

MINUTES
of the
Fifty-Ninth Annual Session
of the
South Mississippi Association
of
Free Will Baptists
Convening with
Love Well Church
September 3, 1966

**NEXT SESSION TO CONVENE WITH
FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF
PASCAGOULA, MISS.
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1967 AT 9:00 A.M.**

OFFICERS

Rev. Truman FreemanModerator
Rev. Daniel GaskinsAsst. Moderator
Mrs. Robert Mills, Waynesboro, Rt. 3Clerk
W. A. MasonHonorary Moderator

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Body called to order by Moderator.
2. Appointing of Reading Clerks.
3. Enrolling Ministers.
4. Enrolling of Deacons
5. Enrolling of Churches and Delegates.
6. Calling for Petitionary Letters.
7. Appointing of Various Committees.
8. Appointing of Finance Treasurer.
9. Receiving of Finance.
10. Receiving Minister's Reports.
11. Receiving of Committee's Reports.
12. Elections of Officers.
13. Closing.

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION

PROCEEDINGS

The Fifty-Ninth Annual Session of the South Mississippi Association of Free Will Baptists, convened with Love Well Church, Green County, Saturday before the first Sunday in September, 1966. The moderator, Rev. Truman Freeman, called the body to order at 10:00 A.M. after a song directed by Bobby Glen Mills and a prayer by Bro. E. C. Kelton. The Moderator appointed Rev. Cecil Walley to bring a short devotion. Bro. Walley read from the 117 Psalms. The Moderator then declared the body in order for business. The Moderator appointed Sisters Rena Walley and Sarah Bess McLain as Reading Clerks.

ENROLLING OF MINISTERS

Rev. Truman Freeman, Rt. 1, Richton, Miss.
Rev. Daniel Gaskins, Philadelphia, Miss.
Rev. R. H. McCuin, Rt. 1, Richton, Miss.
Rev. Cecil Walley, Rt. 1, Richton, Mississippi
Rev. G. J. Hollingsworth, Star Route, Atmore, Ala.
Rev. C. C. Brewer, Rt. 1, Richton, Miss.
Rev. Joe Palmer, Rt. 3, Waynesboro, Miss.
Rev. M. D. Walters, Richton, Miss.
Rev. A. J. Conway, Richton, Miss.
Rev. Leander McAdams, Rt. 6, Laurel, Miss.
Rev. E. C. Kelton, Rt. 3, Pascogoula, Miss.
Rev. Monroe Hollifield, Rt. 4, Pascogoula, Miss.
Rev. W. H. Henderson, Rt. 1, Richton, Miss.
Rev. L. D. Walley, Rt. 1, Richton, Miss.

ENROLLING DEACONS

Albert Burges—Love Well
B. O. McLain—Love Well
Leroy Shows—Bethel
R. C. Phillips—County Line
Ruben Bunch—Lee's Chapel—Wayne Co.
W. B. Booker—First T.W.B.C. Pascogoula

ENROLLING OF CHURCHES AND DELEGATES:

Corinth—Thomas Henderson, Mrs. Mag Walley, and Mrs. Lizzie Henderson.
Love Well—Johnny Brewer, Columbus Brewer, and Sarah Bess McLain.
Thompson Creek—Flora Mills and Margaret Mills.
Bethel—Mrs. A. J. Conway and Author Hinton.
County Line—Mrs. Myrtle Phillips and Bobby G. Mills.
Buckatunna—Mrs. Rena Walley and Mrs. Mandy Walley.

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION

First F.W.B. Church Pascogoula—Mrs. W. B. Booker and Mrs. E. C. Kelton.

Pine Grove—Mrs. Virley O'Neal.

Lee's Chapel (Wayne Co.)—Mrs. Annette West and Elsie Bunch.

Fellowship—Shorty McLain and Marsha Walley.

Lee's Chapel (Jones Co.)—Mrs. Wilda McAdams.

CALL FOR PETITIONARY LETTERS

None

Quarterly Meetings: The South Mississippi Quarterly Meeting of Free Will Baptists greet you by letter and send Brothers Arnold Walley and Ammon Brewer to confer with you in any business. We met three times this year as follows:

Lee's Chapel (Wayne Co.) October 30, 1965-8 churches Rep.

Pascogoula January 29, 1966-8 Churches Rep.

Thompson's Creek—May 28, 1966-8 Churches Rep.

We licensed Bro. John Barvman as a minister as recommended by the Pascogoula Church and ordained Bro. Roy Pearson as a minister and ordained Bro. Skipper from Thompson Creek as a deacon. We sent a total of \$115.00 to State Missions. We were represented by the Children's Home by the Supt. Rev. Carlton Lambert. An offering of \$30.00 was given the Children's Home.

We sponsored a one-day Bible conference which was held at the Love Well Church the fifth Saturday in July.

Following is the names of the churches representing the Quarterly Meetings.

Buckatunna, County Line, Love Well, Fellow Ship, Lee's Chapel (Wayne County), Pascogoula, Lee's Chapel (Jones County), and Thompson Creek.

We are sending \$30.00 from the Quarterly Meeting to the Association for minute funds.

Done by order of the Quarterly Meeting when convened with Thompson's Creek Church.

The next Quarterly Meeting will meet at the Lee's Chapel Church (Jones County) October 29, 1966.

Rev. C. Earl Simpson—Mod.

Rev. Leander McAdams—Asst. Mod.

Rev. Don Gaskins, Clerk

Rev. Roy Pearson, Treasurer

The Quarterly Meeting Letter was read and accepted by a majority vote.

APPOINTMENT OF VARIOUS COMMITTEES

Sunday School Committee—Johnny Brewer, Annette West, and Mrs. Bill O'Neal.

Temperance Committee—Rev. R. H. McCuin, Rev. E. C. Kelton and

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION

Rev. Cecil Walley.

Resolutions Committee—Rev. L. D. Walley, Sister Rena Walley, and Rev. L. McAdam.

Obituary Committee—Sister Myrtle Phillips, Mrs. W. B. Booker, Margaret Mills.

Congratulations Report—Bro. Bobby G. Mills, Mrs. L. McAdams, Bro. Arthur Hinton.

APPOINTMENT OF TREASURER (FOR TODAY)

Bro. Johnny Brewer was appointed treasure of the association by the Moderator.

Following the appointment of the various committees a move and second was made to dismiss for lunch. Dismissed by Rev. E. C. Kelton.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The Moderator called the body to order. A song was led by Johnny Walley and devotion was offered by Rev. L. D. Walley.

The Moderator called for various committee's reports. Sunday School Committee's:

We your Sunday School committee wish to report that we find all our representing churches in fair condition.

We have a total membership of 479 with a yearly operating expense of \$696.75.

We hope and pray to do more next year.

Church	Pupils	Teachers
Bethel	25	4
Buckatunna	19	2
Corinth	44	3
County Line	30	3
Fellowship	83	4
First Free Will Baptist	30	2
Lee's Chapel (Jones Co.)	50	?
Lee's Chapel (Wayne Co.)	40	4
Love Well	93	6
Pine Grove	35	1
Thompson Creek	20	3

Sister Bilbo O'Neal

Sister Annette West

Bro. Johnny Brewer

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

We urge that Christians should be temperate in all things; to abstain from all sinful amusement, from all sanction of use and sale of intoxicating beverages, we urge Christians to be temperate in dealing with one another, and always lend a helping hand in a way to please God.

Rev. R. H. McCuin

Rev. E. C. Kelton

Rev. Cecil Walley

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION

OBITUARY COMMITTEE

We your obituary committee report as follows:

Corinth Church: Mrs. Julie Best—age 87 years—Died Sept. 1965.

Love Well Church: Cornold Walley—age 43 years—Died March 28, 1966.

County Line Church:—F. O. Banks—age unknown.

Thompson Creek Church: Mrs. McKee—age 51 years—Died March, 1966. We feel that our loss is Heaven's gain.

Sister Mrs. Booker

Sister Margaret Mills

Sister Myrtle Phillips

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

1. We recommend that when the church letters are accepted by the association with the minister's name on the letter, that the Ministers be accepted in good standing by virtue of the church letter being accepted.

2. We recommend that the Moderator appoint another committee of five members to study and revise the constitution and present the revised copy at the next regular session.

3. We recommend that the association sponsor a one day Bible conference in the spring on a day to be decided by this association and another conference on the last Saturday before the association. The Moderator to appoint some one to plan the program.

4. We recommend that the clerk of this association be given authority to have the typewriter cleaned and necessary repairs done.

5. We recommend that the Ministers give an annual report and that the clerk place a condensed form of these reports in the minutes.

6. We recommend to accept the invitation from Pascogoula for the next session of the association.

7. We recommend that we represent at the State association when convened at Fellow Ship Church and the Moderator appoint five delegates from this association.

8. We recommend that the officers of this association serve as an Executive Committee and give a written report of any business transacted in behalf of the association at the next regular session.

9. We recommend that article 9 in the constitution be changed to read "Tabled in the Morning and acted upon in the afternoon of the regular session."

In case of a one day session only.

It was adopted for a committee to study and rewrite the constitution. The Moderator appointed the following committee:

Rev. C. C. Brewer—Chairman

Rev. Dan Gaskins

Rev. G. J. Hollingsworth

Rev. Leander McAdams

The association set the day in the spring for the Bible conference on Saturday before Easter Sunday to be held at County Line Church.

The Moderator appointed the following delegates to represent the South Mississippi association at the State association:

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION

Sister E. C. Kelton
Sister Leander McAdams
Sister Rena Walley
Sister Vaudie Walley
Bro. Ammon Brewer

ELECTING OFFICERS

The association body voted to elect the same officers that are now serving:

Rev. Truman Freeman—Moderator
Rev. Daniel Gaskins—Asst. Moderator
Mrs. Robert Mills—Clerk
Bro. Tony Hollifield—Treas.

CONGRATULATION COMMITTEE

We your congratulation committee wish to express our appreciation and thanks to the good ladies of Love Well Church for the delicious food and the hospitality. We thank God for making this day possible. May God bless our association until we meet again.

Mrs. Wilda McAdams
Bobby G. Mills
Arthur Hinton

It was adopted to use Quarterly Meeting letters for associational letters.

The Rules of Decorum and the Constitution will be left out of the minutes this year only for the purpose of studying and to revise.

Done by vote of the association.

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION

ARTICLES OF FAITH

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

2. God. There is only one living and true God revealed in nature as the Creator, Presever, 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 Savior and Lord.

4. The Holy Spirit. The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God.

5. The Government of God. God exercised a wise and benevolent province 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 tenderness 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, suffering, death, and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that in full and free is the ground of salvation by faith.

8. The Terms of Salvation. The conditions of Salvation are:

1. Repentence of sincere sorrow for sin and hearty reunication of it.

2. Faith or the unreserved commital of one's self to Christ as Savior 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 Sprit, freed from the dominion of sin, and becomes a child of God.

3. Continuation in faith and obedience until death.

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

10. Freedom of the Will. The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth of 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 perservere 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 endorsed it in the Gospel (Matt. 23-24) and the Apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let everyone of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him." (1 Cor. 16-2).

15. The Christian Sabbath. The Divine Law requires that one day in seven be set aside from secular employment and amusements, for rest, worship Holy works, and activities and for personal communications with God.

16. Resurrection. 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 with 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 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 or 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 for us we are able to promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principles sacred and Christian obligations and enterprise supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society constantly by 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.

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS QUARTERLY MEETING

PREAMBLE

We, the Free Will Baptist of South Mississippi's Quarterly Meeting, for the sake of strength that comes of unity and oneness of purpose, for the advancement of the cause of Christ, for the glory of God and the good of Mankind, do ordain and establish this constitution and By-Laws.

CONSTITUTION

Article 1. This organization shall be known as the Quarterly Meeting of the South Mississippi association of Free Will Baptist Churches.

Article 2. Section 1: This body shall be composed of delegates elected from local churches that belong to this Quarterly Meeting, and from time to time on approval of this body, other churches desiring membership will be accepted.

Section 2: All deacons and ordained or licensed ministers who are members of this body and who are in good standing with a local church, which is in good standing with this body, are standing delegates.

Section 3: The general officers shall be standing delegates.

Section 4: It is understood that the South Mississippi Quarterly Meeting has no judicial authority over any local church, nor grant any judicial authority to any representative body to which it belongs.

Article 3 Representation:

Section 1. Every church affiliated with the South Mississippi Quarterly Meeting shall be represented with two delegates. A report from each church shall be rendered at each session.

Section 2. A three-man Resolution Committee and Finance Committee appointed by the Moderator in previous session shall serve as delegates until dismissed by this body.

Article 4. Officers and Committees:

Section 1. The officers of this body shall be a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk, and Treasurer. Each of whom shall be elected for a term of one year.

Section 2: The Executive Committee shall be composed of the general officers of this body.

Section 3. A temporary Committee shall be appointed at the option of the Meeting for whatever deemed necessary.

Section 5. A Resolution Committee of three shall be appointed by the Moderator at the beginning of each session for the purpose of digesting each letter represented by local churches. The Committee will report back to this body immediately after morning recess.

Section 5. A Resolution Committee of three shall be appointed by the Moderator at the close of each session to serve at next session.

Article 5. Contributions: Each church shall contribute five dollars as its representative fee. All funds shall be used for the work and general expenses of the Quarterly Meeting. Expenditures and all funds must be approved of by this body.

Article 6. We adopt the treaties of the National Association of Free Will Baptist as our articles of faith and practice.

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION

Article 7. Meetings: This body shall meet on Saturday before each fifth Sunday with the exception of Saturday before the fifth Sunday preceeding the Annual Association.

Article 8. Amendments: This Constitution may be altered or amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present in a regular session. All amendments shall be placed on the table during the morning session and adopted during the afternoon session, and shall be read at least one time during this period.

BY-LAWS

I. Duties of Officers:

1. The Moderator shall preside over this body during each session.
2. The Assistant Moderator shall assume the duties of the Moderator during his absence.
3. The Clerk shall call each session to order and to make and keep records of all business procedures of each session. The Clerk shall be allowed ten dollars for services at each session.
4. The Assistant Clerk shall assume the duties of the clerk in his absence and to assist the clerk when called upon.
5. The Treasurer shall keep funds, pay all bills, and keep records of receipts and disbursements.
6. No delegate, minister or deacon shall absent himself from the body during a session without permission.
7. All business shall be brought before the body by motion and second and shall be exposed of according to Robert's Rules of Order.
8. Only one person shall speak at a time and he or she must arise and address the Moderator.
9. No person shall be interrupted while speaking unless he departs from the subject under discussion or used words of personal reflection, and then only by the Moderator.

II. Duties of the Executive Committee:

10. They shall have power to act in behalf of and for this body from one session to another. Any action taken by this Committee shall be submitted to this body in writing for approval.
11. All ministers coming to this body from other associations must bring a letter from that association and his church to become a member of this body.
12. All reports, resolutions, and recommendations shall be considered properly presented to this body in written form only.
13. It is requested that all churches presenting resolutions, the same must be attached to church letter to be given to Resolution Committee to be presented to this body.
14. These By-Laws may be altered or amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present in a regular session of this body. All amendments shall be placed on the table during the morning session and adopted or rejected during the afternoon session and shall be read at least one time during this period.

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION

CHURCHES REPORTS

	Value	Pd. Pastor	Pd. Assoc.	Expenses	Evangelistic	Education
Bethel	\$3,500.00	\$266.59	\$ 7.00	\$300.00	\$ 57.00	\$ 60.00
Buckatunna	2,100.00	740.00	12.00	221.84	225.00	60.95
Corinth	2,600.00	645.82	10.92	240.19	136.00	44.65
County Line	3,500.00	560.00	10.00	0	100.00	32.00
Fellow Ship	2,500.00	1,820.00	10.00	1,517.50	178.47	269.46
First F.W.B.	?	102.00	10.00	0	137.15	36.00
Lee's Chapel (Jones Co.)	10,000.00	2,785.00	10.00	100.00	207.50	152.97
Lee's Chapel	6,000.00	637.50	10.00	756.00	125.00	45.00
Lee's Chapel (Wayne Co.)						
Lovewell	10,000.00	1,200.00	20.00	500.00	0	99.95
Pine Grove		100.00	5.00	0	0	20.00
Thompson Creek	5,200.00	240.00	10.00	268.00	135.00	36.00
Quarterly Meeting						
Pd. Assoc.			30.00			
Total			\$144.92			

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION

MINISTERS REPORTS

Name	Sermons Preached	Couples Married	Funerals Conducted	Baptised	Churches Pastored
Rev. Roy Pearson	72	1	1	6	1
Rev. J. Palmer	?	2	0	0	0
Rev. Marshal Walters	?	0	0	0	0
Rev. A. J. Conway	?	2	0	1	1
Rev. Truman Freeman	120	2	3	2	2
Rev. R. H. McCuin	100	3	2	0	1
Rev. G. J. Hollingsworth	?	1	2	0	0
Rev. C. C. Brewer	60	0	4	0	2
Rev. Leander McAdams	126	0	0	1	1
Rev. W. H. Henderson	?	0	2	0	0
Rev. E. C. Kelton	?	0	0	2	?
Rev. Daniel Gaskins	125	1	1	0	2
Rev. Monroe Holifield	? No Report				
Rev. Cecil Walley	? No Report				
Rev. L. D. Walley	? No Report				

10-22-67
Recommendations from ~~Board~~ Church
board to Business meeting

1. That the ^{church} give 10% of offering to various missions. (Regular offering only) 2% foreign, 2% home, 2% Bible College, 4% state missions. To begin Nov. 1, 1967.
2. That the Pastor pay his own utilities until the Church becomes financially able to begin paying same.
3. That the Auxiliary ladies ~~to~~ re-organize at their ~~own~~ discretion.
4. That the Pastor Contact Bro. Van Dale Hudson to be our evangelist for next summer revival.
5. That the business meeting be changed from Wednesday ^{with} to Sunday morning immediately after service.