

**The
Social Band
Association
of
Free Will Baptist**

1945

**Proceedings of the
71st. Annual Session**

**Convened at
Alice Brooks Church
Sharum, Ark.**

MINUTES
OF THE
SEVENTY FIRST ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
SOCIAL BAND ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

HELD WITH
Alice Brooks Church, Sharum, Arkansas

OFFICERS

Moderator, Eld. Ralph Staten, Walnut Ridge, Ark. Rt. 1
Ass't. Mod., Eld. D. C. Jones, Pocahontas, Ark.
Clerk, Eld. D. C. Jones, Pocahontas, Ark.
Evangelist, Eld. L. J. Smith, Oscola, Ark. Rt. 3 Box 471

The next session of the association will convene with the New Covenant Church 10 miles east of Walnut Ridge Ark known as Cash Hall. Beginning on Thursday night before the third Sunday in September 1946. The Introductory Sermon will be preached by the pastor of the church in his absence by the Moderator calling on someone.

Free Will Baptist Gem. 211 Bond St. Monett, Missouri

PROCEEDINGS

Persuant to adjournment a goodly number of the ministers, deacons, and messengers composing that part of the Church of God, known as Social Band Association of Free Will Baptist, met with Alice Brooks Church, Sharum, Arkansas on September 13, 1945. Annual sermon was preached by Eld. W. C. Lakey, Matt. 25:11. Lord open to us.

FRIDAY MORNING

Met at 9:30. Opened by singing directed by Eld. Ralph Staten. Moderator read Psalms 112. Prayer by Eld. L. J. Smith. Welcome address by Eld. L. J. Smith. Response by Eld. W. C. Lakey.

Appointment of Committees

OBITUARY— Bro. H. E. Carter, Bro. Eugene Davis, Sister Hazellood.

STATISTICAL— Bro. Henry Ostercamp, Sister Dora Walker, Eld. R. S. Shelton.

PETITIONARY— Eld. L. W. Hodge, Vom Bennett, Sister Birdie Kirk.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND LEAGUE— Sister Ella Crays, Sister L. A. Bridges, Bro. E. A. Swift.

REQUEST— Bro. L. A. Bridges, Sister Ostercamp, Sister Eval Haynes.

FINANCE— Eld. D. C. Jones, Eld. J. D. Holland, Sister John Gates.

RESOLUTION— Bro. Marvin Riggs, Eld. Wayne Tucker, Eld. L. J. Smith.

NON REPRESENTED CHURCHES— Eld. W. C. Lakey, Eld. Carl High, Bro. Bilingsly.

Moderator read Rules of Order.

Call for letters of different churches. The following was received: Okean, Pocahontas, Grandview, Hopewell Alice Brooks, Carson Lake, Rickey Chapel, Pirtle, New Covenant, New Hope, by letter, Pruett Chapel, New Bethel, by letter, Poplar Valley, Sugar Tree Grove, by letter. Right hand of fellowship was given and Delegates seated.

Election of Officers

Eld. Ralph Staten was elected Moderator. Eld. D. C. Jones was elected Assistant Moderator and Clerk.

Eleven o'clock service was opened by song service directed by Eld. Ralph Staten. Prayer by Eld. W. C. Lakey. Eld. Ira Gates brought the message. Lesson, Heb. 11: 1-10. Text St. John 11:40, "Why the Churches Are Not Prospering." Closed by prayer by Elds. Ralph Staten and L. J. Smith. Dismissed by Bro. L. W. Hodge.

Eld. F. D. Johnson of Cave Springs Association was seated as Advisory Delegate.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Met at 2 P. M. Opened by singing directed by Eld. Carl High. Assistant Moderator read 5th chapter of first Peter. Prayer by Eld. R. S. Shelton.

Tardy letters called for. Received 3, New Covenant, Pruett Chapel and New Hope. Read and Received.

Call for examination of Ministers. All in good standing.

Intermission for Preaching.

Three O'clock service opened by singing directed by Eld. Ralph Staten. The message was brought by Elds. R. S. Shelton and Carl High, Heb. 11:10 and 12:1. Theme "Looking For a City and Keeping Well Clean."

Adjourned to meet at 9:30 Saturday morning.

FRIDAY EVENING

Met at 8 o'clock P. M. Song Service directed by Bro. Raymond McNatt and Carl High. Prayer by Eld. L. J. Smith. Devotional was conducted by Eld. F. D. Johnson. A good devotional was experienced. Closing prayer by Eld. Carl High. The message was brought by Eld. Ralph Staten, Matt. 27:22, "What Shall I Do With Jesus."

Dismissed by Eld. Wayne Tucker.

SATURDAY MORNING

Met at 9:30. Song Service conducted by Eld. Ralph Staten. Moderator read the Book of Phillemon. Prayer by Eld. Ira Gates.

Call for tardy letters, received 2, Poplar Valley and New Bethel and received.

Ministers reports. See Reports.

Treasurer of the Home Mission Board made report.

We, the Home Mission Board accept the Report of the Treasurer as read and recommend that it be adopted.

The following was elected delegates to the State Association:

Sister L. J. Smith
Sister John Gates
Sister L. A. Bridges
Bro. Marion Clark
Sister Ira Gates, alternate
Sister Mary Staten
Naomi Denton

Eld. L. J. Smith of Osceola, Ark. Rt. 3 Box 471 was elected the Evangelist for the ensuing year.

Election of Home Mission Board. Board retained Ralph Staten, D. C. Jones, R. S. Shelton, Charles Staten, Ira Gates.

Eld. R. S. Shelton was elected to preach the Memorial sermon in 1946.

The following was elected delegates to Cave Springs Association which will be held Thursday before the 4th Sunday in August 1946 at Walnut Grove Church near Elm Star. Eld. Ira Gates, Eld. Carl High, Eld. D. C. Jones, Eld. Wayne Tucker, Eld. R. S. Shelton.

Adjourned to meet at 2 P. M.

Eleven o'clock service met together by singing directed by Eld. Ralph Staten and Eld. N. P. Gates and Raymond McNatt. Prayer by Eld. N. P. Gates. Eld. W. C. Lakey delivered the Memorial Sermon. St. John 14: 1-2, 2 Tim. 4:4, 1 Thess. 4:14, Rev. 21:1. Closed with a handshake.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Met at 2 P. M. Song Service directed by Elds. Ralph Staten and N. P. Gates. Prayer by Eld. Carl High.

Calling for Report of Committees.

Committee on Request ask the Association to go to New Covenant Church in 1946. A vote was taken which resulted in selecting New Covenant Church.

Resolution Committee. See Report.

Shall we instruct our delegates to the State Association for entering the National Association. Carried

yes to vote to enter the National Association.

Intermission.

Come together by singing directed by Eld. Ralph Staten. The ordaining council, Eld. R. S. Shelton, L. G. Smith and Ira Gates. Deacons, Bros. Tom Bennett and I. C. Staten ordained. L. W. Hodge and Carl High to full work of the ministry and Bro. Alden Jones deacon of Grandview Church.

(Motion made and second that we adjourn to meet with New Covenant Church on Thursday night before the 3rd Sunday in September, 1946.

Eld. Ralph Staten, Moderator
Walnut Ridge, Ark Rt 1

Eld. D. C. Jones, Assistant Mod., and Clerk
Pocahontas, Ark.

SATURDAY EVENING

Met at 8 o'clock. Service opened by singing directed by Sister Beulah Binkley and Bro. Raymond McNutt. Prayer by Eld. R. S. Shelton. The message delivered. Lesson John 13:1-17, 1 Cor. 11:13-34. Text John 13:15 Theme, "Example." A goodly number taken of the Lord's Supper and Washing of the Saints Feet. Dismissed by song and went out.

SUNDAY MORNING

Met at 10 o'clock. Song Service directed by Bro. Raymond McNutt and Eld. Ralph Staten. Prayer by Bro. Dan Kirk. A lecture was given on Sunday School and League by Eld. Ira Gates.

Eleven o'clock service. Prayer by Eld. L. J. Smith. Lesson, Matt. 7:7-15. Text 13th verse of Joel 3:14. Theme "Two Ways." Closed with song and handshake. Dismissed by Bro. Raymond McNutt.

Deacons— Carson Lake, Geo. W. Gable, Harold Smith, Leonard Bridges.

New Hope— Harold Bates

Alice Brooks— Marvin Riggs, I. C. Staten.

Rickey Chapel— E. A. Swift, H. Russell.

Pruett Chapel— G. W. Dale, Orville Cox

New Harmony— E. W. Cox, W. H. Clay.

Grand View— H. C. Jolly, E. L. Jones, Alden Jones.

Warm Springs— J. C. King.

Pirtle— Wiley Ricker, Irvin Clark, Carl High
 Oldean— J. O.M artin
 Hopewell— C. F. Jones, Ambrose Cavenar.
 New Bethel— Ben Seamons, Hiram White.
 Stony Point— Don Kirk, A. C. Pendergrass.
 Pleasant View— Sular Camp.
 White Oak— Will Manus, Tom Bennett, J. D. Mc-
 Kinney,
 Pocahontas— Will S. White, Luther Crays.
 Poplar Valley— W. S. Knight.
 Sugar Tree Grove— G. W. Happer, Ben Patterson,
 Monroe Barks.

FINANCE REPORT

New Covenant	\$2.00	\$1.00	80c
Okean	1.50	1.00	50
New Hope	2.00	1.00	50
Grand View	2.00	1.00	50
Hopewell	3.50	1.00	50
Alice Brooks	2.00	1.00	50
Pocahontas	2.00	1.50	50
Carson Lake	2.00	1.00	1.00
Pruett Chapel	3.00	1.00	50
Rickey Chapel	2.00	1.00	50
Pirtle	2.00	1.00	50
White Oak	1.50		50
New Bethel	2.00	1.00	1.00
Poplar Valley	1.00	1.00	
D. C. Jones	1.00	1.00	.50
Donattion	11.00		
Sugar Tree Grove	2.50	1.00	
Total	\$43.00	\$15.00	\$8.30

Ministerial List

D. C. Jones, Pocahontas, Ark.
 E. W. Tucker, Peach Orchard, Ark.
 W. F. Vickory, Broken Arrow, Ark.
 R. S. Shelton, Okean, Ark.
 Ralph Staten, Walnut Ridge, Ark. Rt. 1
 B. F. Forrester, Walnut Ridge, Ark.
 Charles Staten, Pocahontas Ark.
 G. W. Million, Pocahontas, Ark.
 Thurman Johnson
 A. L. Campbell, Pocahontas, Ark.
 J. J. Calbert, Campbell, Mo.
 Geo. V. Weeks, Hoxie, Ark.

Henry Pouley, Beech Grove, Ark.
L. J. Smith, Osceala, Ark. Rt. 3 Box 471
W. C. Lakey, Sedgwick, Ark.
R. L. Crook, Doniphan, Mo.
W. C. Hudson, Jonesboro Ark.
W. P. Watts, Luxara, Ark.
T. C. Reece, Osceala, Ark.
L. W. Hodge, Bano, Ark.
Carl High, Peach Orchard, Ark.

Evangelist Report

Traveled 750 miles, preached 69 sermons, witnessed 4 conversions; held 10 funerals, performed 1 marriage. Received from Pruett Chapel \$12.00, Carson Lake, \$12.00 Home Mission 1-3-45, \$19.65, 7-29-45, \$23.25. Total \$66.90 on Evangelist Salary. Other places, Pruett Chapel, \$10, Carson Lake, \$6.00 Elnora \$68.23, Richwoods, \$28.00, Stony Point, \$33.09, Warm Springs, \$3.50, Grand View, \$54.75, Reece Ridge, \$2.00, Johnson School House, \$4.42, White Oak, \$4.50, Coffman, \$10.50, Individuals \$5.50, Total \$220.54.

D. C. Jones

Pastored 1 Church, Rickey Chapel, preached 23 sermons (including revival), traveled 630 miles, received \$62.22. Regular appointment at Alice Brooks. Preached 20 sermons including revival, traveled 550 miles, received \$129.35. Preached 2 Sermons at Pruett Chapel, traveled 70 miles received \$3.25, preached 12 sermons elsewhere. Total sermons 57. Total miles traveled 1250. Total received, \$194.82.

Carl High

I have served in the pastoral capacity of three churches O'Kean, Pocahontas and Hopewell. I assisted in the conducting of a revival meeting at each church.

At O'kean I preached 38 sermons, received the sum of \$157.75, and witnessed 2 conversions. At Pocahontas I preached 32 sermons, received the sum of 232.88, and witnessed one conversion. At Old Reyno, the Hopewell church I preached 23 sermons, received the sum of 129.90 and witnessed one conversion. The work in the revival is included in these reports. I conducted a revival at Mountain Home. I preached 10 sermons, received \$78.50 and witnessed one conversion. I assisted in a meeting at Pirtle. There I preached three sermons and received the sum of \$15.00. Other places I preached 11 sermons and received \$27.25. At Coffman I witnessed 9 con-

versions. I have preached the total of 119 sermons, received the total of \$641.28, and witnessed the total of 14 conversions.

I have conducted 11 funerals and officiated at 2 marriage ceremonies. In addition to this I have edited the Landmark.

Ralph Staten

I have pastored one church, preached 33 sermons, preached 9 funerals, married 5 couples, preached other places, 17 sermons, received for years service, \$128.00

L. J. Smith

Pastored 3 churches, Poplar Valley including revival received \$143.98. Alice Brook including revival received 112.60. New Covenant including revival received \$127.77. Assisted in revival at Okean received \$31.38. Preached 3 times at Jeles Spur received \$16.50. Preached at Oak Grove received \$9.00. Conducted 10 funerals, performed 7 marriages, received at other places \$50.00. Witnessed 90 conversions, received into church fellowship 40 and assisted in revival at Evergreen. Total received. \$491.23.

W. C. Lakey

I have assisted in a revival at Poplar Valley, preached at Ames and Oak Ridge. Witnessed 54 Conversions.

L. W. Hodge

Dating from September 18, 1944, number of sermons preached, 2, Couples married 1.

W. F. Vickrey

Pastored 1 Church, New Bethel, 6 trips, 12 sermons. Witnessed 1 Conversion, received for service \$46.80, preached other places 20 sermons, received for service \$18.00. Helped Bro. Ernarh in a meeting at Dean. preached 8 sermons, witnessed 4 conversions, received for labor \$66.94, conducted 3 funerals, officiated at 2 marriage ceremonies, traveled 800 miles received for years work, \$131.74

Wayne Tucker

I have pastored 2 Churches, Pruett Chapel. Preached 9 sermons, traveled 547 miles, witnessed 15 conversions, received in Church 19, and received pay of \$58.31.

Pirtle: Preached 21 sermons, traveled 661 miles, witnessed 1 conversion, received in church 3, and received pay of \$86.00. Preached other places, 6 sermons, traveled 152 miles, received pay of \$14.85. Preached a total of 36 sermons, 5 funerals, and 2 marriages. Traveled

1460 miles, and received total pay of \$160.66.

Rev. R. S. Shelton

Sunday School and League

We find 14 churches have reported Sunday School, all using Free Will Baptist Literature except one. Two having no Sunday School and League. We recommend that in selecting teachers for the different classes that Christians be selected as far as possible and parents urged to be faithful in attendance setting the right example before their children.

Mrs. Luther Crays

Mrs. Leonard Bridges

E. A. Swift

Resolution No. 1— Be it resolved that hereafter we pay our evangelist \$4.00 per service for all services held in Broken Down Churches and isolated places where there is no church for the purpose of receiving and organizing churches and all collections be sent to the Treasurer to be recorded and the evangelist send in a report at the close of each revival, number of services and amount collected.

Resolution No. 2— We, the Resolution Committee extend to the Alice Brooks Church and community our sincere thanks and appreciation for the hospitality and kindness they manifested during our stay with them. We bid them God's speed in their labor for the cause of Christ and His Kingdom.

Wayne Tucker

Home Mission Report

Amount received for year, Okean \$45.15, Pocahontas, \$44.77, Pirtle, \$6.45. A total received in the treasure, \$96.37. Amount paid from treasure \$76.63. Balance in treasure, \$144.49.

Eld. Ira Gates, Treasure

We your committee on non represented churches, 2 failed to report they are Stony Point and Warm Springs

Carl High

W. C. Lakey

OBITUARY— We, the Obituary Committee find that our Heavenly Father has seen fit to call from our midst the following:

Alice Brooks: Eld. W. F. Shaffitt

CONSTITUTION

1. This Association, when properly organized, shall consist of a moderator and a clerk, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present. The duty of the moderator shall be to keep the Association in order, state questions fairly and take the vote thereon; to have the liberty of speech as other members, providing his seat to be filled; to have no vote unless the Association be equally divided, in which case he shall have the deciding vote. The duty of the clerk shall be to keep a fair record of the proceedings of the Association.

2. The Association shall be composed of ordained ministers, deacons and licentiates, together with the messengers duly chosen by the several churches in our union and sent to represent them in this Association, said messengers being members of some church within this Association, whom the members judge best qualified for the purpose, who, on producing letters certifying to their appointment, shall be entitled to seats.

3. In the letters from the several churches shall be expressed their respective number of members in fellowship, and the number received, dismissed, excluded or died since the last sitting of the Association, and day of church meeting.

4. No query shall be received by the Association from any church unless it has been acted on in said church and cannot be settled, in which case the Association shall take up same and act upon it.

5. Every church in the Association shall be entitled to a representation of messengers not exceeding three.

6. Every motion made and seconded shall be acted upon unless withdrawn by the mover.

7. The Association shall not have the power to lord it over God's heritage so as to infringe on any of the internal rights of the churches; nevertheless, we agree that the churches composing the Association shall stand in the same relationship to each other in this Association that individuals do to each other in this Association; that is to say, if a church trespass against a sister church the church injured shall try to reclaim them by Gospel steps; if they cannot be reclaimed, they shall be dropped from our union.

8. We agree to do all business by a majority of all the

members present.

9. Any church may be admitted into this Association by letter and messengers. If upon examination it is found to be orthodox and orderly, such admission shall be manifested by the moderator giving the right hand of fellowship to the messengers thereof.

10. This Association shall have power to sit as an advisory council, to give churches all necessary advice in matters of difficulty; to inquire into the cause why churches neglect to represent themselves in this Association; to appoint any members, by and with his or her consent to transact any business they may deem necessary; to invite brethren in the ministry to a seat with the Association; to adjourn the Association at any time and place that may be thought necessary; to exclude from his seat any member who does not conform to the Rules of Decorum, and shall report his or their conduct to the churches from which he or they were messengers.

11. The Association possesses appellate jurisdiction in all case of difficulty that may arise in the churches.

12. The Lord's Supper shall be administered at each annual session of the Association.

13. Each Annual Association shall be held on the third Sunday in August.

RULES OF DECORUM

1. The Association, when convened, shall be opened and closed by singing and prayer.

2. Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet and address the moderator.

3. Each person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in speech, except by the moderator, until he gets through; nor shall the moderator interrupt him unless he breaks order.

4. The person speaking shall adhere to the question and shall in no wise cast reflections on any person who may have spoken before him.

5. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave of the Association.

6. No person shall laugh or whisper in time of public speech.

7. Members shall address each other by the appellation of brother or brethren, and sisters.

8. No member of this Association shall absent himself when the Association is sitting in conference without leave of the

moderator.

9. The names of the members of this Association shall be enrolled and called over as often as the Association thinks is necessary.

10. No member shall speak longer than fifteen minutes at any one time without leave of the moderator.

A Letter Form To Be Used As A Guide For Local Church And District Association

To the Association of Free Will Baptists:

We, the Church of Free Will Baptists met on, 19...., and selected

..... to represent us in your honorable body which convenes with Church, on, 19....

Bidding you God's speed in all your labor for the advancement of the cause of Christ and his kingdom. Our Church is composed of Deacons, Ministers, membership; males, females, total Members received during the year: baptism, recommendation, by letter The churches' loss in membership: dismissed by letter, excluded, died Name and address of ministers

Name of Deacons

Sunday School, yes.... no...., kind of literature used

....., condition, average attendance

....., total membership League: yes....,no....

president, Secretary

total membership Families taking church paper

Pastor, sermons preached

salary Own church building, value of

church property, when organized

by who

Moderator

Clerk

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to order by Moderator.
2. Call for letters from Churches.
3. Election of Moderator and Clerk.
4. Read Rules of Decorum.
5. Appointment of Committees: Divine Service, Finance, Obituary, Arrangement of Business.
6. Call for Corresponding Letters.
7. Call for Petitionary Letters.
8. Unfinished Business.
9. New Business.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. GOD. We believe in one true and living, Triune God; composed of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, equal in divine Essence, Purpose, Power and Glory.—St. John 1:1; 1 Cor. 8:6; St. John 10:30.

2. CHRIST. We believe that Jesus Christ is the divine Son of God. Was with the Father and the Holy Spirit at the time of the Creation, left the Courts of Heaven and came to this earth. Took upon Himself the form of humanity, sin excepted, by being born of the Virgin Mary, manifested His power, was crucified, placed in Joseph's tomb, rose from the dead the third day, completed the great plan of salvation, walked and talked with His disciples, publicly ascended up to Heaven, and that He will descend again to gather His jewels home.—Isaiah 9:6; St. John 1:14; Luke 1:26-28; Matt. 14:13-21; Mark 16:9-19; Luke 24:50:53; Acts 1:9-12; Mark 15:22-47.

3. HOLY SPIRIT. We believe that the Holy Spirit has visited true believers in all ages, and especially since the ascension of the SON back to the Father, and His coming on the day of Pentecost. Has taken up His office work among all nations of people, as a Divine Reprover, Comforter and Guide.—Judges 6:34; 11:29; St. John 16:8-14; Isaiah 63:10-12; Ephesians 4:30; Acts 8:17-20; Ezek. 36:27; Joel 2:28.

4. THE BIBLE. We believe the Bible, which is composed of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, was given by Inspiration of God, is our way-bill from earth to heaven, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice.—2 Peter 1:19-21; 2 Tim. 3:14-17; Daniel 10:21; Acts 1:16-17; Matt. 21:42.

5. THE FALL OF MAN. We believe that GOD created man good, gave him a just law by which he should be governed;

with promise of reward for faithfulness and with penalties of punishment for disobedience. Gave man power of free moral agency to choose the right and reject the wrong. But our first parents heeded the voice of the great enemy of souls, voluntarily transgressed the law of GOD, fell, with their posterity, under the just penalty of the same, and were unable of their own power to extricate or save themselves from the great dilemma into which they had fallen. God gave them the hope of salvation through the coming CHRIST.—Gen. 1:27; 2:16-17; Psalms 51:5, Gen. 3; Gen. 6:5; Rom. 5:12-19; John 3:6; Eph. 2:3.

6. REDEMPTION, SALVATION, ADOPTION. We believe that Jesus Christ by His birth, death, burial, resurrection and ascension paid the purchase price for the redemption of the whole human race, arranged a pardon for all who come upon Gospel terms; and a law of adoption into the Kingdom of Heaven, and an eternal inheritance into the glorified Kingdom above.—Heb. 9:12; Gal. 3:13; 4:4-5; Titus 2:14; Heb. 1:4; St. John 3:16; Isaiah 15:22.

7. CONDITIONS OF SALVATION. We believe that all persons, dying in infancy and all idiots are saved by the atoning merits of the Son of God without any act on their part; that persons coming to the years of accountability, transgressing the law of God, must upon their part, exercise faith in Jesus Christ through repentance toward God, at the completion of which pardon takes place in the mind of the Father and by the Holy Spirit they pass through the ordeal of regeneration, are washed in the blood of the Lamb and are planted in the Kingdom of Christ.—John 3rd chapter; Matt. 19:13-22; I Cor. 7:10; Luke 18:16-17; St. John 4:11-16; Psalms 98:3.

8. SALVATION FREE. We believe that God desires the salvation of all; Christ died for all; the Gospel invites all; the Holy Spirit strives with all; and whosoever will may come and be saved upon the terms of the Gospel.—1 Peter 1:9-25; 2:9-25; Revelation 22:17.

9. BAPTISM. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of believers in water, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, in which are represented the burial and resurrection of Christ; also represents our death to sin, and only those who have come under the presbytery of the elders are qualified to administer the same.—Matt. 3:14-16; 3:5-6; 1 Peter 3:21; St. John 3:23; Acts 10:47; Matt. 28:19.

10. COMMUNION AND FEET WASHING. We believe that the Lord's Supper and the washing of the saints' feet are ordinances of the Gospel of Christ; the Lord's Supper was instituted by our Saviour to commemorate His broken body and shed blood for the sins of the world, and to show our remembrance of Him till He comes. All Christians have a right to the Lord's Supper and should be invited; "Let a man examine himself and so let him eat."

The washing of feet was instituted by our Lord at the same time that the Supper was instituted as an act of humility to show our love for each other, and both ordinances should be

perpetuated by all Christians until His second coming.—Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:20-29; St. John 13:1-17; Matt. 26:26-29.

11. THE SABBATH. We believe that the Christian Sabbath should be observed as a day of rest and for the worship of God; that we should abstain from all sinful amusements and secular employments, works of mercy and piety excepted.—Exodus 20:11; 31:12-18; Deut. 5:12-15; Ezek. 20:12; Matt. 28:1; Luke 23:56; Acts 13:42-48; Mark 2:27.

12. CALL TO THE MINISTRY. We believe in a divine call of the ministry; that God in His goodness and power of grace, impresses His ministers with the burden of lost souls, to the extent that the call becomes irresistible with personal contentment; that when they yield to the call and exercise the native gifts according to the Scriptures, with a full reliance upon Him, He accompanies them in the person of the Holy Spirit to guide them in the way of truth and to bless their labors according to His purpose.—Jonah 1:1; Jer. 1:5; Mark 3:14; Acts 1:22-26; Matt. 28:19.

13. THE INVISIBLE CHURCH. We believe that the Invisible or Spiritual Church is the redeemed in the aggregate, is the family of God, is composed of all true Christians of every congregation from righteous Abel to the restitution of all things, from every kindred, nation, tongue and people.—Eph. 3:16-21; Heb. 12:22-23; 1 Pet. 2:5; Eph. 2:20-22; Acts 2:47; Matt. 16:18.

14. THE VISIBLE CHURCH. We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women, having obtained fellowship with the Lord and with each other, agreeing to keep up a good discipline and doctrine according to the rules of the Gospel.—2 Thess. 1:1; Acts 16:5; 3 John 1:10; Matt. 18:17; Acts 20:28; Revelation 1:4-20.

15. PERSEVERANCE. We believe that all true believers in Christ should persevere in divine grace, and in the knowledge of the truth, and that God's grace is sufficient to help them to overcome all the obstacles of life, and that all the combined forces of the great enemy of souls on earth and in hell (or in his eternal abode) are not able to pluck them from His hand so long as they walk in the path of duty; but those who waver and wilfully refuse or neglect to perform their duty, they would backslide if persistently continued, would be eternally lost.—2 Pet. 1:12; 2 Cor. 9:10; 2 Peter 1:4-8; 2 Peter 2:2; Rom. 8:35-39; Apostasy: 2 Peter 1:8-9; 1 Cor. 10:1-13; Heb. 12:15-17; 1 John 5:16; Heb. 6:1-6; 1 Tim. 4:1-2; Heb. 3:12; St. John 15:1-7; Matt. 12:31-32.

16. CHRIST THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH. We believe that Christ is the Head of the Church, and that the government of the local church is with the body.—Col. 1:18-19; Matt. 16:18; Heb. 12:23; Matt. 21:42; Eph. 1:22; Acts 16:4-5.

17. SANCTIFICATION. Sanctification is a work of God's grace, by which the soul is cleansed from all sin and wholly consecrated to Christ. It takes place in regeneration, and the Christian can and should abide in this state to the end of life, constantly growing in the grace and the knowledge of our Lord

Jesus Christ.—I Cor. 6:11; 2 Thess. 2:13; Heb. 12:14; Phil. 3:21; 2 Thess. 5:19-23; St. John 17:17-19; 2 Tim. 2:20-21.

18. THE RESURRECTION. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of the righteous and the wicked. When the resurrection shall take place; the soul and body shall be united, the righteous shall be received into everlasting happiness to reign with God for ever; but the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment.—Matt. 28:6; John 5:28-29; I Cor. 15:51-58.

19. THE SOUL. The soul is endless, hence does not die with the body, but immediately after death enters into a conscious state of happiness or misery, according to the spiritual character here possessed.—Phil. 1:23; Luke 23:43; Rev. 6:9; Luke 16:19-25; Matt. 10:28.

20. JUDGEMENT. We believe that there will be a general universal judgment, when all men shall be judged according to their works, whether they be good or bad, and that immediately thereafter the wicked shall enter into everlasting punishment, and the righteous into eternal happiness.—2 Thess. 1:4-9; Rev. 14:9-13; Luke 16:23; Rev. 21:8; 2 Cor. 5:10; Matt. 12:36-37; Rev. 20:12-13; Acts 17:31.

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant. We Promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid the 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 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.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." We will not forget 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.

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 souls, and the conversion of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

STATISTICAL REPORT

Pastor	Church	Clerk	Members	Taking Church Paper	League	Sunday School	No. of Ministers	Died	Excluded	Dismissed	Rec. by Fellowship
W. C. Lakey	Alice Brooks	Mary Staten	25	6	no	yes	3	1			
Ralph Staten	O'Kean	Naomi Denton	25	8	no	yes	1				
D. C. Jones	Grandview	Oma Ray	29		no	yes					
W. P. Watts	Carson Lake	Leonard Bridges	61		no	no	3			2	
Wayne Tucker	New Bethel	Ethel Brown	35		no	yes	1				
Billy Rogers	Pruett Chapel	Gladys Smith	65	1	no	yes	1		5	1	
Carl High	Rickey Chapel	Wanda Bonds	60		no	yes				3	19
Carl High	Pirtle	Thurman Hobbs	98	5	no	yes	2				3
R. L. Crook	Sugar Tree Grove	Bulah Faye Johnston	58		no	yes	2				
W. C. Lakey	Poplar Valley	Marie Holland	108		no	yes					28
Carl High	New Covenant	J. T. Holland	89		no	yes	1				
Ralph Staten	Pocahontas	Alta Lee Miller	97		yes	yes	3				
Ralph Staten	Hopewell	Jewell Graham	118		no	yes	1		1		
Billy Rogers	New Hope	Ham Sutton	76	1	no	yes	1				1