

MINUTES

of the

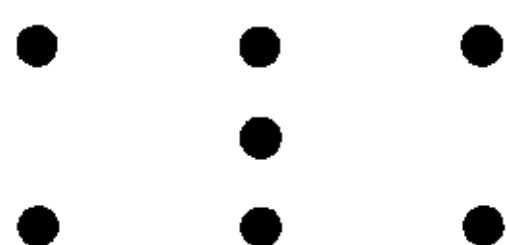
EIGHTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

of the

SOUTH GEORGIA ASSOCIATION

of

FREE WILL BAPTISTS



when convened at

Deep Creek Church, Jenkins County

September 26, 27, 1958

1959 session will be held at Satilla Church,

Jeff Davis County, September 25, 26.

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EIGHTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION
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SOUTH GEORGIA ASSOCIATION
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FREE WILL BAPTISTS

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GENERAL OFFICERS OF THE SOUTH GEORGIA ASSOCIATION

For the Year 1958-59

Moderator Rev. Ralph Lightsey
Hazlehurst, Georgia

Assistant Moderator Rev. Damon Dodd
2354 Pine Tree Road, Savannah, Georgia

Clerk Rev. Tom Hamilton
Box 24, Glennville, Georgia

Assistant Clerk Frank Steedley
Waycross, Georgia

Treasurer Rev. Wilford Harden
Baxley, Georgia

COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

Wallace Knight Glennville, Georgia
Lorice Eunice Bristol, Georgia

Ordaining Council

Rev. Ralph Lightsey, *Chairman* Hazlehurst, Georgia
Rev. C. D. Rentz Baxley, Georgia
Rev. Tom Hamilton, *Secretary* Glennville, Georgia

Finance Committee

H. N. Baxter Glennville, Georgia
J. B. Brigman Alma, Georgia
W. D. Mosley Lyons, Georgia

Credentials Committee

Frank Bennett Coffee, Georgia
Rev. Harris Nix Jesup, Georgia
Rev. Wilford Harden Baxley, Georgia

Missions Committee

Rev. Damon Dodd Savannah, Georgia
Rev. James Pelt Glennville, Georgia
J. B. Brigman Alma, Georgia

Woman's Auxiliary

President Mrs. Damon Dodd
2354 Pine Tree Road, Savannah, Georgia

Vice-President Mrs. Willie Carter
Surrency, Georgia

Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. W. G. McLeod
Alma, Georgia

DELEGATES

Alabaha—Mrs. G. C. Brewton, Mrs. S. B. Allen, Mrs. J. H. Rohrbough, Mrs. J. B. Thornton

Baxley—By Letter

Bethel—Mr. and Mrs. Francis Johnson, Mr. Emmett Butler

Brunswick—Mrs. Leon Brown, Mrs. J. C. Brannen

Corinth—By Letter

Deep Creek—Mr. Ben Bennett, R. G. Oglesby, G. A. Wiggins, Tom Powel, Marvin Drake

Ebenezer—W. N. Purcell, Grady Kennedy

Glennville—Mrs. Ossie DeLoach, Mrs. Marvin Kicklighter, Mrs. Stella Knight, Mr. and Mrs. B. G. Rogers, Mr. Wallace Knight

Liberty—By Letter

Lower Corinth—W. D. Mosley, Leon Findley, E. C. Collins

Metter—Floyd Beasley, Ralph Lively, Mr. and Mrs. Perry Rigdon, Mrs. Myrtise Rigdon

Harmony—

Marietta—A. D. Mayo, Silas McLain, Lester Humphries, Tom Wiggins, Mrs. D. Elva McLain

Memorial—David Mann, George Rentz, Jesse McMillan, Byron Mann, W. N. Carter

New Hope—Sal Mallard

Oak Grove—Mr. and Mrs. Lacy Hart, Mr. and Mrs. P. H. McLain

Oak Hill—Mr. and Mrs. McKinley Steedley, Sister Willene Williams

Philadelphia—Harry Chessser, Sister Neta Chessser

Pine Level—J. Britt Brigman, Alton Cauley, Bill McLeod

Piney Grove—By Letter

Satilla—Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Williams, Grover Herrington, Sam Carter

Savannah—By Letter

Spring Grove—Mrs. James Q. White, James Q. White, Mrs. S. L. Wilkinson

Stoney Hill—By Letter

White Hall—F. H. Steedley, Mrs. F. H. Steedley, Mrs. Geneva Parker, Mrs. Alene Crawford, P. J. Jarrad

Zion—Mrs. P. N. Ryals, Miss Lola Mae Ryals, Mrs. Harris Nix

PROCEEDINGS

Friday Morning, September 26

The eighty-first annual session of the South Georgia Association of Free Will Baptists was opened with singing under the direction of the Rev. James Pelt and the Rev. Emory Corbitt accompanying at the piano. The opening hymn was, "Stand Up for Jesus."

The morning devotional was conducted by the Rev. Wilford Harden.

Motion made, seconded and carried to elect the Rev. Ralph Lightsey, chairman pro tem, to serve in the absence of the moderator, Rev. Durward Long.

The Rev. V. L. Pritchett extended a word of welcome to the association on behalf of Deep Creek Church. The response was made by Mr. J. B. Brigman.

Motion made, seconded and carried to empower the chair with the authority to appoint a person or persons to fill the vacancy or vacancies on any standing board or committee for the setting of this association. The following were appointed to serve on various committees: resolutions committee, Rev. Damon Dodd, Mr. Jessie Hart and Mr. Bill McLeod; credentials committee, Vernon Williams; finance committee, McKinley Steedley.

The chair declared the floor open for nominations to form the nominating committee. Those nominated and elected were: Rev. Emory Corbitt, Rev. Emmett McDuffy and Mr. Alton Cauley.

White Hall Church of Waycross, Georgia, presented a letter petitioning for membership in the association. Motion made, seconded and carried to accept the church into the association contingent upon a letter of dismissal from the Little River Association.

Motion made, seconded and carried to receive the Rev. Damon Dodd and the Rev. Emory Corbitt into the fellowship of the association, and the moderator to extend the hand of fellowship for the body.

Motion made, seconded and carried that the delegates present be seated, and that those coming in later during the session also be seated upon arrival.

Visitors were recognized by the moderator and were as follows: Rev. and Mrs. E. C. Morris, Rev. V. L. Pritchett, Georgia Union Association; Rev. J. B. Wheeler, Little River Association; Miss Laura Bell Barnard, senior missionary to India.

The Rev. Jim Pelt led the congregation in the singing of hymns, "I Am Thine, O Lord" and "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus." The speaker for the morning worship service, Miss Laura Bell Barnard, was introduced by the moderator. The theme for the message was, "Walking in the Spirit." The service was concluded with prayer by the moderator.

Friday Afternoon, September 26

The session was begun with the congregation singing, "Sweet Hour of

Prayer," under the direction of Rev. Jim Pelt. The Rev. Sammy Wilkinson discussed the subject. "The Holy Spirit and Prayer."

The Rev. E. C. Morris, promotional secretary of the State Association, spoke on "Promoting Christ's Cause," and issued certificates to the churches who were on the "Grand Honor Roll" and the "Junior Honor Roll." Oak Grove Church was presented a gift by the promotional secretary in recognition of their exemplary giving.

The hymn, "Footsteps of Jesus," was sung by the congregation.

The report of the finance committee was given by H. N. Baxter. Motion made, seconded and carried to accept the report.

Motion made, seconded and carried that Brother Carl Baker be examined by the ordaining council. The matter referred to the council.

Motion made, seconded and carried that the chair appoint a committee to work out the details of a plan to aid the state camp board in defraying the expenses of the state association.

Motion made, seconded and carried to adjourn. Rev. Wilford Harden prayed the benediction.

Friday Evening, September 26

The evening service was opened with the congregation singing several hymns under the direction of the Rev. V. L. Pritchett. "The Redeemed Speak," a praise service, was under the direction of Rev. Clarence McMillan. The key-note message was delivered by the Rev. Damon Dodd. His subject was in keeping with the theme of the association, "The Deity and Personality of the Holy Spirit."

Saturday Morning, September 27

The Rev. Jim Pelt led the congregation in the singing of the hymn, "Bring Them In." The Rev. Harris Nix directed the association in a season of prayer.

Motion made, seconded and carried to accept the report of the credentials committee. A memorial prayer in memory of the Rev. Thomas Collins, deceased pastor of Deep Creek, was prayed by the Rev. E. C. Morris.

Motion made, seconded and carried to accept the report of the special committee on ministerial reports to the association.

The report of the ordaining council was given orally by Rev. Ralph Lightsey. Motion made, seconded and carried to accept the report.

The committee appointed by the chair to present a plan of finance to aid the camp board in providing for the state association was given by the Rev. E. C. Morris, chairman. Motion made, seconded and carried to accept the report.

Motion made, seconded and carried to receive the resolutions committee's report for discussion and to adopt the recommendations item by item. Motions made, seconded and carried to adopt items one, two and three. Motion made, seconded and carried to ammend item four by the

addition of the words, "to begin in 1960." Motion made, seconded and carried to adopt item five.

Motion made, seconded and carried that the South Georgia Association petition the Georgia State Association to extend an invitation to the National Association to held the 1961 session in Savannah, Georgia, and to let this be a yearly procedure until the invitation is accepted.

The Rev. James Pelt gave a verbal report for the mission committee. Motion made, seconded and carried to accept the report.

Motion made, seconded and carried to accept the final report of the finance committee.

Delegates to the Georgia State Association were appointed and are as follows: Vernon Williams, J. A. McClure, Bill McCloud, W. D. Mosley, Mrs. Harris Nix and J. B. Brigman. Appointed to the National Association were Gail Rhoads and Mrs. Lucille Grizzard.

Motion made, seconded and carried to retain the constitutional revision committee comprised by the executive committee of the association.

Tom Hamilton, H. N. Baxter and Ralph Lightsey were appointed to the budget committee. Motion made, seconded and carried that the budget committee bring a report to the 1959 session.

Mrs. Bill McCloud gave the report of the Woman's Auxiliary Convention. Motion made, seconded and carried to accept the report as information.

Motion made, seconded and carried to accept the report of the nominating committee. Motion made, seconded and carried to elect the nominees of the committee.

Rev. James Pelt sang, "Satisfied with Jesus."

Motion made, seconded and carried to accept the invitation of Satilla Church as the site of the 1959 session of the association.

Motion made, seconded and carried to adjourn the business session of the association and meet with Satilla Church in 1959.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

REPORT OF THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

We, the resolutions committee, prayerfully submit the following recommendations for your consideration:

1. That the credentials committee be charged with the responsibility of having one of its members seated at the registration table on the opening day of the association to receive the letters from the various churches as the delegates and ministers register and that the letters be submitted to said credentials committee representative at that time.

2. Realizing the urgent need of employing every conceivable means of affording our children with religious training and education through both

the home and the church, we recommend: (1) That the practice of Bible reading and prayer in the home as a family group be adopted by each of our Free Will Baptist families in the South Georgia Association. (2) That each church in our association plan and conduct a daily vacation Bible school at sometime during the school vacation months in 1959.

3. Whereas, a concerted effort is being made to pay off the indebtedness incurred by the Free Will Baptist Bible College in its expansion program; and whereas, December 17 and 18 have been designated as the days for climaxing of this campaign; and, whereas, each church has been asked to make a special offering for this purpose; therefore we recommend, that each church take this matter under advisement and make as liberal an offering as possible for this worthy cause.

4. In the matter of a meeting place for the South Georgia Association, we recommend that the churches be assigned the privilege of entertaining the association in order of the alphabetical occurrence in the roll of the churches as listed by the clerk, subject to the concurrence of the church in the matter.

5. We finally recommend that this association express its thanks and appreciation by a standing vote to the following: (1) To Deep Creek Church and the community for so royally entertaining this session of the association; (2) to the officers of the association for their efficiency and faithfulness displayed in the performance of their duties; (3) to everyone who rendered a service by appearing on the program.

Damon C. Dodd, *Chairman*

Lacy Hart

W. G. McLeod

REPORT OF MINISTERS' REPORT COMMITTEE

Since we have given careful and prayerful attention to the matter of ministers reporting at the association, we feel that it would be a waste of valuable time and that it would incur too much expense for the association to carry the reports in the minutes. Therefore, we recommend that the matter be dropped.

Ralph Lightsey

C. D. Rentz

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL AID FOR STATE ASSOCIATION

We, your committee on financial aid for the State Association, suggest the following amounts for each church to send in for the care of the State Association at Camp Mt. Bethel for the 1958 session: Alabama, \$3.50; Baxley, \$2.50; Bethel, \$5; Brunswick, \$2.50; Corinth, \$5; Deep Creek, \$9; Ebenezer, \$12; Glennville, \$12; Harmony, \$10; Liberty, \$2.50; Lower Corinth, \$5; Marietta, \$10; Memorial, \$15; Metter, \$5; New Hope, \$5; Oak Grove, \$5; Oak Hill, \$6; Philadelphia, \$10; Pine Level, \$10; Satilla Church, \$15; Spring

Grove, \$10; Savannah, \$15; Stony Hill, \$6; Zion, \$3; White Hall \$5; the total amount suggested, \$197.00.

Committee,
Rev. E. C. Morris
Rev. C. D. Rentz
Rev. Emmett McDuffie

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

We, the credentials committee, beg leave to submit the following report:

There are 24 churches with a total membership of 2,298 representing by letter. Received during the year were 221 by baptism and letter. The number lost by death and letter were 152. There were 24 Sunday schools reported with a membership of 1,886. Twelve leagues were reported with a membership of 718. Twelve woman's auxiliaries were accounted for with a membership of 240. The financial figures will be listed in the statistical and financial report.

Committee,
Rev. Harris Nix, *Chairman*
Rev. Wilford Harden
Vernon Williams

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

In Treasury from Last Year	\$ 54.28
Received from Churches	245.00
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Total	\$299.28

Disbursements

Minutes	\$130.00
State Association	20.00
State Association for National	5.00
Treasurer	5.00
Moderator	10.00
Clerk	15.00
Supplies	5.25
Unified Program	25.00
Camp Mt. Bethel	30.00
Free Will Baptist Bible College	30.00
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Total Disbursements	\$280.25
	<hr/>
Balance in Treasury	\$ 19.03
Stony Hill, \$10.00; Brunswick, \$5	15.00

STATISTICAL AND FIN. REP

Church	County	1959 Pastor	1958 Pastor	
Alabaha	Pierce	Windell Long	V. L. Pritchett	S. D. Harrison, Blacksgia
Baxley	Appling	C. D. Rentz	C. D. Rentz	Henry M. Herndon, P.9, Baxle
Bethel	Appling	Tom Lightsey	Windell Long	Miss Dorothy Orvin, Rey, Geo
Brunswick	Glynn	J. L. Grizzard	J. L. Grizzard	Mrs. D. T. Owens, 330 Road, F
Corinth	Bacon	James Ursrey	Elzie Franks	Mrs. Clayton Wade, Ea, Geo
Deep Creek	Jenkins		Thomas Collins	Miss Estelle Brinson, Ren, Geo
Ebenezer	Tattnall	Tom Hamilton	Tom Hamilton	W. N. Purcell, Glennviga
Glennville	Tattnall	James C. Pelt	James C. Pelt	Barnie Baxter, Glennviga
Harmony	Union	Durward Long	Durward Long	K. M. Clyatt, Lake Bida
Liberty	Coffee	Wilford Harden	Wilford Harden	Mrs. Fernell
Lower Corinth	Emanuel		T. H. Collins	W. D. Mosley, Lyons
Marietta	Toombs	V. L. Pritchett	V. L. Pritchett	Mrs. A. L. McLain, P.303, L
Memorial	Appling	Emmett McDuffie	Emmett McDuffie	W. M. Carter, Surrenda
Metter	Chandler	Carl Baker	G. S. Holton	Mrs. Floyd Beasley, P. 75, Me
New Hope	Wayne	Wilford Harden	J. R. Graham	Mrs. Marjorie Westben Odum,
Oak Grove	Appling	Emmett McDuffie	Emmett McDuffie	Mrs. Lucille Eason, Rley, Geo
Oak Hill	Bacon	James Ursrey	Tom Lightsey	Zeak Steedly, Rt. 3, Borgia
Philadelphia	Charlton	Clarence McMillan	Clarence McMillan	S. M. Altman Jr., Foborgia
Pine Level	Bacon	C. A. Huckaby	Irvin Hyman	Mrs. Vera C. Wheeler, x 61, A
Piney Grove	Appling	Windell Long	Windell Long	Mrs. Inez Brannen, Borgia
Satilla	Jeff Davis	Ralph Lightsey	Ralph Lightsey	J. E. Hutto, Hazlehurst
Spring Grove	Wayne	Sammy Wilkinson	Sammy Wilkinson	Icie C. Reddish, Rt. 3, Georgia
Savannah	Chatham	Damon C. Dodd	Louis H. Moulton	John W. Motley, 2103 reet, Sa
Stony Hill	Tattnall	Tom Hamilton	Tom Hamilton	Elmer Caison, Glennviga
Zion	Long	Harris Nix	Harris Nix	Mrs. Bertie Davis, Rt wici, Ge
White Hall	Ware	Emory Corbett	Emory Corbett	Mrs. Annie Davis, 103 Ave.,

Total Balance

\$ 34.03

Committee,
H. N. Baxter
J. B. Brigman
W. M. Steedley

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

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

Moderator, Rev. Ralph Lightsey; assistant moderator, Rev. Damon Dodd; clerk, Rev. Tom Hamilton; assistant clerk, Frank Steedley; treasurer, Rev. Wilford Harden.

Executive Committee: Wallace Knight and Lorice Eunice.

Ordaining Council: Rev. Ralph Lightsey, Rev. C. D. Rentz and Rev. Tom Hamilton.

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

Finance Committee: H. N. Baxter, J. B. Brigman and W. D. Mosley.

Mission Committee: Rev. Damon Dodd, Rev. James Pelt and J. B. Brigman.

REPORT OF CHURCHES

	Members Received	Lost This Year	Died	Total Membership	Paid Pastor	Funds to Association	Value of Church Property	Unified Program	Missions	Paid Evangelist	Meeting Days
Georgia		1	1	39	\$1,080.00	\$10.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$100.00	\$		2 - 4
29, Baxley, Georgia	10	5	1	46	1,650.00	5.00	25,000.00	80.83		165.00	Full Time
ley, Georgia		2		58	494.20	5.00	5,000.00			92.00	1 - 3
Road, Brunswick, Georgia	10			34	726.94	5.00	1,959.76	26.59		75.00	Full Time
na, Georgia	6	3	2	65	509.06	10.00	7,500.00			100.00	2 - 4
en, Georgia	5	5		132	803.02	10.00	5,000.00	10.00	13.00	100.00	1 - 3
gia	9	35	1	148	3,625.00	10.00	45,000.00	154.00		200.00	Full Time
gia	4	21		143	3,120.00	10.00	50,000.00	400.00		370.00	Full Time
ida											Full Time
	2			23	425.88	7.00	5,000.00			60.00	1 - 3
	1	1	1	68	480.00	5.00	4,000.00			75.00	2 - 4
303, Lyons, Georgia	6	6	3	119	1,225.00	10.00	6,000.00	300.00		275.00	1 - 3
ia	2	10		208	1,114.23	10.00	6,000.00	197.27		258.50	1 - 3
75, Metter, Georgia	4	2	2	65	144.76	5.00	4,000.00	2.00		39.50	2 - 4
Odum, Georgia			1	124	492.00	10.00	5,000.00		15.00	108.25	2 - 4
ey, Georgia	3	1	1	58	1,325.00	5.00	5,000.00	288.00		150.00	2 - 4
orgia	2	6	1	53	650.75	10.00	10,000.00		46.05	150.00	2 - 4
orgia	2	6	1	166	2,081.22	10.00	8,000.00	60.00		90.00	Full Time
Box 61, Alma, Georgia	5	5		193	2,825.00	15.00	19,000.00	35.00	155.25	380.00	Full Time
orgia		5	1	123	700.00	8.00	5,000.00	40.00		150.00	1 - 3
a	19	11	2	277	4,000.00	25.00	23,000.00	750.00		240.00	Full Time
Georgia	33	5	1	200	1,787.96	25.00	10,000.00			120.00	Full Time
reet, Savannah, Georgia	33	15		248	3,960.00	10.00	35,000.00	480.00		300.00	Full Time
gia	2		77	77	813.52	10.00	7,000.00	180.00		225.00	1 - 3
wici, Georgia	7	4	2	51	654.65	5.00	3,000.00	36.00		125.00	Full Time
Ave., Waycross, Georgia	75	1		112	2,895.50	10.00	10,000.00	120.00	27.00	60.00	Full Time

Budget Committee: Rev. Tom Hamilton, H. N. Baxter and Rev. Ralph Lightsey.

Committee,
Alton Cauley
Rev. Emmett McDuffie
Rev. Emory Corbett

OBITUARY REPORT

Satilla Church—Mrs. A. C. Lewis, Miss Mary Jones

Metter Church—Mrs. Annie Wadelle, Mrs. Mamie McDaniel, Mrs. Allen Brown

Piney Grove—Mrs. Sallie Tuten

Philadelphia—Mr. Sammy Altman

Church not Listed—Mr. Nathan Sharpe, Mr. Charlie Gordon, Mrs. Henry Harden, Mr. Lawrence Broteny, Rev. Tom Collins, Mrs. C. C. Coursey, A. D. Mayo Sr., H. L. Coursey, Connie McLain

Note: Please list the name of the deceased of your church on the letter supplied.

Corinth Church—Mrs. P. L. Wade, Mrs. Lizzie White

South Georgia District Woman's Auxiliary Convention

The annual convention met with the Glennville Free Will Baptist Church on September 6, 1958. The meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. Irvin Hyman, with song, "We're Marching to Zion." Prayer was led by Rev. W. B. Hughes. Mrs. Annie C. Bruner gave the devotional, emphasizing the theme of the convention, "Go Set a Watchman," with Scripture from Isaiah 21:6. Mrs. Doris Knight gave the welcome address.

The following ministers were present: Rev. Damon Dodd, Rev. W. B. Hughes, Rev. Ralph Lightsey, Rev. James Pelt, Rev. C. D. Rentz and Rev. Tom Hamilton.

An auxiliary roll call showed the following auxiliaries represented by delegates: Piney Grove, Satilla, Ebenezer, Baxley, Glennville, Pine Level, Savannah, Philadelphia by letter.

The president appointed the following committees: *Credentials*, Mrs. Herman Douglas, chairman, Mrs. Lucille Tucker and Mrs. A. B. Davidson; *finance committee*, Mrs. W. G. McLeod, chairman, Mrs. J. O. Harrel and Mrs. Delora Johnson.

Rev. W. B. Hughes, substituting for Mrs. Opal Howard, delivered a challenging message on "Prayer."

Special music, piano solos, "What a Friend" and "There Is a Fountain," was given by Miss June Lightsey. The president, Mrs. Hyman, gave a report on the National Woman's Auxiliary Convention. The auxiliaries were congratulated on the overwhelming success of the African Mission Project of the past year and the new project for the year, "\$10,000 for Missionary Residence in Japan," was introduced.

After congregational singing of hymn, "Rescue the Perishing," Miss Sharon Hand gave a timely reading entitled, "Vision." Mrs. J. O. Harrell delivered a message on the importance of "Studying to Show Ourselves Approved." Rev. Tom Hamilton led the congregation in the singing of the hymn, "Jesus Saves." Prayer was led by Rev. C. D. Rentz. Rev. James Pelt brought a special message in song.

The message of the morning was delivered by Miss Laura Belle Barnard. Her subject was, "Bearing the Mark of a Bond-Servant as a Christian Beyond the Six Year Period." Her Scripture was found in Exodus.

After the singing of hymn, "O Zion Haste," Rev. Hamilton gave the benediction with grace for food and other blessings of the lunch hour. A bountiful lunch was enjoyed in the church dining hall adjoining the church.

The afternoon session was opened with congregational singing. Mrs. Aldene Baxter spoke on the subject, "Look on the Fields." A message on "Personal Service," by Mrs. Ralph Lightsey, was very inspirational. Also very timely messages were brought by Mrs. Barbara Carter on, "Missionary Education of Young People," and by Mrs. C. D. Rentz on, "Stewardship."

A brief business period was transacted. The report of the credentials committee was given which was as follows: We, your credentials committee, wish to submit the following report: We have examined the reports and find the following auxiliaries eligible to vote in the convention: Piney Grove, Satilla, Ebenezer, Glennville, Baxley, Harmony, Pine Level, Savannah and Zion. The Savannah Auxiliary asked to entertain the next convention. We recommend that we meet with them.

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Herman Douglas
Mrs. Lucille Tucker
Mrs. A. B. Davidson

The finance committee report was as follows: We, the committee on finance, submit the following report and recommendations: We have examined the treasurer's records and found brought forward from last year, \$5.05; received during the year, \$544.46; paid out, \$549.51; balance including state dues, \$129.37. The state dues amounted to \$64. The balance in treasury is \$65 unobligated.

We recommend that the district auxiliaries send 40c per member for the State Convention dues. There are 160 members which will make state dues \$64.

The report of the resolutions committee: We, your resolutions committee, submit the following resolutions: (1) Resolved that we continue to have two workshops per year and that these be days of study for information on our work as well as days of inspiration. One of these workshops to be on foreign missions. (2) That each auxiliary be more concerned about sending the personal items to their adopted girls in the orphanage. (3) Resolved that our District Convention give \$5 to help with the expenses of printing the South Georgia minutes: (4) Resolved that this convention give this church a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality today. (5) That the district corresponding secretary make copies of the resolutions and send to each auxiliary immediately. Mrs. Wilson Fussel, chairman, Mrs. Ralph Lightsey and Mrs. James Wilson. A motion was carried to adopt these reports and resolutions.

The registration report showed seven district officers present, 13 local auxiliary officers, six ministers, and 25 visitors registered. This report was not accurate as several had failed to register.

Mrs. Irvin Hyman tenured her resignation as she and Rev. Hyman were moving out of the district. A motion was carried to accept her resignation. Mrs. Damon Dodd was nominated and elected as district president for this unexpired term of district president.

The resignation of Mrs. E. C. Davidson, stewardship-prayer chairman, was accepted as she announced she would be living in South Florida for most of the coming year. Mrs. Tom Hamilton was nominated and elected to serve in Mrs. Davidson's place.

The president announced the time and place of the next annual convention as first Saturday in September, 1959, at Savannah First Free Will Baptist Church. Delegated to the State Convention at Camp Mt. Bethel, Ashburn, Georgia, November 11 and 12, were as follows: Mrs. Ralph Lightsey, Mrs. C. D. Rentz and Mrs. Barbara Carter.

A rising vote of appreciation was given Mrs. Hyman for the marvelous way she had served as president.

After close of business, Rev. Hamilton sang a solo, "Nearer and Dearer to Me," followed by a message by Rev. Dodd, "Laborers Together with God." The benediction was given by Rev. Ralph Lightsey.

Note: The following youth auxiliaries were reported: Ebenezer, Y.P.A. and G.T.A.; Harmony, G.T.A.; Glennville, Y.P.A.; Pine Level, Y.P.A. and G.T.A.; and Savannah, Y.P.A. and G.T.A.

MINISTERIAL ROLL

Ordained

G. W. Collins, Lyons, Georgia
J. R. Graham, Jesup, Georgia
E. B. Duckworth, Cochrane Field, Macon, Georgia
C. H. Hadden, Twin City, Georgia
Thomas G. Hamilton, Box 24, Glennville, Georgia
Wilford Harden, Baxley, Georgia
S. G. Holton, Lyons, Georgia
Tom Lightsey, Bristol, Georgia
Durward Long, Lake Butler, Florida
Wyndall Long, Alma, Georgia
Clarence McMillan, Folkston, Georgia
Harris Nix, Jesup, Georgia
Damon C. Dodd, 2354 Pinetree Road, Savannah, Georgia
Emmett McDuffie, Route 2, Surrency, Georgia
James M. Pelt, Glennville, Georgia
C. D. Rentz, Baxley, Georgia
Sammy Wilkinson, Jesup, Georgia
John L. Grizzard, 2823 Ellis Street, Brunswick, Georgia
Larry Iddins, Manassas, Georgia

SUPERANNUATED MINISTERS

Ordained

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

LICENTIATES

James E. Ursrey, Hazlehurst, Georgia
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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 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 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 has 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 the 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 so 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 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 fellow-

ship if their conduct, since expulsion, has convinced that 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 a 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.

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 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 the 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 the 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.