

Carl Hembree
1948
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MINUTES
OF THE
Fifty-Fifth Annual Session
OF THE

Grand River Association
of

FREE WILL BAPTIST

Convened Two Miles North and Two Miles
West of Coweta, Oklahoma, On Thursday
Night Before The Third Sunday
in August, 1948.

OFFICERS

Elder Virgil Florence, Moderator
Elder Edd Sunday, Assistant Moderator
Sister Rosa Estes, Clerk
Sister Geneva Franklin, Assistant Clerk

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Read letters from churches.
2. Election of Officers.
3. Reception of new churches.
4. Invitation to visiting brethren to take seats.
5. Call for correspondence.
6. Appointment of Committees.
7. Appointment of Correspondents.
8. Election of minister to preach the introductory.
9. Call for reports of Committees.
10. Adjournment of Association.

RULES OF ORDER

1. At every meeting, business shall be opened and conducted by prayer by the Moderator or whosoever he may request.
2. Ministers and deacons present invited to seats are allowed to take part in the discussion on all subjects and vote.
3. Those who speak shall rise and address the Moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all discussions.
4. No motion shall be discussed without being seconded.
5. When a motion has been made and seconded and a member opposes the discussion, the Moderator shall put the question: "Shall it be discussed?" If negative, the question shall not be discussed.
6. If any proposition or motion under discussion contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member and a vote taken.
7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.
8. No one shall speak more than twice on any question without special leave of the Moderator.
9. All questions decided by a majority of the members present.
10. No member shall absent himself without special leave of Moderator.
11. Minutes shall be leisurely read and corrected before the close of the Association, if necessary.
12. In future sessions of the Association, arrangements shall be made to insure two or more sermons each day, or other equivalents.
13. The Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after the organization of the Association.
14. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.

YEARLY MEETING OR ANNUAL ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

Article 1. This Yearly Meeting or Association shall be called the Grand River Association and shall be composed of such regularly organized and well disciplined Free Will Baptist churches, 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 churches of which it is composed, every church being entitled to three delegates or three alternates.

Article 3. The offices of this Yearly Meeting or Association shall be a standing clerk and treasurer, and a Moderator, who shall be chosen at every session of the yearly meeting or Association, with such assistants as may be found necessary.

Article 4. Any well organized and well regulated Free Will Baptist church, composed of such members 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, upon application, by vote of this body, become a member thereof.

Article 5. This Yearly Meeting or Association shall have power to discipline the churches of which it is composed, and to exclude them for disorderly walks, 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 on Thursday night before the third Sunday in August each year, at which time it shall be the duty of the 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 churches 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, notice of such intended alteration having been given in writing and recorded at the next previous session.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rules 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 knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

We will not forget 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 promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principles sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme, counting it our chief business to extend the influence of Christ in society, constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done, in 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.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. God: We believe in one true and living God; composed of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit equal in divine essence, power and glory. St. John 1:1; I Cor. 8:6, I John 5:7, and St. John 10:30.

2. We believe the Bible which is composed of scriptures of the Old and New Testament was given by inspiration of God. II Tim. 3:16, 17. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good work. And only infallible rule of faith and practice. II Peter 1:19-21; II Tim. 3:14-17; Daniel 10:21; Acts 1:16-17; Matt. 21:42.

3. We believe that God created man good, gave him a just law by which he should be governed with promise of reward for faithfulness and with penalties of punishment for disobedience. Gave man power of free moral agency to choose the right and reject the wrong, but our first parents heeded the voice of the great enemy of souls. Voluntarily transgressed the law of God. Fell with all their posterity under the just penalty of the same, and was unable of their own power to extricate or save themselves from the great dilemma into which they had fallen. God gave them the hope of salvation through the coming of Christ. Gen. 1:27; Gen. 2:16-17; Rom. 11:11-35; Psalms 37:23-24; Heb. 2:9-10.

4. We believe that Jesus Christ by His birth, death, burial and resurrection, purchased our pardon and offered it freely to all mankind upon the principles of repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He now commands all men everywhere to repent. Therefore He sayeth, "Look unto me and be saved all ends of the earth, for I am God and there is none else." Matt. 4:17; Isa. 45:22; Acts 20:21.

5. We believe that all persons dying in infancy and all idiots are saved by the atoning merits of the Son of God without any acts on their part. That persons coming to years of accountability, transgressing the law of God must upon their part exercise faith in Jesus Christ through repentance toward God, at the completion of which pardon takes place in the mind of the Father and by the Holy Spirit they pass thru the ordeal of regeneration, are washed in the blood of the lamb and are planted in the kingdom of Christ. St. John 3; Mat. 19:13-22, II Cor. 7:10; Luke 18:16-17; St. John 4:11-16; Psalms 98:3; Col. 1:13.

6. We believe that all true believers in Christ should persevere in divine grace and in the knowledge of the truth that God's grace is sufficient to help them to overcome all the obstacles of life and that all the combined forces of the great enemy of souls on earth and in hell or in His eternal abode are not able to pluck them from His hand so long as they walk in the path of duty, but those who sidestep and wilfully refuse or neglect to perform their duty they would backslide, and if persistently continually, would be eternally lost. II Cor. 9:10; I Peter 1:4-8; I Peter 2:2; Romans 8:35-39; I Cor. 10:1-13; Hebrews 12:15-17; I John 5:16; Heb. 6:1-6; I Tim. 4:1-2; Heb. 3:12; Matt. 12:31-32.

7. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of believers in water, in the name of the Father, the Son and Holy Ghost. In which is represented the burial and resurrection of Christ, and only those who have come under the presbytery of elders are qualified to administer the same.

Any church found guilty will be dealt with and excluded from the Association. Matt. 3:14-16; I Peter 3:21; St. John 3:23; Acts 10:4-7; Matt. 28:29.

8. We believe that the Lord's Supper and washing of feet are ordinances of the Gospel of Christ. The Lord's Supper was instituted by our Savior to commemorate His broken body and shed blood for the sins of the world, and to show our remembrance of Him until He comes. All Christians have a right to the Lord's Supper, and that right is a birthright. Let a man examine himself and so let him eat. The washing of feet was instituted by our Lord at the same time that the supper was instituted as an act of humanity to show our love for each other, and both ordinances should be perpetuated by all Christians until His coming. Luke 22:19-20; I Cor. 11:20-29; St. John 13:1-18; Mat. 26:26-29.

9. We believe in a divine call of the ministry, that God in His Goodness and power of grace impresses His ministers with the burden of lost souls, to the extent the call becomes irresistible with personal conviction so that they yield to the call and exercise their native gifts according to the scriptures with a full reliance upon Him. He accompanies them in the person of the Holy Spirit to guide them in the way of truth and bless their labors according to His purpose. Jonah 1:1; Jer. 1:5; Mark 3:14; Acts 13:42-48; Matt. 28:19.

10. We believe that sanctification is the work of God's grace by which the soul is cleansed from all sin and wholly consecrated Christ. It takes place in regeneration, and the Christian can and should abide in this state to the end of life, constantly growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. I Cor. 6:11; Thes. 2:13; St. John 17:17; Heb. 12:14; Phil. 3:21-22; Thes. 5:19-23; II Tim. 2:20.

11. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of righteous and the unrighteous when the resurrection shall take place. The soul and the body shall be received into everlasting happiness to reign with God forever, but the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment. Matt. 28:6; St. John 5:28-29; I Cor. 15:51-58; Rev. 20:15; Mark 9:43-44.

12. We believe the soul is endless, hence does not die with the body, but immediately after death enters into conscious state of happiness or misery according to the spiritual character here possessed. Phil. 1:23; Luke 23:43; Rev. 6:9; Luke 16:19-25; Matt. 10:28.

13. We believe that the invisible or spiritual church is the redeemed in the aggregate, is the family of God, is composed of all true Christians of every congregation, from righteous able to the restitution for all things from every kindred nation, tongue and people. The visible church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women, having obtained fellowship with the Lord and with each other, agreeing to keep up a good discipline and doctrine according to the rule of the gospel. Eph. 3:16-21; Heb. 12:22-23; I Peter 2:5; Acts 2:47; Eph. 2:20-22; Thes. 1:1; Acts 16:5; John 1:10; Matt. 18:17.

14. We believe that there will be a general universal judgment when all men shall be judged according to their works, whether they be good or bad, and that immediately thereafter the wicked shall enter into everlasting punishment and the righteous into eternal happiness. II Thes. 1:4-9; Rev. 14:9-13; Luke 16:23; Rev. 20:1-8; II Cor. 5:10; Matt. 12:36-37; Rev. 20:12-13.

LAW OF THE SUPPER

The Lord's Supper was instituted for God's people. They all have equal rights to the supper and that right is birthright. For by one spirit are we all baptized into one body (I Cor. 12:13). This is not a water baptism but a spiritual baptism. Again Christ says, "I'm the door, by me if any man enter in he shall be saved." St. John 10:9. "He that entereth not by the door of the sheepfold but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber." (John 10:1). Christ is not water baptism, and yet He is the door. There is but one door and Christ says He is that door, and he that cometh in by that door shall have full fellowship and equal rights with all other Christians. Let a man examine himself and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup, for he that eateth and drinketh unworthily eateth and drinketh damnation to himself not to the church, but to himself. It is a personal matter in judging and eating.

The church that does judge and exclude any of God's people is not acting in keeping with the instructions given the church at Corinth. To thus judge and exclude one of the children of God is to offend the child so judged and excluded. Now listen to Christ: "He that offends one of these little ones that believe in me, it were better for him that a mill stone were hung about his neck and that he were drowned in the depths of the sea. Matt. 18:6; I Cor. 10:30; 13:32.

It is contended that they of the same faith and order should be entitled to partake of the Lord's Supper. I admit that the true faith is the means by which men become Christians. If this is what is meant by the same faith I shall not object. We are agreed, but if sect is to be inferred, I object. As to order, if nothing but gospel order is meant, very well; but I do not think that one child of God could dictate just what another should believe or to what church he should belong in order that he may be in the right church, for the church is but an organic body of Christians, and simply placing your name on the roll book of the best church on earth does not make you a Christian, neither will a like process in the worst church make a sinner. The Eunuch believed and was baptized. What church did he join? Here is faith and here is order. Now I ask if the Eunuch were to wish to commune with some of the churches would he be allowed the right? No, he is not of the same faith and order; yet he is admitted in heaven. But nay, he could not be admitted to a sectarian table. At the Lord's table all his people have a perfect right, be he whom he may and when the supper is set and all of God's people are not invited, it is not the Lord's supper but a sectarian supper, so we, being many, are one body in Christ; and every member one of another. (Romans 12:5). And the way we become one body is by being baptized into that body and of course that is by spiritual baptism. He that gets in by water baptism, the same is a thief and a robber; and when any one gets into that body in a legal way he has a legal right to all the benefits and privileges of that body, for, we, being many, are one bread and one body, for we are all partakers of that one bread (I Cor. 10:17). By partaking we exhibit a oneness of that body. What is meant by we? It certainly means all Christians of all ages when you come together tarry for another; be of one mind, but let the word of God control the mind. If it had been intended by the Savior that the supper should be guarded

as some attempt to guard it, God would have endowed the Judges with wisdom to discern the pure from the impure. But the standpoint from which they judge is water baptism and a legal administration of the same, so if baptism by immersion is a legal administration this settles the matter and Christian character is left entirely out, by which some made a woeful mistake for after all this precaution some are found unworthy of the least of any privileges of any church. To admit immersion to be the only mode of baptism, and a true believer receiving it, is this not right? Some would answer if by legal administrator. This, all that is wanting, is it not a purely personal matter? If so, he has been as truly baptized as anyone. It is the duty of the preacher to baptize and the applicant to be baptized. When his is done each has performed a personal duty. If I had never been baptized and had to wait until I found one whom I knew to be a legal administrator I would never be baptized at all as I cannot know the heart of man. Two acting in concert, acting in good faith and the other not—the one is blessed and the other is not. Every Christian is strictly responsible for his acts and not for another. Simon the sorcerer believed and was baptized, and that by a legal administrator and yet it is discovered that he is not a Christian. So we see that baptism by a legal administrator does not confer any claims upon him to any Christian rights as this case proves to be a personal matter, as we clearly see that the apostle did his duty and Simon did not, or vice versa.

The apostle, inspired all he was, did not discern the evil of Simon's heart, neither can we know the heart of man. When we do our study it is ours. When an applicant it is His. So we find that faith, repentance, baptism and the Christian duties are all personal and accountable to God and not unto man. Various are the opinions of men and the ways we account for them in the capacity of men; and if we should use the capacity that God has given I do not think that we should be eternally condemned for what we cannot help. The church of Christ is divided into many members, but it is one spiritual body and Christ the head, and they should have the same care for the other, as the natural body has for its members, yet they do not perform the same office, yet they should subserve the same interest of the body.

Should Christians all commune together at the Lord's Table? I answer what the Lord has joined together, let no man put asunder.

We have forty-nine states in the Union. They are all equally free and independent states, and yet they are one united, and have one great central point at which to meet and testify that they are free and independent states and yet but one nation. All Christians should have one central point at which to meet and let the world know that they are one. Let that be the Lord's table. Christians feel alike if they do not think alike. They can preach together, pray together, sing together and love together, and should they not commune together? And will they not all meet at last in the same holy and happy land together? Then a union and free communion is forced upon us. Christ said at the last supper that he would drink no more of the fruit of the vine with us till He drank anew in His kingdom. Then all Christians of all ages will sit around one communion table in heaven. As we find ourselves assembled around one Lord's table in Heaven, so should it be on earth.

ARRANGEMENTS

We, your committee on arrangements, beg to report as follows: Taking into consideration the surrounding circumstances and seeing the necessity of a rule governing the ministry and members.

Be it resolved, that the Association forbid the ministers of the Grand River Association speaking disrespectfully of one another and anyone found guilty of such conduct shall be liable to charge and dealt with as it may be deemed necessary.

Be it resolved, that any minister of this Association aspiring to the evangelistic field, it shall be the duty of each church to assist him in his work, and this Association has empowered the Moderator and Clerk with the authority to assist the evangelist with recommendations if he be found worthy.

Be it resolved, that we forbid any of our ministers challenging any denomination to debate.

Be it resolved, that we forbid the members of our churches from giving, going to, or participating in play parties or dances and any found guilty of such offense shall be liable and charged and dealt with as may be deemed necessary, as it is the cause of our young people to forsake the right way and go off in sin.

Be it resolved, that we forbid our ministers or members of our churches of this Association, preaching or teaching sanctification as a second definite work of grace, separate or apart from the regeneration of holiness, or conversion.

Be it resolved, that every church that calls a minister to the pastoral care, should minister to his support as God has prospered them.

Be it resolved, that any of our preachers or churches found to be tolerating the doctrine of unknown tongues, shall be considered guilty of heresy and shall be required to make acknowledgments to this body or stand suspended.

Be it resolved, that the doors of all church property belonging to the Free Will Baptist be open to all ministers in good standing with the Association.

Be it resolved, that the deacons and clerks of the several churches urge upon their members the great need of finance and urge that each member assess him or herself what they feel able to be paid into the church treasury as may be designated by said body.

Be it resolved, that there be no one ordained to the ministry having two or more living companions. That from this on the minister's credentials are deemed property of this Association.

PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Congregation called together by singing. Devotional led by Bro. Meadows. Preaching by Elder Mashburn followed by Elder T. E. Dearduff. Closed by handshake and prayer.

FRIDAY MORNING 9:00 O'CLOCK

Singing conducted by Bro. Graves, prayer by Elder C. G. Askins.

Moderator declared the Association in Conference.

Elder E. S. Sunday opened service by reading scripture from the second Chapter of Phillipians. Prayer by Brother La Faye.

Letters were read and approved and the delegates seated by the Moderator and Assistant Moderator, giving the delegates the right hand of fellowship.

Called for visiting brethren to take seats, Elder Weatherman and Elder Day.

Elder E. S. Sunday was asked to assist the Moderator in the absence of Elder J. W. Gage, Assistant Moderator.

We had a motion and second that we elect our officers for the next ensuing year. Motion carried.

Elder Virgil Florence was elected Moderator and Elder E. S. Sunday was elected Assistant Moderator. Sister Rosa Estes was elected Clerk and Sister Geneva Franklin was elected Assistant Clerk.

Called for visiting Associations; received one: The Eureka Association. Motion was made and seconded that we receive the letter and seat delegates. Motion carried.

Motion and second that the Moderator and Assistant Moderator appoint the different Committees. Motion carried.

The following are the ones appointed to the different Committees:

Devotional—Bro. Kirk, Bro. True and Bro. Limley.

Credentials—Eld. Oron Estes, Eld. Luther Littlefield and Eld. John Reel.

Temperance—Bro. Bird, Sister Dick Gurley and Bro. Scott.

Union of Churches—Bro. Jim Forbes, Eld. Keys and Bro. Ted Wagoner.

Sabbath Schools—Sister Lactey, Bro. B. Jones and Sister Purdum.

Literature—Bro. A. C. Gay, Bro. Laney Voss and Bro. McGee.

Obituary—Sister LeMarr, Bro. Tommy Mashburn and Sister Betty Hood.

Resolution—Eld. Oron Estes, Eld. Othel Dixon and Eld. G. C. Askins.

Finance—Bro. DeWeise, Bro. Caldwell, and Eld. Carl Hembree.

Motion made and seconded that the Devotional Committee decide who would preach the 11 o'clock sermon as the ministers appointed were absent. Motion carried.

Adjourned for 11:00 o'clock service.

FRIDAY MORNING 11:00 O'CLOCK

Congregation called together by singing. Prayer by Eld. Rex Weatherman.

This being the introductory service, Elder Othel Dixon took the stand. His text was First Cor. 15th Chapter, 1-9. His subject was: St. John 14-19, "Because I live, ye shall live also." He was followed by Eld. Edd Sunday. Congregation was dismissed by prayer, Eld. Virgil Florence wording the prayer.

FRIDAY EVENING 2:00 O'CLOCK

Congregation met back at the tabernacle. Singing conducted by Bro. Graves. Prayer by Eld. T. H. Dixon.

Association still in conference, there was a call for letters from New

Churches. There were two received. Motion made and seconded that we receive the letter and seat the delegates. Motion carried.

At this time the rules of order were read by the Moderator.

Call for reading of minutes of the 5th Sunday Meetings. Minutes were read and approved.

Call for unfinished business. The Clerk was asked to re-read the report of the Checotah Church investigation.

The report of the committee was read. Motion made and seconded that we accept the report of the committee. The report of the committee was accepted by a vote of 58 to 9.

Elder T. H. Dixon was granted the privilege to read the minutes of their last Church Conference. The minutes were read, stating they were withdrawing from this Association. Motion made and seconded that we grant the Checotah Church their request. Motion carried.

Motion made and seconded that we take up the business that had been tabled from last 5th Sunday Meeting. Motion carried.

Resolution—Be it resolved that the Quarterly Meetings meet on Thursday night instead of Friday night. This was taken to a vote and the resolution passed.

Motion was made and seconded that we grant Eld. Rex Weatherman and the Orphan children some time. Motion carried.

The children rendered a very touching program.

A Free Will offering of \$94.20 was given to them.

Dismissed by prayer, Eld. Jess Stepp wording the prayer.

FRIDAY NIGHT 7:30 O'CLOCK

Services opened by singing. We had some special songs. Prayer by Eld. Qualls. Devotional led by Eld. Askins. Preaching by Eld. Oron Estes and followed by Eld. Luther Littlefield. Scripture read was the 5th Chapter of 1st Cor., beginning with the 12th verse. We had a wonderful service at this time and one conversion. Closed with handshake and prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING 9:00 O'CLOCK

Congregation called together by singing. Prayer by Elder Bill Ketchum. Scripture read by Eld. Virgil Florence from the 2nd Chap. of Phil.

Call for other church letters that had not been read and received. One was read and received and delegates seated.

Call for corresponding letters. None received.

Call for reports of Committees.

Eld. Florence gave an oral report on the examining board.

Motion made and seconded that in the absence of some of our committee men that the ones left, select ones to take places temporarily, of ones absent. Motion carried.

Motion made and seconded that we re-elect Eld. Jess Stepp as a 3 year man on the Orphanage Board. Motion carried. This moved Eld. Virgil Florence down to 2 years and Eld. Jake Gage down to 1 year.

Motion made and seconded that we elect a 3 year man on the Examining Board. Motion carried.

Eld. Bill Ketchum was elected on that board for 3 years, moving Eld. J. W. Gage down to 2 years and Eld. Carl Hembree down to 1 year.

Report was called for from Finance Committee. An oral report was given by Bro. Jim Forbes, Chairman.

Motion made and seconded that we receive the report. Motion carried. A standing vote of thanks was given this board.

Motion made and seconded that we empower the Committee to decide if we have a stand or not and who operates it. Motion carried.

Motion made and seconded that we close the stand during 11 o'clock and night service. Motion carried.

Call for report of Clerk. Report was read and received.

Motion made and seconded that the Association grant the Clerk the money left in treasury. Motion carried.

SATURDAY MORNING 11:00 O'CLOCK

This being the regular time for the Memorial service to be preached, and in absence of Eld. Howard Gage, who had been chosen to take the lead in this service, the Devotional Committee decided on Eld. Dixon Gurley who was followed by Eld. Carl Hembree. The Spirit of the Lord was wonderfully manifested at this service. Service was closed by handshake and prayer, worded by Eld. Askins.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON 2:00 O'CLOCK

Congregation called together by singing. Prayer by Sister Ozella Littlefield. Scripture read by Eld. John Reel. As we were already in conference, we proceeded with other business. Called for other church letters that had not been read and received. One was read and received and delegates seated.

Call for visiting brethren to take seats: Bro. and Sister Bailes from Eureka Association and Eld. Wright from General Baptist.

Motion made and seconded that the Examining Committeemen present have the power to select other members. Motion carried.

• Call for business suggested by letters.

Placing of 5th Sunday Meetings:

1st Fifth Sunday Meeting	Proctor Ford
Second Fifth Sunday Meeting	Archer
Third Fifth Sunday Meeting	Haskell
Fourth Fifth Sunday Meeting	Shahan
Fifth Fifth Sunday Meeting	Clear Creek

Call for new business.

Motion made and seconded that we appoint delegates to other Associations. Motion carried.

Eureka Association delegates appointed: Eld. Jess Stepp, Bro. Hayes and Sister Arnold. Alternate, Sister Stepp.

Eastern Oklahoma Association: Eld. Qualls, Eld. Musgraves and Eld. John Reel.

General Baptist: Sister Scott, Eld. Willie, Eld. Virgil Reynolds.

First Mission: Bro. and Sister Propst, and Sister Gage.

State Association: Bro. McGhee, Sister Virgil Florence and Eld. Jess Stepp.

Motion made and seconded that these resolutions be discussed. Motion carried.

Resolved that we restore our Credential Committee. Eld. T. E. Dearduff was the author of the resolution. This Committee was restored. Committee appointed: Eld. Oron Estes, Eld. John Reel, and Eld. Luther Littlefield.

Resolved that we change the reading of the Examining Committee to "A Committee", rather than, "the Committee". Author, Bro. McGhee. Motion made and seconded that we accept this resolution. Motion carried.

Be it resolved that each church send an offering to the Homecoming Evangelists each year. Author, Sister Lucille Turner. Motion made and seconded that we adopt the resolution. Motion carried.

Call for report on Examining Committee. Report read and approved.

Motion made and seconded that we empower the Committeemen to buy a light plant. Motion carried.

Motion made and seconded that our young Christians have the Sunday morning service of our Association. Motion carried.

Motion made and seconded that we take up an offering for State Association minutes, and for the light plant. Motion carried.

Motion made and seconded that we put an Evangelist in the field and get behind him. Motion carried.

Motion made and seconded that we defer this selecting of an Evangelist until the First Fifth Sunday Meeting. Motion carried.

Motion made and seconded that we send \$10.00 to State Association for minute fees. Motion carried.

Motion made and second that we elect ministers for introductory sermon. Motion carried. Eld. Oron Estes and Eld. John Reel were elected.

Elder Bill Ketchum and Eld. Carl Hembree were elected to preach the Memorial sermon.

Motion made and seconded that we elect two ministers to hold a two weeks revival at this place beginning two weeks prior to the Association. Eld. Oron Estes and Eld. Dixon Gurley were elected.

Call for resolutions to be read.

Motion made and seconded that we endow the Clerk with power to accept pledges to finance this Evangelist. Motion carried.

Motion made and seconded that we accept the report of the Credentials Committee. Motion carried. Report was given and accepted.

Committee Reports

We, your Committee on Literature, will remind that we should read any religious literature with care and compare same carefully with the Bible.

Bro. J. L. McGee—Chairman

We, your Committee on Sabbath School, recommend that all churches use the Bible or literature corresponding with the Bible to have the truth and sound doctrine taught.

Sister Irma Purdom—Chairman

We, your Committee on Union of Churches, beg to report that all the churches are in union as far as we are able to find out.

Chairman—Bro. Jim Forbes

We, your Committee on Temperance, beg leave to report as follows: That we wish to adopt the old report, which is as follows: We should follow the teachings of the Bible and be temperate in all things. Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging, and whosoever deceived thereby is not wise. We recommend that each member of this Association read his Bible and follow temperance as it teaches.

Bro. Bird—Chairman

We, your Committee on Obituary, report as follows: It is with sadness of heart we submissively bow to the call of our Heavenly Father who removed from our midst Bro. Sam Littlefield of Peggs church, Sister C. B. Adkins and Sister Jeff Hood of Cushing church; Bro. J. E. Jones of Oktaha church, Sister Jamima McIntosh of Shahan church, Sister Kizzie Sewell and Sister Opal Littlefield of Cole church.

Sister LeMarr—Chairman

We, your Committee on Finance, beg to report that we received as follows:

\$57.50 for Minute funds.

\$75.00 for upkeep of grounds.

\$82.34 for Homecoming Revival.

Bro. T. H. DeWeese—Chairman

Motion made and seconded that we receive the reports of all Committees and dismiss Committees. Motion carried.

Motion made and seconded that we close our Conference for 1948.

Ministers' Reports

To the Free Will Baptist Association: I beg to report I have pastored one church full time. I have preached about 90 sermons, had 3 conversions, baptized 2, and had 10 additions to the church. Received about \$233.13.

Elder C. G. Askins

I beg you receive my report. I have pastored one church full time. Helped conduct 8 revivals, preached 158 sermons, baptized 18, witnessed 81 conversions, preached 1 funeral, visited 10 of our churches, received for revival work \$299.00. Received for pastoral work \$176.87.

Elder Virgil Florence

I beg leave to report as follows: Pastored 2 churches part time. Witnessed 9 conversions; baptized 20; helped in several revivals; traveled 3,000 miles; preached about 50 sermons. Received 39 members; received \$322.87 and married 3 couples.

Elder J. D. Stepp

I beg you to receive this as my report for the past year:

I have preached 126 sermons; witnessed 45 conversions; baptized 30; helped in 5 revivals. Have traveled 10,000 miles or more in service for the Lord; received \$570.13; have pastored 1 church; conducted 3 funerals; visited a great number of homes.

Elder Bill Ketchum

I beg leave to report as follows:

Beginning 1st of Sept., 1947—Sermons 173; preached 37 funerals; married 7; held and helped hold 8 revivals; witnessed 36 conversions; baptized 16; visited sick, 317; drove 4,148 miles.

Elder J. W. Gage

SATURDAY NIGHT 7:30 O'CLOCK

Congregation called together with singing. Several special numbers. Prayer by Bro. Hayes. A collection was taken for State Minute money and the rest was to go on the Light Plant. The collection was \$78.00. Prayer by Eld. John Reel. Preaching by Eld. Jim Musgraves and Eld. Bill Ketchum. Scripture, Mark 5th Chapter. This was a service long to be remembered because of the out proving of the Holy Spirit which was manifested throughout the entire congregation. There were about 15 conversions. Closed with handshake and prayer.

SUNDAY MORNING 9:00 O'CLOCK

Congregation called together with singing. This being set aside for the young Christians, Elder Jess Stepp was elected as sponsor, Sister Luella Nelson, Clerk, and Sister Emogene Seiver as Assistant Clerk.

The Devotional Committee consisted of Sister Rosalie Florence, Sister Jewel Cox, and Sister Bettye Hood.

The Program Committee consisted of Bro. Floyd Byrd, Sister Rita Mae Qualls and Sister Goldie Byrd.

A very good spiritual program was rendered by the young Christians from the different churches.

Bro. Roger Littlefield was appointed to lead the devotional service and preaching by Eld. Howard Gage, to be followed by Eld. Virgil Florence.

Services were closed by handshake and prayer, worded by Eld. Virgil Florence.

MINISTERS' ROLL

Name	Address	
✓ Virgil Florence	— 1170 N. Birmingham Place, Tulsa, Okla.	R. J. Howard Mounds, Okla.✓ Cecil Lane 4904 W. Edison, Tulsa, Okla.
✓ J. W. Gage	 Pryor, Okla.	C. W. Thompson 1611 E. Marshall, Tulsa, Okla.✓
✓ Jess Pilant	 Salina, Okla.	Oral Thompson Tulsa, Okla.✓
✓ Earl Ramsey	 Pryor, Okla.	Carl Hembree Coweta, Okla.✓
✓ Jess Bynum	 Inola, Okla.	Joe Eddings Pryor, Okla.✓
✓ Oron Estes	 Rt. 2, Pryor, Okla.	S. L. Qualls Okmulgee, Okla.✓
✓ Luther Littlefield	 Pryor, Okla.	C. A. Headrick, Rt. 2, Hulbert, Okla.✓
✓ Howard Gage	 Rt. 2, Pryor, Okla.	J. N. Musgraves Pryor, Okla.✓
✓ T. S. Pilant	 Locust Grove, Okla.	J. D. Stepp, Box 266 Haskell, Okla.✓
✓ E. S. Sunday	 1124 E. Maple, Cushing, Okla.	Harvie Mashburn Haskell, Okla.✓
✓ Mrs. A. T. Hicks	Rt. 2, Hulbert, Ok.	J. J. Keys Yonkers, Okla.✓
✓ T. E. Dearduff	Rt. 2, Hulbert, Okla.	C. H. Willey 1235 N. Wheeling, Tulsa, Okla.
✓ H. S. Martin	 Wagoner, Okla.	Elder Keown Salina, Okla.
✓ C. G. Askins	 205 E. 13th St., Tulsa, Okla.	C. G. Austin Locust Grove, Okla.
✓ John L. Reel	 3628 S. Jackson Tulsa, Okla.	Dixon Gurley, Locust Grove, Okla.
✓ Bill Ketchum	Rt. 1, Mounds, Okla.	Leroy Littlefield Pryor, Okla.
Dick Prather	 Rt. 6, Box 689, Tulsa, Okla.	P. N. Qualls 717 N. Oklahoma Okmulgee, Okla.
✓ G. R. Carner	 Mounds, Okla.	Paul Griggs Pryor, Okla.
Albert Boswell	Locust Grove, Okla.	Luther Jones Pryor, Okla.
		Carl H. Pollard Peggs, Okla.
		John Alexander, Gails Creek, Oregon

ROLL OF CHURCHES AND CHURCH CLERKS

Church	Clerk	Address
Bixby	Luella Nelson	Bixby, Okla.
Cole	Ollie Sharp	Pryor, Okla.—S. Adair St.
Cushing	Dean W. Rogers	623 E. 6th.—Cushing, Okla.
Clear Creek	Lena Rutherford	Hulbert, Okla.—Rt. 2
Duck Creek	Clint Roller	Mounds, Okla.—Rt. 1
Greenbrier	Cleta Hopper	Adair, Okla.—Rt. 2
Haskell	Lucile Turner	Haskell, Okla.—Rt. 1
Hitchita	Ollie Kindell	Hitchita, Okla.—Rt. 1
Landmark	Grace Seawright	Tulsa 6, Okla.—4123 So. Zenith
Oktaha	Emogene Seiver	Checotah, Okla.—Rt. 2
New Hogan	Mrs. Till Barnes	Locust Grove, Okla.—Rt. 1
Osage	John Stephens	Pryor, Okla.—Rt.
New Home	Rachel Forbes	Broken Arrow, Okla.—Rt. 2
Peggs	Maudie Pollard	Peggs, Okla.
Shahan	Ruth Peterson	Broken Arrow, Okla.—Rt. 2
Archer	Katie Propst	Pryor, Okla.
Proctor Ford	Allie Burchett	Watts, Okla.
Chewey	Nadine Hampton	Proctor, Okla.
Clarksville	Not represented	

CHURCHES

DELEGATES

Bixby	Bro. Pete Palmer, Bro. Lee Thornton & Sis. Eva Thornton
Cole	Sis. Ozella Littlefield, Bro. Earl True & Bro. Virgil Brown
Cushing	Represented by letter
Clear Creek	Bro. Delford Hicks, Bro. Floyd Bird & Sis. Betty Hood
Duck Creek	Bro. George Lee, Bro. Roy Christian & Bro. Ted Waggoner
Greenbrier	Bro. Adam Gay, Sis. Francis Gay, Sis. Betty Shilts
Haskell	Bro. Tommy Mashburn, Bro. Coleman Kirk & Bro. Fred Scott
Hitchita	Bro. Bill McUlla, Sis. Belle Lackey, Sis. Mary Kindell
Landmark	Bro. Jack Wieser, Sis. Wanda Wieser, & Sis. Lucille Littlefield
Oklahoma	Bro. Charlie Purdom, Sis. Della Purdom, & Sis. Irma Purdom
New Hogan	Bro. Jack Hammonds, Bro. Oscar Franklin & Bro. C. P. McCullom
New Home	Sis. Faye Halcome, Bro. & Sis. Lemart
Osage	Bro. Clyde Stephens, Sis. Ollie Couch, & Sis. Adelta Stephens
Peggs	Bro. Jack Littlefield, Bro. Loyd Williams, & Bro. Grover Musgraves
Shahan	Bro. Arthur Copeland, Sis. Sally Townsley, & Sis. Mae Hand
Archer	Bro. & Sis. Clinton Floyd & Bro. George Snor
Proctor Ford	Bro. Earl Carnes, Sis. Mae Carnes, & Sis. Cordelia Crile
Chevey	Bro. & Sis. Wid Hampton & Bro. Wylj Beavers

Homecoming Revival—	Maintenance—	Minute Fund—	Paid Pastor—	Membership—	Members Received—	Died—	Meeting Days—	Dismissed—	Excluded—
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15.00	0	0	0	31	101	176.87	3.00	5.00	0
6.68	16	2	8	229	1022.75	5.00	5.00	3	3
	3	2	3	134	858.00	2.50	5.00	0	0
15.00	5	0	6	30	2.00	5.00	5.00	5	5
	0	1	7	75	143.37	2.50	5.00	0	0
	0	1	38	120.00	3.00	5.00			
10.66	2	0	58	96	1040.00	5.00	5.00	2	2
		0	2	42	2.00				
	2	1	10	34	233.13	2.50	5.00		
	3	4	1	8	82	50.74	5.00	5.00	
	0	2	0	7	61	3.00	5.00		
15.00	1	1	18	114	120.00	5.00	5.00		
	1	4	16	67	3.50	5.00			
	7	3	1	71	3.00	5.00			
15.00									
	2	4	54	335.00	2.50	5.00			
	4	26	26	3.00	5.00				
	1	14	25	2.50	5.00				
	1	8	3	2.50	5.00				

Letter from a church to a quarterly meeting, yearly meeting, or association.
 To the of Free Will Baptist
 when convened with the
 church at 19.....
 We send as delegates, our beloved brethren
 whom we pray you to receive to sit with you in deliberations.
 State of religion
 Members received this year
 No. Baptised No. Dismissed
 No. Died Total Membership
 Condition of prayer meeting
 Condition of Sunday School
 Average number of pupils
 No. of officers No. of teachers
 Paid Pastor \$..... Paid Evangelist \$.....
 Missions: Home \$..... Foreign \$.....
 For buildings and repair \$.....
 For education \$..... Publication \$.....
 Amount enclosed for minutes \$.....
 Pastor's name and address
 Names and addresses of ministers belonging to our church.
 Done by order of church
 assembled in conference, this..... day of..... 19.....
 Remarks
 Moderator
 Clerk

DEACON'S LETTER

This is to certify that Brother is a worthy
 deacon of our church and we recommend him as being worthy of his calling.
 Done by order of church in conference this day of
, 19.....
, Moderator
, Clerk

LETTER OF DISMISSAL

This certifies that is a member
 in good standing of the Free Will Baptist Church at
 and as such we recommend him to the following of God's people.
 Done by order of church in conference this day of
, 19.....
, Moderator
, Clerk

