10. The names of all ministers, deacons, and delegates shall be enrolled by the clerk, and called as often as deemed necessary by the moderator.
11. Every member of the body shall vote for or against every move that comes before it. Those failing to do this shall be reprimanded by the moderator.
12. Any person who shall knowingly break any of the rules shall be reproved by the moderator according to direction of the association.

CHURCH RULES AS AMENDED AUGUST 25, 1973

1. We agree as members of the Progressive Association of Free Will Baptists to co-operate in every move for betterment of our denomination and extension of God's Kingdom throughout the world.
2. We agree to meet in conference quarterly or oftener if necessary to transact the business of the church.
3. The Moderator shall be chosen by the suffrage of the church in the absence of the pastor. The moderator shall observe good order and explain all questions before he takes the voice of the church on them, and shall have the liberty of speech as any other, but not vote unless there is a tie, when he shall give the deciding vote.
4. It shall be the duty of all members to fill their seats during conference and bear their part of the expenses.
5. No member shall leave their seat during the conference without permission from the moderator.
6. No member shall arraign another before the church for any grievance without first taking gospel steps. See Matthew 18:15-17.
7. All business brought before the church by motion and second in gospel like order shall be attended to by the church unless withdrawn by the mover.
8. Any person wishing to speak shall arise and address the moderator and if two arise at the same time, the moderator shall decide who shall speak first and no member while speaking shall cast any reflection on any person

but shall adhere strictly to the subject under consideration.

9. No member shall speak more than twice on any subject without permission from the church and not more than five minutes at a time.

10. It shall be the duty of all church members to be present at all church meetings to vote on all questions that come before the church when called on by the moderator or any member of the church who desires to obtain the mind of the whole church.

11. If any member shall remain silent during the transaction of any business of the church and afterward complain of what was done the same shall be deemed disorderly and the member so offending shall be dealt with accordingly.

12. We agree to do all business by a majority of the members present at any regular or called conference provided a quorum is present, said quorum being seven members or more.

13. These rules shall be read if considered necessary by the moderator, at the opening of each conference, and strictly enforced by the Moderator.

14. Any member who willfully absents his or herself for a period of six months and fails to discharge their duty according to the Church Covenant shall be deemed as inactive and shall not be reinstated into full fellowship of the church until they have made restitution.

15. Any member desiring to move his membership from one church to another in the association must have a letter. Failing to do so, he is taken under the watch care of the church until he presents the letter.

16. Concerning the ordination of deacons: (a) He must be elected by the church of which he is a member. (b) He must be approved for the work of the church by the Credentials Committee. (c) Any local church in good standing in the association, if it so desires, may ordain deacons who are approved by the Credentials Committee and Moderator of the Association. (d) Be it resolved that no church recommend men who use tobacco in any form to be ordained as deacons or ministers. (e) Each deacon of this Association, with recommendation from their church, be given a card of good standing each year. This request is to be in writing on the annual church letter. (f) That no deacon be ordained who has more than one living wife, as defined in "rules for Preachers, No. 12, or whose wife has more than one living husband.

17. That all inactive members of our churches be dropped from the roll after one year if they have been contacted and given an opportunity to prove themselves worthy to remain on the roll. If they show no interest in and have not attended or supported the church in one year we have a right to drop them according to our National Treatise.

18. The Pastor is ex-officio member of all boards and committees.

RULES FOR PREACHERS AS AMENDED FEBRUARY 27, 1971

1. All ministers wishing to become members of the Progressive Association must be recommended from the church from which they are members and will be called upon to present their credentials for examination and answer satisfactorily such questions as may be asked them. This must be done by the next Associational or Quarterly Meeting, after calling the pastor.

Their church must recommend them for license or ordination where they have not received such.

2. All preachers shall attend all business meetings unless providentially hindered.

3. Any minister who behaves himself unbecomingly to his high and exalted calling shall be reported by the Credentials Committee to the Association, who shall deal with him.

4. All ministers will be required to strictly adhere to the teachings of the Free Will Baptists according to the Articles of Faith.

5. No minister shall speak slanderously or cast personal reflections upon another minister that will hurt his influence or ministerial standing.

6. All ministers shall be required to support and stand by all boards and committees appointed by the Association and do their utmost to make them a success.

7. An aspirant to the ministry must be recommended to the Credentials Committee by his church for license. The Credentials Committee shall examine him as to his life, doctrine, reputation and his convictions and abilities regarding the work of the ministry. Upon completion of such an examination, if he is found worthy, he shall be recommended to be licensed for a period of one year. He must have his license renewed annually and kept in force until ordination.

8. An applicant for ordination must have carried a license for at least one year immediately preceeding his application. (Any exception for the requirement for carrying a license for one year must pass by a two-thirds majority vote of his Quarterly Meeting or Association.) He must be recommended by the church of which he is a member. He must be examined by the Credentials Committee and have a call to pastor a church or be engaged in full time Christian service of such nature as to merit ordination. After examination, if he is worthy and sound in faith, he shall be recommended by the Credentials Committee for ordination.

9. That each preacher of this Association, with recommendations from their church, be given a renewal of their card of good standing each year. This request is to be in writing on the annual church letter.

10. That no man be licensed or ordained that uses tobacco in any form.

11. We use the ordination questionnaire as passed in the Association's 1963 session.

12. No person shall be ordained to the ministry nor shall the credentials of any minister be ratified until he is qualified to meet the conditions stated in the third chapter of 1 Timothy. The term, "husband of one wife" means he shall not have more than one living wife (that is, he shall not be married to one wife at the present time and there be a wife still living from a previous marriage.) The same shall apply to the wife, she shall have only one living husband.

CONSTITUTION OF THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

ARTICLE 1. This Board shall be known as the Christian Education Board of the Progressive Association of Free Will Baptists of Alabama.

ARTICLE 2. This Board shall be composed of 5 members to service on a rotating basis with the terms of one member to expire each year. A chairman shall be elected each year by this board immediately after the Association.

ARTICLE 3. The purpose of this Board shall be to promote the work of the Sunday School and Church Training Service within the said Association.

ARTICLE 4. This Board shall have full responsibility for the TNT Rally which meets annually on Friday and Saturday during A.E.A. It shall arrange and conduct any other meetings which are deemed necessary to accomplish its purpose.

ARTICLE 5. The activities of this board shall be financed by a representation fee of \$.10 per enrolled member of the Sunday School and C.T.S. The Board shall also be permitted to receive offerings at meetings arranged if deemed necessary to meet the financial obligation of the board.

ARTICLE 6. No person or persons shall be allowed to participate in competitive activities provided by this board unless or until the church of which they represent has paid their representation fee.

ARTICLE 7. This board shall report annually and be considered a part of and subordinate to the Progressive Association of Free Will Baptists.

ARTICLE 8. This Constitution may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of the delegated body at any regular session of the Progressive Association provided notice has been made of intended change at least four hours in advance of the proposed alteration or amendment.

CONSTITUTION AS AMENDED AUGUST, 1974

ARTICLE 1. This association shall be known as the Progressive Association of the Free Will Baptists of Alabama and bordering states.

ARTICLE 2. The association shall be composed of ministers, deacons, and delegates of different churches forming the same.

ARTICLE 3. All ministers and churches wishing to become members of this body must willingly submit to the Articles of Faith, Constitution, and all rules of the same.

ARTICLE 4. Each church in this association shall be entitled to three delegates for the first hundred members and one delegate for each additional fifty members or fraction thereof.

ARTICLE 5. This association shall appoint a Credentials Committee composed of three members, two ordained ministers and one layman, who shall be appointed by the moderator at the convening of each annual session

whose duty shall be to serve for the entire year, to examine all church letters, and applications for membership for both churches and ministers, examining and ordaining of all ministers or deacons and make a report of the same to the body.

ARTICLE 6. Item 1. The officers of this association shall be a moderator, assistant moderator, clerk and treasurer, who shall be chosen by the nomination and majority of votes. Item 2. That the above officers serve also for the Quarterly meetings.

ARTICLE 7. This associations annual meeting will be on Friday A.M., P.M. and Saturday before the last Sunday in August. Item 2. The quarterly meetings will be the last Saturday in November, February, and May.

ARTICLE 8. The association shall vote by acclamation where the next association shall be held until one church gets a majority of the votes cast.

ARTICLE 9. The Constitution and/or By-Laws may be altered or amended at the Annual Session of the Association, provided it lies on the table from morning until evening, or evening until morning, and read twice in open session.

ARTICLE 10. No ministers, deacons, or delegates shall be seated in this body unless they agree to stay throughout the session, unless they are provisionally hindered.

ARTICLE 11. That each church send 20 cents for each active member for association expenses. Item 2. Each church shall send ten dollars to each session of its respective quarterly meeting.

ARTICLE 12. This association may exclude from its body any minister who teaches heresy, or any church that countenances him in said teaching or that may be disloyal to the tenets of faith as held by this association and expressed in our articles of faith. The same discipline shall apply to any church which calls a minister for a pastor who has been excluded by the ordaining council.

	Number of Members	Resident	Non Resident	Ordained Ministers	Ordained Deacons	Sunday School Enrollment	CTS Members	Woman's Auxiliary members	Prayer Meeting Attendance	Paid Pastor	Evangelistic Work	Building & Repair	Literature
Cordova	222	125	46	4	8	143	86	12	55	5,400.00		10,543.88	244.94
Cave Springs	185	153	28	1	9	120		8	75	5,380.00	575.00	573.45	563.36
Dovertown	115			6	2	115	35	15	85	1,310.00	435.00	2,877.00	492.26
Eldridge	31	18	13	1								500.00	106.02
Ensley	100	75	25	2	4	80	35	15	25	7,800.00	409.53	3,511.19	657.75
Fayette	235	177	58	1	4	101	81	15	30	2,219.82		151.63	346.45
Florence				4	7	620		20	280				
Jasper	155	151	4	2	5	152	90	14	70	7,530.00	862.09	7,692.16	1,616.46
North Port	172	115	57	3	4	137	109	20	45	7,865.00	1,000.00	14,222.33	1,653.45
Oak Grove	74	59	15	1	3	58	32		35	4,125.00	228.50	494.76	577.36
Russellville	176	158	18	3	6	123	75	12	60	7,990.00	3,532.00	8,424.76	1,907.00
South Highland	151			2	2	187			72	10,165.00	893.47	1,359.40	1,775.66
Sulligent	96	96		1	5	70	50		40	5,200.00	186.03	14,366.58	914.21
Townley	137	87	50	1	4	125	60	10	34	2,015.00	30.00	550.43	341.55
Harmony	128	87	41	2	1	81	45	10	50	8,200.00	480.35	4,132.17	810.51
Sulphur Springs	178	178		1		50	20	10	18	1,300.00	530.00	207.71	624.19