

# *MINUTES*

*Yearly Meeting*

of

*Southeast Missouri*

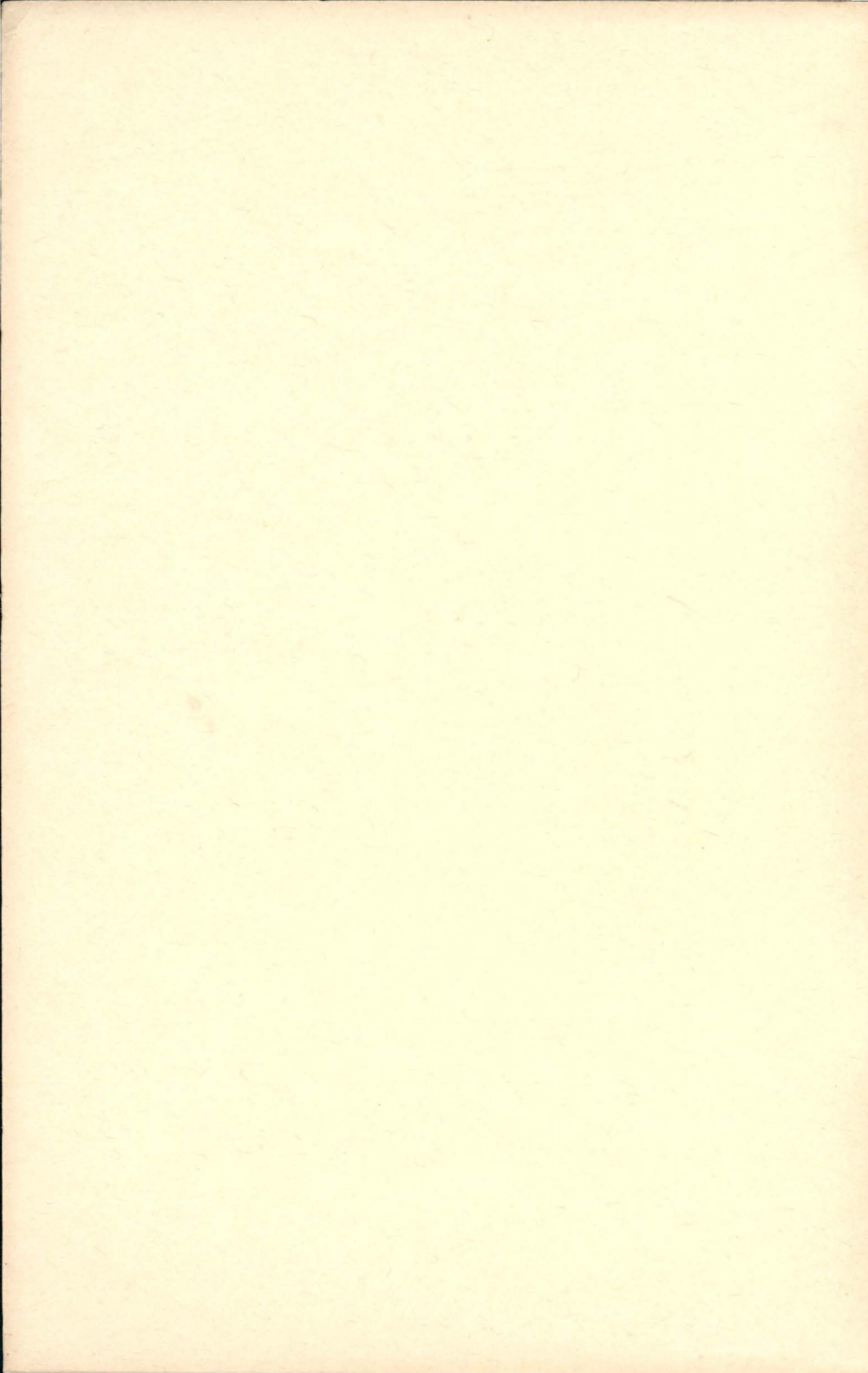
*Free Will Baptists*

and

*Minister's Conference*

*Auxiliary Conference*

*1954*



MRS. EUNICE EDWARDS  
101 North Sixth Street  
Desloge, Missouri

*Yearly Meeting*  
of  
*Southeast Missouri*  
*Free Will Baptists*  
and  
*Minister's Conference*  
*Auxiliary Conference*  
  
*1954*

When Convened With  
MILL CREEK  
Free Will Baptist Church  
Mill Creek, Missouri

Rev. O. D. Matthews, Host Pastor

The 1955 Session of Yearly Meeting to  
Convene with Fredericktown Church  
Fredericktown, Missouri  
August, 1955

# ***SOUTHEAST MISSOURI YEARLY MEETING***

## **OFFICERS**

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Moderator .....           | Rev. James Barker<br>Esther, Mo.           |
| Assistant Moderator ..... | Rev. W. T. Newsome<br>Fredericktown, Mo.   |
| Secretary-Treasurer ..... | Rev. Albert Halbrook<br>Mine La Motte, Mo. |
| Statistician .....        | Rev. Albert Halbrook<br>Mine La Motte, Mo. |

## **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

|                           |         |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Rev. Glen Rehkop .....    | 3 Years |
| Rev. James Franklin ..... | 2 Years |
| Rev. Rolla Smith .....    | 1 Year  |

## ***PROCEEDINGS***

The 61st session of the Southeast Missouri Yearly Meeting of the Free Will Baptist convened with the Mill Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Mill Creek, Mo., August 5-7, 1954.

The Thursday evening service was called to order by Clerk at 7:30 p.m. who after remarks presented Rev. James Barker. The singing was led by Rev. Dean Burpo. Hymns sang No. 14 "There Is Power In The Blood" and No. 87, "Sitting At The Feet of Jesus."

The Moderator appointed a temporary Pulpit Committee as follows: Brothers Leeman Killian, Ted Matthews and Mac Huff.

Welcome address was given by Brother Lee Myers with response by Rev. John Long followed by hymn No. 307, "Amazing Grace."

Rev. Glen Rehkop conducted the devotional service with reading and comments from Psalms 87. Prayer by Rev. Rolla Smith followed by hymn No. 144, "Lord Send Me."

The Moderator presented Rev. James Franklin, Pastor of Southside St. Louis Church who was to deliver the Introductory

Message. Subject announced "What It Cost To Be A Christian." Scripture reading, Luke 14:25-33. Text: Luke 14:33. Prayer by Rev Fred Kirby followed by the message. Rev. Franklin's message was a ringing challenge to each of us to pay the price to obtain power from God. While singing Number 264, "I'll Live For Him" an invitation was offered to the unsaved.

The Temporary Pulpit Committee announced that Rev. Fred Kirby was chosen to deliver the 11:00 o'clock message on Friday.

## FRIDAY MORNING — 9:30 A.M.

Services called to order by Moderator with singing led by Rev O. D. Matthews of hymn No. 314, "I Will Work." Devotions conducted by Rev. Don Ellis with reading of scripture from Psalm 127 followed with comment and prayer.

The Moderator read Article III of the Constitution and asked for the standing delegates to stand.

The Assistant Clerk read the letters from the Madison County and St Francois County Quarterly Meetings, and the absentee delegates were replaced by appointments. The standing delegates were again asked to stand after which motion was made and sustained to receive the letters and seat the delegates.

Rev. Alvin Halbrook, Bryan, Texas; Rev. William Buster, Thebes, Illinois and Clinton Fulton, Presbyterian Minister of Sedgewickville, Mo. were recognized as Corresponding Messengers and visiting brethren.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Rev. James Barker elected Moderator by acclamation. Rev. W. T. Newsome elected Assistant by acclamation. Rev. Albert Halbrook elected Secretary-Treasurer by acclamation. Rev. Albert Halbrook elected Statistician by acclamation. Rev. Glen Rehkop was elected as a member of the Executive Board for a period of three years.

Rev. William Buster led in prayer in behalf of the elected officials of the Yearly Meeting followed by singing of hymn No. 102, "His Way With Thee."

The Moderator appointed the following Committees: Committee on Committees, R. L. Sharp, Rev. Willard Darnell and Rev. Lester Ferguson. Business Committee: Reverends Rolla

Smith, John Long, W. T. Newsome, Cecil Sheppard and James Franklin.

Oral reports from the Madison County, Triumphant, and St. Francois County Sunday School Conventions were given by Reverends Glen Rehkop, Don Ellis and Fred Kirby, presidents of the respective conventions and from the Southeast Missouri League Convention by Rev. Dean Burpo. These reports were received as information.

Rev. Rolla Smith announced a revival and organization of a church at Thayer, Missouri under the efforts of Rev. Harry Beatty. He also requested prayer for Rev. Beatty's physical condition.

The Moderator declared a recess until the 12:00 o'clock hour with benediction pronounced by Rev. Dean Burpo.

## 11:00 O'CLOCK

Services called to order by Moderator with singing led by Rev. Dean Burpo. Hymns sang, No. 126, "To The Work" and No. 79 "Victory, Ahead." Devotional led by Rev. Cecil Sheppard with scripture and comments from Psalm 116. Prayer by Rev. Alvin Halbrook followed by hymn No. 78, "When We All Get To Heaven." The Moderator presented Rev. Fred Kirby as the messenger for the morning hour. Rev. Kirby read for his scripture Acts 11:25-26. Subject "What Is A Bible Christian." After delivering a heart-searching message Rev. Kirby called for those who were willing to pay the price for a revival to come to the altar for prayer. Prayer was offered by Reverends James Franklin and Fred Kirby.

After announcements by the host pastor and by the Moderator, benediction and offering of thanks for food of the noon hour was offered by Rev. William Buster.

## 1:30 P.M.

Services called to order by Moderator with singing led by Rev. Burpo. Hymn No. 15, "I'll Live On" was sung after which a letter of greetings was read from Rev. and Mrs. Woodrow Matthews and son who stated they had accepted work in Cushing, Oklahoma.

A report from the Committee on Committees was read and accepted. (See Reports).

The Program of the Woman's Auxiliary was rendered at this hour.

After the Woman's Auxiliary Program the Moderator assumed charge.

The report of the Committee on Committees was re-read.

Sister Christine Pinkley announced that the offering taken for Sister Wanda Edwards during Auxiliary Hour amounted to \$35.58.

Several invitations from various churches were offered to entertain the 1955 session of Yearly Meeting.

Rev. Willard Darnell was elected to deliver the Introductory Message for the next session of Yearly Meeting with Rev Cecil Sheppard as alternate.

The minutes of the Clerk were read and accepted. Motion made and sustained that we adjourn.

Benediction and blessing upon food of the evening by Rev. Glen Rehkop.

### FRIDAY EVENING — 7:30 P.M.

Services called to order by Moderator with singing led by Rev. Dean Burpo. Hymn No. 128, "Shouting On The Hills," and No. 124, "He Bore It All," was sung followed with prayer offered by Rev. John Rogers. Hymns No. 188, "Everybody Will Be Happy Over There," and No. 37, "Standing On The Promises," were sung followed by prayer by Bro. Robinson, General Baptist minister from Lutesville.

The following special numbers were rendered: "He'll Set Your Fields On Fire," by Brother and Sister Leamon Killian and Rev. Glen Rehkop; "You'll Be My Closest Neighbor," by Brother and Sister Killian; "In My Father's House Are Many Mansions," by Rev. and Mrs. Dean Burpo. A testimonial service was led by the Moderator after which Rev. S. A. Hand sang "Zion Hill." The Moderator presented Rev. Rolla Smith as the messenger of the evening. Brother Smith read for his text Jer. 31:7. Subject, "Five Perils of the Church." After a solemn, heart-searching message an invitation was given to the lost as the congregations sang No. 182, "Is Thy Heart Right with God." The benediction was pronounced by Rev. Don Ellis.

### SATURDAY MORNING — 9:30 A.M.

Services called to order by Moderator with singing of hymn No. 329, "Stand Up For Jesus" led by Rev. Glen Rehkop.

Devotions led by Rev. Willard Darnell reading from Eph. 3:14-21 followed by prayer.

The report of the Nominating Committee was read and accepted with the provisions that the absentee delegates be replaced at the State Meeting.

Report of Treasurer was read and accepted.

Report of Denominational Enterprise Committee was read and received to be adopted item by item.

Item No. 1, (see report), adopted.

Item No. 2, (see report), adopted.

Item No. 3, (see report), adopted.

Item No. 4, (see report), adopted.

A partial report of the Statistical Letter to State Statistician was received.

The report of Business Committee was read and received to be adopted item by item.

Item No. 1, (see report), adopted.

Item No. 2, (see report), adopted.

Item No. 3, (see report), adopted.

Item No. 4, (see report), adopted.

Item No. 5, (see report), adopted.

Motion made and sustained that we invite the State Meeting to convene at Flat River for the 1955 Session.

The report of the Temperance Committee was read and accepted, (see report).

The letter of the Yearly Meeting to State was read and received.

The report of the Ordained Ministers Years work and the Credential Committees report were read and received.

A survey was made of those who plan to attend the National Association and the following were chosen as recommended delegates to the National Meeting. (see report).

The minutes of the clerk were read and received.

Motion made and sustained that we adjourn until 11:00 o'clock hour. Benediction by Rev. Fred Kirby.

## 11:00 O'CLOCK SERVICE

Services called to order by Moderator with singing led by Rev. Dean Burpo. Hymns No. 22, "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart," and No. 140, "Just Over In The Glory Land." Rev C. B. Dees led devotional with reading II Peter 1:1-10 follow-



ed with prayer by Rev. Don Ellis. Hymn No. 90, "I'll Live In Glory." was sung after which the Moderator presented Rev. W. T. Newsome as the messenger of the hour. Brother and Mrs. Newsome sang "The Celebration In The Sky," after which Rev. Newsome read II Peter 1:10 and 11 Chron. 20:15-22 as his scripture and announced for his subject, "United In Effort." The message showed us need for united effort among the Christians.

After various church announcements the benediction and offering of thanks for food of noon hour was offered by the Moderator.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Credentials Committee:

We, your Credential Committee, having carefully considered these reports submit the following reports:

Item No. 1—We recommend that Ministerial Cards of Standing for one year be granted the following Ministers: Reverends Cecil Sheppard, Albert Tucker, S. A. Hand, C. B. Dees, Eunice Edwards, Albert Halbrook, George Hibbitts, Glen Rehkop, O. D. Matthews, Lester Ferguson, John Long, Charles Moyer, James Franklin, Leslie Logsdon, Willard Darnell, Rolla Smith, Bill Turnbough, James Barker, Fred Kirby, W. T. Newsome and Don Ellis.

Item No. 2—We recommend that Reverends John Rogers, Truman Huffman, Lawrence Thompson, and Loy Smith be granted Ministerial Cards by Clerk when he has received their reports.

### Committee On Committees:

Committee on Committees appointed Rev. Willard Darnell, Rev. Lester Ferguson and Brother R. E. Sharp. Motion carried to accept this committees report as follows:

Denominational Enterprise—Sister Eunice Edwards, Rev. Cecil Sheppard and Edith McCormack; Obituary Committee: Sister Avery DeWitt, Sister Gussie Hamblin and Sister Mildred Killian; Divine Service Committee: Sister Bessie Baldwin, Sister Mildred Hildebrand and Sister Pauline Miller; Credential Committee: Brothe Frank David, Arnold Stone and Sister Bertha Souden; Temperance Committee: Sister Hazel Scott, Sister McFarland and Sister Evelyn Rehkop.

### **Temperance Committee:**

We, your Temperance Committee, submit the following report: That we Christians follow the teachings of the Bible as recorded in I Thes. 5:22. "Abstain from all appearance of evil," that our lives may be an example for Christ. Also that we study and practice II Cor. 6:17.

### **Obituary Committee:**

We, the Obituary Committee of the Southeast Missouri Yearly Meeting, report the deaths of the following members and request that we bow our heads in prayer in memory of these who have gone to their reward. The deceased are as follows: Willard Lackey, Henry Bess, Julia Gammon, Mrs. Henry Queen, Cecil Rosener, Mrs. Francis Hovis, John Head, Francis Umfleet, Barbara Head, Nettie Huffman, Fred Hovis, Bertie Boswell, Charity O'Bannon, and Amanda Hill.

### **Nominating Committee:**

We, your Nominating Committee, submit the following names as delegates to the State Association: Mr. and Mrs. Leamon Killian, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Hesselmeyer, Mrs. Lee DeWitt, Mrs. Gussie Hamblen, Mrs. Frank David, Mrs. Marilyn McDowell, Mrs. Willa Mae Barker, Mrs. Nellie Rasnic, Mrs. Rose Sharp, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Scott, Mrs. Ed. Sutton. Mr. and Mrs. Chester Wright, Mrs. Pearl Sircum, Mrs. Magdeline McFarland, Mrs. Martha Clayton, Mrs. Lena Hughes, Mrs. Ann Wilson, Mrs. Bertha Souden, Miss Minnie Jackson, Mac Huff.

### **Denominational Enterprise:**

We, the Denominational Enterprise Committee, submit the following recommendations:

Item No. 1—Inasmuch as we failed to meet our assigned Foreign Mission quota in 1954, we urge a greater support to this phase of our work in the coming year.

Item No. 2—We urge that each church work out a plan of systematic giving to the Home Mission department. (Missouri quota for 1954-55 is \$2,400.00).

Item No. 3—Inasmuch as many churches have failed to support the co-operative plan, we urge its adoption that the various quotas for the phases of our work, might be met.

Item No. 4—That the League assume the responsibility of helping to erect Chapels in Cuba as recommended by our National League Conference.

## Business Committee:

Item No. 1—We, the Business Committee of the Southeast Missouri Yearly request the State Meeting of 1955.

Item No. 2—We recommend that Wanda Edwards be requested to furnish each pastor with a list of her needs on the Mission Field that each pastor encourage his people to supply her needs and to underwrite her salary. Also that Wanda be given an invitation to speak in the various churches as she has opportunity.

Church and others who were instrumental in caring for this session of the Southeast Missouri Yearly Meeting of Free Will Baptists, a standing vote of thanks for their outstanding hospitality.

Item No. 4—We recommend that since Brother Woodrow Matthews has moved to the State of Oklahoma that this body give him a letter of recommendation to that Association.

Item No. 5—We recommend that the next Yearly Meeting convene with the Fredericktown Church.

# STATISTICAL REPORT OF CHURCHES OF SOUTHEAST MISSOURI YEARLY MEETING — FROM JULY 1, 1953 TO JULY 1, 1954

|                                   | Southside | Berkeley City | St. Louis 3rd | St. Louis 4th | Salem    | Richwoods | Fellowship | Flat River 1st | Desloge   | Leadington | Aulsbury | Fredericktown | Copper Mines | Mill Creek | Mine La Motte | Twin Oak | Union Light | Old Bethel | Marble Hill | TOTAL      |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------|-----------|------------|----------------|-----------|------------|----------|---------------|--------------|------------|---------------|----------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| State of Religion                 | x         | x             | v             | x             | x        | x         | x          | x              | x         | x          | x        | x             | x            | x          | x             | x        | x           | x          | x           | x          |
| Membership July 1, 1953           | 205       | 161           | 107           | 19            | 19       | 46        | 158        | 160            | 66        | 88         | 106      | 387           | 100          | 96         | 52            | 87       | 31          | 22         | 35          | 1945       |
| Rec'd July 1, '53 to June 30, '54 | 24        | 21            | 5             | 7             | 27       | 17        | 21         | 24             | 12        | 39         | 16       | 3             | 1            | 0          | 0             | 13       | 2           | 4          | 8           | 244        |
| Number Baptized                   | 5         | 15            | 3             | 9             | 7        | 10        | 14         | 10             | 10        | 21         | 13       | 3             | 1            | 0          | 0             | 8        | 0           | 5          | 7           | 141        |
| Number Dismissed By Letter        | 6         | 0             | 4             | 1             | 0        | 4         | 3          | 4              | 2         | 0          | 1        | 6             | 0            | 3          | 2             | 0        | 2           | 0          | 0           | 38         |
| Number Excluded                   | 0         | 0             | 12            | 0             | 0        | 1         | 1          | 6              | 2         | 0          | 8        | 0             | 0            | 0          | 0             | 0        | 0           | 0          | 0           | 30         |
| Number Deceased                   | 0         | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0        | 1         | 1          | 7              | 0         | 0          | 1        | 2             | 1            | 1          | 1             | 0        | 0           | 0          | 0           | 15         |
| Resident Members                  | 141       | 148           | 85            | 21            | 43       | 53        | 163        | 166            | 62        | 124        | 99       | 285           | 82           | 90         | 27            | 54       | 22          | 22         | 25          | 1712       |
| Non-Resident Members              | 10        | 13            | 6             | 4             | 3        | 10        | 11         | 18             | 13        | 3          | 13       | 97            | 19           | 3          | 22            | 33       | 9           | 6          | 18          | 311        |
| Tot. Mem'ship June 30, '54        | 205       | 161           | 91            | 25            | 46       | 63        | 174        | 184            | 75        | 127        | 112      | 382           | 101          | 93         | 47            | 87       | 31          | 28         | 43          | 2075       |
| Number Tithers                    |           |               | 6             |               | 4        | 10        | 33         | 47             |           |            |          | 34            | 19           | 6          | 10            | 3        |             | 0          | 4           | 176        |
| Condition Prayer Meeting          | x         | x             | v             | x             | x        | x         | x          | x              | v         | x          | x        | x             | x            | x          | v             | x        | v           | x          | 0           | x          |
| Condition of League               | v         | x             | v             | x             | x        | x         | x          | x              | v         | v          | x        | x             | x            | x          | v             | x        |             | x          | 0           | x          |
| League Membership                 | 75        | 97            | 39            | 25            | 67       | 46        | 78         | 48             | 35        | 25         | 34       | 65            | 40           | 25         |               | 16       |             | 35         | 0           | 750        |
| Condition of Aux. Missions        | x         | x             | v             | 0             | 0        | x         | x          | x              | x         | x          |          | x             |              |            |               |          |             | 0          | 0           | x          |
| Mem'ship of Aux. or Home M.       | 19        | 25            | 16            | 0             | 0        | 11        | 27         | 25             | 14        | 29         |          | 55            |              |            |               |          |             | 0          | 0           | 221        |
| Condition of Sunday School        | x         | x             | x             | x             | x        | x         | x          | x              | x         | x          | x        | x             | x            | x          | x             | x        | x           | x          | x           | x          |
| Enrollment in Sunday School       | 182       | 197           | 108           | 68            | 70       | 97        | 195        | 176            | 172       | 165        | 112      | 224           | 113          | 75         | 54            | 55       | 144         | 35         | 48          | 2290       |
| Number of Officers                | 7         | 5             | 5             | 2             | 2        | 4         | 15         | 12             | 5         | 5          | 4        | 4             | 3            | 3          | 3             | 2        | 5           | 3          | 2           | 91         |
| Number of Teachers                | 10        | 13            | 10            | 6             | 6        | 5         | 17         | 10             | 7         | 9          | 8        | 9             | 8            | 5          | 4             | 4        | 9           | 4          | 4           | 148        |
| No. of Ordained Ministers         | 3         | 0             | 1             | 1             | 1        | 1         | 2          | 3              | 2         | 2          | 1        | 4             | 2            | 1          | 2             |          |             | 0          | 1           | 27         |
| Number of Licensed Ministers      | 5         | 0             | 0             | 0             | 2        | 0         | 0          | 0              |           | 1          |          |               | 0            |            |               |          |             | 1          | 1           | 10         |
| No. of Ordained Deacons           | 5         | 5             | 4             | 2             | 2        | 3         | 7          | 5              | 3         | 3          | 3        | 6             | 3            | 3          | 4             | 1        | 2           | 2          | 2           | 65         |
| Value of Church Property          | 75,000.00 | 25,000.00     | 25,000.00     |               | 5,000.00 | 2,500.00  | 50,000.00  | 25,000.00      | 10,000.00 | 8,000.00   | 3,500.00 | 25,000.00     | 8,000.00     | 9,500.00   | 2,500.00      | 1,000.00 | 10,000.00   | 800.00     |             | 285,800.00 |
| Amount Paid Pastor                | 3,715.00  | 3,352.00      | 3,120.00      | 550.00        | 710.00   | 1,832.40  | 3,770.00   | 3,268.12       | 2,340.00  | 1,930.00   | 1,300.00 | 3,285.00      | 2,163.11     | 780.00     | 1,060.00      | 220.00   | 251.60      | 116.11     | 831.68      | 31,475.02  |
| Am't for Evangelistic Work        | 232.00    | 150.00        |               | 243.20        | 125.00   | 50.00     | 450.00     | 623.00         | 108.52    | 436.68     | 255.38   | 550.00        | 327.50       | 82.00      | 92.25         | 121.12   | 100.00      | 129.55     | 100.00      | 4,176.00   |
| Am't for Building & Repairs       | 6,807.43  | 2,000.00      |               | 30.75         | 595.35   | 763.61    | 3,473.90   | 1,061.26       | 571.59    | 2,117.78   | 569.75   | 9,872.60      | 209.68       | 7,074.00   | 106.21        | 93.00    |             | 117.00     | 1,903.17    | 37,367.09  |
| Am't for Incidentals              | 1,328.63  | 320.78        | 2,403.53      | 500.44        | 408.41   | 672.35    | 2,037.33   | 1,134.80       | 695.10    | 519.44     | 535.51   | 912.07        | 206.31       | 288.00     | 95.20         | 42.00    |             | 15.00      | 163.48      | 12,278.38  |
| Am't for Foreign Mission          |           | 217.00        | 455.00        |               |          |           | 450.00     | 293.63         |           | 117.55     | 157.43   | 348.97        |              |            | 25.00         | 30.00    | 175.59      |            |             | 2,270.17   |
| Am't for Home Missions            |           | 300.00        | 67.43         | 12.00         |          | 21.00     | 350.08     |                |           | 58.07      | 69.60    | 25.00         | 28.31        |            | 30.00         | 40.00    | 145.00      |            |             | 1,146.49   |
| Am't for Missions                 | 20.00     |               |               |               | 15.00    | 0         |            | 397.74         | 44.15     |            |          |               |              |            |               |          |             | 68.88      | 49.32       | 595.09     |
| Am't for Education                | 456.30    | 100.00        | 73.59         | 15.00         | 0        | 0         | 70.00      | 368.26         | 62.62     | 24.49      | 146.40   | 280.67        | 32.82        |            |               |          | 127.04      |            |             | 1,757.19   |
| Am't for Superannuation           |           |               |               |               | 0        | 0         |            | 0              |           | 4.72       | 36.55    |               |              |            |               |          |             |            |             | 41.27      |
| Am't for Orphanage                |           |               | 40.00         |               | 0        | 0         |            | 0              | 39.84     |            |          | 247.67        |              |            |               |          |             |            |             | 327.51     |
| Am't for Youth Camp               |           |               | 400.00        |               | 0        | 0         |            | 15.68          |           | 33.53      |          |               |              |            |               |          |             |            |             | 449.21     |
| Am't for Co-operative Fund        | 540.00    |               | 337.20        | 237.42        | 135.81   | 196.30    | 1,214.36   | 876.08         | 205.40    | 472.30     |          | 765.84        | 246.23       | 126.98     | 159.42        |          |             |            |             | 5,513.34   |
| Am't for Headquarter Fund         |           |               |               |               | 0        | 0         |            | 150.00         |           | 34.46      |          |               |              |            |               |          |             |            |             | 184.46     |
| Am't for Budget                   |           |               |               |               | 0        | 0         |            |                |           |            |          |               |              |            |               |          |             |            |             | 186.76     |
| Am't for Minutes                  | 10.00     | 20.00         |               | 2.00          | 12.00    | 19.00     | 5.00       |                | 16.00     | 3.00       | 2.00     |               | 12.00        |            |               | 1.00     | 5.00        | 186.76     | 1.00        | 108.00     |

LEGEND: "x" is good; "v" is fair

## CONSTITUTION

This organization shall be known as the Southeast Missouri Yearly Meeting of Free Will Baptists and shall be composed of the St. Francois County Quarterly Meeting and the Madison County Quarterly Meeting.

### Article I

When the delegated body shall meet in regular annual session for the transaction of business, the Moderator, or in his absence, the assistant Moderator, shall call the meeting to order and invite all to take part in congregational singing.

After a sufficient number of hymns, the Moderator shall read, or have read, some suitable Scripture, then prayer shall be offered.

### Article II

Five or more delegates from one or more churches of each Quarterly Meeting comprising this Yearly Meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. However, a lesser number may adjourn from time to time.

### Article III

The letters from the Quarterly Meetings to be read, dues received (\$4.00 per Church), the delegates seated. All ordained Ministers and their companions and licensed ministers who are in good standing and full fellowship with some church in the Yearly Meeting, together with ordained deacons, church clerks, and church treasurers, shall, by virtue of their authority, be standing delegates in this Yearly Meeting.

### Article IV

When all delegates, both elected and standing, have been seated, the body will then proceed to elect officers as required by rule number one governing the organization. All officers elected shall be instructed in the duties of the offices to which they have been elected. The instruction to be given by the Moderator, or someone qualified to do so.

## **Article V**

The Moderator elected shall at once take charge of the meeting and shall, when present, preside over all meetings. In the absence of the Moderator, the assistant Moderator shall preside over the meeting.

## **Article VI**

The Moderator shall appoint all committees unless otherwise ruled by the body.

## **Article VII**

The Moderator shall have the privilege to solicit the help of any minister or delegate present in appointing committees.

## **Article VIII**

After the organization has been completed, corresponding messengers and visiting brethren 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.

## **Article IX**

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.

## **Article X**

Before any question can properly be discussed by the delegated body, it must be before the body by a 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.

## **Article XI**

The Moderator shall have power to stop all discussions that are leading to confusion.

## **Article XII**

All ordained ministers who are members of this Southeast Missouri Yearly Meeting are required to submit in writing a full and complete report of their ministerial activities to this body while in annual session. These reports shall be examined by a Committee on Credentials and submitted to the body for approval. Failure to make said report forfeits their rights to a Certificate of Ministerial Standing.

## **Article XIII**

Official papers of this Yearly Meeting must be signed by the Moderator of the Yearly Meeting and the Secretary.

## **Article XIV**

Each Quarterly Meeting belonging to the Yearly Meeting shall be entitled to two (2) delegates for the organization and two (2) delegates for each one hundred (100) members or major fraction thereof belonging to the said Quarterly Meeting.

## **Article XV**

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, "Brother Moderator," or "Brother Chairman" and shall speak no farther until they have been recognized by the Moderator.

## **Article XVI**

This Constitution may be altered or amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds majority vote, provided that one day's previous notice of proposed change or amendment has been given.

## **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. Francois County Quarterly Meeting of the Free Will Baptist denomination.

No. 1.—The officers of this Yearly Meeting shall be a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, and Secretary-Treasurer who shall also serve as Statistician. There shall also be an Executive Board of three or more members who are actively engag-

ed 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 case 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 him or her and the body. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be the same person. 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 faithfully to discharge all the duties of the office willingly in the interest of the cause of the Free Will Baptists everywhere.

No. 6—The Executive Board shall be elected as other officers but shall serve a term of three years; terms 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, and convey 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.

No. 7—These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds majority vote, provided that one day's previous notice of proposed change or amendment has been given.



# **PROCEEDINGS**

## **Of The**

# **MINISTERS CONFERENCE**

The Southeast Missouri Ministers Conference met in its semi-annual Fellowship Meeting with the Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church, Flat River, Mo., November 14, 1953.

Services opened by Rev. Woodrow Matthews. Devotional services led by Rev. Lester Ferguson. Song sung, No. 344, "Marching To Zion." Prayer by Rev. W. T. Newsome. Scripture read, Mark 14:3-9. After reading of by-laws and constitution an invitation was given for new members. Those responding: Rev. Don Ellis, Rev. James Franklin, Rev. Dean Burpo, Rev. Harry Asher. Rev. W. T. Newsome and Rev. Wm. Turnbough.

Song, "How Firm A Foundation." Prayer, Rev. Wm. Turnbough. Rev. W. T. Newsome delivered the 11:00 o'clock message. Using John 3:29, Rev. 22:2, Songs of Solomon, 2:4 as a text. Benediction by Rev. Rolla Smith.

### **1:30 P. M.**

Devotional led by Rev. Dean Burpo. Scripture and comments from John 4:34-36 followed by hymn No. 64, "Tell Me the Story of Jesus." Topic—How to Prepare Sermons, Rev. Don Ellis. Topic—How to Deliver A Sermon, Rev. James Franklin. Open Discussion on Topic—Ministers Personal Habits, Rev. Rolla Smith. The next Annual Session was decided by vote to convene with The Southside Church in St. Louis, Mo. Benediction. Rev. Albert Halbrook.

### **ANNUAL MEETING**

The Southeast Missouri Ministers Conference met in its 14th Annual Fellowship Meeting with the Southside Church, May 15, 1954.

Services opened by President, Rev. Woodrow Matthews. Song, "Amazing Grace," led by Rev. Fred Kirby. Prayer, Rev. John Rogers. Song, "There Is A Fountain." Visiting Brothers recognized. Visitor, Rev. Wm. Buster.

Invitation for new members given—Rev. Fred Kirby, Rev. Cecil Sheppard, Rev. Floyd Arnold, responded. By-laws and constitution were read and accepted by the new members who

were accepted into conference by unanimous vote. Prayer, Rev. James Franklin.

Election of officers—President, Rev. Woodrow Matthews; Vice-President, Rev. Fred Kirby; Clerk, Rev. Willard Darnell.

Appointing of Business Committee: Rev. Fred Kirby, Rev. James Barker, Rev. Albert Halbrook.

### 11:00 O'CLOCK SERVICE

Song, "Oh, How I Love Jesus" led by President. Prayer, Rev. Wm. Buster. Song, "What A Friend." Rev. Albert Halbrook delivered the 11:00 o'clock message using as a text Ezekiel 22:30-31. Also reading Ezekiel 3:15-21 using as a subject "A Man for the Gap." Song, "I'll Live for Him." Benediction, Rev. Rolla Smith.

### 1:15 P.M.

Services opened by singing "When We All Get To Heaven" led by Rev. James Barker. Devotional led by Rev. Johnny Vick. Reading I Cor. 2:1. Prayer, Rev. James Barker. Rev. Fred Kirby then delivered the evening message using Ezekiel 33:7. His subject was "Gods Watchman in the Perilous Days." Song, "There is a Bridge Over the River." An invitation for new members was given. Rev. Harris responded and after Section VI of By-laws was read and accepted he was accepted by unanimous vote. Business—Report of Business Committee read and accepted. Item 1, That this Ministers Conference give Rev. Johnny Vick a standing vote of appreciation and commendation for his service to our country and for his safe return and for his testimony for Christ.

Item No. 2—That we give the Southside Church a standing vote of thanks for their hospitality during this sitting of the Ministers Conference.

Item No. 3—That each pastor sponsor a Vacation Bible School if at all possible.

A motion was made to appoint a committee to investigate the possibilities of obtaining a permanent Identification Card. The committee—Rev. Fred Kirby, Rev. James Barker, Rev. Albert Halbrook, who are to report to the Semi-Annual Conference.

The Semi-Annual Conference was decided by vote to meet with the First Free Will Baptist Church at Flat River, Mo. Motion to adjourn. Benediction.

## *The Southeast Missouri Women's Auxiliary Convention*

The sixth session of the Ladies Auxiliary Convention held their Yearly Meeting with the Mill Creek Auxiliary, August 6-7. The meeting was called to order by Sister Eunice Edwards. Congregation singing, hymn, "Praise Him, Praise Him." Sister Edwards appointed the Committees.

Business Committee: Sister Hazel Scott, Sister Elizabeth Hesselmeier, Sister Willa Mae Barker.

Obituary Committee: Sister Rose Sharp, Sister Edith Forshee.

Sister Agnes Smith gave a reading, "Others and Me." The scripture reading was by Mrs. Blaine Matthews, II Phil. 2:1-21 giving the devotional thoughts. An inspirational praise service was led by Sister Edwards. Congregational singing, "Amazing Grace." Brother and Sister Newsome sang "There Is A Crown for Your Cross."

Rev. William Buster brought a wonderful message read ing from the Book of Ruth I and II chapters.

Reading of the Business Committee items 1, 2, 3 and 4 discussed and accepted by vote. Our Program Chairman is to work with the local Auxiliary where the workshop is to be held from place to place to plan the program for that day of service. An offering was taken for the Wanda Edwards fund.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

|                               |                       |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| President .....               | Sister Blanche Pogue  |
| Enlistment Chairman .....     | Elizabeth Hesselmeier |
| Youth Chairman .....          | Sister Agnes Smith    |
| Study Course Chairman .....   | Sister Eunice Edwards |
| Program Prayer Chairman ..... | Sister Newsome        |
| Benevolence Chairman .....    | Sister DeWitt         |
| Secretary-Treasurer .....     | Christine Pinkley     |

The reading of the Obituary Committee was accepted by vote.

The reading of the Secretary-Treasurer report was accepted by vote. Sister Newsome appointed two others to work with her for the next year Program Prayer Service of next Convention. The convention was dismissed by Sister Edith Forshee.

## Obituary Committee:

We, your Obituary Committee submit the following: Whereas God in His infinite wisdom has called from our midst our dear sisters in Christ, be it resolved that we bow our heads in humble submission to his will the following names: Nettie Huffman, Julia Gammon, Mrs. Henry Queen, Mrs. Francis Hovis, Mrs. Jeff Umfleet, Mrs. Barbara Head and Amanda Hill.

## Business Committee:

We, your Business Committee submit the following items:

Item No. 1—We recommend that the Quarterly Workshop be continued this year.

Item No. 2—We recommend the book "All of Mine for Him," by Rev. Damon Dodd be used as the study course to be given through the year. The book can be supplied from the Home Mission Board at Nashville, Tenn.

Item No. 3—We recommend that each Auxiliary send their tithes and offerings to the Co-Labor Band.

Item No. 4—That a special offering be taken now for the Wanda Edwards fund request special prayer for her today.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Balance on hand, August 22, 1953 .....                | \$118.89        |
| Received from Madison County Q. M. Letter .....       | 36.00           |
| Received from St. Francois County Q. M. Letter .....  | 44.00           |
| Received from Churches with Statistical Letters ..... | 26.00           |
| <b>TOTAL</b> .....                                    | <b>\$224.89</b> |

## DISBURSEMENTS

|                                  |                |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Clerk and Statistician Fee ..... | \$25.00        |
| Assistant Clerk Fee .....        | 10.00          |
| Brief Case .....                 | 11.35          |
| Printing of Minutes .....        | 31.55          |
| Printing of Programs .....       | 1.00           |
| Money Order and Stamps .....     | 1.92           |
| Stationery .....                 | .40            |
| <b>TOTAL</b> .....               | <b>\$81.22</b> |
| Balance on Hand .....            | \$143.67       |

## TREASURERS REPORT

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Balance brought forward .....          | \$33.94 |
| Received \$30 per member.              |         |
| 3rd Church Auxiliary .....             | 4.80    |
| Southside St. Louis .....              | 5.40    |
| Leadington .....                       | 6.00    |
| 1st Church, Flat River .....           | 7.50    |
| Desloge .....                          | 4.20    |
| Fellowship .....                       | 5.10    |
| TOTAL .....                            | \$33.00 |
| Sent to National Work .....            | 10.80   |
| TOTAL .....                            | \$22.20 |
| On Hand .....                          | 33.94   |
| Sent out to State Secretary .....      | 6.70    |
| Printing of Minutes .....              | 8.40    |
| Received from Richwood Auxiliary ..... | 3.20    |
| TOTAL .....                            | \$45.64 |

The special offering taken for the Wanda Edwards fund amounted to \$35.58.

Secretary-Treasurer  
CHRISTINE PINKLEY



