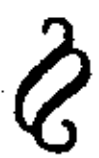


THE
Social Band Association
of
Free Will Baptists



1947



PROCEEDINGS OF THE
SEVENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

Convened at
Rickey Chapel Church
Near O'Kean, Arkansas.

THE
Social Band Association
of
Free Will Baptists



1947



PROCEEDINGS OF THE
SEVENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

Convened at
Rickey Chapel Church
Near O'Kean, Arkansas.

OFFICERS

Moderator ----- Eld. Ralph Staten, Pocahontas, Ark.
Assistant Moderator ----- Eld. Wayne Tucker, Peach Orchard, Ark.
Clerk ----- B. F. Palmer, Peach Orchard, Ark.
Evangelist ----- Eld. Wayne Tucker, Peach Orchard, Ark.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Eld. Ira Gates, Mrs. I. C. Staten, Eld. L. J. Smith, Eld. W. C. Lakey,
Eld. Ralph Staten.

HOME MISSION BOARD

Eld. R. S. Shelton, Eld. Ira Gates, Eld. Carl High, Eld. Charles Staten,
Eld. Ralph Staten

The next annual session of the Association will convene with the Carson Lake Church near Grider, Ark. Watch for sign by roadside giving exact location. Beginning on Thursday evening before the third Sunday in September, 1948. The Introductory Sermon will be preached by the pastor of the church; in his absence by the Moderator or his calling on someone.

Minutes

The Seventy-Third Annual Session

OF

Free Will Baptists

HELD WITH
Rickey Chapel Church Near O'Kean, Arkansas

PROCEEDINGS

Ministers, Deacons and Messengers composing that part of the Church of God, commonly known as Free Will Baptists, met in its Seventy-Third Annual Session with the Rickey Chapel Church, near O'Kean, Arkansas, on September 18th, 1947.

THURSDAY EVENING

The assembly opened by choir singing directed by Bro. Carl High. Prayer by Bro. Oscar Martin; a song, and we enjoyed an old-time handshake. Scripture reading of the 15th Psalms by Assistant Moderator followed by a short talk. Prayer by Bro. Shelton, after which the pastor, Bro. Carl High, brought a wonderful message from Philippians 1st Chapter.

Adjourned to meet Friday morning at 9 o'clock.

Benediction by Bro. High.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Song directed by Bro. B. F. Palmer. Prayer by Bro. Wayne Tucker. A fine message by Bro. Ralph Staten from Mark 13-22. Prayer by Bro. Tucker. Welcome address by the pastor, Bro. High. Response by Bro. W. C. Lakey.

Call for church representatives and letters. The following were: Warm Springs, Old Reyno, Alice Brooks, Pocahontas, Rickey Chapel, Carson Lake, New Bethel, Grand View, O'Kean Church, Pirtle Church, Sugar Tree Grove, Pruett Chapel, Poplar Valley, New Covenant, Clear Lake, Stony Point. Letters were read and accepted. Delegates were seated in advisory council.

Call for Petitionary Letters—None.

Election of officers for the ensuing year were:

Moderator—Eld. Ralph Staten; Eld. Wayne Tucker, Assistant.

Clerk—B. F. Palmer.

Appointment of Committees were as follows:

Pulpit—Harry Midget, Bro. Fowler, Sister Martha Holt.
 Resolutions—W. C. Lakey, E. W. Tucker, J. O. Martin, G. T. Gobles,
 Finance—Altalee Miller, J. C. King, J. T. Holland.
 Obituary—Carl High, chairman; E. A. Swift, Sister Tom Haynes.
 Sunday School and League—L. A. Bridges, Sister Willie Hutchison,
 Pauline Gobles.
 Non-Represented Churches—Susie Poe, Birdie Kirk, Erven Holder.
 Temperance—Henry Pauley, Henry Russell, Sina Like.

A wonderful message by Bro. Lakey from the 4th Chap. of James.
 Rules of decorum read. 10 minutes of intermission.
 Called back by singing directed by Bro. Ralph Staten.
 Prayer by Bro. Oscar Martin.
 Scripture reading from Matt. 25-14 by Moderator.
 Called for tardy letters—None.
 Called for report of Boards: Executive—None; Home Missions—None;
 Presbytery—Reported and accepted.
 Resolutions accepted to a standing tent committee as follows: Carl High,
 R. S. Shelton, E. W. Tucker.
 Home Mission accepted as standing board.
 Called for Foreign Mission board and accepted as follows: B. F. Palmer,
 Melvin Shelton, E. W. Tucker.
 Report of ministers received and approved.
 Examination of ministers. 5 minutes intermission.
 Came back by singing of choir directed by Bro. Eddings. Prayer by
 Henry Pauley. Devotional service by Bro. R. S. Shelton.
 Deacon's examination—Approved.
 Adjourned to meet again at 7:30.

FRIDAY NIGHT

Assembled by choir singing, directed by Bro. Carl High. Prayer by Bro.
 L. J. Smith. Devotional service led by Bro. Oscar Martin, after which Eld.
 Ralph Staten brought a wonderful message from Geneses 19:12-29. Theme,
 "Escape For Thy Life."
 Adjourned to meet Saturday morning at 9 o'clock.
 Benediction by Bro. Fowler.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Called together by choir singing, directed by Bro. Melvin Shelton. Scrip-
 ture reading from 23 Psalms by Moderator. Prayer by Sister Alice Ford.
 Call for tardy letters—Received 1. Poplar Valley Church of Antioch
 Association, Elvie Johnson, were received into seat of council.
 Resolution asked and accepted, that we continue to have our quarterly
 meeting instead of the Fifth Sunday meeting. 10 minutes intermission.
 Called back by choir singing, directed by Bro. Melvin Shelton.
 Committee reports were read. It was asked that we license Bro. Lonnie
 Walker to preach and it was accepted. Presbytery reports examined and
 found worthy. Ordination of deacons and wives proceeded as follows:
 Pruett Chapel, John Lester Norris, Beech Grove, Route 1; Rickey Chapel,
 Willis Cribbs, Benton Holt, Warm Springs, Ely Fry, Warm Springs.

Scripture reading from Rev. 21 Chap. Prayer by Bro. R. S. Shelton. Memorial sermon by Eld. Wayne Tucker at 11 o'clock. Enjoyed a good old-time handshake.

Eld. Wayne Tucker nominated and elected for our evangelist.

Election of delegates as follows to the State Association: Sister White, Sister Ralph Staten, Sister Carl High, Sister Ragsdale, Sister Norris; alternates—Sister Lester Norris, Shot Ragsdale, Sister Kirk.

National Association—Melvin Shelton.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Called together by choir singing led by Bro. Carl High. Scripture reading from Matthew 25:1-13 Prayer by Bro. Orvis.

Memorial service next session—R. S. Shelton.

Bro. Carl High, Treasurer of the Home Mission Executive Board.

Place of next association—Carson Lake, near Grider, Ark.

Next quarterly meeting at Pirtle Church, beginning on Friday, through Sunday.

Asked to and it was accepted that we retain our Articles of Faith as they are.

Resolved and accepted that this association buy a double monument for Bro. and Sister D. C. Jones. A freewill offering was made and the amount of \$44.41 turned over to the Chairman of the Monument Committee which was elected as follows: B. F. Palmer, Peach Orchard, Ark.; Leonard Bridges, Osceola, Ark.; Melvin Shelton, O'Kean, Ark.

Asked for and approved that we have the next State Association at O'Kean should we get it. Motion and second to adjourn the business session till we meet at Carson Lake Thursday night before the third Sunday in September, 1948. Enjoyed a good handshake and L. W. Hodge offered the benediction.

SATURDAY NIGHT SESSION

Assembled by singing, led by Bro. High. Prayer by Bro. Goble. A fine message by Bro. L. J. Smith. Scripture Luke 6:46; John 7:16-17. Pastor proceeds with communion service and foot-washing. A large number of Saints washed feet and we sang a hymn and walked out.

SUNDAY MORNING SESSION

Met at 10 o'clock. Came together by choir singing directed by Bro. Carl High. Prayer by L. J. Smith. A fine program was directed by the young people. Five minutes intermission. Assembled back with choir singing directed by Bro. Melvin Shelton.

Short talk by Bro. Lonnie Walker.

Scripture reading, Luke 5:1-11. Theme, "Launch Out Into the Deep," by pastor, followed by Bro. R. S. Shelton. Enjoyed another good handshake. Bro. Wayne Tucker offered the benediction.

SUNDAY NOON

A bountiful lunch was spread by the good people of that community, after which services began and we spent the evening in singing till about 3:30, and adjourned to meet at Carson Lake Church near Grider, Ark.

MINISTERS' ENROLLMENT

E. W. Tucker—Peach Orchard, Arkansas.
 W. F. Vickery—Broken Arrow, Oklahoma.
 R. S. Shelton—O'Kean, Arkansas.
 Ralph Staten—Pocahontas, Arkansas.
 B. F. Forrester—Walnut Ridge, Arkansas.
 G. W. Million—Pocahontas, Arkansas.
 Charles Staten—Pocahontas, Arkansas.
 Thurman Johnson—Biggers, Arkansas.
 J. J. Colbert—Campbell, Missouri.
 Henry Pauley—Beech Grove, Arkansas.
 L. J. Smith—Route No. 3, Box 471, Osceola, Arkansas.
 W. C. Lakey—Sedgwick, Arkansas.
 Ira Gates—Peach Orchard, Arkansas.
 Carl High—Peach Orchard, Arkansas.
 L. W. Hodges—Sedgwick, Arkansas.
 R. L. Crook—Doniphan, Missouri.
 W. C. Hudson—Jonesboro, Arkansas.
 D. P. Watts—Osceola, Arkansas.
 T. C. Reece—Osceola, Arkansas.
 Lonnie Walker (Licentiate)—O'Kean, Arkansas.

DEACONS' ENROLLMENT

Alice Brooks—Marvin Riggs, I. C. Staten.
 New Harmony—E. W. Cox.
 Pirtle—Wiley Ricker, Ervin Clark.
 Grand View—H. C. Jolly, E. L. Jones, Aldon Jones.
 Warm Springs—J. C. King, Benton Holt, Ellie Frey.
 Rickey Chapel—E. Swift, Henry Russell, Willis Cribbs.
 Pruett Chapel—G. W. Dale, Orville Cox, J. L. Norris.
 O'Kean—J. O. Martin, Melvin Shelton, Paul Morris, Lonnie Walker.
 Old Reyno—C. F. Jones, Ambrose Cavenar.
 New Bethel—Ben Seamon, Hiram White.
 New Hope—Horace Bates.
 Stony Point—Dan Kirk, A. C. Pendergrass.
 Pleasant View—Sular Camp.
 White Oak—Will Manus, Tom Bennett, J. D. McKinney.
 Pocahontas—W. S. White, Luther Crays, W. H. Hale, W. H. Clay.
 Constant Chapel—Hire Mitchell, Horace Penny.
 Poplar Valley—W. S. Knight.
 Carson Lake—G. W. Goble, Harold Smith, Leonard Bridges.
 New Covenant—Olivan Holder, Ed Hutsell, Herman Johnson.
 Sugar Tree Grove—G. W. Hopper, Monroe Barks, Ben Patterson.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND LEAGUE

We find that all churches represented in our Association have Sunday School in fair condition, but only Pocahontas has a League. All use Free Will literature except one. We urge all churches to organize Leagues for their young people. We need their help in our Associational meetings.

NON-REPRESENTED CHURCHES

We, your committee, find the following four churches not represented: New Hope, New Harmony, Pleasant View and White Oak.

Susie Poe,
Birdie Kirk.

We recommend that the above churches, if you don't have a pastor or Sunday School, to contact our Associational Evangelist to assist you in any way he can to help you organize a Sunday School or to secure a pastor. If you desire, invite him and use him as that is part of his duties. The Association is obligated to help you in a financial way. Let us hear from you by the next Associational meeting.

EVANGELISTICAL REPORT

Stony Point—4 trips; 8 sermons; received \$20.00.
West Doniphan—2 sermons.
Warm Springs—2 trips; 4 sermons, received \$10.00.
Vernon—2 trips; 4 sermons.
Sugar Tree Grove—1 trip; 2 sermons.
New Bethel—2 trips; 4 sermons; received \$9.00.
Stone Wall—1 trip; 2 sermons.
Harbor Grove—1 trip; 2 sermons; received \$5.00.
Attended National Association—3 sermons; \$12.00.
Carson Lake—2 sermons.

A total of 35 sermons. Received of Ira Gates of Home Mission Fund, \$41.00. Traveled 2,000 miles. Received \$128.00.

Eld. Wayne Tucker.

REPORT ON OBITUARIES

We, the Committee on Obituaries, find that our Heavenly Father saw fit in His infinite wisdom to call from our number the following:

NEW COVENANT—Bro. Zack Minton.
PRUETT CHAPEL—Sister Nola Carroll.
SUGAR TREE GROVE—Eld. D. C. Jones, Sister California Ponds.
PIRTLE—Sister Bertha Cray.
ALICE BROOKS—Sister Margaret Haling, Bro. Homer Breeding, Sister Bertha Mustang.
OLD REYNO—Sister Cavenar.
GRAND VIEW—Sister Parris.
POCAHONTAS—Bro. Dave Seamon, Bro. G. W. Martin.
WARM SPRINGS—Bro. W. A. Holt, Sister Sarah Jarrett.
POPLAR VALLEY—Sister Besse O'Conner.

We, the committee, offer the bereaved ones our deepest heartfelt sympathy.

Eld. Carl High,
Bro. E. A. Swift.

FINANCE REPORT

Churches	Local	State	Clerk	Home Mission
ALICE BROOKS -----	2.00	2.00	1.00	1.50
OLD REYNO -----	10.00	5.00	1.00	
PRUETT CHAPEL -----	3.00	1.00	.50	6.00
SUGAR TREE GROVE -----	2.50	1.50	.50	
PIRTLE -----	2.00	1.00	.50	
O'KEAN -----	2.00	1.00	.50	
GRAND VIEW -----	2.00	1.00	.50	
NEW BETHEL -----	2.00	1.00	1.00	
CARSON LAKE -----	2.00	1.00	.50	
RICKEY CHAPEL -----	2.00	1.50	.50	
POCAHONTAS -----	2.00	2.00	.50	
NEW COVENANT -----	2.00	1.00	.75	
WARM SPRINGS -----	2.00	2.00	1.05	
POPLAR VALLEY -----	1.00	1.00	.50	1.75
CLEAR LAKE -----	1.50	1.00	.50	
STONY POINT -----	2.00	1.00	.50	
	40.00	24.00	10.30	9.25
Offering Fund -----	7.89			
	47.89			

MINISTERS' REPORTS

I have pastored one church, Sugar Tree Grove; preached 12 sermons; received \$90.00.

Helped in revival; witnessed five conversions; received \$25.00.

I conducted four funerals; received \$36.00.

Married six couples; received \$21.00.

Traveled 600 miles. Received \$172.00.

—ELD. WAYNE TUCKER.

I have pastored two churches. preached half time at each.

At Pirtle—47 sermons, including revival; received \$135.66. Witnessed three conversions; baptized one; had one addition to the church.

At Rickey Chapel—42 sermons, including revival. Witnessed five conversions; baptized one; had one addition to the church. Received \$191.43.

Helped in revivals as follows: New Bethel—3 sermons, witnessed 4 conversions, received \$7.39; O'Kean—4 sermons, received \$23.50; Vernon—4 sermons, received \$15.38; Sharum—4 sermons, witnessed 7 conversions, received \$34.25; Pruett—4 sermons, received \$6.70; Warm Springs—1 sermon.

Assisted in building new church at Rickey Chapel.

Preached one funeral.

Total of 110 sermons; traveled 2,265 miles; received total of \$411.43.

—ELD. CARL HIGH.

I have pastored four churches quarterly, as follows: Poplar Valley, New Covenant, Alice Brooks and Mount Zion.

Poplar Valley—31 sermons, witnessed 13 conversions, received \$195.63.

New Covenant—31 sermons, 15 conversions, received \$221.16.

Alice Brooks—18 sermons, 8 conversions, received \$175.45.

Mount Zion—37 sermons, 3 conversions, received \$427.33.

Assisted in meeting at Walnut Corner, received \$30.00; in meeting at Rickey Chapel, 3 conversions, received \$30.87; preached one sermon at Pocahontas, received \$16.16; conducted 8 funerals, received \$50.00.

Total sermons—135; Amount received—\$1,146.60.

—ELD. W. C. LAKEY.

Full time pastor at Pocahontas. Preached 67 sermons, received into fellowship 31, baptized 25 and received for service \$1,301.20.

Preached to others as follows: Hector, Poplar Valley, Red Bay, Ala., Tupelo, Miss., Toccoa, Miss., Nashville, Tenn., Ashland, Tenn., Heads, Tenn., Mountain Grove, Mo. Thirteen sermons; received \$47.50.

Conducted four meetings: Amory, Miss.—11 sermons, received \$110.00; Old Reyno—11 sermons, 9 professions and received \$101.00; Poplar Valley—11 sermons, 4 additions, 1 baptized, and received \$79.28; Checotuh, Okla.—8 sermons, 3 additions, and received \$115.00.

Conducted one Bible School at Old Reyno, gave six lectures, received \$34.00. Officiated at four marriage ceremonies, received \$18.00. Conducted 16 funerals, received \$93.00. I gave two school lectures, received into fellowship 40, baptized 26, edited The Landmark monthly paper.

Total sermons—127. Amount received—\$1,878.98.

—ELD. RALPH STATEN.

I have pastored two churches, as follows:

Pruett Chapel—14 sermons, witnessed 7 conversions, received into membership 7, traveled 584 miles, received \$86.80.

Vernon—17 sermons, reorganized Sunday school and held revival, traveled 523 miles, received \$64.27.

Made four trips to Warm Springs. Preached four sermons, traveled 264 miles, received \$6.00. O'Kean—9 sermons, assisted in revival, received \$20.28.

Conducted six funerals; officiated at four marriage ceremonies.

Total sermons—34; total miles—1,371; total received—\$187.35.

Pray for me.

—ELD. R. S. SHELTON.

I have pastored one church for the balance of year, New Bethel. Have preached at other places. I have preached 10 sermons, witnessed five conversions, received five into fellowship, received \$20.10. Preached one sermon at Hopewell, received \$12.75; preached one sermon at Stuart.

—HENRY PAULEY,

Route 1, Beech Grove, Ark.

I have not yet pastored any church this year; have preached 15 sermons at different places.

Conducted a revival at Carson Lake; witnessed two conversions, had four additions to the church, received \$31.10.

Held a revival at Willow Tree; received \$10.37.

Conducted four funerals, received \$5.00.

Officiated at 13 marriage ceremonies, received \$33.00.

Preached seven sermons at Burdette, received \$9.00.

Total received—\$88.47.

—ELD. L. J. SMITH.

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 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, 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 the church; 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 cases of difficulty that may arise in the churches.

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

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

RULES OF ORDER

1. At every sitting of the Association, business shall be opened and concluded with a prayer.

2. Those who speak shall rise, address the Moderator, and personal reflections shall be avoided.

3. All motions made and seconded shall be open for discussion, but debate may be shut off at any time by a majority of the members of the Association.

4. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member and the vote taken separately.

5. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded on the Minutes unless so ordered at the time.

6. No one shall speak more than once on the same subject without special leave from the body.

7. All questions shall be decided by a majority of the members present.

8. No member shall absent himself without leave of the Moderator.

9. Arrangements shall be made so as to insure two sermons or other devotional exercises equivalent thereto in addition to the business session each day, and the Moderator announces at the adjournment of each business session who is to have charge of said service.

10. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular meetings of the Association.

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 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.—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; Matt. 18:3; Acts 17:24-29.

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 eternity inheritance into the glorified Kingdom above.—Heb. 9:12; Titus 2:11-14; Heb. 1:4; St. John 3:16, 45:22; Heb. 2:9; Rev. 5:9; 1 Tim. 4:10.

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; 2 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; Peter 3:21; St. John 3:23; Acts 10:47; Matt. 23:19.

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 Savior 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; I Cor. 11:20-29; St. John 13:1-17; Matt. 26:26-29.

11. LORD'S DAY. 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; I Cor. 16:1-2; Heb. 10, 25.

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; I Cor. 9:14; Matt. 28:19; Matt. 9:28; Heb. 5:4; 2 Cor. 11:14-23.

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; Eph. 5:23-25; Rev. 5:9.

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 side-step 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; Apostasy: 2 Peter 1:8-9; I Cor. 10:1-13; Heb. 12:15-17; I John 5:16; Heb. 6:1-6; 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 Thes. 2:13; Heb. 12:14; Phil. 3:21; 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 reunited, the righteous shall be received into everlasting happiness to reign with God forever; but the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment.—Matt. 28:6; John 5:28-29; I Cor. 15:51-58; Dan. 12:2; Acts 24:15.

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; Rev. 20:4-5; Gen. 3:5; 18-19; I Kings 17:22.

20. **JUDGMENT.** 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 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 Scripture, 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 denomination 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 Chrst.



STATISTICAL TABLE

PASTOR	CHURCH	CLERK	Received in Fellowship	Dismissed	Excluded	Died	Sunday School	League	Members	Taking Church Paper
R. S. Shelton	O'Kean	Clara Connelly	0	0	0	0	Yes	No	51	
Carl High	New Bethel	Ethel Brown	5	2	0	0	Yes	No	17	
Carl High	Warm Springs	J. C. King					Yes	No	85	
Erney Smith	Carson Lake	Lenord Bridges	0	0	0	0	Yes	No	64	3
Carl High	Alice Brooks	I. C. Staten				3	Yes	No	125	
Carl High	Rickey Chapel	Cina Like	0	0	0	0	Yes	No	35	
R. S. Shelton	Pruett Chapel	Lillie Dennis	6	0	0	1	Yes	No	72	3
W. C. Lakey	New Covenant	J. T. Holland	4	0	0	1	Yes	No	98	
Ira Gates	Old Reyno	Eugene Davis	0	2	0	1	Yes	No	116	11
Carl Hudson	Poplar Valley	Earl Dunham	1	0	0	1	Yes	No	112	
Wayne Tucker	Pirtle	B. F. Palmer	2	0	0	1	Yes	No	99	
(Not Known)	Sugar Tree Grove	Mattie Hopper	0	0	0		No	No	49	1
Ralph Staten	Pocahontas	Alta Lee Miller	33	0	0	2	Yes	Yes	154	15
G. W. Million	Grand View	Pauline Duff	0	0	0	1	Yes	No	65	
	Stony Point	Mavon Massey	10	1	0	1	Yes	No	117	

Courier Print, Corning, Arkansas