

**MINUTES**

**OF THE**

**Sixty-Ninth Annual Session**

**OF THE**

**South Georgia Association Of Original  
Free Will Baptists**

**CONVENED WITH**

**Harmony Free Will Baptist Church**  
**THREE MILES WEST OF DUKES, FLORIDA**

**ON**

**October 25th and 26th, 1946**

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**PRESIDING OFFICERS**

ELDER E. B. JOYNER, Moderator ..... Alma, Georgia  
ELDER F. B. CHERRY, Asst. Moderator ..... Blackshear, Ga.  
BRO. G. W. CLOUD, Clerk ..... P. O. Box 6111, Jax, Fla.

The next session will convene with Pine Level Free Will Baptist Church, near Alma, Ga. on Friday 10 A.M. before the Fourth Sunday in October, 1947. The Elder Floyd B. Cherry to preach the Introductory Sermon Friday at 11:30 A.M.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Introductory.
2. Moderator calls the body to order.
3. Call for corresponding letters and enroll delegates.
4. Appointing Committee on Divine Service.
5. Call for Petitionary Letters.
6. Call for Corresponding Letters from Sister Associations.
7. Call for election of officers.
8. Appointment of Committees.
9. Call for report of Committees.
10. Miscellaneous Business.
11. Adjournment.

### MINISTERS HOLDING MEMBERSHIP

ELDER E. B. JOYNER ..... Alma, Ga.  
ELDER J. B. HARRIS ..... Odum, Ga.  
ELDER C. C. COURSEY ..... Route 1, Baxley, Ga.  
ELDER A. L. THORNTON ..... Hazelhurst, Ga.  
ELDER W. C. COLEMAN ..... Rout. 3, Baxley, Ga.  
ELDER T. O. MORGAN ..... 2248 Orchard St., Jax., Fla.  
ELDER C. J. PITTS ..... 540 James St., Jax., Fla.  
ELDER W. L. MILLS ..... Route 5, Jax., Fla.  
ELDER B. A. ALTMAN ..... Folkston, Ga.  
ELDER J. R. GRAHAM ..... Surrency, Ga.  
ELDER A. B. ADAMS ..... Hazelhurst Ga.  
ELDER E. B. DUCKWORTH ..... Lyons, Ga.  
ELDER THEO M. CARTER ..... Surrency, Ga.  
ELDER E. C. MORRIS ..... P.O. Box 132, Glenville, Ga.  
ELDER F. B. CHERRY ..... Blackshear, Ga.  
ELDER E. L. PAULK ..... Alma, Ga.  
ELDER G. W. BURKETT ..... 1617 East 12th St., Jax., Fla.  
SISTER BESSIE ALLEN ..... Route 1, Thomaston, Ga.  
ELDER I. J. BLACKWELDER ..... Alma, Ga.

### LICENSEE

Brother S. H. Caudill ..... Sunshine and James St., Jax., Fla.

### OFFICERS AND ADDRESSES

Elder E. B. Joyner, Moderator ..... Alma, Ga.  
Elder F. B. Cherry, Asst. Moderator ..... Blackshear, Ga.  
G. W. Cloud, Clerk ..... P.O. Box 6111, Jax., Fla.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Elder E. C. Morris, Britt Brigman, Vernon Hughes, David Mann,  
and Elder E. B. Joyner

### ORDAINING COUNCIL

Elder Floyd B. Cherry, C. J. Pitts, and J. R. Graham

# PROCEEDINGS

The sixty-ninth session of the South Georgia Association met with Harmony Church near Dukes, Fla. on October 25th, 1946.

The body was called to order by the moderator at 10:30 a.m. After an opening song moderator led in a very fervent prayer, and then read the 122nd Psalm and gave his moderator's message.

Moderator appointed the Devotional committee as follows, D. E. Brown, Robert Clyatt, and A. H. Quinn.

Called for Church letters to be laid on table, and appointed reading clerks, Sisters Ruth Lightsey and Mildred Lauer. After reading the letters and a motion carried to receive the following churches together with the delegates as named.

The body was now dismissed for the Associational Sermon by Elder E. C. Morris, who did a wonderful job in using the Scripture, "David Served Well in His Day."

After the great sermon the body was dismissed by prayer by the Elder H. L. Catrett, who is Moderator of the Ga. State Asso. and was visiting in our midst. We retired to the church yard where on the tables were spread a bountiful meal of which we gladly feasted, and returned to the house at 2 p.m. for the afternoon session.

## FRIDAY P. M.—TWO O'CLOCK

On convening the body sang an old familiar Hymn, "I Am Thine O Lord." The Moderator at this time gave an invitation for representatives from sister Asso. and the following stood for recognition: Elder H. L. Catrett from the Midway of Ga., and H. G. Cruse of North Fla. Conference, who were given the right hand of fellowship and a seat in our body.

## CHURCHES REPRESENTING

Alabama—Represented by J. B. Thornton.

Bethel—Represented by Joe Lee Butler.

Philadelphia—Represented by Bro. S. M. Altman, Raymond Altman, Sisters Joe Prevatt, Aletha Harden, and Fred Crews.

Oak Grove—Represented by Bro. W. L. Koenig.

Pine Level—Represented by Bros. T. F. Johnson, L. W. Taylor, J. B. Brigman, Prymsal Rigdon, and Sister Edward Cook.

Marietta—Represented by Bros. Silas McLain, J. F. Lewis, H. P. Moore, and Sister J. V. Lewis.

Zion—Represented by Letter.

Stony Hill—Represented by Bro. Talmage Anderson.

Unity—Represented by Bros. Clifford McGrannie, Teddy Napier, Sis. C. J. Pitts, Mildred Lauer.

Bethel—Represented by Bro. Ernest Butler and wife.

Pine Grove—Represented by Sisters Mary Lightsey, Ruth Lightsey, and Idelle Hampton.

Corinth—Represented by Bros. A. P. Wade, P. R. Crowder, W. N. Hollingsworth, and Sisters A. P. Wade, P. R. Crowder, and G. W. Buchannan.

Spring Grove—Represented by Letter.

First of Jax—Represented by Bro. B. S. Graven and wife.

Satilla—Represented by T. E. Harrison, R. F. Connell, and A. H. Quinn.

New Hope—Represented by Letter.

Oak Hill—Represented by Letter.

Glenville—Represented by Bros. H. N. Baxter, E. C. Davidson, and Sisters E. C. Morris and H. N. Baxter.

Liberty—Represented by Bros. O. V. Taylor and C. Harkelroad.

Harmony—Represented by Bros. B. E. Brown, C. L. Hilton, Robert Clyatt, and Sisters Irene Howard and Aletha Clyatt.

Ebenezer—Represented by Bros. T. L. Howard, R. L. Franklin, and Sisters F. W. Purcell, J. A. Baxter, and R. L. Franklin.

At this time we began the election of officers for the ensuing year, first being led in prayer by the Elder, W. C. Coleman.

Motion carried that we elect by acclamation. Moderator nominations, Elder E. B. Joyner nominated and elected without opposition. Asst. Moderator nominations called for and Elder Floyd B. Cherry was elected without opposition. Clerk nominations now called, and the following were nominated, Bros. G. W. Cloud and R. F. Connell. The vote being taken resulting in the election of Bro. G. W. Cloud. Treasurer nominations, Bro. A. B. Brannen was elected without opposition. Motion now carried we elect the same Ordaining Council for another term, consisting of Elder F. B. Cherry, C. J. Pitts, and J. R. Graham.

By vote of the body the same Executive Committee was retained for next year as follows, Elder E. C. Morris, Britt Brigman, Vernon Hughes, David Mann and E. B. Joyner.

Committee on Committees as follows appointed by the chair. A. H. Quinn, J. B. Thornton, H. N. Baxter, R. F. Connell, and Robert Clyatt.

Called for Petitionary Letters. None received.



Again the call was issued for corresponding messengers from Sister Asso. and Elder T. J. Goff of the Little River Asso. was received and given a seat with us.

At this time we heard reports from our delegation to sister Asso. and the following gave reports of their trips to the different Asso. Elder J. B. Harris was in the Little River Asso. and gave a good report of his trip.

Elder G. W. Burkett gave a good report of his visit to the North Fla. Conference.

Elder E. C. Morris gave a brief report of his visit with the Ogeechee Asso.

Bro. Morris at this time gave also a brief report of the National Asso. Program.

Bro. G. W. Cloud gave a brief report of his trip to the Salem Asso. of Fla.

Bro. E. G. Bush was recognized at this time and given a seat in our midst as a visitor from the Martin Association of Ga.

We elected to represent us in the Little River Asso. next year Elder E. C. Morris and J. B. Harris. In the Salem Association of Fla., Bro. T. E. Harrison and G. W. Cloud elected. In the No. Fla. Con. to represent us Elders C. J. Pitts and G. W. Burkett. Chattahoochee Asso. to represent us Elder E. C. Morris and Bro. E. C. Davidson. To Ga. Union by Elder W. C. Coleman. To Ga. State Asso. at Ideal, Ga. in Nov. 12-13, 47 the following elected to go, T. F. Johnson, J. B. Brigman, E. C. Davidson, and J. B. Thornton. To National Asso. Bro. Amos Howard. The Devotional Committee reports that the group from our Bible College in Nashville have the service for this Friday night.

The following was at this time recognized and given seats in our body, Elder L. R. Ennis, President of F. W. B. Bible College, Elder J. R. Davidson, Business Manager of the College, Albert Harrsi and wife, T. G. Hamilton, Floyd Rogers, Lee Whaley who are now students of the college. Bro. Catrett of the Ga. State Asso. was given the floor for a short time to bring to our people the cause for which he is now on the field in behalf of our Denominational cause, and he gave a good report from the many sections he has had the opportunity to visit and in conclusion he asked that we mail him one of our minutes. At this time the delegation was homed for the night which was handled by the local pastor in a very creditable manner.

Before adjourning the Committee on Committees made their report and the Chairman of each Committee was given his list of Co-Workers.

Nomination—Elder E. C. Morris, B. E. Brown, T. F. Johnson,

and Sister A. P. Wade.

Support of Ministry—E. C. Davidson, Sisters F. W. Purcell, C. J. Pitts, and J. A. Baxter.

State of Churches—Elder J. B. Harris, Talmage Anderson, Paul Crowd, Clifford McCrannie, and Sister Mildred Lauer.

Destitution—C. Harkelroad, Teddy Napier, and Sisters R. L. Franklin, C. L. Hilton, and Joe Prevat.

Christian Education—T. L. Howard, Clyde Bennett, and Sister E. C. Morris.

Sabbath Schools—R. F. Connell, W. N. Hollingsworth, and Sisters Idelle Hampton, H. N. Baxter.

Destitution—F. B. Cherry, O. V. Taylor, R. L. Franklin, and Sister Irene Howard.

Temperance—J. R. Graham, Alice Craven, Mary Lightesy, and T. R. Crowder.

Obituary—Sam Altman, W. L. Koeing, and Sisters T. E. Harrison and Joe Prevatt.

Denominational Literature—B. S. Craven, Premsall Rigdon, Fred Crews, and Aletha Clyatt.

Finance—A. P. Wade, Emmett Butler, and Sisters G. W. Buchanan and Edward Cook.

Church Letters—J. B. Brigman, T. E. Harrison, Ruth Lightsey.

At this time the body sang a song and dismissed for the supper hour, and return at seven-thirty for the college group program.

At seven-thirty the body was called to order by the Moderator, and the brief announcement and introduction of Elder L. R. Ennis who had charge of the evening program. He in turn introduced each one of the party, as he or she came in turn, he doing a fine job, and the entire evening was a blessing to all who were there, as they were in the spirit. We enjoyed the service so very much, and thank our God for those noble ones.

Bro. Ennis, who after his very eloquent way of acting as Master of Ceremonies, brought the evening message, using the "Slogan Symbols of Christian Education" which was a masterpiece and enjoyed by all present.

At the conclusion of this address we were dismissed by prayer by Elder J. R. Davidson and we stood adjourned until Sat. morning at nine-thirty.

Just at close of special service on Friday night there was an offering made by those present for the Bible School amounting to \$250.00).

In addition to the above named amount for the school, the

local church (Harmony) had donated for the expenses of the party from the F. W. B. Bible College of Nashville, Tenn. the sum of \$55.00.

### **SATURDAY MORNING NINE-THIRTY**

Body called to order by Moderator. Congregation sang an old familiar hymn and Elder H. B. Cruse led us in the opening prayer.

Called for Committee Reports and the following was received and adopted after having them read. See reports elsewhere in minute.

At eleven-thirty o'clock the body gave way for the Ordaining Council to have charge of this part of the service, as there was a request from two churches for the Council to ordain five deacons during this session. The Council at this time very humbly and graciously performed this fitting service during the time allotted them at 11:30. After this very touching service and he setting apart of these fine young men for greater things in our church we were dismissed by prayer by Elder F. B. Cherry.

### **SATURDAY EVENING ONE-THIRTY**

Body again called to order by Moderator. Congregation singing "In the Cross," prayer by Bro. R. F. Connell.

Motion prevailed to strike from the recommendation of letter to South Ga. Asso. the clause "one letter form in each minute" and have instead "five hundred letter forms printed and mail to each clerk two forms prior to convening of Asso." We at this time received an invitation from Satilla Church for each church to meet with them the fifth Saturday and Sunday before in December to the Union Meeting. After a call for any additional matters to come before the body, there being none, the case of Sister Bessie Allen of Route 1, Thomaston, Ga. who has been a shut in for above two years was brought to our attention. The case was referred to our local Superannuation Board and asked that she be placed on our rolls as one very much in need of our Association's support as she is in good standing with the First Church of Jax. Also there was a free will offering taken for her amounting to \$5.00.

A motion was made and we all gave a rising vote of thanks to Harmony Church and the community for their very hospitable way we were received and homed during our stay with them. We now were dismissed by prayer by Elder Harris, to meet with Pine Level Church on Friday morning before the fourth Sunday in October, 1947. (10:00 A.M.).



## COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

We your Committee on Finance submit for your approval the following:

Received from all sources at this session .....	\$165.25
On hand from last session .....	71.51
Refund from G. W. Cloud as fee to National Asso. not used .....	5.00
Total .....	\$241.76

We have apportioned for disbursements the following:

For Minutes, Postage, Packing, Etc. ....	\$ 65.00
Moderator .....	20.00
Clerk Services .....	20.00
Asst. Moderator .....	5.00
Treasurer .....	5.00
Elder J. B. Harris .....	20.00
Elder C. C. Coursey .....	20.00
Sister J. A. Blanton .....	10.00
Ruth Lightsey, Service on Superannuation Board .....	20.00
Unified Program .....	25.00
Total Disbursements .....	\$210.00
Balance in Treasury .....	\$ 31.76
Memorial .....	5.00
Total Balance .....	\$ 36.76

P.S. After closing of Association the clerk received from Memorial Church the letter for the Asso. and the \$6.00 which had been allowed in regular conference. The statistics are incl. in Minutes. G. W. Cloud, Clerk.

Signed,

A. P. WADE  
EMMETT BUTLER  
MRS. EDWARD COOK  
MRS. G. W. BUCHANNAN

## TEMPERANCE

We your Comm. on Temperance submit the following report. We recommend that we as Christians should be temperate in all things pertaining not only to strong drink, but all other intemperate habits. Who hath woe? Who hath sorrow? Who has contentions? Who hath complaints? Who hath wounds without cause?

Who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at wine, they that go to seek out mixed wine. At the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder. Prov. 23:29-32. May the Lord bless us in our fight for the right and lead us by His word that we may lead others to Christ.

Signed by Committee,

ELDER J. R. GRAHAM

RAYMOND ALTMAN

MARY LIGHTSEY

ALICE CRAVEN

MRS. P. K. CROWDER

### RESOLUTIONS

We your Comm. on Resolutions submit the following report.

First, be it resolved that each pastor be charged with the task of organizing a Sunday School in his church. Also, that each pastor whose church does not report a Sunday School at next session be accountable to the body.

Second, be it resolved that each church receive at least quarterly, an offering for the unified program.

Third, be it resolved that committees for 1947 session be appointed at this session and one church and it's delegation serve as one committee.

Fourth, let us extend to this church and community a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality during this session.

Signed,

F. B. CHERRY

O. V. TAYLOR

R. L. FRANKLIN

MRS. IRENE HOWARD

### DESTITUTION

We your Committee on Destitution make this our report.

According to the reports from the letters read from the churches we find that the majority of the churches are supplied with ministers, but have neglected our S. S. and Prayer Meetings. We urge that each church in the ensuing year try to hold more Prayer Meetings so they can be more efficient in the Lord's work. Also those that are neglecting the Sunday Schools try to create

more interest among the young people to come. They can take the place of the elder ones now on the work.

Signed by Committee,

C. HARKELROAD  
TEDDY NAPIER  
MRS. R. L. FRANKLIN

#### **NOMINATION**

We your Committee on Nomination submit the following report.

We accept the invitation from Pine Level Church for the next session of our Asso. for 1947. We recommend that Elder Floyd Cherry preach the Introductory Sermon at Friday 11:30 A.M.

Signed,

T. F. JOHNSON  
E. C. MORRIS  
B. E. BROWN  
MRS. A. P. WADE

#### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

We your Comm. on Sunday Schools submit the following report.

We urge that each church put forth a more zealous effort to have better schools. We urge that each church that has no Sunday School put forth their best effort to organize a school. We further urge this body to co-operate with the Convention to organize better schools. We urge that each school and church to represent in our Sunday School Convention which meets on each fifth Sunday and our ministers co-operate and attend with us. We recommend that we write and try to secure some one to help us in a training program at some suitable time. We urge that we bind ourselves together as a band of Christians in prayer for our schools, and that each officer and teacher might examine themselves and live holy and acceptable unto God.

Signed by Committee,

R. F. CONNELL  
W. M. HOLLINGSWORTH  
MIS. J. C. HAMPTON  
MRS. H. N. BAXTER

## **SUPPORT OF MINISTRY**

We your Committee on Support of the Ministry make our report as follows.

We are glad to note a slight trend upward in the support of our ministry, but we see a great necessity of greater strides being made in this phase of our work. In order that our ministers may give themselves wholly to the work of the Lord, we urge each church to adopt some systematic plan of supporting their pastors and also give a thought for our retired ministers who have served so faithfully.

Signed by Committee,

E. C. DAVIDSON

MRS. C. J. PITTS

J. A. BAXTER

F. W. PURCELL

## **STATE OF CHURCHES**

We your Comm. on State of Churches submit the following report.

We find all our churches supplied with pastors according to reports. We further more recommend that our pastors do their very best to have a good Sunday School and Prayer Meeting in the churches. It is our belief that prayer and good Sunday School work is the spiritual life of our churches. We further recommend that all churches commune and wash the saints feet at least four times each associational year. We find the spiritual condition of our churches are fair.

Signed by Committee,

ELDER J. B. HARRIS

CLIFFORD McCRANIE

P. R. CROWDER

MRS. MILDRED LAUER

MRS. TALMAGE ANDERSON

## **EDUCATION**

We your Comm. on Education submit the following report.

First that we adopt the report of last year. Second that we urge our churches to endeavor to raise the allotment for this church year as early as possible. Third we urge the parents and young people to not only support the school with their prayers but with their means and cooperation and further any student



desiring to further their Christian education to prayerfully consider our Bible College in Nashville, Tenn.

Signed,

T. L. HOWARD  
CLYDE BENNETT  
MRS. E. C. MORRIS

### **DENOMINATIONAL LITERATURE**

We your Committee on Denominational Literature recommend the following. That the Free Will Baptist Literature be used by our Free Will Baptist denomination, and we urge our people to subscribe to the Free Will Baptist Weekly published in Ayden, N. C. or the Free Will Baptist Gem, a weekly published in Monnett, Mo. Also to aid in the circulation of our state paper, The Ga. State News. We believe if we study and read this literature prayerfully we would be greatly benefitted. May God's richest blessings rest on all of us.

Signed by Committee,

B. S. CRAVEN  
PREMSALL RIGDON  
FRED CREWS  
LEATHA HARDIN

### **COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES**

We your Comm. on Comm. submit for your kind consideration. Nomination, Pine Level and her pastor; Support of Ministry, Glenville and her pastor; Obituaries, Liberty and her pastor; Christian Education, Ebenezer and her pastor; Sunday Schools, Corinth and her pastor; Resolutions, Harmony and pastor; Temperance, Philadelphia and pastor; State of Church, Piney Grove and pastor; Destitution, Satilla and pastor; Denominational Literature, First of Jax and pastor; Finance, New Hope and pastor.

Signed by Chairman of Committee,

A. H. QUINN

## Obituaries

We your Committee on Obituaries beg to submit with sad hearts the following as having gone to their eternal rest since our last session.

Philadelphia Church lost Bro. Marion Altman, born April 25, 1866, Died 7-16-46. M. McLain died April seventh, 1946.

Satilla—Aaron Hand died 7-28-1946. Florence Collins died 12-6-1945. Nettie Quinn died 5-2-46. Mollie Williams died 11-2-45.

Oak Grove Church—J. F. McLain died October, 1945.

Stony Hill Church—P. H. Anderson died 6-10-1946.

Marietta Church—Lost one. No name given.

Harmony Church—J. L. Brown died September, 1946.

Unity Church—James Britt born 7-14, 1900, died 12-13, 1945. J. H. Kirkland born 11-30-1875, died 5-11-1946

Sadly and Prayerfully Submitted,

SAM ALTMAN

W. L. KOEING

SISTER JOE E. PREVATT

T. E. HARRISON

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. The Bible. The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. God. There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe; and in the Scriptures as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore, and obey.

3. Christ. Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human, nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified. He is now risen and glorified, and is our ever present Saviour and Lord.

4. The Holy Spirit. The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God. He is the Reprover, Comforter, Guide and Sanctifier of men.

5. The Government of God. God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of man requires.

6. The Sinfulness of Man. Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation, his posterity, therefore, inherit a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability sin, and become guilty before God.

7. The Work of Christ. The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection effected for all redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

8. The Terms of Salvation. The conditions of salvation are: 1. Repentance, or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Saviour and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him always. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

9. Election. God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

10. Freedom of the Will. The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.

11. Salvation Free. God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.

12. Perseverance. All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.

13. Gospel Ordinances. Baptism, or the immersion of believers in water, and Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel; Feet Washing, an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.

14. Tithing. God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ indorsed it in the Gospel (Matt. 23: 23), and the apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let ever one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him." (Cor. 16:2).

15. The Christian Sabbath. The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works and activities, and for personal communion with God.

16. Resurrection, Judgment and Final Retribution. The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

### **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.

1. We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

2. We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

3. We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and observance of the



ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

4. We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

5. We will everywhere hold Christian principals sacred and Christian obligations and enterprise 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.

6. To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of Missions, the success of Sunday schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

#### **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 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 members 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 and 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 conducted, and generally then. (2) Invite visiting brethren to seats. (3) Open the door for reception of members. (4) Call for absentees. (5) For acknowledgements. (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 are 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 deal with the church.

15. When the Moderator calls for absentees the Clerk shall inform the 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, providing 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 who become disorderly, or continue to hold their letters without good reason, shall be cited to the conference to answer for their conduct.

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 conferences 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.

### **ASSOCIATIONAL DECORUM**

1. At the meeting of each session of the Association the officers of the preceeding 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 Ordain-



ing Council and has received credentials bearing the approval of the council.

## 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 their best influence to promote all moral 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 minister whose membership is with them. Give name and post office of the church clerk. Give the number baptised, 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 house 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.

# STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCH	COUNTY	PASTOR 1947	CLERKS AND ADDRESS	Baptised	Letter	Prof. of Faith	Restored	Dis. By Letter	Expelled	Died	Female	Male	TOTAL	Asso. Purposes	Pd. Pastor	Value Church Property	Times of Meeting
Alabaha	Pierce	F. B. Cherry	S. D. Harrison, Blackshear, Ga.	1							47	35	82	\$ 15.00	\$ 760.00	\$ 2,000.00	2nd & 4th
Bethel	Appling	W. C. Coleman	Gracie Walton, Baxley, Ga., Rt. 3					4		1	50	25	75	2.00	302.75	2,000.00	1st & 3rd
Corinth	Bacon	B. A. Altman	P. J. Jarrard, Waycross, Ga., Rt. 1	9		8	3				32	62	144	10.00	268.48	1,350.00	Third Sunday
Ebenezer	Tatnall	E. C. Morris	F. W. Purcell, Glenville, Ga.	4							101	72	173	10.00	900.00	4,000.00	2nd & 4th
First of Jax	Duval	G. W. Burkett	G. W. Cloud, P.O. Box 6111, Jax., Fla.	2	7	1	1	1	26		26	8	34	15.00	250.00	2,000.00	Full Time
Glenville	Tatnall	E. C. Morris	E. C. Davidson, Glenville, Ga.	1	3			1			115	45	160	10.00	1,000.00	4,500.00	1st & 3rd
Harmony	Union	F. B. Cherry	C. L. Brown, Lake Butler, Fla.	5						1			112	10.00	400.00	1,025.00	1st & 3rd
Liberty	Coffee	W. L. Mills	O. V. Taylor, West Green, Ga.										41	5.00	80.00	2,000.00	First Sunday
Marietta	Toombs	I. J. Blackwelder	H. P. Moore, Lyons, Ga., Rt. 1		1			1		1	64	41	105	10.00	257.00	2,000.00	Third Sunday
Memorial	Appling	E. L. Paulk	S. M. Blanton, Surrency, Ga.	20		2				1	110	69	179	6.00	350.00	1,000.00	First Sunday
New Hope	Wayne	E. L. Paulk	B. H. Anderson, Jesup, Ga., Rt. 2	1	1	1					53	22	75	5.00	189.19	1,500.00	Sec. Sunday
Philadelphia	Charlton	J. R. Graham	Mrs. O. F. Harden, Folkston, Ga.	12		3		6		2	66	34	100	10.00	339.29	2,000.00	First Sunday
Pine Grove	Appling	E. L. Paulk	Mary Lightsey, Bristol, Ga.	5							76	43	119	9.00	370.79	3,500.00	Third Sunday
Pine Level	Bacon	E. B. Joyner	Mrs. L. W. Taylor, Alma, Ga., Rt. 4		2						83	56	139	10.00	348.50	2,500.00	First Sunday
Oak Grove	Appling	W. C. Coleman	Ruby McLain, Alma, Ga.							1			25	5.00	162.62		
Oak Hill	Bacon	E. B. Joyner	M. N. Steedley, Alma, Ga.	6									43	5.00	145.00		
Satilla	Jeff Davis	J. R. Graham	T. E. Harrison, Hazel Hurst, Ga.	16	5	3	1	5	2	4	182	87	269	10.00	613.98	6,500.00	2nd & 4th
Spring Grove	Wayne	A. B. Adams	R. L. Stewart, Rt. 2, Jesup, Ga.			1		1					43	3.00	109.65		Third Sunday
Stony Hill	Tatnall	E. C. Morris	W. W. Rogers, Reidsville, Ga.					1		1	22	17	39	5.00	140.39	1,200.00	First Sunday
Unity	Duval	C. J. Pitts	H. C. Thompson, 2725 Lenox Ave., Jax, Fla.		5	4		8	3	2	51	35	86	10.00	480.00	4,150.00	Full Time
Zion	Long	J. R. Graham	Annie Jackson, Ludowici, Ga.	1							11	10	21	2.25	57.53	150.00	Third Sunday
				83	24	23	5	23	31	14	1139	641	1780	\$167.25	\$7,525.17	\$43,375.00	