

MINUTES
of the
SEVENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
SOUTH GEORGIA ASSOCIATION
Of Free Will Baptists

NEW HOPE CHURCH
Jesup, Wayne County, Georgia
October 21, 22, 1955

1956 Session Will Be Held At Bethel Church, Baxley, Ga.
September 21, 22

MINUTES
of the
SEVENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
SOUTH GEORGIA ASSOCIATION
Of Free Will Baptists

NEW HOPE CHURCH
Jesup, Wayne County, Georgia
October 21, 22, 1955

1956 Session Will Be Held At Bethel Church, Baxley, Ga., September 21, 22

OFFICERS

Moderator.....Rev. T. G. Hamilton, Glennville, Ga.
Assistant Moderator.....Rev. C. D. Rentz, Baxley, Ga.
Clerk.....Rev. Louis H. Moulton, 2354 Pine Tree Road, Savannah, Ga.
Assistant Clerk.....Rev. Irvin Hyman, Alma, Ga.
Treasurer.....S. M. Altman, Folkston, Ga.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Officers of the Association (Named Above)

Sam Carter.....Hazlehurst, Ga.
A. B. Brannen.....Jesup, Ga.

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. Ralph Lightsey.....Hazlehurst, Ga.
Rev. George Ludwig.....Glennville, Ga.
Rev. Louis H. Moulton.....2354 Pine Tree Road, Savannah, Ga.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Rev. E. B. Joyner.....Alma, Ga.
Rev. Durward Long.....Lake Butler, Fla.
George Hutto.....Hazlehurst, Ga.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

S. M. Altman Sr.....Folkston, Ga.
Frank Bennett.....Alma, Ga.
Rev. J. E. Wood.....Jesup, Ga.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Rev. Louis H. Moulton.....Savannah, Ga.
Rev. George Ludwig.....Glennville, Ga.
J. B. Brigman.....Alma, Ga.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

President.....Mrs. Buddy Carter
Vice-President.....Mrs. Willie Carter
Secretary-Treasurer.....Mrs. George Ludwig

Proceedings

FRIDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 21, 1955

The seventy-eighth annual session of the South Georgia Association of Free Will Baptists was opened with the song, "Wonderful Words of Life," led by Mr. W. S. Lanier. Mrs. Fred Purcell was the pianist. Mr. Frank Steedley gave the invocation and Mr. Barney Brannen extended words of welcome on behalf of the host church.

The association was called to order by the moderator, using as the text for his remarks: Genesis 13:8, "... Let there be no strife between me and thee, ... for we be brethren," and 1 Corinthians 14:40, "Let all things be done decently and in order."

Visitors were recognized which included: Rev. and Mrs. J. R. Davidson of Goldsboro, North Carolina; Rev. Manse Cason; Rev. V. L. Pritchett of the Georgia Union Association; Rev. and Mrs. Irvin Hyman; Rev. George Ludwig; Rev. H. L. Knighton of Midway Association; Mr. G. C. King of Chattahoochee Association; Mr. M. M. Franks of Little River Association.

The adoption of the program arranged by the executive committee followed as the agenda for this session. By motion the reading of the letter was to be omitted and the digest committee bring in complete overall report of the letters.

Rev. George Ludwig and Rev. Irvin Hyman were received as members in full fellowship of the South Georgia Association and extended the right hand of fellowship by the moderator.

By motion, the moderator appointed the digest committee: Rev. Irvin Hyman, chairman; Mr. Frank Steedley; Mr. Barney Baxter.

The clerk read the roll call of churches and a motion was made and passed that letters be received and delegates seated. A motion was passed that the election of officers take place at the close of the session instead of at the beginning as heretofore.

A motion was passed that the chair appoint various necessary committees with the exception of the nominating committee which was to be elected by the body.

The following committees were appointed:

Committee on committees: Rev. George Ludwig, chairman, Mr. Vernon Brannen, Mr. Alvin Quinn.

Finance committee: Mr. S. M. Altman Sr., chairman, Mr. E. C. Davidson, Mrs. Fred Pursell.

Resolutions committee: Mr. J. B. Brigman, Mr. John T. Blanton, Mr. J. V. Mann.

Nominating committee as elected: Rev. E. C. Morris, Rev. C. D. Rentz, Mr. Jim Hughes.

A report was given by the clerk relative to three churches which asked for letters to organize a new association in Florida known as the Northeast Florida Association. The executive committee having acted on the request of these three

churches several weeks prior to this session, the session received and adopted the report of the executive committee in their granting of letters to these churches. A motion was passed that the clerk write letters to these three churches expressing our appreciation to them for their fellowship and service in the South Georgia Association throughout the years.

Spirited congregational singing led by Mr. W. S. Lanier, and prayer by Rev. H. L. Knighton, introduced the worship hour. Rev. C. D. Rentz brought the morning message using Psalm 62:11 "God hath spoken once; . . . power belongeth unto God." Several Biblical illustrations were brought out by Mr. Rentz in which the power of God was demonstrated in the lives of men. Likewise it was pointed out that this same power can be ours today if we meet God's conditions.

"Have Thine Own Way" was the closing hymn. Rev. J. R. Davidson pronounced the benediction. Lunch was served by the host church.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 21, 1955

Mr. Lanier led in the singing of "Trust and Obey." Rev. Irvin Hyman conducted the devotions, using the topic, "The Word and Unfaithfulness."

Corresponding messengers from sister associations were recognized and asked for a brief word: Rev. H. L. Knighton of Midway Association; Mr. G. C. King of Chattahoochee Association; Mr. M. M. Franks of Little River Association.

Rev. E. C. Morris, state promotional secretary, gave his report and issued certificates of honor for monthly support of the Unified Program to the following churches: Marietta, Satilla, Pine Level, Ebenezer, Glennville, Memorial, Harmony, Savannah, Oak Grove, Stony Hill.

Rev. T. G. Hamilton was placed on the ordaining council for this session to serve in place of Rev. C. J. Pitts.

Delegates to the state association were elected as follows: Mrs. Stella Knight, Mr. Vernon Mann, Mr. W. D. Moseley, Mr. C. M. Brown, Mrs. Jewel Anderson. Motion passed that \$15 be sent as fee to the state association plus the \$5 for national association dues.

Rev. Louis H. Moulton brought some highlights of the national association in Tulsa. Reports of corresponding messengers of our own association to sister associations were given.

A motion was passed that we change the annual meeting date of this South Georgia Association from Friday and Saturday before the fourth Sunday in October to Friday and Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September because of a conflict with the Martin Association time of meeting.

Report of committee on committees was given. Motion passed that a resolutions committee be elected or appointed hereafter.

Mr. Jim Hughes resigned from the nominating committee because of his inability to remain at the associational session.

The digest committee made its report. Following announcements we were adjourned, and supper was served at 5:30 p. m.

FRIDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 21, 1955

The Woman's Auxiliary District Convention met with New Hope Church with

Mrs. Opal Howard, president, presiding. She gave a very interesting talk using Mark 14:8. It was urged that all auxiliaries work with our youth for they are our citizens of tomorrow. The minutes of previous meetings were read and adopted. A report from the president as to her work this year was read. Report from the field secretary was also given. Both reports from the digest and finance committees were accepted. Mrs. Stella Knight and Mrs. Jewel Anderson gave reports from the state association. Officers were elected (these are listed under Report of Woman's Auxiliary elsewhere in minutes).

Delegates to the state convention were elected as follows: Mrs. C. D. Rentz, Mrs. Dona Kate Harrell, Mrs. Ralph Lightsey, Mrs. Jewel Anderson, Mrs. Stella Knight. The Glennville Church gave a very interesting skit on winning new auxiliary members. Rev. Ralph Lightsey conducted a very impressive installation service.

At the close of the woman's auxiliary meeting, a brief business session of the association was called to hear the ordaining council's report. A motion was passed that the association purchase and give each man ordained to the gospel ministry a Bible, either a Scofield or Thompson Chain Reference Bible, the cost to be set at approximately twenty to twenty-five dollars. (Clerk's note: A Scofield Bible was purchased and mailed by me to Rev. J. E. Blanton at the Bible College in Nashville.)

The ordaining council, together with all the ministers present, ordained Rev. J. E. Blanton to the gospel ministry in a very impressive ceremony.

SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 22, 1955

Rev. Wilfred Hardin, the host pastor, led in singing, "I am Thine, O Lord." Rev. J. E. Wood prayed the invocation. The minutes of the preceding day were read and adopted.

The Baxley Church, a new organization, petitioned for membership in the South Georgia Association. By motion they were received and extended the hand of full fellowship. Rev. J. E. Wood was received into the fellowship of this association from a Florida Association.

The Oak Hill Church gave the report of the superannuation committee.

The finance committee's report was given and adopted. An amendment to the finance committee's report included \$20 for the Unified Program.

A motion passed that the superannuation committee's report be sufficient to cover the support of ministry committee's report. Other reports followed with Satilla Church giving the Sunday school committee's report, New Hope Church the temperance report, and Stony Hill the obituary report.

A motion passed that the clerk of the association buy the Bibles to be presented to those to be ordained to the gospel ministry.

The resolutions committee's report was given and adopted. Then a report from the District League Convention was given by its president, Rev. Irvin Hyman.

A report from the Sunday School Convention was given by the president, Rev. Ralph Lightsey. He reported a Sunday school workshop and study course for November 28–December 2, to be conducted at Satilla Church by the Rev. William Mishler.

By motion the executive committee is to meet and define the duties of the various committees of the association and present them next year as a constitutional amendment.

By motion, a mission committee was appointed by the moderator to work with the state and national mission boards relative to the work of establishing churches. The committee was appointed as follows: Rev. Louis H. Moulton, Rev. George Ludwig, J. B. Brigman.

Following the denominational literature report by Memorial Church, eight churches extended invitations for placement next year. By motion two churches, Marietta and Bethel were voted upon with the result that Bethel was chosen as the place for the 1956 convention.

A report was given by the woman's auxiliary concerning their convention and year's work.

After the report on Christian education by Harmony Church, Rev. and Mrs. Thomas Willey Jr. were recognize and given an opportunity for testimony.

A rising vote of thanks was extended to New Hope Church for its hospitality.

The nominating committee gave its report which was received and the officers elected by acclamation. (List of officers in front of minutes.)

The credentials committee gave its report with everything in order. A promotional worker for the South Georgia Association to work with Rev. E. C. Morris was elected in the person of Mr. David Mann.

By motion, an offering was received for Rev. and Mrs. Thomas Willey Jr. The amount received was \$89.15. Mr. Willey sang "I'd Rather Have Jesus," just prior to the introduction of Rev. George Ludwig, speaker for the morning message.

The topic of the morning message by Mr. Ludwig was "The Relationship of the Word to Christian Living." The Word was referred to as "God's Love Letter," and we were admonished to read the Word, study it and incorporate it into our daily living.

The message and the associational session was brought to a close with the benediction given by Rev. Thomas Willey Jr. The host church then furnished lunch.

Delegates

Alabama—Mrs. W. T. DeLoach, Mr. and Mrs. Layman Williams, Mrs. Agnas Rohrabough, Mr. G. C. Brewton

Baxley—Mrs. Henry Herndon, Mrs. Coy Rentz

Bethel—Mr. and Mrs. Francis Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Osborne

Corinth—Mr. J. I. Hughes, Mr. Roy Carter, Mr. J. J. Carter

Deep Creek—Mr. A. B. Bennett Sr., Mr. M. B. Drake

Ebenezer—Mr. and Mrs. Fred Purcell, Mr. and Mrs. Grady Kennedy, Mrs. Roosevelt Moody, Mrs. Cleff Anderson, Mrs. Nolan Purcell

Glennville—Mr. E. C. Davidson, Mr. H. N. Baxter, Mr. Barney Baxter, Mrs. Arena Davidson, Mrs. Della DeLoach

Harmony—Mrs. Opal Howard, Mrs. Vera Clyatt, Mr. Johnny Chapman, Mrs. Nina Long

Liberty—Mr. C. Harklewood, Mr. Nat Winters

Lower Corinth—Mr. W. D. Moseley, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Finley

Marietta—Mr. and Mrs. Troy McLain, Mrs. J. V. Lewis, Mr. Brooks Coursey

Memorial—Mrs. Evelyn Long, Mrs. Rosa Mann, Mrs. Willie Mann, Mrs. Leona McMillan, Mr. Vernon Mann, Mr. Byron Mann, Mr. Junior Rentz, Mr. Willie Carter

Metter—Mr. and Mrs. Sam Ward

New Hope—Mr. Melvin Westberry, Mr. B. H. Anderson, Mr. Pelmer Landon, Mrs. Burnice Brannen, Mrs. Ada Copeland

Oak Grove—Mr. P. F. McLain, Mrs. Verlie Mae McLain, Mrs. Ruby McLain, Mrs. Lucille Eason, Mrs. Lacy Hart

Oak Hill—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bennett, Mrs. Bertha Williams, Mr. Frank Steedley

Philadelphia—Mr. and Mrs. Harry Chesser, Mrs. S. M. Altman Sr.

Pine Level—Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Brigman, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Douglas, Mr. L. A. Rigdon, Mr. T. L. Rigdon, Mrs. W. I. Hyman

Piney Grove—Mr. and Mrs. Remer Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Dixon, Mrs. Mary Lightsey, Mrs. C. W. Eunice

Satilla—Mr. G. L. Hutto, Mr. Virgil Ursery, Mr. Elzie Bullard, Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Harrison, Mr. Sam Carter

Savannah—Mr. John T. Blanton

Spring Grove—Mr. Jim Dent, Mr. and Mrs. James Anderson, Mrs. Bernice Sutton, Mrs. Ida Brewer, Mr. W. S. Tyre, Mrs. Maggie Anderson

Stony Hill—Mr. McKinley Brown, Mr. Talmadge Anderson, Mrs. Myrtice Anderson

Zion—Mrs. Ella Poole, Mr. Nat Ryals, Mr. Wilson Davis, Mrs. Berite Davis

Reports of Committees

Report of the Committee on Committees

Christian Education—Ebenezer Church.

Support of Ministry—Piney Grove Church.

Superannuation—Corinth Church.

Temperance—Metter Church.

Destitutions—Spring Grove Church.

Obituary—Bethel Church.

Denominational Literature—Savannah Church.

Sunday School—Philadelphia Church.
Missions—Marietta Church.

George Ludwig
A. H. Quinn
Vernon Brannen

Report of the Resolutions Committee

Resolved: That we highly commend the churches of our association which have been supporting the Unified Program of our state association with monthly offerings.

We urge all our pastors to keep this matter before our churches at all times. We pray that the time will soon come when all our churches will support this program one hundred per cent.

J. B. Brigman
J. T. Blanton
J. V. Mann

Report of the Finance Committee

Balance on Hand from 1954.....	\$ 88.58
Received from All Churches.....	247.00
Total	<u>\$335.58</u>

Disbursements:

Minutes	\$120.00
State Association	20.00
State Association for National Association	5.00
Moderator	10.00
Clerk	15.00
Treasurer	5.00
J. B. Harris	15.00
Mrs. C. C. Coursey	10.00
Mrs. B. A. Altman	10.00
Mrs. A. B. Adams	10.00
W. C. Coleman	10.00
E. L. Paulk	10.00
Bible for J. E. Blanton	25.00
Unified Program	20.00
Total Disbursements	<u>285.00</u>
Balance in Treasury	<u>\$ 50.58</u>

S. M. Altman Sr.
E. C. Davidson
Mrs. Fred Pursell

Report of the Christian Education Committee

We, the committee on education, wish to submit the following report: We

urge all Christian parents to train their children from birth in a way that they will be grounded on the Christian life; that it might support them in the time of need so that, when tempted as teenagers, they might have a way of escape. We are not overlooking our Bible College and other means of Christian education but stressing first the training of our youth.

Harmony Church

Report of the Committee on Denominational Literature

We, your committee on denominational literature, realizing that the 1954 report was very, very good, recommend that the same report be adopted for 1955.

Respectfully submitted,

Memorial Church

Report of the Obituary Committee

We, your obituary committee, submit the following report:

During the past year several of our brothers and sisters in Christ and members of Free Will Baptist churches have passed from this world into another. They are:

Ebenezer: Mr. J. L. Howard and Mrs. L. L. Baxter.

Corinth: Mr. George Jordan and Mr. Alex Smith.

Piney Grove: Mrs. Priscilla Bryson, Mr. Allen Tuten and Mrs. Odetta Horne.

Glennville: Mrs. Will Groover.

Pine Level: Mr. J. N. Johnson and Mrs. Lissie Pope.

Satilla: Mrs. G. C. Harrington.

Harmony: Mr. George Harrison and Mr. G. T. Andrews.

We thank God for permitting the above mentioned ones to reside in our midst, and are aware that our God doeth all things well. We recommend that this body stand for a time of silent prayer in memory and in honor of the deceased.

Report of the Committee on Temperance

We believe the strongest weapon that Satan has today is the intoxicating alcoholic beverages, for they have wrecked so many homes and caused tragedy to so many families. We recommend that the pastors preach more on temperance and that the laymen of the churches and the parents set a better example before our children and neighbors' children with clean literature and recreation.

New Hope Church

Report of the Committee on Sunday Schools

We, the committee on Sunday schools, wish to make the following report:

Realizing that the majority of additions to our churches come from those who are members of the Sunday schools, we wish to urge that each church strive to have the best Sunday school possible. We further urge that each church have a Sunday school study course during this associational year. We also recommend that each church strive to get its Sunday school officers and teachers to attend the study course sponsored by the Sunday school convention.

Satilla Church

Churches	County	1955 Pastor	1956 Pastor	Clerks and Addresses	Members Received	Lost This Year	Died	Total Membership	Paid Pastor	Funds to Association	Value of Church Property	Unified Program	Paid Evangelist	Meeting Days
Alabaha	Pierce	J. E. Wood	D. L. Pritchett	W. T. Deleach—Blackshear, Ga.	3	4		82	\$	\$	\$ 2,000.00	\$	\$100.00	2 - 4
Baxley	Appling	C. D. Rentz	C. D. Rentz	Henry Herndon—Baxley, Ga.	10			10	360.00	5.00	5,000.00		50.00	2 - 4
Bethel	Appling	C. D. Rentz	C. N. Burroughs	Mrs. Beatrice Orvin—Rt. 2, Baxley, Ga.	8			61	509.41	10.00	4,500.00		185.00	1 - 3
Corinth	Bacon	J. R. Graham	D. L. Pritchett	Roy Carter—Rt. 2, Alma, Ga.			2	140	396.88	5.00	3,500.00	33.00		1 - 3
Deep Creek	Jenkins	E. B. Duckworth	Thomas Collins		4	3	1	130	519.42	10.00	5,000.00		65.00	2 - 4
Ebenezer	Tattnall	T. G. Hamilton	T. G. Hamilton	W. N. Purcell—Glennville, Ga.	9	8	2	166	2,625.00	10.00	46,000.00	191.32	304.65	Full Time
Glennville	Tattnall	Geo. A. Ludwig	Geo. A. Ludwig	Miss Gladys Lewis—Glennville, Ga.	19	1	1	159	2,565.00	10.00	50,000.00	400.41		Full Time
Harmony	Union	Durward Long	Durward Long	Mrs. K. M. Clyatt—Rt. 2, Lake Butler, Fla.	9	9	2	130	2,920.00	15.00		432.39	285.00	Full Time
Liberty	Coffee	C. McMillan	C. McMillan	O. V. Taylor—West Green, Ga.				20	191.77	5.00	5,000.00	10.00	40.00	1 -
Lower Corinth	Emanuel			W. D. Moseley—Lyons, Ga.	14	4		64	630.00	7.00			165.00	
Marietta	Toombs	Irvin Hyman		Mrs. A. L. McLain—Box 303, Lyons, Ga.	13	3		116	1,287.41	10.00	5,000.00	132.61	100.00	1 - 3
Memorial	Appling	Emmett McDuffie	Manse Cason	Willie Carter—Surrency, Ga.		8	2	217	953.17	10.00	4,500.00	180.00	473.73	1 - 3
Metter	Candler			Mrs. Floyd Beasley—Box 75, Metter, Ga.	9	3		64	286.69	5.00	4,000.00		41.88	2 - 4
New Hope	Wayne	Emmett McDuffie	Wilford Harden	Burnice Brannen—Rt. 3, Jesup, Ga.	2			135	488.44	10.00	5,000.00	12.25	158.05	2 - 4
Oak Grove	Appling	Emmett McDuffie		Mrs. Ruby McLain—Surrency, Ga.	4			44	540.44	5.00	2,500.00	183.48	16.00	4 -
Oak Hill	Bacon	E. B. Joyner	Tom Lightsey	Zeak Steedley—Rt. 3, Alma, Ga.				52	935.75	10.00	5,000.00	48.81	50.00	2 - 4
Philadelphia	Charlton	C. J. Pitts	Dan Rivers	S. M. Altman Jr.—Folkston, Ga.	11	3		184	1,460.93	40.00	10,000.00		426.90	Full Time
Pine Level	Bacon	Irvin Hyman	Irvin Hyman	Mrs. Vera Wheeler—Rt. 4, Alma, Ga.	11	2	2	147	1,413.29	15.00	11,500.00	180.00	140.00	Full Time
Piney Grove	Appling	C. D. Rentz	C. D. Rentz	Mrs. Inez Brannen—Bristol, Ga.	1		3	119	741.64	10.00	5,000.00		150.00	1 - 3
Satilla	Jeff Davis	Ralph Lightsey	Ralph Lightsey	Mrs. Betty Carter—Rt. 2, Hazlehurst, Ga.	10	4	2	264	3,761.14	25.00	21,000.00	700.00	275.00	Full Time
Savannah	Chatham	Louis H. Moulton	Louis H. Moulton	Harold K. Swann—121 Hilbiscus Ave., Savannah, Ga.	25	1		109	3,600.00	10.00	20,000.00	120.00	310.00	Full Time
Spring Grove	Wayne	Paul Long	J. E. Wood	Mrs. Irene Tyre—Box 342, Jesup, Ga.	16	3		142	2,405.00	25.00	3,500.00		570.00	Full Time
Stony Hill	Tattnall	T. G. Hamilton	T. G. Hamilton	Elmer Cason—Glennville, Ga.	5		1	73	706.14	10.00	5,800.00		100.00	1 - 3
Zion	Long	Clarence McMillan	Clarence McMillan	Mrs. Bertie Davis—Rt. 3, Ludowici, Ga.	2			26	155.50	5.00	1,500.00		82.14	3 -

Report of the Superannuation Committee

We realize that our pastors and evangelists, being those called of God to proclaim the glorious gospel of Christ, have been inadequately supported by our churches. We believe as 1 Corinthians 9:14 says, "Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel."

We further believe that God made ample plans and provisions for the on-going of His great work of the ministry and the proper care of all retired and aged ministers through His financial plan of tithes and offerings.

We humbly beg that every church and every member adopt God's plan of support as recorded in Malachi 3:10.

Oak Hill Church

Report of the Woman's Auxiliary

The South Georgia District Woman's Auxiliary Convention met October 21, 1955, at New Hope Church in Wayne County near Odum, Georgia. We wish to make the following report:

Out of the twelve auxiliaries in the South Georgia district, there were eight auxiliaries reporting: Ebenezer, Glennville, Memorial, Stony Hill, Piney Grove, Harmony, Satilla and Pine Level.

We report as follows: Enrollment, 117; for literature, \$144.65; representation fees, \$46.45; foreign missions, \$95.60; orphanage, \$63.00; Bible College, \$47.00; aged ministers, \$19.00; church activities, \$643.48; self-denial offering, \$67.56; study courses conducted, 16; special programs, 10; family altars, 20; Y. P. A's., 3; G. T. A's., 2; number of tithers, 47.

New officers elected at the convention were as follows: Mrs. Buddy Carter, president; Mrs. Willie Carter, vice-president; Mrs. George Ludwig, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. A. L. McLain, assistant secretary-treasurer; Mrs. L. A. Eunice, youth chairman; Mrs. Dona Kate Harrell, study course chairman; Mrs. Mary Wilkinson, stewardship and prayer chairman; Mrs. Joe A. Prevatt, personal service chairman; Mrs. Perry Hand, field secretary.

Balance on hand, \$87.70; for state association, \$17.54; for home missions, \$10.00; for printing minutes, \$10.00; miscellaneous, \$1.00; balance in treasury, \$49.16.

Mrs. Alex Dixon

Report of the Ordaining Council

We, your ordaining council, having examined and questioned very carefully Brother J. E. Blanton, recommend his ordination to the gospel ministry of the Free Will Baptist church, the ordination service to be administered at this Friday night service. We also recommend that the examination of the two McMillan brothers be postponed until the quarterly meeting next week.

Rev. T. G. Hamilton

Rev. Ralph Lightsey

Rev. Louis H. Moulton

Report on the District League Convention

The District League Convention of the South Georgia Association was organized in March of this year at the Satilla Free Will Baptist Church near Hazle-

hurst, Ga. The organizational meeting was well attended.

The convention has met once since being organized. It meets twice a year, in March and September. We covet your prayers for the future progress of the convention.

Rev. Irvin Hyman, President

Report of the Digest Committee

All 24 churches represented with 103 delegates: total membership, 2,639; total last report, 2,475.

Received: by baptism, 103; by letter, 68; restored, 2; by profession of faith, 14.

Lost: By letter, 49; expelled, 1; died, 18.

Sunday School: Enrollment, 1,826; total collections, \$5,757.50.

League: Enrollment, 719; total collections, \$1,297.15.

Woman's Auxiliaries: Enrollment, 247.

Finances: Paid pastors, \$29,426.02; paid evangelists, \$4,142.79; home missions, \$1,168.75; foreign missions, \$483.34; unified program, \$2,332.64; Christian education, \$455.53; building and repairs, \$20,862.31; miscellaneous, \$6,730.07; value of church properties, \$226,800.00; total expended for year, \$64,491.21; total receipts from all sources, \$73,532.02; for associational purposes, \$267.00

Ministers: Ordained, 25; licensed, 2.

Irvin Hyman
F. H. Steedley
Barney Baxter

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.

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, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of men 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 a 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 in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed 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 the LORD'S SUPPER, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel; FEET WASHING, an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be ministered to all true believers.

14. **Tithing.** God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ indorsed it in the Gospel (Matthew 23:23), and the Apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him" (1 Corinthians 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.

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."

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."

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel; nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

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 to promote the success of the church and 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.

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 local church is an independent body, so far as relates to its own government, the transaction of its business, the choice of its officers, the calling of a pastor, and the discipline of its members.

2. When it becomes necessary, a pastor may be chosen at any time, at either a regular or called conference.

3. The pastor shall be Moderator of the church. In the absence of the pastor, the chairman of the Deacon Board or someone appointed by the church shall act as Moderator.

4. There shall be two or more deacons in the church. They hold office at the pleasure of the church during the maintenance of Christian character, faithful service, and sound doctrine. They assist at baptism and the Lord's Supper, have care of the poor, and conduct religious meetings in the absence of the pastor.

5. Conference shall be opened and conducted as follows: (1) Prayer. (2) Invitation to visiting brethren to seats. (3) Call for acknowledgements. (4) Call for old or deferred business. (5) Call for new business. (6) Call for miscellaneous business.

6. Visiting brethren from sister churches shall speak and make motions or seconds, but are not allowed to vote.

7. Any person, upon proper application to a local church, may be received upon a profession of faith, by letter, or by baptism by immersion.

8. Members shall be received into the church by the unanimous consent of the members present.

9. If members are to be tried for misconduct, written notices of the charges and specifications of the same should be furnished to those accused at least one week before the trial. If the charges are not confessed, the trial proceeds in regular order by the presentation of testimony, without personal disputation, or remarks from those not church members.

10. Questions of fellowship, expulsion, and all other items of business of the church shall be settled by a vote of the majority present, and this action shall be final provided public announcement of the intended action is made at the last regular meeting; and the Quarterly Meeting has no power to reverse it, but may, if deemed necessary, withdraw the hand of fellowship from a church as a whole when its action is inconsistent with sound doctrine of Christian policy.

11. Expelled members, upon request, shall be restored to full fellowship if their conduct, since expulsion, has convinced the church that they have sincerely repented of their former evils.

12. A vote shall not be taken upon questions without a move and a second. All important questions shall be decided by standing vote.

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

14. 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.

15. All discussions in conference must be conducted with calmness and good feeling. Any person who desires to speak must rise to his feet and be recognized by the Moderator. His discussion must be relative to the issue.

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

17. When the Moderator desires to speak, he must appoint some brother to act in his stead.

18. No person, having the floor, shall be interrupted while speaking unless he is out of order.

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

20. All members, participating in the communion service, should be in fellowship with the church. All Christians should be invited to partake of the Lord's Supper with us (1 Corinthians 11:28).

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

22. No licentiate shall be ordained until he has been licensed for one year and called by one or more churches. However, in the event that a minister has been licensed for one year and is attending a Bible College or Seminary and requests ordination through the proper procedure, then it is left to the discretion of the Ordaining Council to examine and ordain the candidate for ordination.

23. Licensed ministers must renew their licenses annually.

24. This decorum may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at any two successive regular conferences.

Associational 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 prior to business, the names of the ministers and delegates shall be called.

3. At the beginning of each session the minutes of the preceding session 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 for officers and committee members shall be made from the floor or by a nomination committee.

9. After motion has been decided, any member having voted in the affirmative may move for 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 the right to decide what matters 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.

Constitution

Article 1. This Yearly Meeting or Association shall be called the South Georgia Association, and shall be composed of such regularly organized and well-disciplined Free Will Baptist Quarterly Meetings, conveniently located, as may embody themselves under this Constitution.

Article 2. The Conference of this Yearly Meeting or Association shall consist of delegates from the several Quarterly Meetings of which it is composed, every Quarterly Meeting being entitled to one delegate, every Quarterly Meeting containing five hundred members to two delegates, and one additional delegate for every additional five hundred members. Churches sending delegates to this Association shall be allowed one delegate for each twenty members or fraction thereof.

Article 3. The officers of this Yearly Meeting or Association shall be a standing Clerk, Treasurer, and Moderator who shall be chosen at every session of the Yearly Meeting or Association, with assistants as may be found necessary.

Article 4. Any well organized and well regulated Free Will Baptist Quarterly Meeting, composed of such churches as conform to the practices, and adopt the doctrines of the Free Will Baptist denomination, as published in the Treatise of their faith, and in the Minutes of the National Association, and are in favor of all the benevolent enterprises of the denomination, may at any time, on application by vote of this body, become a member thereof.

Article 5. This Yearly Meeting or Association shall have power to discipline the Quarterly Meetings of which it is composed, and to exclude them for disorderly walk, if labor proves unsuccessful, but in no case to reverse their decisions nor to interfere with any of their internal regulations.

Article 6. The sessions of this Yearly Meeting or Association shall be held annually at which time it shall be the duty of the Quarterly Meetings and churches of which this Yearly Meeting or Association is composed, to represent themselves by letter and delegates, and report their standing, prospects, and statistics; at which time the Association shall act upon such questions and topics as may be referred to it by its respective Quarterly Meetings, and transact such other business not repugnant to this Constitution, nor to the practices of the denomination,

as in its judgment may promote the cause of Christ and the interests of the churches and Quarterly Meetings within the limits of this Yearly Meeting or Association.

Article 7. This Yearly Meeting or Association shall have power to adopt any regulations or by-laws, not inconsistent with this Constitution, which may be deemed essential to the further regulation of its sessions.

Article 8. This Constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of the Yearly Meeting or Association at any regular session.

Ministerial Roll

Ordained

J. E. Blanton, Free Will Baptist Bible College, 3609 Richland Avenue, Nashville, Tenn.
W. C. Coleman, Route 3, Baxley, Ga.
G. W. Collins, Lyons, Ga.
E. B. Duckworth, Oak Park, Ga.
J. L. Dukes, Route 3, Jessup, Ga.
J. R. Graham, Jessup, Ga.
C. H. Hadden, Twin City, Ga.
T. G. Hamilton, Glennville, Ga.
J. B. Harris, Odum, Ga.
S. G. Holton, Lyons, Ga.
Irving Hyman, Alma, Ga.
E. B. Joyner, Alma, Ga.
Ralph Lightsey, Hazlehurst, Ga.
Tom Lightsey, Bristol, Ga.
Durward Long, Lake Butler, Fla.
Wyndall Long, Free Will Baptist Bible College, 3609 Richland Avenue, Nashville, Tenn.
George A. Ludwig, Glennville, Ga.
E. C. Morris, P. O. Box 553, Tifton, Ga.
Louis H. Moulton, 2354 Pine Tree Road, Savannah, Ga.
E. L. Paulk, Alma, Ga.
W. L. Purvis, Macon, Ga.
C. D. Rentz, Baxley, Ga.
Daniel L. Rivers, Lake Butler, Fla.
Sammy Wilkinson, Nashville, Tenn.
J. E. Wood, Jessup, Ga.

Licentiates

Clarence McMillan, Surrency, Ga.
Wilford Harden, Baxley, Ga.