

MINUTES  
Of the  
*60th Annual Session*  
of the  
**South Mississippi Association**  
Of  
**FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

CONVENING WITH  
*First Free Will Baptist Church*  
OF PASCAGOULA  
*September 2, 1967*

NEXT SESSION TO CONVENE WITH  
*Corinth Free Will Baptist Church*  
of Wayne County  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1968 at 9:00 A.M.

—OFFICERS—

REV. TRUMAN FREEMAN—Moderator  
REV. DANIEL GASKINS—Asst. Moderator  
MRS. ROBERT MILLS, Waynesboro, Rt. 3—Clerk

## **SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION**

---

### **PROCEEDINGS**

The Sixtieth Annual Session of the South Mississippi Association of Free Will Baptists, convened with The First Free Will Baptist Church of Pascagoula, Mississippi Saturday before the first Sunday in September, 1967. The moderator, Rev. Truman Freeman, called the body to order at 10:00 A.M., after the song "What A Friend," directed by Bobby Glen Mills and a prayer by Rev. Roy Pearson. The moderator appointed Rev. C. C. Brewer to bring a short devotion. Bro. Brewer read from the 119 Psalms. The moderator then declared the body in order for business. The moderator appointed Sister Dimple Brewer as Reading Clerk.

### **ENROLLING OF MINISTERS**

1. Rev. Truman Freeman, Rt. 1, Richton, Miss. 39476
2. Rev. Daniel Gaskins, Philadelphia, Miss.
3. Rev. R. H. McCuin, Rt. 1, Richton, Miss. 39476
4. Rev. Cecil Walley, Rt. 1, Richton, Miss. 39476
5. Rev. C. C. Brewer, Rt. 1, Richton, Miss. 39476
6. Rev. A. J. Conway, Richton, Miss. 39476
7. Rev. J. G. Hollingsworth, Star Route, Atmore, Ala.
8. Rev. E. C. Kelton, Rt. 3, Richton, Miss. 39476
9. Rev. L. O. Walley, Rt. 1, Pascagoula, Miss.
10. Rev. Roy Pearson.
11. Rev. Doyle Bishop.
12. Rev. B. Z. Byrd.
13. Rev. J. K. Walley.

### **ENROLLING OF DEACONS**

1. Marvin Dykes—County Line.
2. B. O. McLain—Love Well.
3. S. R. Browning—Pascagoula.
4. Buddy Nowels—Corinth.
5. Leroy Shows—Bethel.
6. Jimmy Walley—Fellowship.
7. Wilbern Booker—Pascagoula

### **ENROLLING OF CHURCHES AND DELEGATES**

1. Bethel—Leroy Shows and Darlene Walley.
2. Lee's Chapel (Wayne County)—Pearline Stennett.
3. Love Well—Laverne Brewer, Columbus Brewer and Velma Walley.
4. Corinth—Lucy Nowell, Mag Walley and Tom Walley.

## **SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION**

---

5. Thompson Creek—Mrs. Lewis Skipper and Mrs. Harvey West.
6. Buckatunna—Bud Burgess and Pauline Burgess.
7. Fellowship—Vaudie Walley and Margie Brewer.
8. Lee's Chapel (Jones County)—Joe Grantham and Deborah Grantham.
9. County Line—Shirley Phillips and Robbie Mills.
10. Pine Grove—

### **CALL FOR PETITIONARY LETTERS**

None

### **QUARTERLY MEETING REPORT**

The South Mississippi Quarterly Meeting of Free Will Baptists greet you by letter and send our beloved Sisters B. Z. Byrd and E. C. Kelton to confer with you in any business. We met three times as follows:

Lee's Chapel (Jones County), October 29, 1966.

County Line, January 28, 1967.

First F. W. B. Church, Pascagoula, April 29, 1967.

Bro. B. Z. Byrd was examined to be licensed to preach at the request of Lee's Chapel Church (Jones County), and was recommended back to his church for them to license him.

At the request of the Lee's Chapel Church (Jones County), we withdrew fellowship from Rev. Leander McAdams, former pastor of said church of which we had to evict him by law from the parsonage due to his unwillingness to cooperate with the church and also property damage to the church. Fellowship to be restored in Quarterly Meeting when he makes proper restitution to church.

We sent \$10.00 to the State Treasurer for General Funds.

We sent \$25.00 to the Bible Conference at County Line for Mississippi State Missions.

We received a love offering for Rev. Roy Pearson in the amount of \$21.00 to help him as a student at the Free Will Bible College.

We sent \$30.00 from the Quarterly Meeting to the association for minute funds.

Rev. R. H. McCuin, Mod.; Rev. Dan Gaskins, Clerk;  
Rev. B. Z. Byrd, Treasurer

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

Following the accepting of the Quarterly Letter the moderator recessed for ten minutes.

## **SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION**

---

### **AFTER RECESS**

The body assembled and Rev. R. H. McCuin conducted the songs: "Sunlight" and "Victory in Jesus".

Prayer for Bro. Holifield by Rev. J. K. Walley.

### **APPOINTMENT OF VARIOUS COMMITTEES**

Sunday School—Velma Walley, A. J. Conway and Mrs. E. C. Kelton.

Temperance—Lillian Malone, Shirley Phillips, and Margie Brewer.

Resolution—Rev. Roy Pearson, Bud Burgess and Mrs. B. Z. Byrd.

Obituary—Darlene Walley, Rev. C. C. Brewer and Rev. R. H. McCuin.

Congratulations—Vaudie Walley, Robbie Mills and Mag Walley.

Ordaining—Rev. Dan Gaskins, Rev. J. K. Walley, and E. C. Kelton.

**Appointment of Treasurer (For Today)—Rev. B. Z. Byrd**

Following the appointment of various committees, Rev. Cecil Walley brought the 11 o'clock message; reading from the fifth chapter of St. Luke beginning with the 13th verse.

We were dismissed for lunch with prayer by Rev. R. H. McCuin.

### **AFTERNOON SESSION**

The moderator called the body to order. A special song by Rev. R. H. McCuin and his wife, Barbara. Title: "Well Done My Child." Prayer by Rev. Truman Freeman. A motion was made to change date of association meeting. Voted to leave to Resolution Committee.

The moderator called for various committee's reports.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEES**

We the Sunday School Committee in checking the reports find that over the past year there has been much improvement in the Sunday Schools.

We want the association to be much in prayer for our Sunday Schools for the next year.

Mrs. E. C. Kelton

Rev. A. J. Conway

Velma Walley

### **RESOLUTION COMMITTEE**

We the Resolution Committee make the following reports:

1. We recommend that each member of our association become more mission minded and inform themselves of our mission works.

## **SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION**

---

2. We recommend that the association recess and meet on the close of the next Quarterly Meeting for the purpose of revising the Rules and Constitution of the association. We recommend this because for two years a committee has been appointed to revise the rules, but has failed to act.

3. We recommend that a three member Board of Christian Education be appointed for the purpose of promoting the C.T.S. Sunday School and youth work in our association. Referred to Revision Committee.

4. We recommend that the moderator be given the authority to appoint five lay delegates to the State Association and that we send \$30.00 representative fee.

5. We recommend that the moderator appoint a five member Revision Committee to revise the rules and the constitution of this association and that appointed committee report to the association.

6. We recommend that the clerk of the association be given authority to order ministerial cards in good standing and issue accordingly.

7. We recommend that we accept the invitation of Corinth Church for next year's association meeting.

"Grace be unto you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." (Phil. 1:2)

J. C. Burgess  
Rev. Roy Pearson  
Mrs. B. Z. Byrd

### **TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE**

We urge that Christians should be temperate in all things; to abstain from all sinful amusements and from the use and sale of all intoxicating beverages. We urge that we be temperate in our eating and to our fellowman.

Shirley Phillips  
Margie Brewer

### **OBITUARY COMMITTEE**

We, your Obituary Committee, report as follows:

Bro. Andrew Anderson—Lee's Chapel (Wayne County).

Bro. Jim Patrick—Pine Grove.

Bro. W. A. Mason (age 99)—Buckatunna.

Bro. Bura Sanderson (age 64)—Corinth.

We feel that our loss is Heaven's gain.

Rev. R. H. McCuin  
Darline Walley  
Rev. C. C. Brewer



## **SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION**

---

### **ORDAINING COMMITTEE**

We, the Ordaining Council, examined Bro. B. Z. Byrd for ordination of the Gospel Ministry in the Free Will Baptist Church and found him worthy and sound in the Free Will Baptist Doctrine and practices and hereby recommend that he be ordained.

We examined Sam Ronnie Browning to be ordained as a deacon in the First Free Will Baptist Church, Pascagoula and hereby recommend that he be ordained.

Prayerfully submitted,

Rev. Dan Gaskins

Rev. J. K. Walley

Rev. E. C. Kelton

Moderator asked for a ten minute recess. Dismissed with prayer by Rev. Dan Gaskins.

### **AFTER RECESS**

The moderator appointed five members to revise the rules and constitution as follows:

L. D. Walley, Dan Gaskins, R. H. McCuin, Lena Mills, and J. K. Walley.

### **ORDINATION SERVICES**

Song, "I'll Live in Glory" led by J. K. Walley.

Message by R. H. McCuin. Read from Isa. 52:7 and Timothy 4. Charge for Ronnie Browning by Rev. Dan Gaskins, prayer of consecration by J. K. Walley.

Ronnie was given the right hand of fellowship.

Charge for Bro. B. Z. Byrd by Rev. Dan Gaskins, prayer of consecration by Rev. Gaskins. Song, "I Want to be Ready to Meet Him," led by R. H. McCuin. Bro. Byrd was given the right hand of fellowship.

Remarks by Bro. Byrd and wife and by Bro. Browning and wife.

### **ELECTING OFFICERS**

The association body voted to elect the following officers:

Rev. J. K. Walley—Moderator.

Rev. Roy Pearson—Asst. Moderator.

Mrs. Robert Mills—Clerk.

Tony Hollifield—Treasurer.

### **CONGRATULATION COMMITTEE**

We, your Congratulation Committee, wish to express our appreciation and thanks to the people of the First Free Will Baptist

## SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION

---

Church of Pascagoula for the wonderful hospitality and delicious food. May the Lord richly bless you and our association until we meet again.

Robbie Mills  
Mag Walley  
Vaudie Walley

A special prayer was given by request for Rev. Sykes in his mission work. Prayer was given by Rev. Dan Gaskins.

Moved and seconded that we recess until the 28th day of October, 1967. At that time the Constitution Revising Committee will make their report.

Dismissed in prayer by Mrs. Doyle Bishop.

### SECOND SESSION OF THE SOUTH MISSISSIPPI

### *Free Will Baptist Association*

OCTOBER 28, 1967

2:32 P.M. at

CORINTH FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
of Richton

The clerk read the report of the Constitution Revision Committee. It was decided to act upon this revision at the 1968 association meeting, as presently required by our constitution.

Voted on and passed to give the clerk power to mimeograph 100 copies, to distribute to all the churches.

Moved and seconded to change the time of meeting from Saturday morning to Friday night and Saturday before the third Sunday in November at 7:30 P.M.

Moved and seconded that the clerk send a reminder to each church reminding them of the time of the association meeting.

---

### 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, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the

## SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION

---

Universe, and in the Scriptures as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are to supremely 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) Repentance of sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation 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 Spirit, 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 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, and ordinances teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.

14. Tithing. God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ endorsed it in the Gospel (Matt. 23:23) and the Apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let everyone



## SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION

---

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 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 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 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.

# **SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION**

---

## **Constitution and By-Laws Quarterly Meeting Preamble**

We, the Free Will Baptists 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 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, 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 4: A Resolution Committee of three shall be appointed by the Moderator at the beginning of each session for the purpose of digesting each letter presented 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 by this body.

## SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION

---

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

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 meeting.

### 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 disposed 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 uses 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.

## SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION

---

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.

### MINISTERS REPORTS

	Sermons Preached	Couples Married	Funerals Conducted	Baptized Churches	Pastored
Rev. Roy Pearson .....	106	0	1	0	1
Rev. Truman Freeman .....	110	4	4	15	2
Rev. R. H. McCuin .....	120	0	1	0	1
Rev. Daniel Gaskins .....	194	0	1	0	2
Rev. E. C. Kelton—Unknown					
Rev. A. J. Conway .....	0	2	0	2	0
Rev. Marshall Walters .....	0	0	0	0	2
Rev. J. K. Walley .....	150	1	3	6	1
Rev. C. C. Brewer—No Report					
Rev. W. H. Henderson—No Report					
Rev. Cecil Walley—No Report					
Rev. L. D. Walley—No Report					

## CHURCH REPORTS

	Value	Paid Pastor	Paid Assn.	Expenses	Evangelistic	Education
Fellowship .....	\$25,000.00	\$3,120.00	\$10.00	\$6,110.00	\$350.00	\$140.00
County Line .....	3,500.00	515.00	5.00	753.00	100.00	34.00
Lovewell .....	6,000.00	1,200.00	10.00	300.00	125.00	200.00
Bethel .....	3,700.00	152.00	11.00	0	66.00	0
Buckatunna .....	2,100.00	730.00	10.00	1,258.53	286.00	41.51
Corinth .....	5,000.00	917.36	10.00	370.00	125.00	56.15
Thompson Creek ...	5,300.00	500.00	10.00	300.00	90.00	50.00
Lee's Chapel .....	10,000.00	1,597.00	10.00	1,875.74	75.00	140.00
Pascagoula .....		462.00	10.00	0	120.00	82.17
Pine Grove .....		80.00	10.00	282.00	28.00	0



### **—ORDER OF BUSINESS—**

1. Body called to order by moderator.
2. Appointing of reading clerks.
3. Enrolling of 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 of minister's reports.
11. Receiving of committee's reports.
12. Election of officers.
13. Closing.