



MINUTES

Of The

60th ANNUAL SESSION

Of

THE SOUTH GEORGIA FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Convened with Pine Level Free Will Baptist Church,
Bacon County, Georgia, Tuesday Night Before the
Fourth Sunday in October, 1937.

E. B. Joyner----- *Moderator*
F. E. Crosby----- *Clerk*



AYDEN, N. C.
FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS
1937

FR: PAM Session

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OFFICERS

E. B. Joyner, *Moderator* ----- Lake Butler, Fla.
G. W. Jones, *Asst. Moderator* ----- Hazlehurst, Ga.
F. E. Crosby, *Clerk* ----- Hazlehurst, Ga.
G. W. Cloud, *Treasurer* ----- 1167 Wolfe St., Jacksonville, Fla.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

J. N. Johnson, *Chairman*,
S. A. Brewton,
G. W. Cloud,
T. R. Smith.

W. C. Coleman

ORDAINING COUNCIL

E. B. Joyner, *Chairman* ----- Lake Butler, Fla.
C. C. Coursey ----- Baxley, Ga.
G. W. Jones ----- Hazlehurst, Ga.

W. C. Coleman
K. V. Shites
E. B. Buckworth

FOREIGN MISSIONARY

Miss Laura Belle Barnard ---- Queen's Hill, Kotagiri, South India

MINISTERIAL ROLL

Rev. J. B. Harris ----- Odum, Ga.
Rev. E. B. Joyner ----- Lake Butler, Fla.
Rev. C. C. Coursey ----- Baxley, Ga.
Rev. A. L. Thornton ----- Hazlehurst, Ga.
Rev. G. W. Jones ----- Hazlehurst, Ga.
Rev. E. L. Paulk ----- Ray, Ga.
Rev. W. C. Coleman ----- Surrency, Ga.
Rev. T. O. Morgan ----- 2248 Orchard St., Jacksonville, Fla.
Rev. F. E. Crosby ----- Hazlehurst, Ga.
Rev. C. J. Pitts ----- 540 James St., Jacksonville, Fla.
Rev. L. C. Johnson ----- Alma, Ga.
Rev. T. J. Hairison ----- Hazlehurst, Ga.
Rev. A. B. Adams ----- Hazlehurst, Ga.
Rev. Perry Buckins ----- Blakely, Ga.
Mrs. Bessie Allen ----- Ashville, N. C.

The next session meets with Harmony Church, Union Co., Fla., four miles west of Dukes, Fla., on Thursday night before the fourth Sunday in October, 1938.

Statistical Table

CHURCHES	COUNTY	PASTORS	CLERKS AND P. O.	Rec. by Baptism	Rec. by Letter	Rec. by con. Faith	Dis. by Letter	Expelled	Restored	Died	No. of Members	Association Fees	Pastors Salary	Val. Church Prop.	Meetings Days
Alma	Bacon	E. B. Joyner	T. L. Tanner, Alma, Ga.	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	100	\$2.00	\$196.00	\$500	500
Alabama	Pierce	K. V. Shutes	Burnice Davis, Blackshear, Ga.	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	100	\$2.00	\$196.00	\$500	500
Bethel	Appling	E. B. Joyner	B. S. Craven, Baxley, Ga.	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	100	\$2.00	\$196.00	\$500	500
Corinth	Bacon	E. L. Paulk	P. J. Jarrard, Alma, Ga.	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	100	\$2.00	\$196.00	\$500	500
Ebenezer	Tattnall	K. V. Shutes	Nolan Purcell, Glennville, Ga.	17	3	3	3	3	3	3	1131	\$3.25	\$100.00	\$1,300	1,300
Harmony	Union	J. O. Fort	C. L. Brown, Dukes, Fla.	9	2	2	3	3	3	3	1182	\$10.00	\$326.45	2,000	2
Jacksonville	Duval	C. J. Pitts	G. W. Cloud, 1167 Wolfe St. Jacksonville, Fla.	9	2	2	3	3	3	3	1146	\$5.00	\$300.00	\$2,000	3
Glennville	Tattnall	K. V. Shutes	E. C. Davidson, Glennville, Ga.	7	2	2	3	3	3	3	1157	\$10.00	\$292.30	\$3,250	1
Liberty	Coffee	C. C. Coursey	O. V. Taylor, West Green, Ga.	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	243	\$3.00	\$72.05	\$1,000	1
Memorial	Appling	C. C. Coursey	S. M. Blanton, Surrency, Ga.	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2130	\$5.00	\$150.00	\$1,000	4
Marietta	Toombs	E. B. Duckworth	Bennie Anderson, Lyons, Ga.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	80	\$7.75	\$60.00	\$500	3
New Hope	Wayne	F. E. Crosby	A. B. Braman, Jesup, Ga.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	24	\$2.00	\$41.60	\$1,200	2
Oak Hill	Bacon	W. E. Crosby	M. N. Steedley, Alma, Ga.	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	33	\$3.00	\$60.00	\$150	4
Pine Grove	Appling	C. C. Coursey	Ruby McLain, Baxley, Ga.	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	83	\$2.00	\$52.10	\$100	2
Pine Grove	Appling	C. C. Coursey	Mary Lightsey, Bristol, Ga.	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	103	\$5.00	\$187.35	\$2,500	3
Pine Level	Bacon	E. B. Joyner	J. N. Johnson, Alma, Ga.	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	100	\$10.00	\$111.94	\$1,500	1
Philadelphia	Charlton	C. J. Pitts	J. W. Colson, Folkston, Ga.	6	4	4	4	4	4	4	249	\$6.65	\$115.45	\$500	2
Satilla	Jeff Davis	E. B. Joyner	T. E. Harrison, Hazlehurst, Ga.	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	1495	\$10.00	\$180.63	\$3,500	4
Spring Grove	Wayne	G. W. Jones	Joyace Steward, Jesup, Ga.	5	2	2	2	2	2	2	18	\$2.00	\$39.07	\$150	3
Stoney Hill	Tattnall	F. E. Crosby	C. M. Easterling, Ludowici, Ga.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	35	\$3.00	\$62.85	\$150	1
Zion	Long	F. E. Crosby	C. M. Easterling, Ludowici, Ga.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	35	\$3.00	\$62.85	\$150	1

Proceedings

The sixtieth session of the South Georgia Free Will Baptist Association convened with Pine Level Church, Bacon County, Ga., on Tuesday night before the Fourth Sunday in October, 1937.

TUESDAY EVENING

A soul stirring sermon was delivered by Rev. F. E. Crosby taken from Exodus, 32:1-14.

WEDNESDAY A. M.

The body was called to order by singing No. 96 in Glad Tidings. The Moderator, Rev. E. B. Joyner, read the 23rd chapter of Psalms. After thrilling comments on the scripture he led the body in prayer. At this time the moderator announced that Rev. C. J. Pitts would preach at 11:30 o'clock.

First, the moderator ask for the reading of letters from the various churches and the enrollment of the delegates. The following letters were read and adopted:

Alabama Church, T. N. Harrison, Lewis Harrison, Sammie Harrison, Burnice Davis, Mary Lue Davis, Mrs. D. L. Sapp.

Alma, Sister Courtney Johnson.

Bethel, B. S. Craven and wife, and W. H. Orvin.

Corinth, A. P. Wade and wife, J. M. Moore and wife, W. N. Hollinsworth.

Ebenezer, Maud Percelle, M. M. Percelle, Lanton Percelle, Jewel Anderson.

Harmony, J. L. Brown, Annie Brown, Margrette Joyner.

Glennville, Elva Baxter, E. C. Davidson and wife, Francis Rogers, Mrs. K. V. Shutes.

Jacksonville, Mattie Peavy, Grace Adair, F. C. Peavy, G. W. Cloud.

Memorial, George Rentz, Coy Rentz, David Mann, S. M. Blanton.

Marrietta, W. E. McLain, Bennie Anderson.

Oak Grove, Mrs. C. C. Coursey, Daniel Coursey, Bessie Robinson.

Oak Hill, Dave Steedley.

Pine Grove, A. T. Tuten, W. R. Rogers, Sallie Tuten, Mary Lightsey.

Philadelphia, J. W. Colson, Virgil Colson, Mrs. J. W. Colson, Mrs. J. A. Pervatte.

Pine Level, L. W. Nelson, J. Dock Nelson, W. J. Courson, Miss Linnie Johnson.

Satilla, G. W. Harrison, Vernon Hughes, Mrs. W. B. Remley, George Hutto, Mrs. Ada Hand, T. E. Harrison, L. M. Harrell.

Stoney Hill—

Spring Grove, Robert Steward.

New Hope, A. B. Brannen.

Zion, John D. Ginn, Mrs. D. L. Baggs, Leo Poole.
Liberty, C. Harkleroad, Nathaniel Harkleroad, Natt Winters and wife,
Vera Kirkland, O. V. Taylor.

Motion carried to accept the letters and seat the delegates.

The following ministers were present: Elds. J. B. Harris, E. B. Joyner,
G. W. Jones, F. E. Crosby, C. J. Pitts, A. B. Adams, E. L. Paulk, W. C.
Coleman, K. V. Shutes, J. R. Graham, E. B. Duckworth, W. L. McLain, C. C.
Coursey.

Licensed minister present, J. K. Westberry.

Motion carried to elect officers by acclamation.

Nominations as follows: Moderator, Eld. E. B. Joyner.

Motion carried that nominations close. Vote cast 100 per cent for Bro.
Joyner.

Vice Moderator, Elder G. W. Jones.

Motion carried that nominations close. Vote cast 100 per cent for Bro.
Jones.

Clerk, G. W. Cloud, F. E. Crosby.

Motion carried that nominations close. Vote cast: Bro. Cloud, 18, Bro.
Crosby, 36.

Treasurer, G. W. Cloud.

Motion carried that nominations close. Vote cast 100 per cent for Bro.
Cloud.

Motion carried that the moderator, clerk and two assistants be excused
from the house to appoint the various committees. L. W. Nelson, T. E. Har-
rison and G. W. Cloud were excused.

Motion carried to adjourn until afternoon.

Committees as follows were appointed:

Devotions, W. L. Nelson, Vernon Hughes, J. L. Brown.

Finance, J. M. Moore, Sammie Harrison, L. M. Harrell.

Obituary, George Hutto, Annie Brown, Natt Winters, Mrs. Mary
Lightsey.

Auxiliaries, E. C. Davidson, Mrs. L. M. Remley, Mrs. D. L. Baggs, Grace
Adair, Linnie Johnson, Mary Lue Davis.

Resolutions, W. N. Hollinsworth, T. N. Harrison, Dave Steedley,
Nathaniel Harkleroad.

Nominations, W. R. Rogers, Margrette Joyner, F. C. Peavy, A. P. Wade,
Mrs. Ada Hand, Virgil Colson.

Support of the Ministry, G. W. Cloud, Courtney Johnson, Coy Rentz,
Francis Rogers, R. L. Stewart.

Denominational Literature, T. E. Harrison, A. T. Tuten, Mrs. Natt
Winters, John D. Ginn, J. Dock Johnson, C. Harkleroad.

Temperance, J. L. Brown, David Mann, Lewis Harrison, Sallie Tuten,
Mrs. J. A. Pervatte.

State of Churches, Leo Poole, Walter Lynch, Mrs. J. M. Moore.

Destitution, A. B. Brannen, Mrs. D. L. Sapp, Mrs. B. S. Craven, W. E.
McLain.

Christian Education, B. S. Craven, Mrs. A. P. Wade, Vera Kirkland,
Mrs. J. W. Colson.

Character and Usefulness of the Ministry, S. M. Blanton, G. H. Rentz,
Burnice Davis, Bennie Anderson.

Sermon at 11:00 o'clock by C. J. Pitts. Subject, Elijah's God and God's
Elijah. Text, 2 King 2:14. "Where is the Lord God of Elijah." After
the sermon, dinner was served at the church.

WEDNESDAY P. M.

The body was called to order and Rev. W. C. Coleman led the body in
prayer. First, the moderator ask for the reading of the list of committees.
It was read and accepted.

The moderator called for reports from standing committees and visiting
Brethren to other Associations. Rev. K. V. Shutes reported his visit to
the Eastern General Association. Bro. G. W. Cloud reported of his visit to
the Salem Association. He gave report as being wonderful, good Sunday
Schools, Ladies Aid, etc. Rev. J. C. Pitts reported of his visit to the Georgia
Union Association. He stated that they had a very nice time.

The moderator asked for a response from all visiting ministers.

Rev. J. R. Graham stated that he had belonged to the Methodist Church
but that he had recently united with the Pine Grove Free Will Baptist
Church.

Treasurer's Report

From former treasurer	\$ 55.75
From this session	116.15
Total	\$171.90

Disbursments

Moderator	\$ 10.00	✓
Clerk	10.00	✓
Gen. Assn.	20.00	✓
State Assn.	2.00	
Postage	2.25	✓
Assist. Mod.	10.00	✓
Zion Bible School	10.00	✓
Foreign Missions	10.00	✓
J. B. Harris	10.00	✓
C. C. Coursey	10.00	✓

L. C. Johnson -----	25.00 ✓
Minutes -----	40.00
Total -----	\$159.25
Balance -----	12.65
	\$171.90

At this time the devotions committee reported that Rev. E. B. Duckworth would preach at 7:30 o'clock, Wednesday evening.

Motion carried to adjourn until 9:00 o'clock Thursday A. M.

After song and devotion service Rev. E. B. Duckworth brought a wonderful message taken from Nehemiah 2:17. Text, "Come and let us build."

THURSDAY A. M.

Song No. 10 in Glad Tidings, "Are You Washed in the Blood."

Prayer by Rev. J. B. Harris.

Immediately after the body opened in order the moderator asked the assistant moderator to take the chair for a short time.

Motion carried to empower the moderator with the right to fill out and supply all ministers with credentials who have been ordained by this association. He is further authorized to set the seal on all other credentials of this association.

Motion carried that the moderator supply any minister of this association or one who has gone to other Free Will Baptist Associations with a new copy in case of loss, damage, etc.

At this time the moderator ask to hear from the corresponding messengers from other associations. Bro. Jeff Giddeons and Linnie Mae Giddeons reported from the Little River Association.

Rev. I. J. Blackwelder reported from the Cumberland Association.

Rev. and Mrs. T. B. Mellette reported from the Midway Association.

Bro. J. V. Loving also reported from the Midway Association.

Surely they were made welcome in the body.

The Devotions Committee reported that Rev. I. J. Blackwelder and Rev. T. B. Mellette would preach at 11:00 o'clock.

The following reports of committees were handed to the clerk which were read and accepted:

DESTITUTION

We the committee on destitution make our report. We find all of our churches supplied with pastors for the coming year, but we see the need of more visiting among our ministry. We are much in prayer that the Spirit will strive greater among Christian workers than ever before.

A. B. BRANNEN, Chairman,
MRS. B. S. CRAVEN

DENOMINATIONAL LITERATURE

We your committee on denominational literature urge that all our churches, pastors, and auxiliary officers use F. W. B. Literature printed at Ayden, N. C. We suggest that all church officers will get helps in their church from the following address.—Free Will Baptist Gem, Purdy, Missouri. Catalogs on all auxiliary work can be secured from the Free Will Baptist Press in Ayden, N. C.

T. E. HARRISON, Chairman

AUXILIARIES

We your committee on auxiliary work submit the following report: After hearing the letters read from the various churches, we notice that a number of the churches have no Sunday School, Ladies Aid, Leagues or Prayer meetings. However we notice that there has been an increase of the various auxiliaries in some of our churches. We urge that each church take more interest in this line of work. Each of these is essential in its respective place. We recommend that our pastors urge and organize each of these in their churches where it is possible. We are glad to say that the men are taking more interest in the work. We ask our people to use F. W. B. Literature as much as possible as recommended by the committee on denomination literature.

E. C. DAVIDSON, Chairman

NOMINATIONS

We your committee hereby beg to recommend that this Association convene with Pine Grove Church Appling County, Georgia, eight miles of Bristol, Ga. on Tuesday night before the Fourth Sunday in October, 1938.

W. R. ROGERS, Chairman

SUPPORT OF MINISTERS

We your humble committee do find the woeful lack of the proper support of our faithful brothers in the ministry in quite a number cases in our own ranks. We here and now urge and request each church to select a finance committee of their own church who are interested in the proper spread of the gospel, looking forward to a program of evangelism in our fair land where many are not acquainted with our cause. May we have your hearty support of this our initial plea for a just cause upon regulated lives. Too, may the ministry be relied upon to go forth as the great commander urged as recorded in Mark 16:15 until we shall have shown in some measure our sincerity of purpose by our having done something materially.

G. W. CLOUD, Chairman

TEMPERANCE

We your committee on temperance submit the following report: Intemperance is an awful thing. Therefore we earnestly urge the full cooperation of our people against intemperance of any kind. We find that

Glennville has a union temperance organization in their church. They will be glad to help others to organize one of the kind.

J. L. BROWN, Chairman

FINANCE

We your committee find from various churches \$114.15 to be disposed of as the body sees fit.

J. M. MOORE, Chairman

At this time a motion carried to suspend all business until afternoon for preaching.

The congregation sang "Amazing Grace," after which Rev. T. B. Mellette brought a powerful message. Subject, "God's Appointment with man." Matthew, 28:16. Offering was made to Bro. Mellette to the amount of \$10.25 for the Zion Bible School.

At the close of the service dinner was served at the church.

The body was called to order and the congregation sang, "Tell It to Jesus." Prayer was offered by Rev. J. R. Graham. The remainder of the reports from the committees was read as follows:

STATE OF CHURCHES

We your committee on state of churches, after a prayerful consideration, realize the spiritual condition of our church as stated in the church letters is fair or good. These reports should be excellent at all times and retained. Therefore we recommend that all church leaders organize and carry on in regular appointed church auxiliaries. Especially we urge that prayer meetings be held where there is none, for prayer is the only key to spiritual knowledge.

LEO POOL, Chairman

CHARACTER AND USEFULNESS OF THE MINISTRY

We your committee on character and usefulness of the ministry do not find any of the ministers out of order at this time. We ask if any one knows of any thing they may bring it into the body for discussion and disposal.

BURNICE DAVIS

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The committee on Christian Education submit the following report: Believing in a well equipped ministry spiritual and literary, we urge our young ministers to take every advantage of literary and Bible school education. We vote our cooperation in the best interest of education as advocated by our denomination and that of the National Association and the Eastern Association. We also endorse the present Zion Bible School and ask our people to support it. We ask that our people and this Association help and encourage Linton Johnson, Perry Buckins and all others who may attend higher educational institutions.

B. S. CRAVEN, Chairman

OBITUARY

We your committee find that God in his wisdom has seen fit to call home several of our members to their reward of well spent lives. We bow in submission to His will. Names as follows:

Corinth, J. M. Taylor.

Ebenezer, Mrs. Pauline Baxter, Mrs. Vincy Kennedy.

Harmony, Mrs. Sue Thomas.

Liberty, Sam Evans, D. M. Harkleroad.

Satilla, G. W. Overstreet, H. W. Berge, J. E. Spann, Joe Hughes.

Oak Hill, Mrs. Sare Crapps, Mrs. Mollie Crapps.

Memorial, Bill Spivey, Miss Belle Leggett.

Glennville, Mrs. Arthur Watson.

Pine Level, Mary Thomas, Nellie McClelan.

Philadelphia, Mrs. Henry Hakens, Mrs. J. D. Mizelle.

GEORGE HUTTO, Chairman

At this time the body took up any matter of miscellaneous business.

Motion and second to pay the Union \$3.35 for money spent for an Association seal.

Motion and second that the moderator appoint two delegates to the Eastern Association. The motion provided \$10.00 to the Association and \$10.00 to pay fuel expenses. The moderator appointed, G. W. Cloud and J. N. Johnson to the Eastern Association.

Motion carried that this Association endorse the work of the State Convention and send delegates to the next session. It also provided \$2.00 to the State Convention.

Motion and second that this body reconsider the report of the Nomination Committee.

Motion and second that this Association convene with Harmony church Union County Fla. in the year 1938.

Motion carried that this Association strike from the nominations committee list of committees on the minutes.

Motion carried that the clerk have 500 minutes printed at Ayden, N. C.

Motion carried to set aside \$40.00 to pay for the printing and all postage of the minutes.

Motion carried to pay the moderator and clerk \$10.00 each.

Motion and second to pay the clerk \$2.25 for postage on minutes last year.

Motion carried to pay the assistant moderator \$10.00.

At this time the moderator appointed Burnice Davis to go to the State Convention at Ebenezer Church.

Motion to respond to the expenses of the corresponding messengers and delegates, carried.

Motion carried to contribute \$10.00 to the Zion Bible School and \$10.00 to the Foreign Mission Treasurer.

Motion and second to give \$10.00 to Rev. J. B. Harris.

Motion carried to give \$10.00 to Rev. C. C. Coursey.

Motion carried to give \$25.00 to Linton Johnson.

A general offering of \$10.00 was made to Sister J. A. Blanton.

Motion carried that this body meet on Thursday night before the Fourth Sunday in October 1938.

Motion carried to extend a standing vote of thanks to the entire community of Pine Level for their kindness to the meeting.

An offering was taken for Sister Barnard to the amount of \$3.25.

Motion carried to appoint corresponding messengers to other associations.

The Moderator appointed Bro. G. W. Cloud to the Salem Association. Rev. J. B. Harris to the Chattahoochee, Little River, and Midway Association. Bro. E. C. Davidson to the Georgia Union Association.

Motion carried to adjourn.

The committee reported that Rev. I. J. Blackwelder will preach at 7:00 o'clock P. M.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, through Jesus Christ, and adopted the following articles as our Confession of Faith, we now give ourselves to each other by the will of God, and agree to the following Church Covenant:

1. We solemnly covenant before God that we will strive by His assisting grace to exemplify our profession by a corresponding practice. We covenant and agree, as members of the church and as Christians, to watch over each other in love, for mutual upbuilding in Gospel faith, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. To be careful of each other's reputation, to confess our faults one to another, to strengthen the feeble, and to kindly admonish the erring, and to labor together for the building up of the Church and the denomination, and for the salvation of sinners.

2. We promise that we will faithfully and consistently maintain secret and family prayer and to religiously instruct those under our care.

3. We will endeavor to uphold the public worship of Almighty God and the ordinances of His Church, and not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together, that we will cheerfully contribute of the means with which we are blessed for the support of our pastor and other necessary expenses of the church. Any members failing to observe this covenant shall be dealt with by the church.

4. We also promise that, unless providentially hindered, we will attend upon public worship, the social meetings of the church, and report ourselves regularly at the monthly conferences, and that we will walk in all ordinances of the Lord's house.

5. We covenant and agree that we will abstain from all vain amusements and sinful conformity to the world; that we will not traffic in the use of nor furnish to others intoxicating drinks as a beverage, and that we will sustain the benevolent enterprises of our denomination and church, such as Missions, Education, Sabbath Schools, Moral Reform and all others which tend to the glory of God and to the welfare of men; and may the God of peace sanctify us wholly and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, that we may join the glorified around the throne of God in ascribing blessings, honor, glory, and power to Him that sitteth on the throne and unto the Lamb forever. Amen.

CONSTITUTION

1. This Association shall be known as the South Georgia Free Will Baptist Association, whose duty it is to meet annually at such places as may be agreed upon at the previous session and not to adjourn finally until all business is settled and while interest to the Association and to use their best influence to promote all moral and benevolent means and institutions, such as Education, Sabbath Schools, Missionary Work, etc.

2. It shall be Composed of the Ministers, both ordained and licensed, belonging thereto, and of legal delegates from the churches composing the same.

3. Requirements of the churches: Each church shall be required to send up an annual report to the Association in which they shall make a brief statement of the pastor, report the character and usefulness of the ministers whose membership is with them. Give name and post office of the church clerk. Give the number baptized, received by letter, dismissed by letter, restored, excluded and dead; also the number of members and the amount paid Association purposes.

4. This Association shall be considered as an ecclesiastical body and shall control all the various churches composing the same so far as Gospel order extends. Also, no houses or lands shall be sold or disposed of without its consent.

5. The officers of this Association shall be: a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer, to be chosen by ballot or at the discretion of the body.

6. Churches wishing to become members of this Association must adopt our Articles of Faith and conform to its usages.

7. Churches sending delegates to this Association shall be allowed one delegate for each twenty members or fraction thereof.

8. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any session of this Association by a majority vote.

DECORUM

1. At the meeting of each session of the Association the officers of the preceding session shall preside until their successors shall be known.

2. At each session and previous to proceeding to business the names of the ministers and delegates shall be called.

3. At the close of each session the entire proceeding shall be read for correction and approval.

4. Any person wishing to speak shall rise and address the Moderator. He shall confine himself to the question under consideration and avoid personalities.

5. No person shall speak more than twice on any subject without permission from the body.

6. No motion shall be withdrawn after its discussion.

7. When a question is under discussion no motion or proposition shall be received except to adjourn, to lay on the table, to amend or postpone indefinitely, which several motions shall be preferred in order in which they are stated.

8. Nominations shall be made by the Moderator of the Association or whoever he may appoint.

9. After motion has been decided any member having voted in the affirmative may move a reconsideration.

10. No member shall absent himself during the session without permission from the presiding officer, and none shall take final leave of absence without permission from the body.

11. This Association has a right to decide what matter shall be admitted to its consideration.

12. This Decorum may be amended at any session of the Association by a majority vote.

13. No church shall liberate any minister who comes from any other denomination until he has been examined by the Ordaining Council and has received credentials bearing the approval of the council.

CHURCH DECORUM

1. The Church may choose a pastor annually at the last regular conference in Association year, or if they prefer it, may choose a pastor for an indefinite length of time to continue from year to year, as long as he may deem it proper to keep up the connection.

2. When it becomes necessary, a pastor, may be chosen at any other time, but if the choice be made at a special conference the time must be appointed at a monthly meeting of the church.

3. The pastor shall be moderator of the church, but when he is absent

or does not sit as moderator, being present, some suitable brother shall be appointed to sit in his place.

4. There shall be two or more deacons in the church, whose duty it shall be to superintend the collection and disbursement of all collections made by the church, for the pastor, etc., and to distribute the bread and wine in administration of the Lord's Supper.

5. The deacons shall take notice of such members as refuse or neglect to partake of the Lord's Supper and endeavor to ascertain the cause that the same may be laid before the church in conference if necessary.

6. Some suitable member shall be appointed Clerk and it shall be his duty to do all the recording and writing pertaining to the business of the church, and to preserve a file of the minutes of the Association.

7. When a Clerk is appointed, all the books, minutes, etc., belonging to the Clerk, shall be immediately delivered to him by his predecessor. Also it shall be the duty of the church clerk to revise the church roll at least once a year. It shall be the duty of the pastor to instruct the deacons and clerks of their churches in regard to money for minutes.

8. The church shall hold a two day's monthly meeting embracing Saturday and the Lord's Day following, the first of which shall be the regular time of the conference.

9. It shall be the duty of every member, male or female, to attend each conference meeting, if they can, for on that day the pastor is expected to instruct the church in a certain manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on doctrine, discipline and the rules of holy living.

10. Any male member who shall fail to attend three successive conferences, and any member whatever of the church according to the Covenant (Article 5) shall be cited to appear in conference and answer for his neglect; but the church may exempt members from this rule if necessary.

11. Conference shall be opened and conducted as follows: (1) Prayer, unless divine service has just been concluded, and generally then. (2) Invite visiting brethren to seats. (3) Open the door for the reception of members. (4) Call for absentees. (5) For acknowledgments. (6) For reference of deferred business. (7) For matters of dealing which are in order to come before the church. (8) For miscellaneous business.

12. Visiting brethren, as helpers called in from sister churches, shall speak and make motions or seconds, but not allowed to vote.

13. Any orderly member of the Baptist church who does not hold this church in fellowship may be received into the church without a letter when it is made apparent that his Christian character is unimpeachable and that he has applied for a letter and could not obtain it because he desired to join this or some sister church. All other persons must join by letter or baptism.

14. No member shall be received without the unanimous consent of the members present, but unreasonable objections shall be valid, unless withdrawn, the members who make them shall be liable to be taken under dealing with the church.

15. When the moderator calls for absentees the Clerk shall inform the

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe that there is but one living, true and eternal God, the Father of whom are all things from everlasting to everlasting, glorious and immutable in His attributes.—1. Cor. 8:6; Isa. 40:28.

2. We believe that there is one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, the only begotten Son of God, born of the virgin Mary, whom God freely sent into this world, because of the great love wherewith He loved the world; and Christ as freely gave Himself a ransom for all, tasting death for every man; who was buried and rose again the third day, and ascended into heaven, from whence we look for Him the second time in the clouds of heaven at the last day to judge both quick and dead.—1. Tim. 2:5; Heb. 2:9; St. John 3:16; Rev. 1:7; Acts 24:15; 1. John 2:2.

3. We believe that there is one Holy Ghost, the precious gift of the Father through His dear Son, unto the world, who quickeneth and draweth sinners home to God.—St. John 16:7-8; Acts 2:4; Eph. 2:1; Eph. 4:4-6.

4. We believe in the beginning God made man upright, and placed him in a state of glory without the least mixture of misery, from which he voluntarily by transgression, fell, and by that means brought on himself a miserable and mortal state subject to death.—Gen. 2:17; 3:19.

5. We believe that God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance and the knowledge of truth, that they might be saved; for which end Christ hath commanded the Gospel to be preached among all nations and to every creature.—Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47; John 3:15-17; 1. Tim. 2:4.

6. We believe that no man shall suffer in hell for want of a Christ who died for him, but as the Scripture has said, for denying the Lord that bought them; because they believed not in the name of the only begotten Son of God. Unbelief, therefore being the cause why the just and righteous God of heaven will condemn the children of men; it follows against all argument that all men at one time or other, are found in such capacity as that through the grace of God they may be eternally saved.—Acts 17:30; Mark 6:6; Heb. 3:10; 1. John 5:1-10.

7. We believe the whole Scriptures are infallibly true, and that they are the only rules of faith and practice.—2. Tim. 3:16, 17.

8. We believe in the doctrine of General Provision made of God in Christ, for the benefit of all mankind, who repent and believe the Gospel.—Luke 14:16-20; Matt. 28:19, 20; Luke 13:3-5; Acts 3:19; Mark 1:15.

9. We believe that sinners are drawn to God, the Father, by the Holy Ghost, through Christ His Son, and that the Holy Ghost offers His divine aid to all the human family; so as they all might be happy, would they give place to His divine teachings; whereas, such who do not receive the divine impressions of His Holy Spirit, shall, at a future day, own their condemnation just, and charge themselves with their own damnation for wilfully rejecting the offers of sovereign grace.—Matt. 11:27; St. John 6:45-65; Ps. 1:1; Tit. 2:11, 12; Jer. 22:29.

church what male members have been absent from three successive conferences and the Moderator shall appoint some brother or brethren to cite each of them to the next conference.

16. No member shall be expelled unless he has been cited verbally or in writing, to attend the trial, provided his residence be known to the church.

17. When a witness, not a member of the church, is introduced, he shall not be examined till the question has been put to the church, Will you hear the testimony of the witness?

18. The evidence in every case of dealing and acknowledgment shall be recorded in the church book.

19. Members dismissed from the church by letter become disorderly or continue to hold their letters without good reason shall be cited to conference to answer for their misconduct.

20. Expelled members shall be restored to fellowship on their petition if their walk since expulsion has convinced the church that they have sincerely repented for their former evil.

21. A vote shall not be taken upon questions without a move and a second, and on all important questions the vote shall be taken by rising to the feet.

22. No motion shall be made while a move and second is before the conference.

23. It shall be considered disorderly for any member to absent himself from conference when an important question is to be decided, but a member upon request, may be exempted by the church from voting on either side in peculiar cases.

24. No member shall leave the house during conference without a sufficient cause, nor engage in conversation or whispering without being subject to be called to order by the moderator.

25. All discussions in conference must be conducted with calmness and good feeling, those who speak must rise to their feet and address the Moderator, and keep to the point in the debate.

26. No one shall speak more than three times on the same question without permission from the Moderator, nor shall the remarks of any one be unreasonably long.

27. When the Moderator speaks he must designate some brother to act in his stead.

28. No one shall be interrupted while speaking unless it is to call the speaker to order.

29. It shall be the duty of each church to attend to the administration of the Lord's Supper and washing of the Saint's feet at least once a year.

30. Members not in good standing should not commune, but the administration should not be deferred on account of any ordinary matter of dealing.

31. Public fasting, humiliation and prayer shall be observed on proper occasions.

32. No licentiate shall be ordained until called in care of one or more churches.

33. This Decorum may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at any two successive monthly conferences.

10. We believe that men, not considered simply as men, but ungodly men, were of old ordained to condemnation, considered such who turn the grace of God into lasciviousness, denying the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ who bought them, and therefore, shall bring upon themselves swift destruction; but we observe that they, and such the Apostle saith because they receive not the love of the truth, that they might be saved therefore the indignation and wrath of God is upon every soul of man that doeth evil, living and dying therein; for there is no respect of persons with God.—Jude 1:4; 2 Peter 2:1; 2 Thes 2:11, 12; Rom. 2:9-11.

11. We believe that all children dying in infancy, having not actually transgressed against the law of God, in their own persons, are only subject to the first death, which was brought on them by the fall of the first Adam, and not that any of them dying in that state, shall suffer punishment in hell by the guilt of Adam's sin, for "of such is the kingdom of God."—1. Cor. 15:22; Matt. 18:2-5; Mark 9:36, 37; Matt. 19:14.

12. We believe that good works are the fruits of a saving faith, and that in the use of the means of grace, and not out of the use of those means, eternal life is promised to men.—Rev. 22:14, 15; Isa. 1:19, 20; Matt. 7:8; Jer. 6:16; Luke 13:34, 35.

13. We believe that no man has any warrant in the Holy Scriptures for justification before God through his own works, power or ability, which he has in and of himself, only as he by grace is made able to come to God through Jesus Christ; believing the righteousness of Jesus Christ to be imputed to all believers for their eternal acceptance with God.—Rom. 4:24; Acts 8:20, 21.

14. We believe that all things are foreseen in the wisdom of God, so that God knoweth whatsoever can or cannot come to pass upon all supposed conditions; yet not as having decreed any person to everlasting life, out of respect or mere choice further than He hath appointed the godly unto life, and the ungodly, who die in sin, unto death.—Heb. 4:13; Prov. 8:22-31; Matt. 25:31-46.

15. We believe, as touching Gospel ordinances, in believers' baptism, laying on of hands, receiving of the sacrament in bread and wine, washing the saints feet, anointing the sick with oil in the name of the Lord, fasting, prayer, singing praise to God, and the public ministry of the Word, with every institution of the Lord we shall find in the New Testament.—Mark 16:15, 16; Acts 8:17; Acts 19:6; Luke 22:19, 20; John 13:5-17; Jas. 5:14.

16. We believe the Gospel mode of baptism is by immersion, and that believers are the only subjects for baptism.—Matt. 3:16; Mark 1:9, 10; Acts 2:38, 39; Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12.

17. We believe in a general resurrection of the dead and a final judgment at the last day.—John 5:28, 29; 2. Cor. 5:10.

18. We believe the happiness of the righteous is eternal and the torments of the wicked are endless.—Matt. 25:46.