

Yearly Meeting of Southeast Missouri Free Will Baptist

1966

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WHEN CONVENED WITH
First Free Will Baptist Church
Gamel Cemetery Road
FESTUS, MISSOURI

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The 1967 Session of the Yearly Meeting
to convene with the
Copper Mines Free Will Baptist Church
Rural Route
Fredericktown, Missouri

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the 1990s, the number of people in the United States who are 65 years of age or older is projected to increase from 20 million to 30 million, and the number of people 75 years of age or older is projected to increase from 10 million to 15 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996). The number of people 85 years of age or older is projected to increase from 2 million to 4 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996). The number of people 90 years of age or older is projected to increase from 500,000 to 1 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996). The number of people 95 years of age or older is projected to increase from 100,000 to 200,000 (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996). The number of people 100 years of age or older is projected to increase from 10,000 to 20,000 (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996).

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SOUTHEAST MISSOURI YEARLY MEETING

OFFICERS

Moderator.	Rev. Clarence Burton, Berkeley City, Mo.
Assistant Moderator	Rev. James Barker, Farmington, Mo.
Sec'y-Treas. & Statistician . . .	Rev. Frank Giunta, Leadington, Mo.
Asst. Treas. & Statistician . . .	Rev. Ronnie Graham, Flat River, Mo.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. Johnnie Land . . . Arnold, Mo.	3 Years
Rev. Tom Malone . . . Flat River, Mo.	2 Years
Rev. Bob Jones. . . . Fredericktown, Mo.	1 Year

PROCEEDINGS

The seventy-third session of the Southeast Missouri Yearly Meeting, when convened with the First Free Will Baptist Church of Festus, Festus, Missouri, August 12-13, 1966.

The service on Friday evening, August 12th, was brought to order by the Clerk, Rev. Frank Giunta, Pastor of the Leadington Free Will Baptist Church. The congregation stood and sang "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms," led by Rev. Clarence Burton, Pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Berkeley City. Prayer by Rev. Harry Deatty, our Missouri Promotional Secretary.

Bro. Burton led the congregation in singing "When the Roll is Called up Yonder."

Bro. Gene Wilfong read Philippians 3:13-14 and made comments.

The congregation stood and sang "I would Not Be Denied," "Every Day With Jesus," and "Do Lord," led by Bro. Burton.

Time was given for a Praise Service led by Bro. Dann Martin. Bro. H. T. Dann, Pastor of the Fourth Free Will

Baptist Church in St. Louis, led in prayer before the Praise Service began. Bro. Martin read from Rev. 21:1-8. There were many wonderful testimonies given.

A topic was given by Brenda Horton from the Trinity Free Will Baptist Church in St. Louis on "What My Church Means to Me."

A topic was given by Peggy Dann from the Fourth Free Will Baptist Church of St. Louis, on "My Obligation to My Church."

The Matthews Sisters from Mine LaMotte Free Will Baptist Church, sang "Without Him" just before the message.

Prior to the Special Music, Bro. Giunta introduced the speaker--Bro. Ronnie Graham.

Bro. Graham read from I Samuel 3:10-11. He spoke on the thought "God is Still Calling on Young People Today."

He challenged young people to dedicate and to channel their energy in the service for God.

Saturday, 9:30 a.m.

Bro. Livingston, from the Festus Church, opened the service with a song, "He Lives", with Sis. Matthews at the piano.

Rev. Harry Asher, Pastor of the Overland Free Will Baptist Church, led in prayer.

The congregation sang "When We All Get to Heaven."

The Clerk, Rev. Frank Giunta, officially declared the seventy-third session into order.

Rev. Clarence Burton, the Moderator, read I Thess. 1 and then introduced the officers to the body.

Rev. Jack Stallings, Pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Festus, gave a warm welcome to the Yearly Meeting.

Rev. James Barker, Pastor of the Hurrayville Free Will Baptist Church, was called on to give a devotion in the absence of Rev. Bob Jones of Fredericktown.

He read from Hebrews 2:1-3 and urged that we keep the Gospel as it was committed to us.

Bro. H. T. Dann led in prayer. Bro. Livingston then led us in singing "Jesus Saves".

The Clerk read the letters from the churches and acknowledged the delegates.

Motion and second was received to accept the letters with corrections to be made at later times. Carried.

Standing and Elected Delegates were asked to stand. Bro. Burton gave the charge to work together in harmony. We then met in the altar for prayer. Bro. E. M. Kennedy Pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Flat River, led in prayer. We then sang "O How I Love Jesus" with a fellowship handshake around the altar.

Bro. Burton appointed the committees. They were:
Nominating Committee: Harry Asher, Clifford McGraw, E. M. Kennedy, and R. B. Spurgeon.

Business Committee: John Land, James Barker, Virgel Maness, Pinkney Askren, and Al Helms.

Denominational Enterprise Committee: H. T. Dann, O. D. Matthews, Lloyd Durbin, and Vernon Long.

Obituary Committee: Tom Malone, Bob King, Raymond Askren

Temperance Committee: C. B. Dees, John Long, and Fred Harris.

We then stood and were dismissed in prayer by Rev. C. B. Dees.

11:00 O'Clock Service

Bro. Burton called the Yearly Meeting back into session.

Bro. Livingston led us in singing "Are You Washed in the Blood." We then sang "Praise Him, Praise Him."

Bro. Lloyd Durbin, Pastor of the O'Fallon Mission, led in prayer.

The congregation sang "At Calvary."

Bro. Burton introduced Bro. and Sis. Kennedy, from the First Church of Flat River. They sang "The Stone Hewn Out of the Mountain."

Bro. Jack Stallings was then introduced by our Moderator as the speaker for the morning service.

He read from Acts 4:1-12 and then commented on the brashness of Peter and his desire to get something done.

He also urged that we be "staunch Christians." He then read from John 15:26 and commented on the power of the believer (The Holy Spirit).

Bro. Burton asked each one to bow their head while Bro. R. B. Spurgeon, Pastor of the Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, led in prayer.

Bro. Stallings made comments on their arrangements for feeding the congregation.

We then stood and were dismissed in prayer by Rev. Chester Weir, Pastor of the Twin Cities Free Will Baptist Church.

1:30 p.m.

The Session was called to order 15 minutes early. Bro. Livingston led the congregation in singing "Standing on the Promises."

Bro. Clifford McGraw led in prayer.

Rev. Fred Harris, Pastor of the North Side Free Will Baptist Church of St. Louis, was introduced as our devotional speaker. He read from Proverbs 6:16. He urged "Be an example to your children and all those about you." He also read from Ezekiel 14:44, and then closed with prayer.

Bro. Beatty was called upon to give us an oral report of work around the State.

He told of our standing for our 1966 State Budget.

Motion and second to give Bro. Beatty a standing vote of thanks for his many efforts for the cause of Christ.

Rev. Don Jones, State Home Missionary in Cape Girardeau, stood and gave an oral report of the work there.

He told of their tentative plans for the future and asked for our continued prayers.

Rev. Lloyd Durbin, State Home Missionary in O'Fallon, gave an oral report of the work there.

He said there was a definite need for designated giving.

Bro. Dees gave the Temperance Committee Report.

Motion and second to receive the report and vote on it item by item.

Item 1: M-S-C.

Item 2: M-S-C.

Item 3: M-S-C. Amendment: That we send word to radio stations that are opposed to Beatle Records. Carried.

M-S that we go on official record as being opposed to the Beatles and that we send to our paper that will accept it and radio stations to that extent.

Item 4: M-S-C.

The report of the Obituary Committee was read. M-S-C to receive it. The congregation stood and had prayer, led by Rev. John Long, Pastor of the Viburnum Free Will Baptist Church.

The Denominational Enterprise Committee Report was read by the Clerk. M-S-C to receive the report in its entirety.

Comment was made concerning the film, "Carnival of Pretense."

Report of the Business Committee was read by Rev. Virgel Maness, Pastor of the Faith Free Will Baptist Church of St. Louis. M-S-C to receive it and vote on it item by item.

Item 1: M-S Defeated.

Item 2: M-S Tabled (show of hands was called for in regard to this item.)

Item 3: M-S-C.

Item 4: M-S-C.

Assistant Clerk - Ronnie Graham: M-S-C by Acclam.

Clerk - Frank Giunta: M-S-C by Acclamation.

Asst. Moderator - James Barker: M-S-C by Acclam.

Moderator - Clarence Burton: M-S-C by Acclam.

3 Year Term of Executive Board - Johnnie Land: M-S-C by Acclamation.

New Business: We recommend to the State Association that in the event there is a change in the meeting date of the State Association it not be effective until 1968. M-S-C.

Delegates were appointed to the State Association. They were: Miriam Wilhite,

M-S that the Moderator, Bro. Burton, be given the authority to select and appoint from those who attend, the other 6 delegates.

YEARLY MEETING TREASURER'S REPORT

Receipts	\$122.00
Balance carried forward from 1965	<u>23.35</u>
	\$145.35

Disbursements

Clerk Fee	\$ 25.00
Mimeograph Minutes	25.00
Cost of paper, ink & stencils	14.50
Lead Belt News for covers, stapling and trim	31.60
Mailing cost	<u>6.57</u>

Total Disbursements \$102.67

Balance - July, 1967	\$ 42.68
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3. There will be a premiere showing of the film, "Carnival of Pretense" in our area at the Berkeley Free Will Baptist Church on September 10th. We urge each Pastor and Church to promote, support and attend.

4. Our Churches continue to support denominational enterprise by purchasing all literature from the various departments in Nashville, Tennessee, and subscribe to all the denominational papers.

5. An increased interest in denominational meetings be prayerfully considered by each member in good standing in the Yearly Meeting.

6. Each church support the Cooperative Plan of giving through the Missouri State Association.

Signed: H. T. Dann

O. D. Matthews

Lloyd Durbin

Vernon Long

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your Temperance Committee wish to submit the following report:

1. Since we are living in this day of indecent dress by both men and women, we suggest that our Free Will Baptist people become so dedicated to the Lord that none will be seen in immodest dress.

2. We recommend that our people support our own Free Will Baptist work, both local and national, and NOT support any work anywhere, of any of the "isms", "cisms", communist, anti-god movements.

3. We recommend that our people refrain from listening or participating in any such programs as the Beatles, Rock 'n Roll, etc., that is brainwashing so many of the people of today, both young and old.

4. PLEASE, dear people, be faithful in attending Sunday School, Morning Worship Service, C.T.S., Sunday Night Service, Prayer Meeting, and be a faithful witness every day that we may not be caught in traps of the devil.

Signed: C. B. Does

John Long

Fred Harris

OBITUARY COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Obituary Committee, suggest that we bow our heads in prayer and humble submission to God's Will in calling from our midst our beloved brethren and sisters to their reward.

Those deceased during the past year are as follows: Sister Abby Hughes, Ray Sherrill, Frank Johnson, James Watts, Verna Mae Skaggs, Lynn Tight, Louise Collett, Dean Bess, Emma Ferguson, Rae Fraisher, Roy French, Anna Lincoln, Meredith Stephens, Arthur Thompson, Paul House, Lee Shannon, Lawrence Berry, Ben LaBrot, Alfa Followell, Sophia Pinkston, and Glenda Gray.

NOTE: We regret that we do not have other names, due to the fact that they were not included in the quarterly letters.

Signed: Tom Malone

Raymond E. Askren

Bob King

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Moderator - Clarence Burton

Asst. Moderator - James Barker

Sec'y.-Treas. & Statistician - Frank Giunta

Asst. Treas. & Statistician - Ronnie Graham

Executive Board Member - 3 year term - Johnnie Land

Signed: H. Asher

R. B. Spurgeon

T. McGræel

E. M. Kennedy

Report of the Registration Committee was read as information.

M-S-C to adjourn. Benediction by Bro. Don Jones.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Business Committee, make the following recommendations:

1. That each Church in the Yearly Meeting compile a statistical report and letter to be sent to the Yearly Meeting Clerk, along with added information on delegates and remarks. This does not eliminate the report to the Yearly Meeting by the Quarterly Meeting Clerk.
2. That the officers of this Yearly Meeting be empowered to change the date of the Yearly Meeting in case the State Association meeting date is changed.
3. The Yearly Meeting convene at Madison County next year, and
4. Standing vote of thanks to the Festus Church for its hospitality and good food.

Signed: Johnnie Land

James Barker

Pinkney Askren

Virgel Maness

Allen L. Helms

DENOMINATIONAL ENTERPRISE COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Denominational Enterprise Committee, recommend that:

1. Since the National Association of Free Will Baptists has adopted the 1,000 laymen campaign, we urge the pastors to encourage the laymen of their respective churches to participate in this program.
2. The ministers of the Southeast Missouri Yearly Meeting are urged to take a more active and definite part in the Southeast Missouri Minister's Alliance for a closer fellowship and harmony for the furtherance of the ministry of this area.

CONSTITUTION

This organization shall be known as the South-east Missouri Yearly Meeting of Free Will Baptists and shall be composed of the St. Francois County Quarterly Meeting, the Madison County Quarterly Meeting, and the St. Louis District 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. This Association shall convene on Friday night before the second Sunday in August.

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 companion 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

All officers shall be elected at the close of the regular session of said Southeast Missouri Yearly Meeting to serve one year until their successors are elected and qualified.

Article V

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

Article VI

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

Article VII

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 VIII

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 IX

Before any question can properly be discussed by the delegated body, it must be brought 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 X

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

Article XI

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

Article XII

Each Quarterly Meeting belonging to the Yearly Meeting shall be entitled to three (3) delegates at large, one (1) delegate for each Church organization, and one (1) delegate for each fifty (50) members of the church or major fraction thereof.

Article XIII

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 further until they have been recognized by the Moderator.

Article XIV

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 Churches, and at the present date, composed of the Madison County Quarterly Meeting, St. Francois County Quarterly Meeting and the St. Louis District 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, and Assistant Secretary-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 one person can hold more than one office.

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 and the Moderator and Assistant Moderator. (The Assistant Secretary shall be elected in like manner.) He or she will hold 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 advisory 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.

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1. The first step in the process is to identify the problem. This involves gathering information about the situation and understanding the needs of the stakeholders involved.

