

**THE
SOCIAL BAND ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

1953

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
SEVENTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION**

**Convened At
O'KEAN CHURCH**

O'Kean, Arkansas

**FINANCIAL
STATEMENT**

	L. M.	S. M.	M. N.	H. M.	F. M.	N. A.	Clerk
Sugar Tree Grove	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00		\$ 1.00
Walnut Ridge	2.00						.50
Sutton	3.00						
Clear Lake	2.00	2.00					
Little Brown	2.00	2.00	1.00				1.00
O'Kean	2.00	2.00	1.50				1.00
Rickey Chapel	1.50						1.00
Pirtle	2.00	2.00	1.00				1.50
Union Grove	2.00	2.00	.50				1.00
Poplar Valley	1.50						.50
Pruitt Chapel	2.00	1.00	1.00	5.00	5.00		1.00
New Covenant	1.00	1.00	1.00				
Arbor Grove	2.00	2.00		35.00			1.00
Carson Lake	1.00	1.00	1.00				
Warm Springs	2.00	2.00	1.00	10.00	5.00		1.00
Grand View	3.00	2.00					1.00
Stony Point	1.00	1.00					1.00
Pocahontas	3.00	2.00	3.00				1.00
Jonesboro	1.00	.50					.50
Elnora	2.50			5.00			1.00
Old Reyno	3.00	2.00	2.00	13.80			1.00
Mt. Zion	2.00	3.00	2.00				2.00
For Minutes	5.00	By Bro. Carl Hudson					
Alice Brooks	2.00	2.00	2.00				1.00
Total	\$50.50	\$31.50	\$18.00	\$69.80	\$11.00		\$19.00

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1953

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Convened At

O'KEAN CHURCH

O'Kean, Arkansas

Minutes of the
Seventy-Ninth Annual Session
Of Free Will Baptists

HELD WITH THE
O'KEAN CHURCH

O'Kean, Arkansas

PROCEEDINGS

Ministers, Deacons and Messengers composing that part of the Church of God, commonly known as Free Will Baptists met in the Seventy-Ninth Annual Session with the O'Kean Church on September 17, 1953.

THURSDAY NIGHT

Opening session of Free Will Baptist Association Thursday night was called together by Carl High, assistant moderator.

Songs by Bros. Campbell, McNutt, Throgmorton and Wilson.

Devotional Reading, 6th chapter, 2nd Cor., by Bro. Wilson.

Prayers by Bros. Edwin Bibbs, Glenn Campbell and Carl High.

Sermon by Bro. Carl High, scripture Prov. 22nd chapter, 22nd to 29th verses. Subject, remove not ancient landmark.

Other scripture Jer. 6th chapter, 16th verse.

Dismissed by Bro. Wayne Tucker.

FRIDAY MORNING

Friday morning session was called by Bro. Reford Wilson, our Moderator at 9 o'clock.

Song by Bro. Garfield Throgmorton.

Prayer by Bro. Elvie Johnston.

Scripture reading 14 chapter of St. John.

The church letters were read and delegates seated.

We had a petitionary letter from the new church in Jonesboro. The church was accepted and delegates seated.

J. Reford Wilson was elected moderator for one year.

Bro. Carl High was elected assistant moderator.

Raymond McNutt was elected clerk.

Appointment of committees:

Sunday school and league — Bros. Dewey Thompson, Jim Snell, O. D. Winfrey, L. D. Johnson and W. B. Davis.

Obituary — Sisters J. J. Long, Addie Jones and Merle Kincade.

Resolutions — Bros. Elvie Johnston, Billy Rogers, R. S. Shelton, B. S. Forrester and Wayne Tucker.

Finance — Raymond McNutt, Jewel Earley, Johnnie Whitlow, Mander Evans and G. W. Hopper.

Adjourned business until after noon.

Dismissed by Bro. Herman Lewis from the Polk Bayou Association.

Bro. Ike Puckett opened the worship service in song.

Prayer by Bro. Gorden King from Polk Bayou Association.

Sermon at 11 o'clock by Bro. O. D. Winfrey. Scripture Gen. 22nd chapter. Subject, Abraham's faith. Bro. Gorden King followed on the subject.

Dismissed by Bro. W. C. Rayburn.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Called to order by Moderator.

Songs by Bros. W. H. Hales and Ike Puckett.

Scripture reading 1st John, first chapter by Bro. Carl High.

Prayer by Bro. Earnest Elms.

An offering was received for the benefit of the association. The amount of \$32.14.

The womans auxiliary committee was chosen: Alta Lee Miller, Francis Watson and Naomi Denton.

Delegates to the state association: Sisters Jean Wilson, Fay Puckett, Lorene White, Margie Hester and Clata McNutt.

Alternate delegates: Sisters Roselyn Ragsdale, Wanda Bonds, Mrs. Henry Pauley, Bro. Mander Evans, Mrs. Nelson Gillaspie.

Delegates elected to National Association: Sister Lorene White. Alternate, Clata McNutt.

We ask for the State Association.

Three ministers from the Polk Bayou Association gave a short talk, H. A. Lewis, Earnest Elms and Lyle Cartright.

Adjourned at 3:35 with the business until 9:00 o'clock Saturday.

FRIDAY NIGHT

Session called to order by assistant Moderator Carl High.

Songs by Raymond McNutt, Glenn Campbell, Reford Wilson, Sisters Naomi Denton and Roselyn Ragsdale, JoAnn and Janette Johnston and Ra-

mona McNutt, and Bro. Grady Linebaugh.

Prayer by Bro. Billy Rogers.

We had an inspiring talk by Bro. Reford Wilson.

Sermon by Bro. Herman Lewis. Scripture, Matt. 26 chapter, 13th chapter John and 1st Timothy 5 to 19. Subject: The Lord's Supper and washing of feet as taught by our Lord.

All who chose to, took the Supper and washed feet.

We sang a hymn and went out.

SATURDAY MORNING

Session called to order by moderator with two songs.

Devotional scripture 1st Cor. 15th chapter, 1st to 16th verses by Bro. Henry Pauley.

Prayer, B. S. Forrester.

Bro. Gordon King and Sister King were seated with us.

Bro. Henry Doyle, Sister Doyle and Bro. Doyle's sister, Ethel were seated as advisory members.

Recessed for 15 minutes.

Report of committees.

Heard of possibilities to get a League Encampment building. A committee composed of the following were chosen to see about the property: Mander Evans, Dewey Thompson, Eugene Davis, Edwin Bibbs, Claude Harmon, Earl Smith, Henry Pauley, Lowell Graham and Grady Linebaugh.

The vote was to continue the radio broadcast.

Songs, Bro. Virgil Ross from the Polk Bayou Association. His family was with him.

Prayer, Bro. Henry Doyle, moderator of Polk Bayou Association.

Obituary report read.

Memorial sermon, Bro. R. S. Shelton at 11:30 o'clock. Scripture 1st Cor. 15 chapter, 19th verse, Job 14:14. Subject if in this life only we have hopes in Christ we are of all men most miserable and Christ the life and resurrection.

Song by moderator and handshake.

Dismissed by L. D. Gilliam for the noon meal.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Song, Bro. Dewey Thompson.

Devotional reading and prayer by Bro. Hubert Forrester. Scriptures St. John, 14 chapter.

Ministers reports read, accepted and to be printed.

The social band association will convene with the Poplar Valley Church on Thursday night before the 3rd Sunday in September, which will be the night of Sept. 16, 1954.

Bro. Grady Linebaugh is to bring the memorial message.

Resolution No. 1: A resolution changing the constitution to include ministers, deacons, and wives in article No. 2 of the constitution.

Resolution No. 2: Resolve we have a condensed account of our quarterly meetings printed in our associational minutes.

Resolution No. 3: We your committee on resolutions wish to express our thanks to the O'Kean Church and community for their hospitality and kindness shown us in entertaining this session of the association. Bros. Elvie Johnston, Billy Rogers, R. S. Shelton, B. S. Forrester and Wayne Tucker.

Report of boards.

The Home Missionary is Will S. White for this year.

Adjourned to meet with the Poplar Valley Church.

Dismissed by Bro. W. C. Lakey.

HOME MISSION REPORT

Assisted in 5 revivals, preached 75 sermons, witnessed 20 conversions, conducted funeral, assisted in organizing 3 churches. Traveled 6294 miles, received from local home mission treasury, traveling expense \$251.76. Revival at Jonesboro \$100.00, amount from other sources, \$73.80, total amount received \$425.56. Car expense \$444.46. Amount spent on buildings and seats, \$757.03 for the 3 new churches, \$1201.49 less amount received \$425.56 leaves a total of \$775.93 donated to the cause plus a years work. Elder Will S. White, home missionary.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND LEAGUE REPORT

We, your Sunday school and league committee find that of the 23 churches that reported all have Sunday schools with an average of 52 pupils and 10 have leagues. Committee: Bros. Dewey Thompson, O. D. Winfrey, L. D. Johnson, Jim Snell and W. B. Davis.

HOME MISSION BOARD REPORT

At the beginning of this year there was \$329.33 in the treasury. Received at association last year, \$81.60, making a total of \$410.93. Received this year from the following churches, Little Brown, \$20.00; O'Kean, \$32.18; Bro. Pendergrass, \$5.00; New Bethel, \$10.00; Sutton, \$10.00; Mt. Zion, \$11.75; Pruitt Chapel, \$6.50; Stony Point, \$5.00. Total received \$511.36. Amount paid home missionary \$213.36, leaving a total of \$298.00 in treasury. Rev. Dewey Thompson, treasurer of home mission board.

OBITUARY REPORT

We find that the Lord has called from labor to reward ten from our association in the past year. They were Bro. J. W. Smith from the New Covenant Church; Sister Kate Lewis, Oma Beman and Bro. Riley Fowler from the Grand View Church; Bro. Otis Spencer, Andy Deckard and Mrs.

Don Bates from Sutton Church; Sister Lula Doyle from Arbor Grove Church; Sister May Frisbie and Prova Magruder.

The committee sisters J. J. Long, Addie Jones, Mrs. Edd Kincade, Mable Russell and Barbara Campbell.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY REPORT

We find only four churches in the association have a woman's auxiliary. They are Pocahontas, Alice Brooks, Pruitt Chapel and Sutton. They met with the Alice Brooks Church on June 22 and organized a district auxiliary. The following officers were elected, president, Mrs. Earl Smith; 1st vice president, Mrs. Jean Wilson; 2nd vice president, Mrs. Edwin Bibbs; 3rd vice president, Mrs. Henry Pauley; 4th vice president, Mrs. Fred Kincade; 5th vice president, Mrs. Mary Staten; secretary and treasurer, Mrs. George Broadway; cor. sec., Mrs. Tom Haynes.

The next district meeting will be with Pocahontas Church on Oct. 19. We invite all of the churches to attend our meetings. If any church is interested in organizing a woman's auxiliary in your church we will be glad to assist you. Committee, Alta Lee Miller, Francis Watson and Naomi Denton.

RADIO COMMITTEE

We recommend that we continue our radio program. Carl High, Will S. White, Dewey Thompson, Loyal Graham and Raymond McNutt.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolve that article No. 2 in our constitution be changed to include ministers and deacons wives who are members of Free Will Baptist churches.

2. Resolve that a reduced account of each quarterly meeting during the year be printed in the associational minutes.

3. This year of thanks found elsewhere.

Resolutions of 1950 (1) has changed to be used for home mission. The \$50.00 resolution (2) of 1950 resolve that the churches of social band association let their pastors know at least 60 days before the end of the church year if they are to retain him or not. The pastor in like manner to let the church know. (3) resolve that the social band association set September 1 as the date to complete it's year's work and that reports and church books be closed as of that date.

4. Resolve that each church in the association give the sum of \$6.00 to a national associational expense fund. To pay delegates expenses or to help. To be paid before 1st of July.

MINISTER'S REPORTS

Have preached 5 sermons at Pruitt Chapel, received \$16.50. Being called to finish Rev. Orville Cox work, which he was unable to finish due to his health. Married 2 couples.

REV. HUBERT FORRESTER
Walnut Ridge, Ark. Route

Pastored Pocahontas Church, preached 131 sermons 54 radio addresses, conducted 3 revivals, received 31 members into church fellowship, conducted 7 funerals, married 9 couples. Received \$2830.00 as pastor and \$310 from other services. Traveled approximately 10,000 miles, attended Arkansas State Association, Missouri State Association, National Association, Missionary Conference and Bible Conference at Nashville, Tenn. Member of the National Board of Foreign Missions.

J. REFORD WILSON

Pocahontas, Ark.

Pastored 2 churches half time. Sutton preached 48 sermons, held 1 revival, witnessed 10 convictions, baptised 11, received into the church 11. Received for labor \$620.00. Received for revival \$50.00. Arbor Grove, 46 sermons, helped in 2 revivals, witnessed 26 professions, baptised 15, received into church 12, traveled 550 miles. Received for labor \$597.00. Received for revivals \$170.00. Conducted 11 revivals, witnessed 57 professions, received for labor a total of \$1675.00, married 2 couples, preached 5 funerals.

REV. BILLY ROGERS

Pocahontas, Arkansas

Have pastored 2 churches, Oak Hill $\frac{1}{4}$ time including revival. Witnessed 8 professions, received \$205.35. Clear Lake $\frac{1}{4}$ time including revival. Witnessed 3 professions, received \$167.90. Preached part time at Shady Grove, received \$102.97. Preached at Richwoods including revival, witnessed 14 professions, received \$138.66. Married 17 couples, received \$51.00 conducted 13 funerals, received \$65.00. Total received \$730.00.

REV. W. C. LAKEY

Sedgwick, Arkansas

Pastored New Bethel Church. Preached 24 sermons, traveled 480 miles, received \$85.00. At Elnora 22 sermons, traveled 420 miles, received \$40.00. Assisted in 2 revivals, traveled 300 miles, witnessed several professions, helped to organize a Free Will Baptist Church at Elnora with 18 members. Total sermons, 46. Traveled 1200 miles. Totaled received \$125.00.

REV. DEWEY THOMPSON

Route 2, Pocahontas, Arkansas

Served Mt. Zion Church, 90 sermons, helped with 2 revivals in the church, had 9 professions, received \$1066.00. Helped in 2 revivals outside this church, witnessed 14 confessions, received \$210.25 a total of \$1276.25.

ELDER ELVIE JOHNSTON

Auburndale, Florida

Have pastored Pruitts Chapel Church half time, rendering 6 sermons a month up to the middle of June at which time I had to retire from the stand due to my health. I received \$142.50 to that time for my services, witnessed 9 confessions, baptised 1 during the year, received 15 into the church. I have no church for the coming year due to my health. I ask all of God's children to pray for me.

REV. O. C. COX

Route 1, Beech Grove, Arkansas

Pastored Alice Brooks Church full time, 140 sermons at the church from KPOC. 1 sermon at each of the following places, Elnora, Warm Springs, and O'Kean. Conducted an 11 night revival at Stony Point. Helped organize 1 church. Total 157 sermons, baptised 6, witnessed 12 confessions, traveled 1155 miles, received \$544.00, conducted 2 funerals.

C. L. BIBBS

Pocahontas, Arkansas Route 1

Preached at Grandview Church $\frac{1}{2}$ time, several sermons other places, received about \$150.00. Have been called to pastor the Alice Brooks Church full time next year.

ELDER EUGENE DAVIS

Reyno, Arkansas

Pastored the Mt. Harmony Church in Polk Bayou Association at Saffell. Preached at various other places. Traveled 4000 miles, preached 93 sermons, received \$754.35. Have been called and accepted the Mt. Zion Church full time.

ELDER GRADY LINEBAUGH

College City, Walnut Ridge, Ark.

Pastored O'Kean Church $\frac{1}{2}$ time, 45 sermons, traveled 803 miles, received \$442.50. Preached $\frac{1}{2}$ time at Arbor Grove, 48 sermons, traveled 532 miles, received \$436.55. 4 radio sermons. 1 fifth Sunday appointment at Poplar Valley. Married 3 couples, received \$10.00.

ELDER J. W. RUSSELL

College City, Walnut Ridge, Ark.

Pastored 2 churches $\frac{1}{2}$ time. Sugar Tree Grove, 44 sermons, baptised 1, received 1 into church, traveled 3004 miles, received for services, \$251.39. Warm Springs, 46 sermons, 6 professions, received 2 into church, traveled 4300 miles, received \$292.00. Other places, New Home, 22 sermons, 6 professions, baptised 6, traveled 1320 miles, received \$53.53; Pruitt Chapel, 5 sermons, 15 professions, traveled 30 miles, received \$10.00; Union Grove, 2 sermons, 60 miles, received \$4.00. 1 sermon at quarterly meeting. 1 at fellowship meeting, conducted 3 funerals, 5 sermons over KPOC and 34 over KRLW, total 8714 miles, offering \$615.92, 170 sermons.

ELDER HENRY PAULEY

Route 1, Beech Grove, Arkansas

Preached 2 sermons at Clear Lake, received \$7.00, 4 sermons at fellowship meetings, 12 sermons at the Pirtle Church in a revival, received \$40.00 108 sermons at the Walnut Ridge Church including 1 revival, received \$308.54. Performed 2 marriages, preached 7 funerals, received 46 into the church, witnessed 9 confessions. Total 133 sermons, 988 miles, received \$365.54.

ELDER GLYNN CAMPBELL

Walnut Ridge, Arkansas

Pastored 2 churches $\frac{1}{2}$ time, Little Brown, 47 sermons, including revival, 5 conversions, received \$385.00, Poplar Valley, 41 sermons including revival witnessed 25 confessions, baptised 20, received \$272.98. 2 revivals in Detroit, Mich., 35 sermons, 26 confessions, received \$495.00. Revival at Walnut

Corner, 6 sermons, 4 confessions, received \$40.00. Revival Arbor Grove, 14 sermons, 27 confessions, received \$100.00. Conducted 8 funerals, married 1 couple, 10 sermons other places, received \$62.00. Total sermons, 161, miles 11,200, received \$1334.98, witnessed 87 confessions.

ELDER CARL HIGH

Peach Orchard, Arkansas

A partial report as records were misplaced. Preached from one to 3 sermons every Sunday, pastored 3 churches and at Gravesville on the 5th Sunday, $\frac{1}{4}$ time at Stony Point, $\frac{1}{4}$ at Old Reyno, Pirtle $\frac{1}{2}$ time. Received into church fellowship 11, received for hire, \$243.37.

ELDER THURMAN JOHNSON

Reyno, Arkansas

Pastored New Covenant and Rickey Chapel $\frac{1}{2}$ time each. 44 sermons at New Covenant, 840 miles traveled, received \$360.00. At Rickey Chapel, 44 sermons, traveled 1154.4 miles, received \$168.00. Other places 17 sermons, traveled 551.9 miles, received \$75.38. In different revivals, 20 sermons, traveled 2301.8 miles, received \$126.94, witnessed 26 confessions baptised 13, traveled 107 miles, have received 1 into the church, New Covenant Church. Assisted in 4 funerals, traveled 89 miles, received 2.00. Total 128 sermons, traveled 4923.1 miles, received \$732.32 witnessed 26 confessions.

ELDER O. D. WINFREY

Hoxie, Arkansas

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, their wives who are members, 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 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 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.

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 waybill 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; Matthew 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 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 the 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 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 13:42-43; 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 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 VISIBILE 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 willfully 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 1:4-18; 2 Peter 2:2; Apost. 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.—Cor. 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 Saviour 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	CLERK	PASTOR	Received	Dismissed	Died	S. School	League	Own Property	Value	Members
Old Reyno	Jewel Graham	Thurman Johnson	1	0	0	Y	O	Y	\$3000	65
Rickey Chapel	Cina Like	Wayne House	0	0	0	Y	O	Y	2000	18
Little Brown	Mrs. Harold Statler	Carl High	5	2	0	Y	Y	Y	5000	58
Alice Brooks	Fannie Haynes	Eugene Davis	5	1	0	Y	Y	Y	4000	91
Union Grove	Valona Green	Bland Massey	1	0	0	Y	O	Y	2500	10
Sugar Tree Grove	Mattie Hopper	Charles Dorthey	3	1	0	Y	O	Y	2000	23
Pruitt Chapel	Frances Watson	Hubert Forrester	15	0	0	Y	O	Y	2500	89
Clear Lake	Madge Davis	W. C. Lakey	2	4	0	Y	O	Y		26
Warm Springs	Martha Holt	Henry Pauley	2	0	0	Y	O	Y	1000	42
O'Kean	Lina Stone	Carl High	0	2	0	Y	Y	Y	1550	145
Poplar Valley	Fay Lakey	W. C. Lakey	12	1	0	Y	O	Y	4000	182
Carson Lake	Rena Rayburn	W. C. Rayburn	0	0	0	Y	O	Y	1000	10
New Covenant	J. T. Holland	O. D. Winfrey	2	0	0	Y	O	O		112
Stony Point	Susie Hulvey	E. L. Bibbs	12	2	2	Y	O	O		97
Grand View	Pauline Duff	J. W. Russell	0	0	3	Y	O	Y		75
Arbor Grove	Lucille Goodwin	Billy Rogers	15	2	1	Y	Y	Y	1500	95
Elnora	Norma Thompson	Dewey Thompson	18	0	0	Y	O	Y	1000	18
Mt. Zion	Raymond McNutt	Grady Linebaugh	7	10	0	Y	Y	Y	3000	32
Pirtle	Oran Smith	Wayne House	1	1	0	Y	O	Y	3000	68
Pocahontas	Alta Miller	Reford Wilson	31	3	0	Y	Y	Y	12500	244
Sutton	Mrs. J. W. Burrow	Billy Rogers	14	9	2	Y	O	Y	5000	80
Walnut Ridge	Doyle Boyd	Glynn Campbell	46	0	0	Y	O	Y		46
Jonesboro	David Puckett	Will S. White	9	0	0	Y	O	O		9