

THE
Social Band Association
OF
Free Will Baptists

1949

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

Convened at
MT. ZION CHURCH
Walnut Ridge, Ark.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	L. M.	S. M.	Clerk	N. A.	H. M.	F. M.	Monument	Orphanage
New Bethel	200	100	100				100	
Carson Lake	200	200	150		450	460	100	450
Rickey Chapel	200	100	100	100				
Sutton	200	200	100					
Mt. Zion	200	200	100		400		100	
Grand View	200	100	50					
Stony Point	100		50					
Pirtle	200	200	100					
Warm Springs	250	250	105	100				
Little Brown	100		100		100			176
Pocahontas	250	200	50			1610		
O'Kean	250	150	100					
Poplar Valley	400		50		150			
Alice Brooks	200	200	100					
New Covenant	200	100	55					
Old Reyno	200	200	100			350		
Pruett Chapel	200	100	100	100				
	3550	2300	1510	300	1350	2570	300	626

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Minutes of the
SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

HELD WITH THE
MT. ZION CHURCH
Walnut Ridge, Ark.

PROCEEDINGS

Ministers, Deacons and Messengers composing that part of the Church of God, commonly known as Free Will Baptists met in the Seventy-Fifth Annual Session with the Mt. Zion Church on September 15, 1949.

THURSDAY NIGHT

Called together by Moderator.
Song, directed by Bro. McNutt.
Prayer by Bro. Lonnie Walker.
Song, directed by Bro. Melvin Shelton.
Prayer by Bro. Carl High.
Introductory sermon by the pastor. Bro. Johnson from the 10th chapter of St. John.
Singing by a mixed quartet.
Adjourned until Friday morning at 9 o'clock.
Benediction by Bro. Ira Gates.

FRIDAY MORNING

Come together by singing, directed by Bro. Carl High.
Scripture reading from Colossians, 3rd chapter, by the Moderator.
Read Church Covenant and Rules of Order.
Called for church letters—were read and received.
Had song and received delegates, church clerks and visitors.
Called for petitionary letters—were none.
Corresponding delegates from Cave Springs Association were Billy Rogers and wife, Leonard Clark and wife, Elvie Harvest and wife.
Five minutes intermission.
Come back—by singing and prayer, led by Bro. Eugene Davis.
Another song and congregational prayer.
A wonderful message was brought from the 6th chapter of 2nd Kings by Bro. Billy Rogers.
Enjoyed old-time hand shake and adjourned until 1:30 o'clock.
Benediction by Bro. Lakey.
A bountiful lunch was spread by the community.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Come together—by singing, directed by Bro. Carl High.
Prayer by Bro. J. H. Gray.
Called for tardy letters—none.
Welcome address by Bro. Lakey.

Response by Bro. Rogers.

Elected—Moderator, Ralph Staten; Assistant Moderator, Wayne Tucker; Clerk, B. F. Palmer; Assistant Clerk, Raymond McNutt; Statistician, Eugene Davis; Evangelist, Wayne Tucker; Reporter, Mary Staten.

COMMITTEES AS FOLLOWS—

Resolutions—W. C. Lakey, B. S. Forrester, Marvin Riggs, Tom Bennett, Carl High; Finance—Kate Sutton, Gladys Smith, B. F. Palmer; Foreign Missions—B. F. Palmer, Melvin Shelton, Wayne Tucker; Obituary—Melvin Shelton, Pauline Gobbles, Martha Holt; Monument—B. F. Palmer, Melvin Shelton, Leonard Bridges; Sunday School and League—Eugene Davis, Esther Fowler, Thelma Brown.

Reports of committees were read and accepted.

Report of the Evangelist was read and accepted.

Elected Bro. B. S. Forrester to fill Bro. L. J. Smith's place in the executive board.

Voted to carry ministers and deacons enrollments as they are, subject to change by the presbytery.

Elected delegates to the State Association—Hudson Martin, Raymond McNutt, Mary Staten, Edward Rickey, Kate Sutton, Alternates—Birdie Kirk, Leora High.

Elected delegate to National Association—Elsie Staten; Alternate, Mary Staten.

Prayer by Bro. Carl High.

A few moments were given to our young ministers for brief talks.

Adjourned until 7:30 o'clock.

Benediction by Bro. Hodges.

FRIDAY NIGHT

Come together—by singing, directed by Bro. Raymond McNutt.

Prayer by Bro. Harding.

Devotional led by Bro. Dusett.

Report of Presbytery read and accepted and ordained by laying on of hands by the following deacons—Edd Kincade, Emmett Dawson, Vernon Richey, Paul Hatfield, Robert Counts Audrian Million, Earl Smith, Arthur Ring, Eldon Ring, H. L. Holder, Homer Adkins, J. E. Hester, Wiley Davis, Harrison Vallence; Ministers—Melvin Shelton, J. H. Gray, Eugene Davis.

Songs by the mixed quartet and a wonderful message was brought by Bro. J. H. Gray.

Gave an invitation to the sinners and enjoyed another old-time hand shake.

Adjourned until Saturday morning at 9 o'clock.

Benediction by Bro. Dorsey.

SATURDAY MORNING

Come together—by singing.

Lesson read from 2nd chapter of Titus by the Moderator.

Prayer by Bro. Eugene Davis.

Call for tardy letters received and two were read and accepted.

Motion made and carried to retain our Articles of Faith in our minutes and Constitution of By-Laws.

Intermission.

Came back—by singing.

Memorial sermon brought by Bro. Carl High from the 11th chapter of St. John which brought to our minds precious memories.

Benediction by Bro. Henry Pauley.

SATURDAY EVENING

Come together—by singing, directed by Bro. Henry Pauley.

Prayer by Bro. Melvin Shelton.

Reports of committees read and accepted.

Voted and carried that our next annual session be held with the Sutton Church near Pocahontas, Ark., beginning on Thursday night before the third Sunday in September, 1950.

Ministers reports read and accepted to be recorded.

Elected corresponding delegates to the Cave Springs Association as follows—I. C. Staten, Raymond McNutt, Kate Sutton, Mrs. Tom Bennett.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn business session to meet with the Sutton Church on Thursday night before the third Sunday in September, 1950.

OFFICERS:

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Eld. Ira Gates, Sister I. C. Staten, Eld. B. S. Forrester, Eld. W. C. Lakey, Eld. Ralph Staten.

HOME MISSIONS BOARD:

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

The next annual session will convene with the Sutton Church, near Pocahontas, Ark., on Thursday night before the 3rd Sunday in September, 1950. Introductory sermon by the pastor or in his absence the moderator will call on someone. Bro. R. S. Shelton to preach the memorial sermon.

MINISTER'S ENROLLMENT

I. H. Gray—
 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.
 W. C. Lackey—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—O'Kean, Arkansas.
 Eugene Davis—Pocahontas, Arkansas.
 Melvin Shelton—O'Kean, Arkansas.

DEACON'S 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, Alden Jones.
 Warm Springs—J. C. King, Benton Holt.
 Rickey Chapel—E. Swift, Willis Cribbs, Theid Richardson.
 Pruett Chapel—G. W. Dale, Orville Cox, J. L. Norris.
 O'Kean—J. O. Martin, Paul Morris, Howard Martin.
 Old Reyno—C. F. Jones, Ambrose Cavenar.
 New Bethel—Hiram White.
 New Hope—Horace Bates.
 Stoney Point—Dan Kirk, A. C. Pendergrass.
 Pocahontas—W. S. White, Luther Crays, W. H. Hale.
 Poplar Valley—W. S. Knight.
 Carson Lake—G. T. Goble, Harold Smith, Leonard Bridges.
 New Covenant—
 Sugar Tree Grove—G. W. Hopper, Monroe Barks, Ben Patterson.
 Mt. Zion—G. W. McNutt, T. W. Bennett, J. A. Ponder.
 Little Brown—Harold Statler, Jess Murphy.

CHURCH LETTER TO ASSOCIATION—

We, the Disciples of Christ, commonly known as Free Will Baptists, worshipping at _____ send greetings to our beloved brethren and sisters in convention of the Association in this the _____ annual session.

We send as delegates _____

_____ to set with you in your deliberations to transact any business that is for the advancement of the Cause of Christ and Christianity in general.

The statement of our church is as follows:

We have witnessed _____ conversions, and _____ restorations; We have received into our fellowship upon profession of faith _____, by letter _____, by recommendation _____, the total of _____.

We have dismissed by request _____, by letter

_____, and by exclusion _____.

The deceased are _____.

The total loss _____.

Our membership is _____ males and _____ females.

We use _____ literature in our Sunday School.

We have had _____ revivals.

We observed the Ordinances _____.

Call for pastor _____.

We are enclosing for Orphanage _____; for Home Missions _____; for Foreign Missions _____.

Amount enclosed for local minutes \$ _____; for State Minutes _____; for local clerk services _____; for National Association Expenses _____.

Pastor's name _____, address _____.

Pastor called for ensuing associational year _____.

Done by order of _____ church assembled in Conference, this _____ day of _____, 19____.

Moderator _____

Clerk _____

EVANGELISTIC REPORT

Stonewall—4 trips, preached 9 sermons, traveled 12 miles, received \$500. At Pirtle—11 nights revival, travelled 88 miles, witnessed 4 professions, received into fellowship 1, baptised 5, received \$37.75. At Carson Lake—after the death of Bro. L. J. Smith, I was called to care for the church. Made 6 trips, preached 18 sermons, received \$42.20, traveled 1500 miles, held 11 nights revival, witnessed 15 professions, received into fellowship 14, baptised 13, received \$35.00. At Willow Tree—2 sermons, a total of 51 sermons, received \$318.70.

—ELD. WAYNE TUCKER

MINISTERS REPORTS

I have been full time pastor of the Pocahontas Church the period of 9½ months, preached 65 sermons, witnessed 13 professions, 13 additions, baptised 4, received for services and gifts the sum of \$1,485.86. I have preached in Alabama, Georgia, Michigan, Mississippi and Oklahoma, 16 sermons, witnessed 24 professions, received the sum of \$237.07 for services. I have conducted 4 meetings, Red Bay, Alabama, Bellevs Chapel in Polk Bayou Association, Checotah, Oklahoma; Mountian Home Church in Antioch Association. At these meetings I preached 49 sermons, witnessed 32 professions, received into fellowship 40 additions, and received \$585.78, conducted 9 funerals, officiated at 2 marriage ceremonies, preached 1 dedicatory sermon, conducted 10 prayer meeting talks, the total of 150 sermons, witnessed 69 professions, received into fellowship 53, received a total of \$2,368.71. I attend our local, state and national association.

—ELD. RALPH STATEN

I have pastored 2 churches: Rickey Chapel, including revival, preached 27 sermons, witnessed 1 conversion, traveled 182 miles, received \$88.81; Poplar Valley, including revival, preached 20 sermons, witnessed 1 profession, 3 renewals, traveled 1296 miles, received \$150.63, helped Bro. Walker at Warm Springs, preached 4 sermons, traveled 133 miles, received \$21.50. Preached a total of 56 sermons, traveled 1825 miles, received pay of \$264.94. Pray for me.

ELD. R.S.SHELTON

I have pastored 1 church, Warm Springs. At this place I have preached 21 sermons, witnessed 10 professions, baptised 2, traveled 1410 miles, received \$177.15. Preached once a month at Rickey Chapel. Here I preached 21 sermons, conducted 1 funeral, received \$58.31. Arbor Grove—preached 5 sermons, traveled 160 miles, received \$24.60. Pirtle—6 sermons, traveled 184 miles, received \$17.50. O'Kean—6 sermons, including revival, witnessed 2 professions, traveled 32 miles, received \$15.25. Mt Zion—2 sermons, traveled 44 miles. Sharum—1 sermon, traveled 12 miles. Poplar Valley—3 sermons in revival, traveled 320 miles, received \$8.95, witnessed 1 profession. Pruett Chapel—5 sermons in revival, 1 at fellowship meeting, traveled 352 miles, witnessed 7 professions, received \$14.70. Grand View—traveled 62 miles, preached 1 sermon, received \$7.50. A total of 79 sermons, traveled 2,576 miles, received \$323.96.

—ELD. LONNIE WALKER

I have preached at the following churches: Grand View—6 sermons, received \$41.61; Alice Brooks—19 sermons, received \$76.61; Pocahontas—5 sermons, received \$41.50; Sutton—1 sermon; Pirtle—1 sermon; New Covenant—1 sermon, received \$2.35; Mt. Zion—1 sermon, received \$3.65; New Port—1 sermon, received \$17.00. Other places—5 sermons, received \$18.00; Old Reyno—10 sermons, received \$201.72. Total of 50 sermons, gave 3 young peoples lectures, assisted in organizing 2 leagues and the association league organization.

—ELD. EUGENE DAVIS

I have pastored 3 churches: O'Kean, one-half time, Alice Brooks, one-fourth time, Pruett Chapel, one-fourth time. At O'Kean preached 44 sermons, including revivals, traveled 1400 miles, witnessed 36 professions, baptised 27, 35 added to church, received \$229.25. Alice Brooks—preached 26 sermons, including revival, travelled 770 miles, witnessed 14 professions, baptised 11, received 11 additions to the church, received \$128.00. Pruett Chapel—25 sermons, including revival, traveled 1800 miles, witnessed 21 professions, baptised 11, added 13 to the church, received \$213.53.

—ELD. CARL HIGH

Pastored Pirtle Church one-half time, preached 48 sermons, traveled 102 miles, received \$115.00, married 2 couples, received \$9.00, conducted 6 funerals, received \$20.00. Traveled a distance of 250 miles, received a total of \$144.00. Attended our local, state and national association and also our quarterly meetings.

—ELD. WAYNE TUCKER

I have pastored 1 church one-half time, Stony Point. Preached 21 sermons, including revival, received \$68.08. Preached at Pruett Chapel—16 sermons by appointment, At Stone Wall—15 sermons, including revival, received \$310.00. Preached other places 9 sermons, conducted 1 funeral. A total of 61 sermons, received \$71.18.

—ELD. HENRY PAULEY, Rt. 1, Beech Grove, Ark.

Since 1 began to preach I have preached 24 sermons at various places, traveled 481 miles, witnessed 31 professions and have received for my labor \$77.58. Pray for me

—ELD. MELVIN SHELTON.

I have pastored 2 churches. Arbor Grove—including revival, witnessed 5 professions, received \$192.25. One-half time at Mt. Zion— including revival, witnessed 5 professions, received \$351.02. Oak Hill—including revival, witnessed 11 professions, received \$73.50. Assisted in revival at Poplar Valley, witnessed 5 professions, received \$4.00. Walnut Corner—received \$8.00, officiated in 16 ceremonies, received \$50.00, conducted 18 funerals, received \$55.00, assisted in organizing a church at Little Brown, assisted in revival at the Methodist Church at Sedgwick, witnessed 8 professions. Total professions, 34. Total received \$733.72.

—ELD. W. C. LAKEY

I have pastored 1 church one-half time—Stony Point. Preached 21 sermons, including revival, received \$68.08. Preached at Pruett Chapel, 16 sermons, by appointment. At Stonewall—15 sermons, including revival, received \$3.10. Preached at other places, 9 sermons, conducted 1 funeral. Total sermons preached 61, received offerings of \$71.18.

—ELD. HENRY PAULEY, Rt. 1, Beech Grove, Ark.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**MONUMENTS**

Total now on hand, \$55.06, B. F. Palmer, Chairman.

OBITUARY

We find that our Heavenly Father in His infinite wisdom, saw fit to call from our churches, as follows:

Pirtle—Bro. Roy Hopkins, Bro. Thurman Hobbs.

Alice Brooks—Sis. Jessie Finley, Bro. Charles Haling.

Poplar Valley—Willie Young.

Pocahontas—Sis. Rena Grissom, Bro. W. H. Clay.

O'Kean—Sis. Belle Richardson.

Carson Lake—Eld. L. J. Smith.

Sutton—Sis. Celia Million.

Pruett Chapel—Miss Bobby Nichols.

Ricky Chapel—Henry Russell, Mose Gates.

We, the Social Band Association, offer the bereaved ones our deepest sympathy—M. L. Shelton, Martha Holt, Pauline Gobbles.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND LEAGUE

We find that all churches in our association have Sunday Schools. We urge that the following churches use Free Will literature in their leagues and auxiliaries—Little Brown, Warm Springs, Rickey Chapel, Poplar Valley, Mt. Zion. We have 9 leagues and 2 ladies' auxiliaries reported in our association.—Thelma Brown, Esther Fowler, Eugene Davis.

RESOLUTION NO. 1 of 1948—

That we dismiss the association after the business session on Saturday afternoon a most people go home anyway.

CARL HIGH, Chairman.

RESOLUTION NO. 2 of 1948—

That our association take Friday night for Home and Foreign Mission Work.

CARL HIGH, Chairman.

RESOLUTION NO. 3 of 1948—

Standing tent committee as follows: Carl High, R. S. Shelton, Wayne Tucker.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

Be it resolved that, we your committee, wish to express our thanks and appreciation to the Mt. Zion Church and community for kindness and hospitality shown us during the association. We bid them God speed in their labors for the Master, and we also thank the good people of Walnut Ridge for the bouquet of flowers.

W. C. LAKEY. Chairman.

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 though necessary; to exclude from his seat any member who does not con-

form 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 OR 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 members 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 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 the 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. 28:19.

10. COMMUNION AND FEET WASHING. We believe that the Lord's Supper and the washing of the Saint's 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. 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; 1 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 irrestable 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; 1 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 congregaton 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; 1 Cor. 9:10; 2 Peter 1:418; 2 Peter 2:2; Apostasy: 2 Peter 1:8-9; 1 Cor. 10-1-13; Heb. 12:15-17; 1 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.—1 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; 1 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; 1 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 of 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 observances 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 the missions, the success of Sunday schools, and evangelistic effort 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 TABLE

CHURCHES	PASTOR	CLERK	Received	Dismiss	Died	S. School	League	Own Property	Value	Members
Pocahontas	Ralph Staten	A. L. Miller	16	0	2	Y	Y	Y		185
O'Kean	Carl High	Rosalynd Ragsdale	35	0	1	Y	O	Y	2000	
Poplar Valley	Carl Hudson	Chas. L. Babbitt	1	0	1	Y	O	Y	2000	120
Alice Brooks	Carl High	Myrtle Campbell	14	1	2	Y	O	Y		90
New Covenant	Gene Davis	J. T. Holland	22	6	0	Y	O			110
Carson Lake	E. W. Tucker	L. A. Bridges	17	1	1	Y	O	Y	1000	85
New Bethel	L. W. Hodge	Ethel Brown	1	0	0	Y	O			20
Little Brown	B. S. Forrester	Harold Statler	10	0	0	Y	O			25
Warm Springs	Lonnie Walker	Martha Holt.	9	2	0	Y	O	Y	1000	33
Pruett Chapel	Carl High	Lillie Dennis	13	0	1	Y	O	Y	2500	71
Rickey Chapel	Melvin Shelton	Cina Like	0	2	2	Y	O		2500	34
Old Reyno	Ralph Staten	Orville Eddington	7	0	0	Y	O			145
Grand View	Ralph Staten	Pauline Duff	1	5	0	Y	O		2500	82
Stony Point	Henry Pauley	Susie Hulvey	0	0	0	Y	O	Y		115
Pirtle	Melvin Shelton	Oran Smith	2	2	0	Y	O	Y	1500	107
Sutton	Billy Rogers	Ham Sutton	7	0	1	Y	O	Y		75
Mt. Zion	Elvie Johnson	Raymond McNutt	2	2	0	Y	Y	Y	2500	23