# MINUTES

EIGHTIETH ANNUAL SESSION

SOUTH GEORGIA ASSOCIATION

of the

of Free Will Baptists

## MARIETTA CHURCH Lyons, Toombs County, Georgia September 20, 21, 1957

1958 session will be held at Deep Creek Church, Jenkins County, September 26, 27.



## MINUTES

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## SOUTH GEORGIA ASSOCIATION

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when convened at Marietta Church, Lyons, Georgia September 20, 21, 1957

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## GENERAL OFFICERS OF THE SOUTH GEORGIA ASSOCIATION

For the Year 1957-58

Moderator \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. Louis H. Moulton 2354 Pine Tree Road, Savannah, Georgia

Assistant Moderator \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. Durward Long Lake Butler, Florida

Clerk \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. Tom Hamilton Box 24, Glennville, Georgia

Assistant Clerk \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. Tom Lightsey Bristol, Georgia 

Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_\_ H. N. Baxter Glennville, Georgia

COMMITTEES

Executive Committee Lorice Eunice Bristol, Georgia

Ordaining Council	
Rev. Ralph Lightsey, Chairman	Hazlehurst, Georgia
Rev. Louis H. Moulton	
Rev. Tom Hamilton, Secretary	
Credentials Committee	
Frank Bennett	Coffee Georgia
Rev. Harris Nix	· •
Rev. Wilford Harden	
	Daxiey, Geoigia
Finance Committee	
H. N. Baxter	
J. B. Brigman	, 0
Grover Brewton	· · ·
Missions Committee	
Rev. Louis H. Moulton	
Rev. James Pelt	Glennville, Georgia
J. B. Brigman	
Woman's Auxiliairy	
President	Mrs. Irvin Hyman
Alma, Georgia	
Vice-President	Mrs. Willie Carter
Surrency, Georgia	
Secretary-Treasurer	Mrs. W. G. McLeod
Alma, Georgia	

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## Delegates

Alabaha - Mr. J. B. Thornton, Mrs. J. H. Rohrobough, Mrs. Bobby Thomas

Baxley - Mrs. Ruth Tuten, Mrs. C. D. Rentz

Bethel - Mr. and Mrs. Roy Osborn, Mrs. Emmett Butler

Brunswick - Mr. J. C. Brannen, Mr. H. G. Nichols

Cornith - Mrs. J. J. Carter, Mrs. Clayton Wade, Mrs. Luna White

Ebenezer - Mr. and Mrs. Fred Purcell, Mr. and Mrs. Grady Kennedy, Mrs. Butler Baxter

Deep Creek - Mr. Dewey Kent, Mr. George Wiggins, Mr. M. B. Duke Glennville - Mrs. Gladys Harrel, Mrs. Stella Knight, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Davidson, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Knight

Harmony - Mr. Robert Clyatt

Liberty - Mr. O. V. Taylor, Mr. Nat Winters

Lower Corinth - Mr. E. C. Collins, Mrs. Pearl Collins, Mrs. Lizzie Cain Metter - Mr. W. D. Mosley

Memorial - Mr. and Mrs. David Mann, Mr. and Mrs. William Rentz, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Mann, Mr. and Mrs. John F. Page, Mr. Willie Carter

Marietta - Mr. Jack Branch, Mr. Troy McLain, Mr. A. D. Mayo Sr., Mr. Lester Humphries, Mrs. Grace Lewis, De Elva McLain

Pine Level - Mr. J. B. Brigman, Mr. J. D. Johnson, Mrs. Irvin Hyman, Mrs. J. B. Brigman

Philadelphia - Mrs. Clarence McMillan

New Hope - Mrs. Clayton Westberry, Burnice Branner, Mr. Sal Mollard, Mr. and Mrs. Elix Pye

Oak Grove - Mrs. Ira Eason, Mr. P. F. McLain

Oak Hill - Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bennett, Mr. Wilford Taylor, Mrs. Dennis Smart

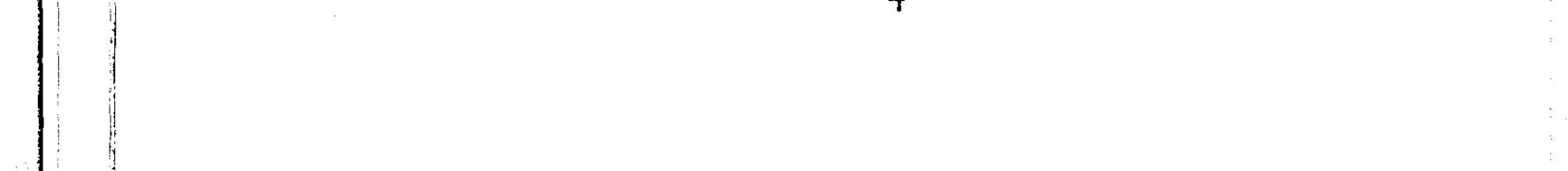
Piney Grove - Mr. Lorice Eunice, Mr. Hinton Harris, Mrs. Mary Lightsey

Satilla - Mr. R. F. Connell, Mr. Vernon Williams, Mrs. Sally McNair, Mrs. Ester Barlow, Mrs. Mamie Carter, Mr. Floyd Beecher, Mr. George Thompson

Savannah - Mrs. Dona Kate Harrell, Mr. I. J. Blanton

Spring Grove - Mrs. Irene Tyre, Mrs. Maggie Anderson, Sybil Williams, Ida Brewer, Juanita Dent, Dorthy Broadhurst, Ilee Chadwick

Stony Hill - Mr. Elmer Caison, Mr. McKinley Brown Zion - Mr. Gene Miller, Mrs. Geraldine Nix



## Proceedings

#### Friday Morning, September 20

The eightieth annual session of the South Georgia Association of Free Will Baptists was opened with singing under the direction of the Rev. Irvin Hyman. The opening hymns were, "At the Cross" and "Stand Up For Jesus." Mr. Wallace Knight led the congregation in the invocation.

Mr. Silas McClain extended a word of welcome to the association on behalf of Marietta Church.

The moderator, the Rev. Louis H. Moulton, read Ezekiel 18:20-32 and reminded the association of the need to warn men to turn from sin. The Christians were reminded of the importance of their taking up their own cross and follow Jesus Christ. He charged those comprising the convention to demonstrate Christianity in the businsess sessions.

The Rev. Raymond Riggs, Promotional Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board of the National Association, spoke on the theme, "Missions Defined."

The moderator recognized those visiting from other associations; those attending the convention were: The Rev. J. B. Wheeler, Little River Association; Rev. C. B. Dowdney, Midway; Rev. Emmett McDuffie, Martin; Rev. Raymond Riggs, Nashville, Tennessee; Rev. James M. Pelt, Florida; Mr. G. C. King, Chattahoochee Association. Twenty-two deacons were present.

The clerk read the requests of the Rev. James Pelt and the Rev. Emmett McDuffie relative to becoming members of the association.

Motion made, seconded and carried to adopt the program of the association and grant the moderator the privilege of making any necessary changes in order to expedite the convention.

Motion made, seconded and carried that the moderator appoint a person to serve on the credentials committee in the place of the Rev. Tom Hamilton who was serving as the clerk of the associational meeting.

Motion made, seconded and carried that the moderator appoint the resolutions committee and that the nominating committee be elected from the floor. The chair appointed the Rev. Clarence McMillan, chairman, Mr. O. V. Taylor and Mr. Lorice Eunice to comprise the resolutions committee.

The floor was opened for nominations to the nominating committee. The Rev. Wilford Harden, Rev. E. C. Morris and Mr. Willie Carter were nominated. Motion made, seconded and carried that the nominations cease and proceed to elect the nominees by acclamation.

The moderator appointed Mr. Troy McClain and the Rev. Harris Nix to serve on the credentials committee. Motion made, seconded and carried to receive the letters of the churches and seat the delegates and any who might come later.

The Rev. Irvin Hyman directed the congregation as they sang "Heavenly

Sunshine" and "Trust and Obey." The morning speaker, the Rev. James Pelt, Glennville, Georgia, was introduced by the moderator. Mr. Pelt spoke on the subject, "The Why of Missions." Following the message, the hymn, "Rescue the Perishing," was sung and Mr. Brit Brigman closed the service with prayer.

Tom Hamilton and Durward Long were appointed to serve on the ordaining council in the absence of two of the members.

#### Friday Afternoon, September 20

The session was begun with the congregation singing "Jesus Saves" and "Saviour, Like a Shepherd." The Rev. Durward Long read a portion of 1 Corinthians 15 and emphasized the necessity of adhering to the Word of God lest we believe and live in vain. He led the group in prayer.

Dr. L. C. Johnson, president of Free Will Baptist Bible College, was recognized and spoke on "Christian Education." An offering amounting to \$82.13 was received for the Bible College.

The Rev. E. C. Morris, Promotional Secretary of the State Association, gave a report and issued certificates to the churches who were on the "Grand Honor Roll" and the "Junior Honor Roll." Motion made, seconded and carried to adopt the report.

Nine ministers stood and pledged that they would lead their churches in giving \$100 to the Bible College expansion program.

' The report of the South Georgia District Woman's Auxiliary Convention was given by the president, Mrs. Irvin Hyman. Motion made, seconded and carried to adopt the report.

The moderator appointed Mr. Grady Kennedy to serve on the finance committee.

The report of the missions committee was given by the Rev. Louis H. Moulton. Motion made, seconded and carried to receive the report. Motion made, seconded and carried to continue the missions committee.

Motion made, seconded and carried to adopt the report of the ordaining council.

Motion made, seconded and carried to receive the report of the resolutions committee and consider the items one by one. Motion made, seconded and carried to adopt item one (1). Motion to adopt item two (2) after being amended by the addition of the words: "to bring a written report." Motion made, seconded and carried to table the entire matter relating to item two (2).

A report of the National Association was given by the Rev. Tom Hamilton.

The following volunteered to act as delegates to the State Association: Mrs. Stella Knight, Mrs. E. C. Morris, Mrs. I. V. Branch, Mrs. Otis Harrell and Mrs. Irvin Hyman.

The report of the ministerial card committee was given by the Rev. Irvin Hyman. It was moved and seconded to adopt the report. Motion



made, seconded and carried to amend the motion by the addition of the words: "that the association assume the financial obligations in the printing of the cards." Motion made, seconded and carried to adopt the motion as amended.

Motion made, seconded and carried that the ordaining council be charged with the responsibility of issuing the cards to the ministers.

Motion made, seconded and carried that the constitutional revision committee, comprised by the executive committee, be retained and requested to bring a report to the association next year.

The credentials report was given. Motion made, seconded and carried to adopt the report.

Motion made, seconded and carried that the executive committee furnish the association with a proposed budget for the 1958 session.

Motion made, seconded and carried to decide on the placement of the 1958 session of the assocaition. Motion made, seconded and carried to go to Deep Creek Church in 1958.

Motion made, seconded and carried to adopt the finance committee's report.

The association was declared adjourned until 9:00 a.m. Saturday.

#### Friday Evening, September 20

The evening service was opened by singing under the direction of Mr. Troy McClane. A special number in song was rendered by Amelia and Brenda McClane. The speaker for the evening was the Rev. Wyndall Long. Mr. Long used Romans 12:1-18 as the basis for the message. The benediction was pronounced by the Rev. C. D. Rentz.

#### Saturday Morning, September 21

The Rev. Irvin Hyman led the congregation in the singing of several hymns. A season of prayer, under the direction of the moderator, was participated in by several of the delegates to the convention.

Motion made, seconded and carried that the missions committee investigate the two pieces of property offered as sites for a future Free Will Baptist church at Alma, Georgia, and that they work with the State Mission Board in determining what can be done about beginning a work at Alma.

Motion made and seconded to take from the table item two (2) of the resolutions committee report. Motion made, seconded and carried to table the item until next year and appoint a committee to study and bring a report to the next association. The committee appointed was: Rev. Ralph Lightsey, Rev. C. D. Rentz and Rev. Irvin Hyman.

Motion made, seconded and carried to give a rising vote of thanks to Marietta Church for being host to the association.

The report of the nominating committee was given by the Rev. E. C. Morris. Motion made, seconded and carried to accept the report. Motion made, seconded and carried that the moderator call each office to be filled.

and ask for nominations. There being no nominations from the floor, motion made, seconded and carried to elect by acclamation the nominees submitted by the nominating committee. (See report.)

Motion made, seconded and carried that the association stand in memory of those who died during the past year.

Motion made, seconded and carried to adjourn.

The morning worship service was opened with the singing of the hymns, "Work for the Night is Coming," "Stand Up for Jesus" and "Blessed Assurance." A special number in song, "Did You Think to Pray," was rendered by Mrs. Irvin Hyman and Miss Elyse Bennett.

The guest speaker for the morning worship service was the Rev. Raymond Riggs, promotional secretary of the National Foreign Mission Board. The Rev. Riggs spoke on the subject, "The How and What of Missions." The service was closed with prayer.

## Reports of Committees

REPORT OF THE MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Several churches responded to the church extension program which was proposed and adopted last year. A toal of \$219.00 was contributed. The Brunswick Church was given \$100.00 leaving a total balance of \$118.98. It is suggested and urged by this committee that each of our churches continue the dollar per member per year contribution to the church extension program.

Louis H. Moulton, Chairman George Ludwig J. B. Brigman

### REPORT OF THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

We, the resolutions committee, offer the following resolution:

1. Resolved, that each church send the names of the deceased members with their letters to the association, and that a memorial service directed by the moderator be held immediately following the reading of the list of those who died during the past year.

> Respectfully submitted, Clarence McMillan, Chairman Lorice Eunice O. V. Taylor

#### REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We, your nominating committee, offer the following nominees for offices of the association:

Moderator, Rev. Louis H. Moulton; assistant moderator, Rev. Durward Long; clerk, Rev. Tom Hamilton; assistant clerk, Rev. Tom Lightsey; treasurer, Mr. H. N. Baxter.



Executive Committee: Mr. Wallace Knight, Mr. Lorice Eunice.

Ordaining Council: Rev. Louis H. Moulton, Rev. Ralph Lightsey, Rev. Tom Hamilton

Credentials Committee: Mr. Frank Bennett, Rev. Harris Nix, Rev. Wilford Harden.

Finance Committee: Mr. H. N. Baxter, Mr. J. B. Brigman, Mr. Grover Bruton.

Missions Committee: Rev. Louis H. Moulton, Rev. James Pelt, Mr. J. B. Brigman.

Committee, Wilford Harden, Chairman W. N. Carter E. C. Morris

#### REPORT OF THE ORDAINING COUNCIL

We, your ordaining council, have examined the Rev. Sammy Wilkinson, the Rev. James Pelt and the Rev. Emmett McDuffie; we recommend that the above mentioned ones be received into the fellowship of the association as members. We also recommend that the moderator extend the hand of fellowship to the same for the association.

#### Respectfully submitted, Louis H. Moulton, Chairman Durward Long Tom Hamilton

#### REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

In Treasury From Last Year Received From Churches		\$ 12.14 253.00
Total		\$265.14
Disbursements		
Minutes State Association State Association for National Treasurer Moderator Clerk Supplies, Rev. Irvin Hyman Unified Program Camp Mt. Bethel	\$130.00 20.00 5.00 5.00 10.00 15.00 7.83 25.00 25.00	
Total Disbursements		242.83
Balance in Treasury		\$ 22.31

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				W. T. DeLoach, Blackshear, (
Baxley	Appling	C. D. Rentz	C. D. Kentz	Henry Herndon, Baxley, Ca.
Bethel	Appling	C. N. Burroughs	Wendell Long	Mrs. Beatrice Orvin, Rt. 2, Ba
Brunswick	Glynn	David Hutchinson .		Mrs. Eleanor Owens, 3308 Robrur Mrs. Clayton Wade, Rt. 2, Al
Corinth	Bacon	E. J. Williams	Elzie Franks	Mrs. Clayton Wade, Rt. 2, Al
Deep Creek	Jenkins	Thomas Collins	Thomas Collins	Mrs. Estelle Brinson, Millen, (
Ebenezer	Tattnall	Tom Hamilton	Tom Hamilton	W. M. Purcell, Glennville, GL
				Barnie Baxter, Glennville, Ga
Harmony	Union	Durward Long	Durward Long	K. M. Clyatt, Lake Butler, Flammer
Liberty	Coffee	Wilford Harden	Wilford Harden	O. V. Taylor, West Green, Gamma
Lower Corinth	Emanuel	J. B. Wheeler	T. H. Collins	W. D. Mosley, Lyons, Ga.
Marietta	Toombs	E. C. Moris	E. C. Morris	Mrs. A. L. McLain, Box 303, 1
Memorial	Appling	C. B. Dowdney	Emmett McDuffie	Willie M. Carter, Surrency, G
				Mrs. Floyd Beasley, Metter, C
New Hope	Wayne	Wilford Harden[	J. R. Graham	Bernice Brannen, Rt. 3, Jesup
Oak Grove	Appling	Emmett McDuffie	Emmett McDuffie	Mrs. Lucille Eason, Rt. 2, Ba.
Oak Hill	Bacon	Tom Lightsey	Tom Lightsey	Zeak Steedly, Rt. 3, Alma, Ga
Philadelphia	Charlton	C. L. McMillan	C. L. McMillan	S. M. Altman, Folkstown, Ga
Pine Level	Bacon	Irvin Hyman	Irvin Hyman	Mrs. Vera Wheeler, Rt. 4, Alr
Piney Grove	Appling	C. D. Rentz	Windell Long	Inez Brannen, Bristol, Ga.
Satilla	Jeff Davis	Ralph Lightsey	Ralph Lightsey	Mrs. Melvin Carter, Hazlehurs
Spring Grove[	Wayne	J. E. Woods	Sammy Wilkinson	Mrs. Irene B. Tyre, Jesup, Ga
Savannah	Chatham	Louis H. Moulton	Louis H. Moulton	Harold K. Swain Jr, 2117 N.I D
				Elmer Caison, Glennville, Ga
				Bertie Davis, Rt. 3. Ludowici,



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#### Members Received Lost This Year Lost This Year Died Total Membership Paid Pastor Funds to Association Funds to Association Value of Church Property Value of Church Property Missions Missions Program

### L REPORT OF CHURCHES

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Meeting Days

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Brunswick, Ga.	11	1		24	373.00			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	 		55.00 Full Time
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	14	[		132	1,009.56	10.00	5,000				88.73 1 - 3
	13	5		173	3,205.00		45,000	264.71	69.00		200.00 Full Time
	4	6		161			50,000	480.00	136.25		250.00 Full Time
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d Dr., Savannah, Ga	80	12	1	230	4,200.00	10.00	35,000	480.00	1,116.52		[ 300.00[Full Time
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We regret that our funds are not sufficient to send donations to our old retried ministers and widows.

> H. N. Baxter, Chairman J. B. Brigman W. G. Kennedy

#### REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

We, the credentials committee, beg leave to submit the following report: There are twenty-five churches with a total membership of 2,400 representing by letter. Received during the year were 45 by baptism. The number lost by death and letter totaled 103. There were 10 Sunday schools reported with a membership of 788. Four leagues were reported with a membership of 241. Five woman's auxiliaries were accounted for with a membership of 88.

We were unable to make a full report due to incomplete reports.

Respectfully submitted, Harris Nix, Chairman Troy McLain C. D. Rentz

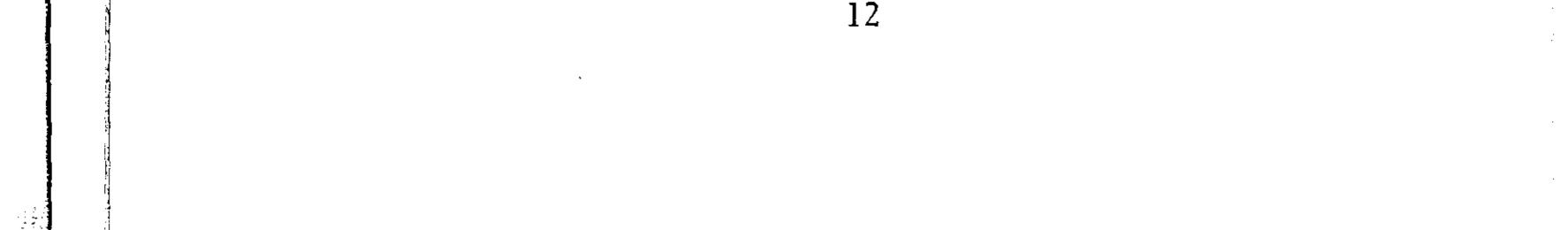
#### REPORT OF THE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION

The Woman's Auxiliary of the South Georgia District met at Pine Level Church, Saturday, September 7, 1957. The meeting was opened by singing the hymn, "Christ for the World We Sing." Prayer was offered by Mrs. Irvin Hyman. The president, Mrs. Irvin Hyman, greeted and welcomed the group to the convention. The morning devotion was given by Mrs. R. F. Connell, reading John 12:21. Prayer was by Rev. Luther Gibson, Teuplo, Mississippi. The business meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. Irvin Hyman. The president appointed a credentials committee. Those serving were: Mrs. Hermon Douglas, chairman; Mrs. Ralph Lightsey; Mrs. Lucy Rigdon. The president's message was encouraging the auxiliaries to support foreign missions and getting the gospel out.

There were eight auxiliaries representing at the convention. Those answering the roll call were: Baxley, Ebenezer, Glennville, Harmony, Memorial, Pine Level and Satilla.

The credentials committee's report was given and accepted. The president appointed the following committees: Finance committee: Mrs. Hermon Douglas, Mrs. Aldeen Baxter, Mrs. R. F. Connell; resolutions committee: Mrs. E. C. Davidson, Mrs. Delora Johnson, Mrs. Vera Clyatt. Nominating committee was elected by the body, those elected were Mrs. G. W. Quinn and Mrs. Wilson Fussell.

Motion made and carried to seat the delegates. The minutes of the executive meeting was read and approved. A motion was made and passed that we accept the resolutions given by the executive committee and vote on them one at a time. The resolutions are as follows that were voted upon and adopted: 1. That the resolution of the National Convention be adopt-



ed by our local auxiliaries. 2. That a resolutions committee be appointed at this convention. 3. That our district convention officers be elected to serve a two year term. 4. That Mrs. Hermon Douglas be elected to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. Cliff Anderson. 5. That our district officers be paid five cents per mile to our executive meetings and to our field secretary in connection with organizing new auxiliaries.

By appointment of the president, the Satilla Auxiliary is to have charge of the resolutions for the 1958 convention.

Officers for the ensuing year are as follows: Mrs. Irvin Hyman, president; Mrs. Willie Carter, vice-president; Mrs. W. G. McLeod, secretarytreasurer; Mrs. Hermon Douglas, assistant secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Barbara Rentz, youth chairman; Mrs. E. C. Davidson, stewardship-prayer chairman; Mrs. Ralph Lightsey, personal service chairman; Mrs. Gladys Harrell, study course chairman; Mrs. C. D. Rentz, field secretary; Mrs. Gaines Quinn, corresponding secretary.

Total funds from auxiliaries was \$71. An offering of \$20.25 was received. A recommendation was made that we send \$56.80 to the state association for dues. From the resolutions committee comes the following report: That each local auxiliary take a freewill love offering for our own Miss Laura Belle Barnard. This offering is to be sent to Miss Barnard in India not later than October 15.

A very interesting program was rendered by our ladies from the local auxiliaries. The convention theme was "We Would See Jesus." Our hymn singing was led by the Rev. James Pelt of Glennville. Those on the program were: Mrs. E. C. Davidson, Mrs. Stella Knight, Mrs. Ocalla Fussel, Mrs. Barbara Rentz and Rev. Durward Long brought the morning message. A very impressive installation service was supervised by Mrs. Durward Long.

The next convention will convene with the Glennville Church. The convention was dismissed with prayer by Mrs. Lola Hand.

Number of auxiliaries reporting, 13; enrollment, 119; number new members, 19; number lost, 19; average attendance, 68; number G.T.A.'s, 3; with membership, 41; Y.P.A.'s, 3; with membership, 31; vacation Bible schools assisted in, 3; number Bible College students assisted, 2; number of members contributing to missions, 79; number tithers, 48; amount sent to co-laborer fund, \$46; Easter offering for foreign missions, \$48.58; Thanksgiving offering for State Home Missions, \$40.84; Christmas offering for National Home Missions, \$51.73; cash gifts to orphanage, \$130; cash gifts to Free Will Baptist Bible College, \$30; total amount spent for auxiliary literature, \$127.46; total sent for Dot Harvey Loan Fund, \$12; total amount sent for state workshop, \$5; amount for Camp, \$33; amount for Volena Wilson, \$9.08; total amount spent for local church activities, \$1,310.74; Total per capita fee sent to W.N.A.C., \$71.

Study courses conducted, 20; number daily Bible readers, 49; number family altars, 26; number special programs, 9; weeks of prayer conducted, 17; self-denial offering, \$84.10; special offerings, \$438.62.

#### **OBITUARY REPORT**

Satilla Church - Mrs. Lawrence Beecher, Mr. J. T. Hugher, Mr. Elzie Bullard, Mr. Matthew Beecher and Mr. S. C. Smith.

Pine Level - Mr. Tom Johnson.

Ebenezer - Mrs. Jewel Anderson, Mrs. Mattie Franklin.

Metter - Mrs. Ethel Hubbard.

Corinth - Mrs. Mollie Williams.

#### MINISTERIAL ROLL

#### Ordained

W. C. Coleman, Route 3, Baxley, Georgia

G. W. Colins, Lyons, Georgia

E. B. Duckworth, Cochrane Field, Macon, Georgia

J. L. Dukes, Route 3, Jesup, Georgia

J. R. Graham, Jesup, Georgia

C. H. Hadden, Twin City, Georgia

Thomas G. Hamilton, Box 24, Glennville, Georgia

Wilford Harden, Baxley, Georgia

S. G. Holton, Lyons, Georgia

Irvin Hyman, Alma, Georgia Ralph Lightsey, Hazlehurst, Georgia Tom Lightsey, Bristol, Georgia Durward Long, Lake Butler, Florida Wyndall Long, Surrency, Georgia Clarence McMillan, Folkstown, Georgia Harris Nix, Jesup, Georgia Louis H. Moulton, 2354 Pine Tree Road, Savannah, Ga. James M. Pelt, Glennville, Georgia C. D. Rentz, Baxley, Georgia Emmett McDuffie, Surrency, Georgia Sammy Wilkinson, Jesup, Georgia

#### SUPERANNUATED MINISTERS Ordained

E. B. Joyner, Alma, Georgia E. L. Paulk, Alma, Georgia

#### LICENTIATES

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Larry Iddins, 3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tennessee



## 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 would 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 Sprit 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 perserve 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, wor-ship, 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 abstrain 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."

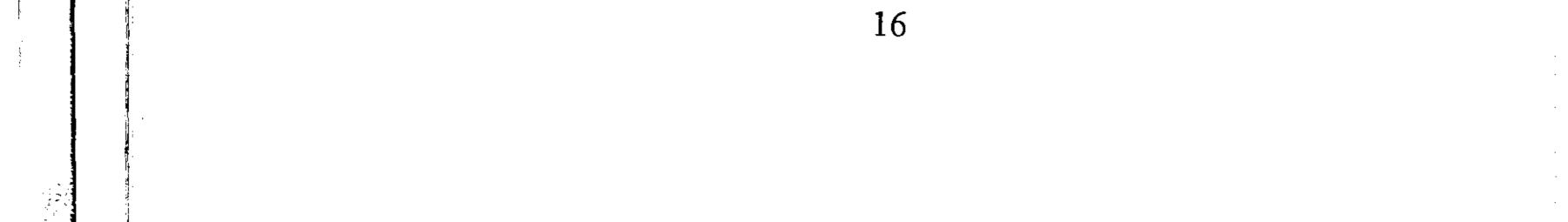
We agree faithfully to dischage our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions and social worship; and by self-denial, faith and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

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 the moderator of the church. In the absence of the pastor, the chairman of the deacon board or someone appointd 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 acknowledgments. (4) Call for old or deferred business. (5) Call for new business. (6) Call for miscellaneous business.

 $\sqrt{6}$ . 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.

 $\sqrt{8}$ . Members shall be received into the church by the unanimous consent of the members present.

9. If memebrs 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 that church that they have sincerely repented of their former evils.

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12. A vote shall not be taken upon questions without a move and 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 the administration of the Lord's Supper and washing of the saints' feet at least once a year.

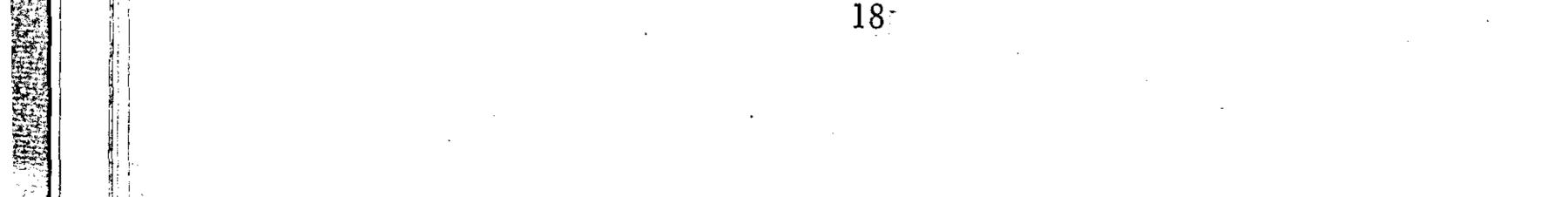
20. All members, participating in the communion service, should be in fellowship with the church. All Christians should be invited to partake of the Lord's Supper with us (1 Corinthians 11:28).

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.

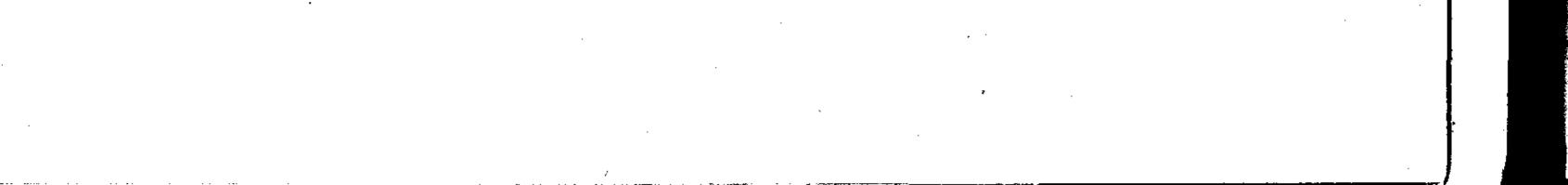
10. No member shall absent himself during the session without permission from the presiding officer, and none shall take final leave of absence without permission from the body.

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.

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## Association

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. Is have done in the property 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. Church 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 this 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 bylaws, 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.

