

**MINUTES**  
**OF THE**  
**Fifty-Second Annual Session**  
**OF THE**  
**SALEM FREE WILL BAPTIST**  
**ASSOCIATION**

**HELD WITH**  
**OAK GROVE CHURCH**  
**October 2, 3, 1947**

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**OFFICERS**

**REV. I. O. COOK** ..... Moderator, Rt. 2, Altha, Fla.  
**C. L. COOK** ..... Secretary and Treasurer, Rt. 2, Altha, Fla.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**G. I. Owens, Chm., Arthur Finch, J. T. Sullivan, C. E. Day and  
Allen Sapp**

**MISSION BOARD**

**C. E. Day, Chm., C. B. Land, Jimmie Hitchcock, and Florence Cook**

**ORDAINING COUNCIL**

**C. E. Morris, A. W. Cook, and J. E. Nichols**

The next Session convenes with Cypress Creek Church on Friday and Saturday before the 1st Sunday in October, 1948, 3 miles west of Alford, Florida, Bro. H. W. Keel to preach the Introductory Sermon, Friday at 11:00 o'clock.

# PROCEEDINGS

The Salem Association met with Oak Grove Church, on Oct. 2nd, 1947. After a short Song Service, led by Bro. Chester Cook, Bro. D. E. Clark preached the Introduction Sermon. Scripture Exodus 14-15 And Lord said unto Moses where fore do you cry unto me.

Dismissed one hour for lunch.

At one o'clock the Body was called to order by Moderattor Bro. I. O. Cook. Devotional Service led by Bro. J. E. Nichols. Prayer by Bro. G. W. Cloud. At this time a call was made for Corresponding Letters. Bro. Allen Sapp and Bro. G. I. Owens were appointed to read the Association Letters.

## CHURCHES AND DELEGATES

Marvin Chapel—Bro. D. L. Bashford, Bro. M. B. Woodlief, and Bro. C. E. Day.

Oak Grove Church—Brother Charlie Cox, Bro. Willie Hewett, and Bro. Green Scoot.

New Hope Church—Bro. A. D. Hart, Bro. R. B. Jackson, and Sister R. B. Jackson.

Gap Pond Church—Bro. Douglas Finch, Bro. Singn Roberts, Sister Marvin Casey and Sister G. I. Owens.

Salem Church—Bro. Jewel Kint, Bro. Clarence Kint, and Bro. J. R. Barns.

Damascus Church—Bro. B. T. Chatwood, Bro. W. J. Cloud, Bro. J. R. Porter, and Bro. W. L. Cloud.

Pine Grove Church—Sister Lovie Burch, Bro. and Sister C. A. Bozaman.

Abe Springs Church—Bro. J. A. Sumner, Bro. Frank Rahames and Bro. Jack Fowler.

Travelers Rest Church—Bro. J. W. Parham, Bro. W. M. Shivers.

Cypress Creek—Bro. and Sister Jessie Ramsey and Bro. Joe Tharp.

Love Wood Church—Bro. and Sister W. M. Broom and Bro. Allen Sapp.

## SALEM FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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Called for Correspondence for other Association. South Ga. Association, Bro. G. W. Cloud, Jacksonville, Fla.

### COMMITTEES APPOINTED

Committee on Divine Service—Bro. W. M. Hewett, Bro. D. L. Basford, and Jessie Ramsey.

Committee on Sabbath School—Bro. M. B. Woodlief, Bro. Allen Sapp and Bro. Green Scott.

Committee on Education—Bro. J. E. Nichols, Bro. C. E. Morris and Bro. G. W. Cloud.

Committee on Obituaries—Bro. R. B. Jackson, Bro. Douglas Finch and Bro. J. T. Sullivan.

Committee on Standing of Churches and Ministers—Bro. C. E. Day, Bro. J. R. Barns, Bro. J. W. Parham, Bro. J. A. Sumner and Bro. F. E. Dykes.

Committee on Finance—Bro. M. B. Woodleif, Bro. W. M. Shivers, and Bro. Charlie Cox.

Committee on Suggestions—Bro. A. W. Cook, Clarence Kint, J. R. Porter and Bro. W. M. Broom.

Committee on Nominations—Bro. Jewel Kint, Bro. B. T. Chatwood, Sister Marvin Casey, and Bro. W. M. Shivers.

Committee on Temperance—Bro. Joe Tharp, Bro. A. D. Hart, J. E. Nichols, Sister Evelyn Hitchcock.

Committee on Auxiliary—Bro. C. E. Day, G. W. Cloud. Simon Roberts, Florence Cook and Sister G. I. Owens.

Salem Sunday School Convention was represented by Bro. J. T. Sullivan.

Bro. C. E. Day and Bro. Allen Sapp were appointed to the Executive Committee for a period of two years.

Bro. J. E. Nichols was added to the Ordaining Council.

Committee on Divine Service—Report that Bro. C. E. Morris preach Thursday night at 7:30 o'clock.

Treasurer's report read and adopted. Adjourned to meet back Friday morning at 9:30.

FRIDAY MORNING—9:40

After Song Service and Prayer, Bro. J. W. Roberts led the Devotional Service. Scripture reading 3rd Chapter of James.

Renew call for Corresponding Letters.

Christian Home Church—Delegates, Bro. and Sister O. F. Bracewell, Sister P. F. Holly and Sister Lovie Burkett.

Midway Church—Delegates Bro. Billie Crutchfield and Sister G. B. Wimbley,

Holly Grove Church—Delegates Bro. F. E. Dykes, J. E. Hewett Sister Wynell Chafin and Sister Annie Mae Hussy.

Lovewood Church—Delegates, Allen Sapp, W. T. Jusice, and Sister Myrtle Gay.

Renewed the call for corresponding from other Association. State Line Association Delegates, Bro. G. W. Nobles, Bro. H. A. Hicks, and Bro. J. C. Howell.

Report of Committee on Divine Services that Bro. I. O. Cook preach at eleven o'clock. Bro. G. W. Nobles close.

Committee appointed on Superannuation—Bro. O. F. Bracewell, Bro. W. T. Justice, and Bro. J. E. Hewett. Song Service led by Chorus, Prayer led by Bro. Daniel Walters, after which the stand was filled by Bro. I. O. Cook. Scripture reading 5 chapter of Galatians. Closed by Bro. G. W. Nobles.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

At this time the Moderator called the body together. Song Service led by Bro. C. L. Cook. Prayer by Bro. Allen Sapp. Scripture reading by Bro. C. E. Morris, Song by Quartet. Renewed the call for Correspondence from other Association. Liberty Association, Delegates Bro. Daniel Walters and Bro. Martin Mears.

At this time Moderator appointed Delegates to other Associations.

Liberty Association—Bro. and Sister Chester Cook and Bro. G. I. Owens.

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State Line Association—Bro. J. W. Roberts and Bro. W. L. Cloud.

Florida State Association—Bro. C. E. Day, Bro. Joe Tharp, W. L. Cloud, Bro. Allen Sapp, and O. F. Bracewell.

### REPORT OF COMMITTEES COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

We your Committee on Education wish to submit this as our report. We urge our parents and young people to not only support with their prayers, but their needs and cooperation of our Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee.

Chm. G. W. Cloud

### COMMITTEE ON SUPERANUATION

We your committee make the following report. We suggest that the money in the Treasury be held until further needed.

Chm. O. F. Bracewell.

### COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE

We your committee make the following report that we abstinence ourselves from all strong drinks and that we learn to be Temperant. We recommend that members that are not willing to be tempered that the Church should deal with them according to Matt. 18th Chapter.

Signed,

Joe Tharp, Chairman

### COMMITTEE ON STANDING OF CHURCHES AND MINISTERS

We your Committee on Standing of Churches and Ministers make the following report. We find all churches and Ministers of Salem Association in good standing as far as we know.

Signed,

J. R. Barns, Chairman



## REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

We your Executive Committee make the following report. We have elected Bro. G. I. Owens, Chairman and Bro. J. T. Sullivan, Secretary. We are happy to report that we did not have any business to arise in the past year.

Signed,

J. T. Sullivan, Secretary

## COMMITTEE ON AUXILIARY

We your committee make the following report. We urge our people in every Church to bind ourselves together in earnest prayer for the Auxiliaries of our Churches.

Signed,

C. E. Day

## COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES

We your committee make the following report. We find in our Association eleven members dead. We ask that each Church send in their obituaries with the Association letters.

Signed,

R. B. Jackson, Chairman

## COMMITTEE ON NOMINATION

We your committee make the following report. That the next Association convene with Cypress Creek Church, three miles west of Alford, Florida on Friday and Saturday before the 1st Sunday in October, 1948. Rev. H. W. Keels will preach the Introduction Sermon.

Jewel Kint, Chairman

SEPTEMBER 27, 1947

The Woman Auxiliary Convention met with Christian Home Church, Sister Ada Holley, President, presiding with Sister Florence Cook, Secretary, officiating. Devotional was led by

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Sister Annie Belle Taylor. Scripture 23rd Psalm and 18th Chapter of Kings. Prayer by Bro. Chester Cook.

Delegates from Christian Home Church were: Sister Maudy Bracewell, Sister Annie Belle Taylor, and Sister Nancy Stone.

Delegates from Travelers Rest Church: Sister Florence Cook.

Welcome address was given by Sister Morgan Peacock after which the Girls Quartet sang a beautiful song. At 11 o'clock Bro. I. O. Cook brought us a wonderful message from Judges 16:1 after which we dismissed one hour for lunch. A basket lunch was served.

### AFTERNOON SESSION

The house was called to order by President. The Girls Quartet rendered another beautiful song at this time. Prayer by Bro. I. O. Cook after which the following officers were nominated for the ensuing year.

President, Sister Ada Holley; Sec. and Treas., Sister Annie Belle Taylor; Enlistment Com., Sister Grantham; Chr. Young People, Sister Bertha Spears; Chr. Missions, Sister Lovie Burkett; Chr. Stewardship, Sister Evelyn Hitchcock; Field Worker, Sister Florence Cook.

It was moved and seconded that Field Worker be given \$10.00 on expenses. Report of Compiling Committee. Christian Home Church 20, Travelers Rest 9, Holly Church 6.

### FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Total in District Treas. ....	\$41.20
Dues collected:	
Christian Home Church .....	2.00
Travelers Rest Church .....	2.00
Holly Grove Church .....	1.80

Personal Service as follows:

Christian Home Bible Chapters 2223; Garments distributed 79; Visits to sick 91; Donation to needy \$5.00.

We send to represent our District Convention in your honorable body as follows: Sister Florence Cook.

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The next District Convention will convene with Travelers Rest Church on Saturday before the 1st Sunday in October.

Ada Holley, President

Annie Belle Taylor, Sec. and Treas.

### CHRISTIAN HOME:

Deposited in Church Treas. \$140.97; Contributed to Missions \$30.40; Contributed to Education \$30.41.

Bible Chapters 900; Sick Visits 27; Garments to needy 25;

### HOLLY GROVE CHURCH:

Balance in Treasury \$13.00.

Mrs. J. T. Sullivan, President

### TREASURER REPORT

Balance in Treasury Oct. 3, 1946 .....	\$ 44.95
Received from Finance Committee Oct. 4, 1946 .....	127.00
Total .....	\$171.95
Paid out to Home Mission Board .....	\$ 53.50
Paid out to Superannuation to Bro. J. C. Eldridge .....	7.00
Cost of Minutes .....	45.42
Clerk .....	15.00
State Association .....	10.00
Postage .....	2.70
Total in Treasury Oct. 2, 1947 .....	\$ 38.33

C. L. Cook, Treasurer

### COMMITTEE ON SUGGESTIONS

We your Committee on Suggestions submit our report.

I. We suggest that our pastors of our churches on conference day instruct the church on our doctrine and discipline.

II. That the order of business be changed to read as follows:

1. Moderator call the body to order.
2. Call for Corresponding Letter and seat delegates.
3. Roll call of ministers.
4. Appoint Committee on Divine Service.



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5. Call for Petitionary Letters.
6. Call for Correspondence from Sister Associations.
7. Appointing of Committees.
8. Appointing delegates to Sister Associations.
9. Report of Committee.
10. Election of Officers.
11. Miscellaneous business.
12. Adjournment.

Signed,

A. W. Cook, Chairman

REPORT OF MISSION BOARD OCT. 2, 1947

Cash in Treasury Oct. 2 .....	\$229.42
Received Oct. 3rd, 1947	
Marvin Chapel Church .....	\$ 48.89
Gap Pond Church .....	13.25
Travel Rest Church .....	13.46
Oak Grove Church .....	3.25
Cypress Creek Church .....	2.00
Love Wood Church .....	2.00
Midway Church .....	2.00
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Total .....	\$314.27

C. E. Day, Treasurer

FINANCE REPORT

Balance in Treasury Oct. 1st, 1947 .....	\$ 38.33
Home Mission received .....	69.60
Foreign Mission received .....	15.20
Orphan Home money received .....	5.00
Superannuation money received .....	5.00
For Association purposes .....	64.34
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	\$197.47

W. M. Shivers

### PREACHERS PRESENT

A. W. Cook, H. C. Mercer, C. E. Morris, H. W. Keel, J. W. Roberts, J. E. Nichols, I. O. Cook, G. W. Nobles, D. E. Clark, Daniel Walter, Martie Mears.

### LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS

A. W. Cook	Rt. 2, Altha, Florida
J. E. Nichols	Rt. 2, Altha, Florida
D. E. Clark	Blountstown, Florida
C. E. Morris	Blountstown, Florida
Rufus Hyman	Rt. 1, Altha, Florida
H. C. Mercer	Rt. 1, Altha, Florida
J. W. Roberts	Rt. 1, Altha, Florida
I. O. Cook	Rt. 2, Altha, Florida
W. H. Keel	Cypress, Florida
J. C. Watson	Marianna, Florida

The Association gave Oak Grove Church and community a rising vote of thanks for their kindness shown the body during the Session.

Moved and seconded that the Association adjourn to meet with Cypress Creek Church Friday and Saturday before the 1st Sunday in October, 1948.

Rev. I. O. Cook, Moderator  
C. L. Cook, Sec. and Treas.

### AUGUSTAS H. LINTON

Augustas H. Linton was born November 18, 1900. He was a very faithful member of Holly Grove Free Will Baptist Church and served as clerk for some time.

He is greatly missed by his wife, loved ones and community.

The Lord saw fit to call him to dwell up higher on the morning of December 11, 1946.

He is Gone but Not Forgotten.

May the Lord fill this vacancy with his love till we meet again.

Written by his neice,  
Mrs. Louise Watson

OBITUARY FOR SALEM CHURCH AND SALEM  
ASSOCIATION AT LARGE

Sacred to the memory of Bro. J. C. Eldridge who departed this life January 7, 1947.

He was born Nov. 30, 1867 in Randolph County, Georgia. At the age of 8 years he moved to Henry Co., Ala. Here he grew to manhood.

On Jan. 7, 1888 he was married to Miss Jossie Waters, and to this union were born 12 children.

On Sept. 14, 1891 he moved to Jackson Co., Fla. On Saturday before 2nd Sunday in May, 1893 he joined the F. W. B. Church at Love Wood but placed his membership in Salem Church where it remained until his death. He, his father and mother were baptized together. On the 2nd Sunday in May, 1895 he was licensed to preach the Gospel. On the 1st Sunday in Sept., 1895 he was ordained in full authority as a minister giving full time as Pastor of F. W. B. Churches and has baptized thousands into the church. His first wife preceeded him in death by several years. Later he was married to Sister Ada Eldridge who's maiden name we do not know, but she also is a fine Christian worker, who with his five children stood faithfully by him to the end. We feel that his ever shined in the history of the Salem Association. We are confident that the rays of that light are penetrating into the darkest corners of our Association and the brightness thereof will never grow dim.

J. E. Nichols, Chairman

IN MEMORY OF TROY HADDOCK

He was a good friend to every one and a faithful member of Cypress Creek Church.

He is gone but not forgotten. He sank to rest as a weary child not a sigh on his latest breath and just as ever in life he smiled. He sweetly smiled in death. He sleeps where the pine branches wave neath the bright Florida sky and blooming above his quiet grave are flowers that never die. He is free from a life

of ceaseless pain. He will weep no more. By faith in the Lamb far sinners slain he was raised to that Bright Shore.

Written by a friend,

Stella Ramsey

MRS. LEOLA SPEARS HANSFORD

We the members of Christian Home Church wish to express our heartfelt sympathy in the death of our loved one, sister and friend, Mrs. Leola Spears Hansford who the Lord in all His wisdom called from our midst Sept., 1947.

She had been a faithful member of our church for many years. Her passing leaves a vacancy in our hearts, church and Sunday School and we shall greatly miss her pleasant face and her willingness to be of service to her church, her friends and her community.

We are deeply conscious of this loss to our church, our auxiliary, and our community because of her passing. We humbly bow in submission to Him who doeth all things well, and express to the family our sympathy in this sad hour.

Respectfully submitted,

Annie Belle Taylor, Clerk

R. A. GRAY

In memory of Bro. R. A. (Uncle Bob) Gray who departed this life March 29, 1947 making his stay on earth (84) eighty-four years. He was a member of New Hope Church and was a deacon many years and a loyal worker for his church. But God called him home to rest from his labor. He left a vacant place which cannot be filled only by the spirit of Christ. We miss him but we know that our loss is Heaven's gain.

Written by the pastor,

Rev. H. W. Keels

We the members of New Hope Free Will Baptist Church invite the Salem Free Will Baptist Association to convene with us next session.

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RUBIEN HAIRE

Rubien Haire was born in 1865 (Birth date unknown). He was a native of Georgia and came to Florida later where he made his home until the Lord called him to dwell up higher on April 3, 1947.

He was a member of Holly Grove Free Will Baptist Church where he served the Lord and was a very faithful member.

He is greatly missed by his wife, family and community.

He is gone but not forgotten. May we meet again some day.

Written by,

Louise Watson

SALEM FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION LETTER

Greetings from \_\_\_\_\_ Church  
To the Salem Association at \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Brethren—The time is at hand for us to meet you by  
delegation at another Association. We send to represent us in  
your honorable body:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

We hand you our Statistics—Received by letter \_\_\_\_\_  
by Baptism \_\_\_\_\_ by confession of faith \_\_\_\_\_ by Res-  
toration \_\_\_\_\_ Dismissed by letter \_\_\_\_\_ Expelled \_\_\_\_\_  
Dead—Male members \_\_\_\_\_ Female members \_\_\_\_\_  
Total membership \_\_\_\_\_ We have called for ensuing  
year, Elder \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount of money to Association—For Home Mission \_\_\_\_\_  
Foreign Mission \_\_\_\_\_ For Education \_\_\_\_\_ For  
Superannuation \_\_\_\_\_ To Unified Program \_\_\_\_\_  
To Orphanage \_\_\_\_\_ Amount paid pastor \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount paid visiting preachers \_\_\_\_\_ Other expenses \_\_\_\_\_  
Have communed and washed feet \_\_\_\_\_ this year.  
Moderator \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

CHURCH AUXILIARY REPORT

Sunday School's membership \_\_\_\_\_ Average attend-  
ance \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday School offerings \_\_\_\_\_ Total  
paid out \_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent's name and address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ladies Aid membership \_\_\_\_\_ Average attendance \_\_\_\_\_  
Bible readers \_\_\_\_\_ Total collected \_\_\_\_\_ Total  
paid out \_\_\_\_\_ President's name and address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ number  
on roll \_\_\_\_\_ Average attendance \_\_\_\_\_ Number  
daily Bible readers \_\_\_\_\_  
President's name \_\_\_\_\_  
and address \_\_\_\_\_



CHURCHES	PASTORS AND ADDRESSES	CLERK AND ADDRESSES	Meeting Days	By Baptism	Rce. other ways	Dis. by letter	Expelled	Total Membership	Amt. paid Pastor	Sunday School
Midway	J. E. Nichols, Altha, Fla.	L. L. Wimbley, Cypress, Fla.	2nd Sun.	1	0	3	0	39	\$ 73.80	---
Abes Springs	D. E. Clark, Blountstown, Fla.	Mrs. Emma Clark, Blountstown, Fla.	2 and 4	4	3	0	0	25	150.00	---
Oak Grove	J. E. Nichols, Altha, Fla.	Mrs. D. L. Hewette, Sneads, Fla.	4th Sun.	---	---	---	---	55	145.00	25
Pine Grove	D. E. Clark Blountstown, Fla.	C. A. Bozman Blountstown, Fla.	3 and 5th	4	---	---	---	27	50.00	---
Holly Grove	C. A. Huckby, Unknown	Hance Keel, Blountstown, Fla.	1st Sun.	2	2	5	---	58	150.11	163
Salem	J. E. Nichols, Altha, Fla.	J. R. Barns, Cottondale, Fla.	1st Sun.	12	---	---	---	265	150.00	175
Damascus	C. A. Huckby	W. L. Cloud, Rt. 1, Marianna, Fla.	4th Sun.	---	---	1	---	136	144.50	47
Marvin Chapel	J. E. Nichols, Altha, Fla.	Audrey Eliann, Marianna, Fla.	3rd Sun.	4	---	7	---	65	244.75	41
New Hope	H. W. Keel, Bascom, Fla.	Mildred Mears, Bascom, Fla.	1st Sun.	4	1	---	---	22	78.75	22
Cypress Creek	I. O. Cook, Rt. 2, Altha, Fla.	F. E. Lock, Marianna, Fla.	3rd Sun.	4	---	8	---	86	88.56	---
Travelers Rest	D. W. Pool, Dothan Ala.	J. W. Parham, Rt. 2, Altha, Fla.	4th Sun.	4	2	5	2	113	212.27	---
Love Wood	C. A. Huckby, Unknown	W. T. Justic, Cottondale, Fla.	2nd Sun.	1	---	1	---	149	206.89	---
Christian Home	D. F. Pelt, Rt. 1, Altha, Fla.	Mrs. Annie Bell Taylor, Blountstown, Fla.	2nd Sun.	---	---	1	---	130	380.39	---
Gap Pond	Daniel Walters	Mrs. Marvin Casey, Rt. 2, Panama City	---	10	---	---	---	128	178.57	---
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>45</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1298</b>	<b>\$2155.59</b>	<b>473</b>