

**PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION  
OF  
FREE WILL BAPTIST  
OF  
ALABAMA**

**Minutes from the 2002 Secessions**

**Bi -Annual held at  
First FWB Church, Russellville  
Feb. 16, 2002**

**Annual held at  
Grace FWB Church, Florence  
Aug. 17, 2002**



## **TRINITY YOUTH CAMP BOARD**

**. Michael Phenicie - Three year term**  
**Rev. Tim BaumgartenBro- Two year term**  
**Rev. Duane Taylor - One year term**

## **CHILDREN'S HOME BOARD MEMBER**

**Rev. Roy Helms**  
**First FWB Church, Jasper**

## **CHURCHES AND PASTORS**

<b>Cave Springs:</b>	<b>Rev. Greg Rucker</b> <b>1956 Hwy 101</b> <b>Town Creek, AL 35672</b> <b>(256) 974-9742 Church</b> <b>(256) 974-5749 Home</b>
<b>Cordova:</b> <b>Church:</b>	<b>Unknown</b> <b>475 First St.</b> <b>Cordova, AL 35550</b> <b>(205) 483-6846</b>
<b>Dovertown:</b> <b>Church</b>	<b>Rev. Jerry Sanford</b> <b>1305 Dovertown Rd.</b> <b>Cordova, AL 35550</b> <b>(205) 483-9650</b> <b>124 Crestview Hights Rd.</b> <b>Cordova, AL 35550</b>

**Fayette:** Rev. Mark Cash - Interium  
**Church:** 910 Temple Ave.  
Fayette, AL 35555  
(205) 932-7354  
**Home:** 926 Temple Ave.  
Fayette, AL 35555  
(205) 932-6339

**Florence:** Rev. Danny Dwyer  
2701 Florence Blvd.  
Florence, AL 35630  
(256) 764-3591

**Grace:** Rev. Tim Smith  
Florence, Al 35633  
**Home:** 2090 Kirkland Ave.  
Russellville, AL 35654

**Gray's Chapel:** Rev. Chris Towe  
**Church:** 111 Laurel Ln.  
Florence, AL 35634  
(256) 757-5600  
**Home:** 203 Seymore Ave.  
Florence, AL 35630  
(256) 766-5796

**PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION OF FWB  
OFFICERS for 2001 - 2002**

**Moderator:** Rev. Danny Dwyer  
2701 Florence Blvd.  
Florence, AL 35630  
Phone: (256) 764-3591

**Assistant:** Rev. Phil Kimbrough  
640 Lakeview Ln.  
Russellville, AL 35654  
Phone: (256) 331-4857

**Clerk:** Michael A. Phenicie  
2420 Saragossa Rd.  
Nauvoo, AL 35578  
Phone: (205) 221-1510

**Assistant:** Rev. Chris Towe  
111 Laurel Ln.  
Florence, AL 35634  
Phone: (256) 766-5796

**Treasurer:** Allecia Phenicie  
2420 Saragossa Rd.  
Nauvoo, AL 35578  
(205) 221-1510

**Assistant:** Janie Aldridge  
366 Duskin Point Rd.  
Jasper, AL 35504  
Phone: (205) 221-4501

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Rev. Tim Smith - Three year term**  
**2090 Kirkland Ave.**  
**Russellville, AL 35654**  
**Phone: (256) 332-3460**

**Rev. Phil Kimbrough - Two year term**  
**640 Lakeview Ln.**  
**Russellville, AL 35653**  
**Phone: (256) 331-4857**

**Rev. Roy Helms - One year term**  
**501 22nd St. East**  
**Jasper, AL 35501**  
**Phone: (205) 387-9182**

## **CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE**

**Rev. Phil Kimbrough - Five year term**  
**Bro. Tommy Bee - Four year term**  
**Bro. James W. Dorroh - Three year term**  
**Rev. Duane Taylor - Two year term**  
**Rev. Tim Baumgarten - One year term**

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD**

**Bro. Randy Fraizer - Five year term**  
**Rev. Tim Smith - Four year term**  
**Rev. Mark Cash - Three year term**  
**Rev. Phil Kimbrough - Two year term**  
**Bro. Daryl Kimbrough - One year term**

**Harmony:**  
**Church:** Rev. Ron Edgil  
3115 County Line Rd.  
Leighton, AL 35646  
(256) 446-8156

**Home:** 15694 Main St.  
Town Creek, AL 35646  
(256) 685-2222

**Jasper:**  
**Church:** Rev. Roy Helms  
2200 Gamble Ave.  
Jasper, AL 35501  
(205) 221-9270

**Home:** 501 E. 22nd St.  
Jasper, AL 35501  
(205) 387-9182

**Northport:**  
**Church** Rev. Tim Baumgarten  
2401 L.B. Wallace Blvd.  
Northport, AL 35476  
(205) 339-7302

**Home:** 2414 Shady Bank Ln.  
Northport, AL 35473  
(205) 330-0198

**Russellville:**  
**Church:** Rev. Philip Kimbrough  
2010 Liberty Ave.  
Russellville, AL 35653  
(256) 332-4750

**Home:** 605 E. Lawrence St.  
Russellville, AL 35653  
(256) 331-4857



**South Highland:**      **Rev. Duane Taylor**  
**Church:**                **704 East State St.**  
                                 **Muscle Shoals, AL 35661**  
                                 **(256) 381-1817**

**Home:**                 **608 East State St.**  
                                 **Muscle Shoals, AL 35661**  
                                 **(256) 383-3361**

**Sulphur Springs:**      **Unknown**  
**Church:**                **21137 Old Jasper Rd.**  
                                 **Northport, AL 35475**  
                                 **(205) 339-6800**

**Townley:**              **Rev. Dennis Reeves**  
**Church:**                **Drawer F**  
                                 **Townley, AL 35587**  
                                 **(205) 924-8926**



## **CHURCH CLERKS**

**Cave Springs:** Frances Fretwell  
1690 Co. Rd. 127  
Town Creek, AL 35672  
(256) 974-6963

**Cordova:** Clerk  
475 First St.  
Cordova, AL 35550

**Dovertown:** Joan Moore  
45 Moores Ln.  
Parrish, AL 35580  
(205) 686-5942

**Fayette:** Mrs. Patricia Wheat  
400 Co. Road 23  
Fayette, AL 35555  
(205) 932-4614

**Florence:** Carolyn Dwyer  
2701 Florence Blvd.  
Florence, AL 35630  
(256) 764-3591

**Grace:** Butch Wright  
75 Central Ave.  
Florence, AL 35633  
(256) 767-6965

- Gray's Chapel:**      **Tonya Holden**  
980 CR 170  
Killen, AL 35645  
(256) 757-3297
- Harmony:**            **Vada Landers**  
5280 Ricks Lane  
Tuscumbia, AL 35674
- Jasper:**                **Allecia Phenicie**  
2420 Saragossa Rd.  
Nauvoo, AL 35578  
(205) 221-1510
- Northport:**          **Wilma Davis**  
2442 Meadowlark Ln.  
Northport, AL 35476  
(205) 339-5691
- Russellville:**        **Elree Randolph**  
P.O. Box 83  
Russellville, AL 35653  
(256) 332-3237
- South Highland:**    **Angela Mayfield**  
704 East State St.  
Muscle Shoals, AL 35561  
(256) 381-1817

**Sulphur Springs:**      **Rebecca Moore**  
21600 Old Jasper Rd.  
Berry, AL 35546  
(205) 339-1421

**Townley:**                **Pam Ferguson**  
639 King Lear Ct.  
Townley, AL 35587  
(205) 221-5687

### **CHURCH DEACONS**

#### **Cave Springs**

**Lewis Anderton**  
**Rickey Borden**  
**Clydis Christian**  
**Harold Fretwell**  
**Daryl Quails**

#### **Dovertown**

**Lottie Foster**  
**Dub Cordell**  
**Ed Jean**  
**Gerald Hallman**  
**Mike Sargent**

#### **Cordova**

**Winford Russell**  
**Tony Pittman**  
**Jerry Herron**  
**Bill Edd Gilbert**  
**Clyde Pittman**

#### **Fayette**

**Mike Kimbrell**  
**Billy Hamm**  
**Reedus Wheat**  
**T.J. Johnson**  
**I.J. Britnell**

**Florence**

**George Capps  
Billy Gamble  
Ronnie Wiginton  
Jim Dorroh  
Wayne Suggs  
Allen Morgan  
Jim Thompson  
Sam Hudson**

**Gray's Chapel**

**Don Holden  
Jacob Patrick  
Billy Ray Curbow**

**Jasper**

**Bobby Sargent  
Ray Bevis**

**Northport**

**James Reece  
Murray Renfroe  
Bobby Ayers  
Bob Wilson  
Sam Key**

**Russellville**

**Hobson Wilson  
Edwin Kimbrough  
Jimmy Fuller**

**South Highland**

**Tommy Bee  
James "Buddy" Troutt  
David Zills**

**Townley**

**Alfred J. Boshell  
William L. Dutton  
R.M. Edgil**

**Other Ordained Ministers**

**Jerry Strickland  
Jimmy Aldridge  
Jerry Sanford  
Bill Smith  
Phil Cooper  
Burlon Jones  
Carlton Lambert  
Roger Raper  
Hershel Beard  
Cpt. Steven L. Simpson**

3. We recommend that Bro. Mark Cash be approved for Ordination as a Minister of the gospel.

4. We recommend a separate meeting of the Executive\Credentials committee at a later date to examine Bro. John Nicholson and Bro. Rick Latham for ordination as Deacons.

Respectfully submitted: Duane Taylor, Tim Baumgarten, Tommy Lewis, Tommy Bee, & James Dorroh.

Appreciation: We the Appreciation Committee would like to thank the First FWB Church of Russellville for hosting this meeting. Thanks to all who have helped make this meeting successful. Thanks for the refreshments, and we look forward to the good smelling lunch. Respectfully submitted: Roy Helms & Dennis Reeves.

Motion made, second, and carried to accept all reports as read.

State Promotional Office Report: Bro. Rick Cash

We have exceeded our goal for the Acts 1:8 program.

Extra money was sent to the South Huntsville and Prattville works.

Extra money was sent to the Russian work for building expenses and also for the new kitchen.

Trinity Youth Camp: Bro. Ashley Culp

The camp is debt free. The major project is a vinyl fence around the perimeter. 1000 ft. of 3 rail vinyl at a cost of \$6.00 per foot.

Schedule for summer camp is ready, looking forward to a good year.

Children's Home, Eldridge: Bro. Roy Helms

The new building nearly completed. They have 25 children being cared for there. There will be a dedication service April 27.



Other mission news: Alicia Blackmon going to Mexico for a mission trip.

Bro. Dave Franks going back to Brazil for a short term stay. The finances need for the trip of \$3500 already met.

Our August meeting will be held at the Grace FWB Church, Florence, AL.

Our service continued with Mark Cash leading everyone in singing "Victory in Jesus". This was followed with a special number by Tonya Yocum singing, "One Holy Lamb".

Our speaker of the day is Bro. Tim Smith, pastor of the Grace FWB Church. His text was taken from II Tim. 4:1-11.

In this passage the Apostle Paul is crying out for help. Paul was in great despair and feeling heartache. Why is he calling for help? Someone who he had trusted, had turned his back. II Cor. 11:23. Paul able to handle the beatings, perscutations, and ship wreck. The time has come that we need to stop feeling sorry for ourselves. Time to stop throwing the pity party. Many times when we feel sorry for ourselves, the only thing is causes is misery for others, and people may not want to see us coming. Even in the midst of heartaches, God can bring good times.

Paul could have had everything taken care of if he had of quit preaching the gospel. The devil wants to see one of God's men throw in the towel and quit. Our God is still there when all others forsake us. Who is slipping through the cracks because we are so concerned with ourselves. Bro. Tim closed in prayer

Bro. Dwyer asked that we close with prayer around the altar. After prayer Assoc. lead in one verse of "Amazing Grace". Final prayer with fellowship around the noon meal.

## **PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION OF FWB**

**Bi - Annual Meeting**

**First FWB Church**

**Russellville, AL**

**February 16, 2002**

Opening songs led by Bro. Mark Cash, "Stand up for Jesus" & "To God be the Glory". Opening prayer led by Bro. Ashley Culp. Welcome given by Bro. Phil Kimbrough. Special music by John Chambers singing: "Love Grew" & "I Just had to Pray".

Opening remarks were given by Bro. Danny Dwyer, Assistant Moderator. He read from Ps. 133 concerning the joy of fellowship with the Brethern.

- 1.) Unity has something reverntial : respect and hold sacred.
- 2.) Unity has something refreshing: like the dew of Mt. Hermon.

The meeting was then called to order by the Clerk with the seating of the delegates. Bro. Dwyer then appointed the following committiees.

**Credentials:** Duane Taylor, Tim Baumgartener, Tommy Lewis, Tommy Bee, and James Dorroh.

**Resolutions:** Bill Smith and Greg Rucker

**Appreciation:** Roy Helms and Dennis Reeves

Bro. Ashley Culp was recognized as a visitor from Trinity Youth Camp.

Just before the devotion, Toyna Yocom sang, : "When you are hanging by a Thread". The devotion was given by Bro. Mark Cash, taken from Gen. 32:24-28, "Being used of God".  
When it comes to serving God, we need to give our best.



1. Diligently seek after Him - need to spend time searching for God. (a). Be like Jacob and wrestle all night. James 4:8.  
(b). Jacob would not let go until he was blessed.
  2. Must die to ourselves - Pray in his name and not our. Name changed to Israel: he who strives with God or God rules. Jacob means self-reliant. In order to be used, must come to a point where we are not dependent on self. I Cor. 15:31
  3. Must depend totally on God - new Christians are willing to do whatever God wants done. As we become older Christians, we begin to lose the desire. We believe God can do things, but we don't have the willingness to allow God to do it thru us.
- Closed in prayer with a break following.

After the break, the service continued with congregational singing led by the Clerk, "He Keeps Me Singing". Announcements were made concerning upcoming events in our churches.  
Revival at the First FWB Church, Russellville.  
Couples retreat at the First FWB Church, Florence.  
WNAC District meeting: March 2.

The following Committee reports were given:

**Resolution:** We the committee resolve that \$250 be given toward the expense of the National Association of FWB meeting in 2006 in Birmingham. Respectfully submitted: Billy R. Smith & Greg Rucker.

**Credentials:** 1. We recommend the letters be accepted because they are in order except for those that failed to send proper amount of dues.

2. We recommend Bro. Chris Towe be accepted into the Progressive Assoc. upon the receipt of his Ordination Exam and a letter of good standing from previous Assoc.

**PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION OF FWB  
ANNUAL MEETING  
GRACE FWB CHURCH  
FLORENCE, AL  
AUGUST 17, 2002**

Our service began with special music by the host church. This was followed with congregation singing led by Butch Wright, "To God be the Glory". The welcome was given by the pastor, Bro. Tim Smith who also opened the service with prayer.

The Moderator, Bro. Danny Dwyer, then recognized the Clerk, who called the meeting to order. The delegates were then seated and accepted by the Association. Two items of business were read by the Clerk, and then tabled.

**Item 1: Nominations of Officers for the Progressive Assoc. 2002-2003.**

**Item 2: Constitution-Bylaws change concerning dues.**

The Moderator then appointed the following committees.

**Credentials Committee: men stated in minutes**

**Resolution Committee: Jerry Strickland & Mark Cash**

**Appreciation Committee: Janie Aldridge & Barbara Taylor**

**Obituary Committee: Harold Fretwell & Chris Towe.**

Special music was presented by the host church, followed by the devotion. Bro. Danny lead the time with the reading of I Tim. 1:15. He then opened the floor for a time of testimony and praise. At the end of this time, Bro. Danny asked if everyone would gather around the altar for a time of prayer, with the closing prayer offered by Bro. Roy Helms. The Assoc. then broke for a short time of fellowship and meetings of committees.

After the break, and the Assoc. reassembled, Bro. Jimmy Aldridge was given the floor to present information concerning the Russian work. Stated that money has been sent to help in the relief during the flooding disaster. A group of couples: Adridges, Hendrixs, and Cashs, going in Sept. to hold the first Pastor/wives conference. The cost will be \$30.00 per person. Most of the money is raised for the teams, but still lack for the participants. He also mentioned that Walker Co. is having a Youth Rally every 5th Sunday night for all FWB Churches in the county. There is also talk of a new Association to be formed that would involve the churches of Walker Co.

Bro. Duane Taylor gave the AL State Missions report.  
As of July 1, giving to the Acts 1:8 plan: \$336,167.09  
13 of 14 churches in the Progressive Assoc. have given with a total of \$39,420.16.

Delegates for the State meeting, Nov.6,7,8, 2002  
Barbara Taylor & Janie Aldridge. Motion made to accept.

Bro. Danny then called for the committees to give their reports.  
Resolutions:1. That the Christian Ed. Board meet together regularly in the year and establish a goal for our youth. They they contact each church in the Progressive Assoc. and encourage each to establish a Youth/Children's ministry and program.  
2. That the C.E. Board work to encourage each church in the Progressive Assoc. to become involved in State and National Youth/Children's activities.  
3. That each church in the Progressive Assoc. encourage the Youth to participate and attend meetings.



4. That each church in our Association teach by example with attendance and support of our local, state, and national programs and meetings. That each pastor inform and educate their membership on the working and activities available through our association and denomination.

Respectfully submitted: Jerry Strickland & Mark Cash.

Appreciation: We, the Appreciation Committee would like to thank the Grace FWB Church for their kind hospitality of hosting the Association today. We expecially want to thank you for your hospitality, fomfortable accomodations, and the good food we will enjoy. Your kindness will long be remembered.

Respectfully submitted: Janie Aldridge & Barbara Taylor.

Obituary Committee: We the Obituary Committee report the following members that have gone on to be with the Lord this past year:

Russellville: Robert Hill

Grace: Leman Austin

Townley: Irene McGill, Lanie Nix, Myrtle Guthrie

Florence: Ronnie Aday, Phil Wesson

Fayette: Frances Anderson

Northport: Tommy Fincher

South Highland: Bill Knight, Ivan Fike, Buddy Balentine

Respectfully submitted: Harold Fretwell & Chris Towe

In memory of these, the Association paused for a momement of silence. Chris then read from Rev. 14.

Credentials Committee: Bro. Phil Kimbrough

1. After reviewing aoo church letters, we find them all in order except for Cordova and Doyertown, who did not send a letter.

2. We examined Bro. Terry Prince from the Russellville Church, and recommend he be received as a deacon with the ordination service occurring at the Russellville Church.

Respectfully submitted: Tim Baumgarten, Duane Taylor, Jim Dorrah, and Phil Kimbrough.

Motion made, second, and approved to accept the reports as read.

A special offering was taken to help with the on going expenses of the Association. The State Association has asked that each church give \$45.00 per year for the next 6 years to help with expenses in order to host the National Assoc.

**Financial Report: Allecia Phenicie  
Treasurer's Report for 2001-2002**

Balance: Aug. 18, 2001	\$1,519.35
Receipts: Dues & Offerings	\$2,449.00
Expenditures:	\$2,628.18
Present Balance:	\$1,340.17

**Expenses:**

Wayne Wilson: Moderator Fee	\$50.00
Danny Dwyer: Moderator Fee	\$50.00
Michael Phenicie: Clerk Fee	\$200.00
AL State Assoc. Dues	\$1,190.00
FWB Children's Home	\$100.00
Trinity Youth Camp	\$200.00
Promotional Office	\$200.00
2006 Fund	\$250.00
Competition Fees	\$265.00
Competition Materials	\$70.40
US Postmaster	\$52.78

The Hebrew children in Dan. 3:17 looked to God for deliverance even in time of facing the fiery furnace.

People today think they have been persecuted with little problems. Paul on the other hand stated he was persecuted but not forsaken. You may not always agree with the leaders of the church, but always stand behind them and pray for them.

1. Keep playing even when you hurt physically.

a. God sent Moses to deliver Israel even in spite of his physical problems.

b. God sent David to defeat Goliath - I Sam. 17:33.

God will bless those who are faithful.

2. Play even when we are hurt emotionally. Paul was given the vision of the call to come over to Macedonia. May not like all the things we are given, but the final outcome will be wonderful.

If men fail to carry the plan of God, there is no other plan. We must make plans to do the work of God.

We fuss and fight about things that will not amount to a hill of beans, instead of focusing on the goal - fighting against the devil.

3. We need to keep on keeping on, no matter what, looking for the reward.

May we be able to stand before the throne of God and hear "well done thy good and faithful servant". Be faithful unto death.

Bro. Taylor closed in prayer.

Final prayer by Bro. Tim Smith followed by the noon meal.



## CONSTITUTION

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

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

**ARTICLE 3:** This association shall adopt as its Articles of Faith, The Treatise of Faith and Practice of the National Association of Free Will Baptist.

**ARTICLE 4:** All ministers and churches wishing to become members of this body must willing submit to the Articles of Faith, Constitution, and all rules of the same.

**ARTICLE 5:** 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 6:** Item 1: This association shall have an Executive Committee composed of a moderator, assistant moderator, clerk, treasurer, and three (3) elected members, elected for terms of 1,2,and 3 years each whose duties shall be to act in behalf of the Progressive Association when said Association is not in regular session. Minimum of four (4) members must be present to constitute a quorum. The Executive Committee shall be allowed to examine pastors, associates, and deacons that need to be ordained when the Association is not in session.

Item 2: This Association shall elect a Credentials Committee composed of five (5) members, three (3) ordained ministers, and two (2) deacons, who shall be elected to start with as 1 for 5 year term, 1 for 4 year term, 1 for 3 year term, 1 for 2 year term, and 1 for 1 year term. Then hereafter elected one each year. Their duty shall be to approve all church letters and applications for membership of both churches and ministers. Examining, ordaining, or approving the ordination of all ministers or deacons and make a report of the same to the body.



**Motion was made, second, and approved to accept the Financial Report as given.**

**The Association will meet in the following churches for 2003.  
February 15, 2003, First FWB Church, Jasper, AL  
August 16, 2003, Gray's Chapel FWB Church, Florence, AL**

**Motion was made, second, and carried to take items tabled earlier and vote on them.**

**1. We the Executive Committee, having met make the following recommendations for nominations of officers for the up coming year.**

**Moderator: Rev. Danny Dwyer**

**Assistant: Rev. Phil Kimbrough**

**Clerk: Michael Phenicie**

**Assistant: Rev. Chris Towe**

**Treasurer: Allecia Phenicie**

**Assistant: Mrs. Janie Aldridge**

**Executive Committee:**

**Bro. Roy Helms - One year term**

**Bro. Tim Smith - Three year term**

**Credentials Committee:**

**Bro. Phil Kimbrough - Five year term**

**Christian Ed. Board:**

**Bro. Randy Fraizer - Five year term**

**Bro. Phil Kimbrough - Two year term**

**Trinity Youth Camp Board:**  
**Michael Phenicie - Three year term**

**Children's Home Board Member:**  
**Bro. Roy Helms**

**2. ByLaws Change: Article 11, Item 2**

**To read: The Association will set the amount of dues per church for the February meeting at the Annual meeting, and will be set according to the need and increase set by the State and National Association.**

**3. Recommend that the Assoc. dues go from \$90.00 to \$120.00, to be paid at the February meeting, to cover the on going expenses incurred through the State & National levels.**

**Motion made, second, and approved to accept the recommendations made by the Executive Committee.**

**Motion made to adjourn the Business Meeting.**

**Just before the message, members from the host church, Grace, sang, "Sheltered in the arms of God".**

**Our speaker for the day was Rev. Duane Taylor, pastor of the South Highland FWB Church. His text was taken from II Cor. 4:8&9, with his theme being "Playing Hurt". The Apostle Paul learned to play in the game though hurt. Trouble is going to come our way. When Israel was on the way to the Promise Land, when looking back they saw the Egyptians pressing hard. Only looking forward and upward and keeping eyes on God could they go forward.**

Item 3: This Association shall elect a Board of Christian Education. This board shall be composed of five (5) members to serve on a rotating basis with the term of one member to expire each year. A chairman shall be elected each year by this board immediately after the Annual Association meeting. This board shall have full responsibility for the TNT Rally. It shall arrange and conduct any other meetings which are deemed necessary to accomplish its purpose.

Item 4: The activities of this board shall be financed by an entrance fee or offerings as determined needed by the board.

Item 5: No person or persons shall be allowed to participate in activities provided by this board unless or until the church they represent has paid their entry fee and must meet the dress code of the National Association CTS.

Item 6: This board shall report annually to the Progressive Association of Free Will Baptist.

ARTICLE 7: Item 1: The Officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, who shall be elected by the body.

Item 2: The above officers shall serve for all Progressive Association meetings.

Item 3: The salary of the clerk shall be \$100.00 per meeting. The salary of the moderator shall be \$50.00 per meeting.

ARTICLE 8: Item 1: The Association's annual meeting will be on the third Saturday of August.

Item 2: The Progressive Association shall meet on the third Saturday in February.

ARTICLE 9: The Association shall determine at the annual association meeting where the meetings will convene for the next year. This shall be determined by a majority of the votes cast. Only those churches that request a meeting at their church will be considered.

Item 1: The meetings of the Association will be held as follows: one in the Northern section, and one in the Southern section.

**ARTICLE 10: Item 1:** Any changes made to the Constitution and or by-laws of the association shall be brought before the Executive Committee prior to the annual session, and the Executive Committee bring the recommendation before the body.

**Item 2:** Any changes must have a two-thirds majority vote.

**ARTICLE 11: Item 1:** That each church send 50 cents for each active member for the association expenses at the annual meeting.

**Item 2:** The Association will set the dues for the February meeting at the August meeting respectfully as per the need.

**Item 3:** Each church shall send the church letter to the clerk two weeks before each meeting.

**ARTICLE 12:** This Association may exclude from its body any minister who teaches heresy, or any church that countenances his in said teaching or that may be disloyal to the tenants of faith as held by this association and expressed in our articles of faith. The same discipline shall apply to any church excluded by the ordaining council.



## 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 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 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 to 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 evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world. And may God sanctify each of us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## LETTER OF DISMISSAL

This certifies that \_\_\_\_\_, is a regular  
member of the \_\_\_\_\_ Free Will Baptist  
Church in \_\_\_\_\_, is in good standing.

We the \_\_\_\_\_ Free Will Baptist Church  
commend them to the fellowship of God's people on \_\_\_\_\_.  
They are dismissed from our church and is privileged to unite with  
any other evangelical church.

\_\_\_\_\_ Pastor

\_\_\_\_\_ Clerk

## SUGGESTED GUIDELINES FOR THE OPERATION OF THE LOCAL CHURCH

1. We agree as members of the Progressive Association of Free Will Baptist to co-operate in every move for betterment of our denomination 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, we 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 Matt. 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 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. 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 right to drop them from the roll according to our National Treatise.

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

**(b) Anyone desiring to be licensed or ordained must meet with the Credentials Committee one hour before the opening of the session.**



## **RULES FOR PREACHERS AND DEACONS**

1. All ministers wishing to become members of the Progressive Association must be recommended by the church of 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 Association 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 Baptist 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 renewal annually and kept in force until ordination.
8. An applicant for ordination must have carried a license for at least one year immediately preceding 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 Associations 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 I Timothy. The term, A 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.

13. 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 Arules for preachers, No.12, or whose wife has more than one living husband.

14. Anyone desiring to be ordained (a) must send in a completed questionnaire with the church letter to the clerk two weeks before the Associational meeting.





