

The
S. E. Mo. Yearly Meeting
of
Free Will Baptists

1942

Proceedings of the
1942 Annual Session

Convened at
Mine La Motte Church

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

TUESDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Vice President, Rev. C. B. Dees, called Minister's Conference to order.

Devotional led by Dev. Dees.

Opened by singing numbers 98 and 78.

Prayer by Rev. Mark Lewis.

Song No. 97.

Prayer by Rev. J. M. Henderson.

At this time Rev. William Reeves took the stand for the evening message. Scripture, John 1:1-14. He used as a text Matthew 16:18 and as a subject, "Foundation of the Church." A soul stirring message was delivered.

Dismissed by Rev. Dees.

WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION

President, Dev. Damon Dodd, called Conference to order.

Rev. Kermit Esther led us in a devotional service at this time.

Opened with prayer by Sister Gussie Hamblin, followed by singing songs, "His Way With Thee" and "Won't It Be Wonderful There?"

Prayer by Rev. Lewis.

Song, "The Glory-Land Way."

Rev. Esther read a portion of Scripture at this time from John 14:15-31.

A general testimony meeting was conducted in which the Spirit of the Lord was greatly manifested.

Rev. Woodrow Matthews led in prayer.

The devotional was closed by singing the hymn, "I'm Not Ashamed."

Rev. Dodd took charge and read from the Free Will Baptist Treatise of what a Minister's Conference is, its aims, purposes, and duties.

Reading of minutes of previous session. Minutes approved as read.

Three candidates for membership came forward, namely: Rev. Mark Lewis, Rev. Kermit Esther, and Rev. Claude Lincoln. Motion sustained to receive them into full fellowship of the Conference. Motion carried.

Discussion as to the need and use of a Constitution and By-Laws.

Motion sustained that the president be empowered to appoint a committee to form a Constitution and By-Laws with same committee to be close enough (in distance) to be able to work together. Motion carried.

Motion sustained we meet with the next regular session of the Southeast Missouri Yearly Meeting and the Executive Committee be appointed as a Program Committee.

Motion made we take up an offering for the financing of the Ministers' Conference. Amendment to this motion made to the effect we take up an offering just for today. Suggested this plan of finance be temporary and instruct the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws to insert a paragraph as to dues. Offering taken, \$5.00

Motion made and sustained we agree to pay \$1.00 per year for membership dues in this Southeast Missouri Ministers Conference. Suggestion: Clerk remind all members before time of meeting that dues are to be paid.

Motion sustained that the programs for the Ministers' Conference be printed separately, and each minister within the bounds of the Yearly Meeting to be sent a copy with a reminder of the dues. Suggestion: Before adjournment, an open discussion as to whether or not this kind of program was liked.

At this time the president informed us that it was time for the election of officers for the Ministers' Conference for one year.

Rev. Henderson led in prayer at this time.

President declared nominations to be in order for a president. Nominations: Rev. Damon C. Dodd, refused nomination; Rev. Mark Lewis, 5 votes; Rev. Wm. Reeves, 2 votes.

Rev. Mark Lewis elected president and then given a vote of unanimous approval.

Rev. Lewis took office of President at this time and expressed his appreciation of our vote of confidence.

Nominations declared to be in order for vice president: Rev. C. B. Dees nominated.

Motion sustained that nominations cease and we proceed to elect by acclamation.

Suggestion: Vice President be chairman of our enlistment program to encourage and interest all ministers in the Ministers' Conference.

Nominations declared to be in order for a Secretary-Treasurer. Rev. Eunice Edwards nominated.

Motion sustained that nominations cease and we proceed to elect by acclamation.

Five-minute recess.

WEDNESDAY ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Service opened by a devotional led by Rev. Esther. Songs, "I'll Live in Glory" and "Farther Along". Prayer by Rev. Claude Lincoln.

Rev. Dees took the stand for the message, using as a subject, "Building the Church," and read the Scripture, 1 Peter 2:1-11; Text, Matthew 16:18. A truly great message was delivered, giving us a glimpse of the magnitude of our task to make Christ known to the world.

Dismissed for noon recess.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

President called conference to order by the singing of "The Way of the Cross Leads Home."

Rev. Claude Lincoln led the devotional.

Song, "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus."

Prayer by Sister Edwards.

Song, "When the Redeemed are Gathering In."

Scripture read, Psalms 23.

President took charge.

Minutes of morning session read and approved.

Committee on Constitution and By-Laws appointed: Rev. Wm. Reeves, Rev. C. B. Dees and Rev. Damon Dodd. This committee is to meet and report before adjournment of yearly meeting.

Discussion as to the need of an enlistment program.

Motion sustained that the Vice President be designated chairman of enlistment committee and him to be given power to appoint anyone to help him that he deems necessary.

Suggestion: A copy of by-laws, minutes of this session, and a personal letter be sent to each minister in this yearly meeting.

Motion sustained we instruct our Vice President to send these copies and any other material to encourage interest that he seems to need.

Open discussion invited about the kind of program

for the next conference. The following suggestions were offered:

Rev. Esther — Each minister bring their outstanding problem of the year to be discussed from the floor. We discuss, "The Qualifications of the Ministry."

Sister Reeves — That younger ministers be put on the program.

Rev. Dodd — The afternoon program be given to sub-topics assigned to individual ministers, and that emphasis be placed on the activities of the denomination.

Rev. Lewis — We use these subjects, "The relation of Preachers to the Church," "The Relation of the Church to the Preachers," using both older and younger ministers.

Ministers present: Eight, namely: Rev. C. B. Dees, Rev. J. M. Henderson, Rev. Mark Lewis, Rev. Damon Dodd, Rev. Wm. Reeves, Rev. Eunice Edwards, Rev. Kermit Esther, Rev. Woodrow Matthews

Open discussion on subject listed in the program, "The Church As I See It?" opened by Rev. Esther; followed by Revs. Edwards, Lincoln, Sister Fancher, Cleaver, Rev. Henderson and Rev. Dodd.

Minutes read of afternoon session.

Motion sustained that minutes be approved and clerk be commended for her faithfulness.

Motion sustained we extend to the Mine La Motte church and the Yearly Meeting a vote of thanks for their kindness and hospitality, and the clerk frame this report in her report to the body.

Motion sustained that we adjourn until the call of the chair in this session.

Copy of recommendations submitted to the Business Committee of the Yearly Meeting:

1. We recommend that this Southeast Missouri Yearly Meeting grant to the Ministers' Conference the privilege of meeting in conjunction with said body and we further recommend that this Ministers' Conference convene Tuesday night for its introductory service with business sessions and program on the following Wednesday.

2. Be it Resolved, That the churches that constitute this Yearly Meeting insist that their pastors, along with any licensed or ordained ministers, belonging thereto, affiliate themselves with the Southeast Missouri Ministers' Conference.

Item No. 1 referred to Business Committee of Yearly Meeting accepted.

Item No. 2 referred to Business Committee of Yearly Meeting accepted.

First item of business in next Ministers' Conference to be report from Committee on Constitution and By-Laws.

Report of clerk read to Yearly Meeting and accepted.

—Rev. Eunice Edwards, Sec'y.-Treas.

ASSOCIATIONAL DIRECTORY

Association Officers

Moderator,	Rev. Mark Lewis, 2043 Sidney, St. Louis, Mo.
Ass't. Mod.,	Rev. Wm. Reeves, Mine La Motte, Mo.
Clerk-Statistician,	O. B. Womack, Leadington, Mo.

Executive Board

Rev. William Reeves	Mine La Motte, Mo.
Rev. J. L. Yancey	Fredericktown, Mo.
Rev. C. B. Dees	Desloge, Mo.

Ordained Ministers

Damon Dodd	Flat River, Mo.
Albert Halbrook	Leadington, Mo.
Alvin Halbrook	Leadington, Mo.
C. B. Dees	Desloge, Mo.
Effie Matthews	Desloge, Mo.
Howard Jarvis	Wortham, Mo.
Mark M. Lewis	St. Louis, Mo.
Claud C. Lincoln	St. Louis, Mo.
Chas. Miller	St. Louis, Mo.
Sam Gill	St. Louis, Mo.
P. S. Cox	St. Louis, Mo.
Eunice Edwards	St. Louis, Mo.
Wm. Reeves	Mine La Motte, Mo.
S. A. Hand	Fredericktown, Mo.
J. L. Yancey	Fredericktown, Mo.
J. M. Henderson	Fredericktown, Mo.
George Miller	Fredericktown, Mo.
John Long	Patton, Mo.
Woodrow Matthews	Mine La Motte, Mo.
Joe Deweese	St. Louis, Mo.
Charles Moyer	Farmington, Mo.

Harvey Hill	St. Louis, Mo.
Wm. Baldwin	Robertson, Mo.
J. F. Miller	Flat River, Mo.

Superannuated Ministers

L. N. Beard	Bismark, Mo.
S. M. Ferguson	Flat River, Mo.
Chas. Canterbury	Knob Lick, Mo.
J. D. Flannery	Farmington, Mo.
Chas. Wood	Fredericktown, Mo.
Ves Simmons	Mill Creek, Mo.

STATISTICAL REPORT

Number Churches, July 1, 1942	15
Number churches reporting	14
State of Religion	Good
Number churches without pastors	none
Membership July 1, 1941	1,439
New churches received	none
Number churches disbanded	none
Members received July 1, 1941 to July 1, 1942	97
Number baptized	46
Number dismissed by letter	18
Number excluded	56
Number deceased	10
Number resident members	1,026
Number non-resident members	426
Number churches July 1, 1942	15
Total membership July 1, 1942	1,452
Number tithers	51
Number prayer meetings	9
Number leagues	8
League membership	360
Number Home Missions	4
Home Mission membership	162
Number Sunday Schools	13
Total Sunday School enrollment	1,066
Number officers	55
Number teachers	73
Number ordained ministers	29
Number licensed ministers	15
Number ordained deacons	40
Amount paid pastors	\$3,434.12

Amount paid for evangelist work	\$1,061.85
Amount paid for building and repairs	\$3,223.37
Amount paid for incidentals	\$1,193.21
Value of church property	\$28,400.00
Amount for Foreign Missions	\$275.85
Amount for Home Missions	\$520.18
Amount for Education	\$651.70
Amount for Superannuation	none
Amount for Publication (S. S. Literature, etc.)	\$430.20
Amount for Unified Fund	\$456.15
Amount for Budget Money	\$24.60

P R O C E E D I N G S

Minutes of the Southeast Missouri Yearly Meeting held at the Mine La Motte Church, August 18-21, 1942.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Moderator in charge, with singing songs No. 172 & 78.

Prayer in the altar led by Rev. James Barker and concluded by Sister Zinn.

Rev. Woodrow Matthews preached the introductory sermon, using for a scripture lesson Eph. 6:6-8. His subject was from the 6th verse, "Doing the Will of God from the Heart". A very spiritual message was delivered.

A this time a temporary pulpit committee was named consisting of Bro. Reeves, Gussie Hamblin and Rose Sharp. They chose Rev. Zinn to preach on Thursday at 11:00 a. m.

The meeting closed with benediction.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

The meeting was called to order by the moderator.

The devotional services were led by Bro. Leonard White of St. Louis, Missouri. Scripture lesson 1 Thess. 4; followed by singing and prayer.

Moderator assumed charge.

Letters from Madison County and St. Francois County Quarterly Meetings were read. There were a number of delegates absent from Madison County Q. M. Proxies were named to take care of the absentees.

The moderator declared the delegates seated and ready for the transaction of business.

Election of officers: Rev. Mark Lewis, moderator;

Rev. Wm. Reeves, assistant moderator; Bro. O. B. Womack re-elected clerk-treasurer and statistician.

Motion carried to allow the clerk to ask for help when needed.

The Executive Board had nothing to report other than assisting Bro. Yancey to arrange for his certificate.

Motion carried to receive the Executive Board report.

THURSDAY ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Service begin with Bro. Albert Tucker in charge of devotional.

Singing and prayer by Bro. Dodd.

Scripture lesson, Matt. 6.

Rev. Zinn took the stand; scripture lesson, Heb. 12; subject, "The Christian Race"—a very forceful message.

The following committees were appointed:

Business Committee — Damon Dodd, chairman, Effie Mathews, Arnold Stone, Alvin Halbrook, Vada Reeves.

Pulpit Committee — Wm. Reeves, Gussie Hamblin and Thelma Lewis.

Credential Committee — A. J. Pitchford, chairman, Alex Wampler and James LaBrot.

Denominational Enterprises — C. B. Dees, chairman, Woodrow Matthews and Eunice Edwards.

Benediction; dinner.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Called together by the moderator with singing.

The church covenant was read concluding with prayer by Sister Long.

Partial report of committee on divine service. Bro. Mark Lewis to preach at 7:30 p. m. service and Bro. Damon Dodd to preach at eleven a. m. Friday.

Mission Workers program given with Rev. Effie Matthews in charge.

Motion carried that the mission workers continue to carry on for another year.

Yearly Meeting business resumed at this time.

An altar service of prayer for Bro. and Sister Dodd was held, and while this service was in progress an offering was taken to buy a horse and saddle for our missionary in Cuba.

Adjourned until Friday morning at 9:00 a. m.

THURSDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Devotional conducted by Rev. Damon Dodd, with singing songs No. 37 and 106.

Prayer by Bro. Alex Wampler; song No. 82.

Prayer by Rev. J. M. Henderson.

Rev. Lewis took the stand and read for the Scripture lesson, Gen. 26; subject, Re-digging the Wells of our Fathers.' A stirring message was delivered, concluded with an altar call.

Another offering was taken for our missionary in Cuba. The total offering for this work including the offering Thursday morning was \$47.12.

Benediction by Rev. S. A. Hand.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Called to order by moderator at 9:15 a. m.

Devotional conducted by Rev. Albert Halbrook.

Singing; prayer by Sister Erma Berry.

Scripture lesson: Isaiah 55; singing.

Moderator took charge.

Minutes of the previous session read and approved.

The Young People's League failed to report to the Yearly Meeting.

The minutes of the Ministers Conference was read and motion carried to accept the minute.

Partial report of the business committee. Motion carried to accept the report for discussion:

Motion carried to adopt items 1 and 2 of the Business Committee report. (See committee reports.)

Report of Credential Committee that the following ministers be granted their certificate of standing: Rev. Effie Matthews, Claude C. Lincoln, C. B. Dees, J. M. Henderson, Charles Miller, Mark M. Lewis, Eunice Edwards, S. A. Hand, Joe Deweese, Wm. Reeves, Damon Dodd, Woodrow Matthews, P. S. Cox, Charles Moyers, Sam Gill, John Long, George Miller, J. L. Yancey and Howard Jarvis. Action on this report was with held until afternoon for further investigation by committee on credentials.

Recess for eleven o'clock service.

FRIDAY ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Service begin with the moderator in charge with sing-

ing; prayer by Bro. James LaBrot.

Singing by the congregation.

Rev. Dodd proceeded to bring the message of the hour. Scripture read from Acts 1:8-9. At this time Bro. Dodd led in prayer. Subject, "Bridge Building". A very forceful message was delivered.

The service ended with a Christian handshake.

Dismissed for dinner.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Services begin with singing led by the moderator.

Scripture read from Gal 6.

Song by Brother and Sister Zinn and Brother and Sister Dodd.

After consideration of their previous report, the committee on credentials recommended that the above listed ministered be granted their certificate of standing with the exception of Rev. Howard Jarvis whose card they recommended be withheld until further investigation.

This matter was placed in the hands of the St. Francois Co. Quarterly Meeting board, the cause being the preaching of unsound doctrine.

Motion carried to adopt the report of the credential committee.

Report of Denominational Enterprise committee given.

Motion carried to adopt Items 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 of the Denominational Enterprise committee. (See committee reports).

Motion carried that the Yearly Meeting Executive Board have charge of raising the minute money.

At this time the moderator was empowered to appoint delegates to the State Association as follows: Gussie Hamblin, Hazel Scott, Blanche Tucker, Erma Berry, Blanche Dane, Bulah Henson, Maxine Rogers, Bertha Sanders, Melvina Heuy, Helen McCraw, Katherine Pettus, Alma Henry, Clarence Dane, Marie Sherrill, Alma Adams and Clifford McCraw.

Motion carried that should there be any of these absent at the State Association replacement will be made with any one attending from this Yearly Meeting.

Final report of Business Committee received with a motion to adopt the items. (See committee reports.)

The Business Committee also recommend that in ac-

cordance with the ruling of the National Association while in session in Columbus, Miss., last July that this Yearly Meeting pay its fee of \$5.00 which is assessed each local association. Motion carried to adopt this recommendation.

Motion carried that we meet with the Flat River Church for the next session of the Yearly Meeting.

Motion carried that Rev. James Barker preach the introductory sermon; Rev. Alvin Halbrook, alternate.

The financial report of all money received and paid out since 1941 session of the Yearly Meeting was read by the secretary and a motion carried to accept the report.

There being no further business to come before the body a motion carried to adjourn.

Prayer by the moderator.

—O. B. Womack, Sec'y.-Treas.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Denominational Enterprise Committee

Item No. 1 — We recommend that each church in this Yearly Meeting take a special offering each month to be used for the school at Nashville, Tennessee.

Item No. 2 — We recommend that each church in this Yearly Meeting take an offering on a designated Sunday each month for foreign missions for the coming year.

Item No. 3 — We recommend that this Yearly Meeting adopt the recommendations of the National Home Mission Board and and give the sum of \$1.00 per month to the National Home Mission Board treasurer.

Item No. 4 — We recommend that this Yearly Meeting adopt the national program of work as much as possible.

Item No. 5 — We recommend that if possible funds be raised for the purpose of having minutes of each session of this Yearly Meeting printed and distributed among the churches.

Business Committee

Item No. 1 — We recommend that this Southeast Missouri Yearly Meeting grant the Ministers Conference the privilege of meeting in conjunction with this body, and we further recommend that the Ministers' Conference meet on Tuesday night before the Yearly Meeting proper for its introductory sermon, and business on Wednesday following.

Item No. 2—Be it Resolved, That the churches constituting this yearly meeting insist that their pastors, along with any license minister belonging there, to affiliate themselves with the Ministers' Conference.

Item No. 4—Be it Resolved, That this body extend to the church of Mine La Motte and the good people of the community a standing vote of thanks for hospitality in entertaining this session of the Yearly Meeting.

Item No. 5—Be it Resolved, That this body stand in a moment of silent prayer in respect to and for the physical and spiritual preservation of the boys of this Yearly Meeting who are in the armed service of our country.

Financial Report

RECEIVED:

Golden Gate	\$1.00
Golden Oak	1.00
Richwoods	1.00
Flat River	2.50
Aulsberry Chapel	1.00
Berkley City (for Yearly Meeting)	2.00
Berkley City (for State Association)	2.00
Fredericktown	1.00
Mine La Motte	1.00
Union Light	1.00
Wortham	1.00
Third St. Louis Church	1.00
Desloge (for Yearly Meeting)	1.80
Desloge (for State Association)	1.80
Old Bethel	1.00
Leadington	1.00

Total received \$21.10

(Yearly Meeting share, \$17.30; State Ass'n. share \$3.80)

Balance brought forward from Sept. 5, 1941 \$12.47

Total Yearly Meeting money received 21.10

Total \$33.57

PAID OUT:

Disb., mailing, stationary, etc. \$2.99

Secretary salary 5.00

Paid to State Association (Rev. Winford Davis) .. 3.80

Total \$11.79

Balance in treasury \$21.78

ORDER OF THE MEETING OF THE SOUTHEAST MISSOURI YEARLY MEETING WHILE IN REGULAR SESSION

No. 1—When the delegated body shall meet Thursday morning at 9 o'clock before the second Sunday in September of each year for the transaction of legal business, the Moderator or in his absence, the assistant of the Moderator shall call the meeting to order, and invite all to take part in congregational singing.

After a sufficient number of songs the Moderator shall read or have read some suitable scripture, then someone shall offer prayer.

No. 2—If it is found that a delegation is present from both quarterly meetings, the Moderator declares a quorum present to transact business.

No. 3—The letters from the quarterly meetings are read and the delegates are seated. All ordained and licensed ministers who are in good standing and full fellowship with some church in the yearly meeting shall by virtue of said authority be made standing delegates in the yearly meeting, also ordained deacons and church clerks together with treasurers.

No. 4—When all delegates both elected and standing have been seated, the body will then proceed to elect officers as required by rule No. 1 governing the organization. Each officer elected shall be instructed in the duties of the office to which they have been elected. The instructions to be given by the Moderator or someone qualified to do so.

No. 5—The Moderator elected shall at once take charge of the meeting and shall when presented preside over all meetings. In the absence of the Moderator, the assistant Moderator shall preside over the meetings.

No. 6—The Moderator shall appoint all committees unless otherwise ruled by the body.

No. 7—The Moderator shall have the privilege to solicit the help of any minister or delegate present in appointing committees.

No. 8—After the organization has been completed, corresponding messengers and visiting brethrens from other religious bodies are invited to a seat in council. Should there be letters of greetings or reports from other bodies, they may at this time be read.

No. 9—All items of business coming to this yearly meeting except routine business must come through the business committee or a committee appointed for that special purpose.

No. 10—Before any question can properly be discussed by the delegated body, it must be before the body by a legal motion properly sustained. All questions are settled by a majority vote of the delegates present. When a question is properly before the body any regular delegate has a right to speak on the

subject. No person shall be allowed to speak more than five (5) minutes on any subject at one time and not more than twice on the same subject without special permission from the Moderator.

No. 11 — The Moderator shall have power to stop all discussions that are leading to confusion.

No. 12 — All persons who are pastors of the churches in the bounds of this yearly meeting are required to, when possible at all, to be present at all business meetings and according to the usages of the Free Will Baptist denomination preside over the meetings, encourage the church clerk to keep the minutes and fill out all report blanks to the quarterly meetings and associations.

No. 13 — All ministers who are members of this yearly meeting are required to submit in writing a full and complete report of their ministerial labors for the past year. Failure to do so forfeits their rights to their certificate of ministerial standing. These reports will be read to the body and then given to a committee on credentials for further investigation.

No. 14 — Official papers of this yearly meeting must be signed by the Moderator of the Yearly Meeting and the Secretary.

No. 15 — Each quarterly meeting belonging to the yearly meeting shall be entitled to two delegates for the organization and two delegates for each one hundred members or major fraction thereof belonging to the said quarterly meeting.

No. 16 — Any person who is a delegate to this yearly meeting wishing to speak on any subject properly before the body shall arise and address the chair by saying Bro. Moderator or Bro. Chairman, and shall speak no further until they have been recognized by the Moderator.

Signed: James F. Miller
O. B. Womac
Tommie Franklin

BY-LAWS ADOPTED FOR THE BODY

Known As

The Southeast Missouri Yearly Meeting of the Free Will Baptist Church, and at the present date, composed of the Madison County Quarterly Meeting and St. Francis Quarterly Meeting of the Free Will Baptist denomination.

No. 1 — Governing the organization. The officers of this Yearly Meeting shall be a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Secretary, and Treasurer. There shall also be an executive board of three or more members who are actively engaged in work of the Free Will Baptist Church in Southeast Missouri.

No. 2 — The Moderator and Assistant Moderator shall be elected annually and shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualified.

No. 3 — Choice of these officers shall be made by nomination, and by legal vote. In cases where there is but one nominee the officer shall be elected by acclamation.

No. 4 — The Moderator and Assistant Moderator shall not be elected jointly, but shall be elected separately by nomination and by legal vote.

No. 5 — The Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected by nomination and by legal vote as the Moderator and Assistant Moderator. He or she will hold the office for one year, and be paid a salary agreed upon by he or she and the body. It shall be the duty of said officer to keep an accurate record of the proceedings in a book or books furnished him or her by the body. The said officer agrees to discharge all the duties of the office willingly in the interest of the cause of the Free Will Baptist everywhere.

No. 6 — The executive board shall be elected as other officers but shall serve for a term of three years; term to expire alternately. It shall be the duty of said board between sessions of the Yearly Meeting to be in charge of the work in a general way. They shall act as an advising body for each local body composing this Yearly Meeting. They shall at all times have at heart the cause of Christ and the Free Will Baptist denomination and in all cases act without partiality or respect of persons. They agree to discharge their duty or duties faithfully, to work according to the leadership of the Holy Spirit and the usages of the Yearly Meeting that they are to serve. Should money or any other property of the Yearly Meeting be entrusted to them they shall handle, hold, convey, and convoy said property with the greatest possible care, and will be able at all times to give a full and complete report of all property to the proper authorities.

Suggest the following By-Law be added: Changes made must be by the two-third majority of those present.

FREE WILL BAPTIST 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 the 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 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 principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society; constantly praying and toiling that the kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

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 the 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.

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 souls, and the conversion of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.



