

dup

MINUTES

— Of The —
SEVENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

— OF —

Southeastern Free Will Baptist Association

WHICH CONVENED WITH
NEW PROSPECT CHURCH
Friday Before The Third Sunday
In October, 1951

———— (((—————))) —————

—OFFICERS—

REV. D. F. PELT	Moderator
BRO. J. H. OATES	Vice-Moderator
EVELYN SUTTON	Clerk
LINNIE J. STOKES	Treasurer

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

J. H. Oates, J. H. Garner, Cleve Stanley

The next session will convene with New Zion Church, Headland, Ala., on Friday before the third Sunday in October and with Hickory Grove Church, on Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1952.

UNION MEETING**Fifth Sunday, March 30, 1952**

To be held with Sardis Free Will Baptist Church,
Clayton, Alabama.

10:00—House called to order by moderator. Devotional by
member of Sardis Church.

10:30—Welcome Address W. H. Gilmore

Response W. C. McClenny, Jr.

11:00—Sermon Rev. T. B. Mellette

12:00—Lunch.

1:00—Devotional Martha Sutton

1:30—Doctrines of The Free Will Baptist....Rev. D. F. Pelt

2:00—A playlet directed by.....Rev. Milt Pelt

2:30—Adjournment

UNION MEETING MINUTES OF 1951

Song Service by Congregation.

The house was called to order by Bro. J. H. Oates who gave a very heart welcome address.

Response—Bro. C. A. Arnold.

The New Zion (Quartet) sang two songs.

The association was represented 99 per cent by the churches which was very good.

The Congregation sang two more songs led by Bro. Herbert Roney.

The sermon of the morning was brought by Rev. J. N. Barnes. Every one enjoyed the sermon.

AFTERNOON

The Congregation sang two songs led by Bro. Herbert Roney.

Sister Lucille Bodiford gave a very inspiring devotional.

Sister Vivian Hopkins gave a brief talk on Ladies Auxiliary.

Bro. C. A. Arnold made a talk on Sunday Schools.

Everyone gave a rising vote of thanks to New Zion Church for a wonderful day and delicious dinner.

— PROGRAM —

Of The
SOUTHEASTERN FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

To Be Held With
NEW ZION CHURCH

On Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1952.

— FRIDAY MORNING —

- 10:00—Congregational Singing.
 Devotional Rev. Chester Pelt
 Welcome Address Bro. J. H. Oates
 Response S. S. Jewel Thomley
 Song Service.
 11:30—Sermon Rev. S. T. Shutes
 12:30—Lunch
 1:30—Song Service.
 Call for Church Letters.
 Seating of Delegates.
 Moderators Address.
 Appointment of Committees.
 Assignment of Homes.
 3:20—Adjournment.

— PROGRAM —

Of The
SOUTHEASTERN FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

To Be Held With
—HICKORY GROVE CHURCH—

On Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1952.

- 9:30—Song Service.
 Business Session.
 10:30—Woman's Work Blondell Hartzog
 11:15—Sermon Rev. Mike Pelt
 12:15—Lunch.
 1:30—Memorial Service. Directed by Moderator and assisted by Sister Eloise Commander, Laila Edwards, Ruth Oates.
 2:00—Business Session.
 3:00—Adjournment.

MINUTES

**Of The Southeastern Free Will Baptist Association Which
Met In Its Seventy-Third Annual Session With
New Prospect Church At Clopton, Alabama.**

— FRIDAY MORNING —

The Association opened with songs led by Bro. R. C. Stokes.

Rev. J. H. Golden led the Congregation in prayer.

Mrs. Walker of New Prospect Church gave a wonderful welcome address.

More songs were sung by the Congregation.

Bro. J. H. Oates gave a very nice response.

Rev. D. W. Pelt introduced Rev. Mike Pelt who brought the sermon of the morning. He spoke on the subject of Stewardship. We are all stewards of God. Rev. Mike Pelt is a young minister and a student of Troy State College. Everyone enjoyed his message.

An intermission of an hour was given for lunch.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Songs were led by Bro. R. C. Stokes, Bro. Cleve Stanley led in prayer.

Sister Clara Belcher had charge of the memorial service.

Devotional was given by Rev. D. F. Pelt. Taken from 1 Thessalonians—"How Are The Dead Raised Up".

The moderator declared the house in order for business. Letters from the churches of the association were called for and read by Sister Clara Belcher—and Rev. Mike Pelt.

On motion the letters were received and delegates seated.

The following committees were appointed.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE — Sister Ruth Oates, Sister Eloise Commander, Sister Linnie Stokes, Bro. Cleve Stanley and Sister Edna Lawrence.

COMPLYING COMMITTEE—Sister Jewell Thomley, Sister Lucy Floyd Kirkland, Sister Clara Belcher.

FINANCE COMMITTEE—Bro. J. H. Oates and Bro. Will Beasley.

FUND COMMITTEE—Sister Linnie Stokes, Bro. J. H. Oates and Bro. Cleve Stanley.

More songs by Congregation led by Bro. Stokes.

Rev. Mike Pelt read a nice scripture. Rev. D. F. Pelt gave the moderator's address. His topic was "Storms". Everyone enjoyed his message.

Motion was made for Adjournment and delegates asked to spend the night.

—SATURDAY MORNING—

Singing was led by Bro. R. C. Stokes, "To The Work" and "Leave It There". We had prayer by Rev. Leroy Knighten.

Rev. D. F. Pelt brought the devotion for the morning. In his message Rev. Pelt told us there was three types of people, The Hick-hiker, The Side-liner and the Faithful few. We should analyse our selves and see which one of these we are. Rev. Pelt led in prayer.

The letter from Chester Chapel was read and approved; The delegates were received and seated.

Motion was made to seat Rev. Leroy Knighten, Rev. S. T. Shutes and Rev. R. E. Knighten. Fellowship was given to these brothers and "Love Lifted Me" was sung by the congregation.

Sister Lucille Bodiford gave a very interesting talk on "Woman's Work" "We should all Labor together and be more congenial. We should give more, do more work and pray and we shall receive more".

More songs were sung by the Congregation led by Bro. R. C. Stokes.

Report from Improvement Committee was given and motion to adopt it was made.

Report on Finance was given and motion was made to receive it.

Motion was made and accepted that the following officers be installed.

Moderator—Rev. D. F. Pelt, **Vice-moderator** J. H. Oates, **Clerk**—Evelyn Sutton, **Treasurer**—Linnie Stokes, **Executive Committee**—Bro. J. H. Oates, J. H. Garner and Cleve Stanley.

Motion was made and received that the association meet with too different churches

NEW ZION—1st day.

HICKORY GROVE—2nd day.**UNION MEETING—Sardis.**

Motion was made and received that the following people serve on program committee: Rev. Mike Pelt, Mrs. Eloise Commander, Mrs. Edna Lawrence.

Motion was made that names of deceased members be carried in our minutes.

Miscellaneous business. Delegates to the sister associations were appointed Chattahoochee—Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Oates, Salem—Rev. Dan Pelt, State Association — Sister Eloise Commander, Linnie Stokes and Lucille Bodiford, Midway Association—Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. Lawrence, State Line Association—Mrs. Jewell Thomley, Atetha Deese.

Motion was made to adjourn business session until after lunch.

Rev. Leroy Knighten introduced the speaker for the morning service. Rev. S. T. Shutes "As A Man Thinketh in His Heart So Is He". Everyone enjoyed the message.

An intermission was given for lunch and everyone enjoyed a delicious lunch.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

"Trusting Jesus" was sung by the Congregation.

Rev. D. F. Pelt introduced to the Congregation Rev. Leroy Knighten who brought the devotional and prayer for the afternoon.

Motion that business be attended.

Sister Adams was recognized as one of the oldest members in the association. Mrs. Adams is in her 80's and a member of New Prospect Church.

Report on improvement Committee was given and adopted.

1. History of The S. E. F. W. B. Association be obtained and written in minutes. Each church clerk is to obtain history of the association from older members.

2. That young people participate on program and be elected as delegates to the association.

3. Program committee work out a Friday night meeting place and have service.

Motion was made to receive the complying report.

Treasurers report was given and adopted.

Motion to pay clerk \$25.00 and moderator \$10.00. Rev. Mike Pelt \$15.00.

Songs were sung by Congregation. Rev. Paul E. Knighten brought a brief message. It was very inspiring and touching.

On motion we gave a rising vote of thanks to New Prospect for the kind hospitality and beautiful flowers.

We have said farewell until we meet with Sardis Church the 5th Sunday in March.

D. F. PELT, Moderator

EVELYN SUTTON, Association Clerk....

We, the Southeastern Free Will Baptist Association do highly appreciate the hospitality and beautiful flowers of the New Prospect Church during the association.

EVELYN SUTTON, Association Clerk

COMPLYING REPORT

Total members of All Churches	1,376
Received in One Year	40
Dismissed in One Year	17
Paid Pastors	3,650.90
Other Donations	874.78
Paid for Association and Minutes	158.25
Leagues Organized	5
Sunday Schools	8
Died	8

— OBITUARIES —**1950-1951**

GOODWATER—Sister Rene Thomas, age 51, Bro. Jessie Thomley, Bro. Will M. Thomley, Bro. F. Q. Thomley, Sister J. A. Searcy.

EVERGREEN CHURCH—Sister Annie Thompson.

HICKORY GROVE—Bro. Henry Blalock.

NEW ZION — Bro. Luther Steveson, Sister Viola Shelley, Bro. Paul Shelly.

MT. ZION—Bro. John Stanley.

CHURCHES	PASTORS AND POST OFFICES	CLERKS AND POST OFFICES	DELEGATES	Enrolled in Sunday School	Pastors Salary	Dismissed by Letter	Received by Letter	Received on Confession	Died	Present Membership	Paid Association	Paid Minutes	Other Donations	League Membership
Good Water	S. T. Shutes Colquit, Georgia	Jewell Thomley, Newton, Alabama	W. C. Mathews, Loyd White, Boyd Deese, Aletha Deese Jewell Thomley	50	629.87	1	15		2	136	12.50	2.50	192.90	47
Chester Chapel	P. A. Brackin Newville, Alabama	Mrs. Vinson Abbeville, Ala.	Jack D. Calhoun, Sammie Lipscomb, Jack Vinson	62	180.00	1	2			41	3.50	1.50		
Mt. Zion	P. E. Knighten Eufaula, Alabama	Mary S. Cox Eufaula, Ala.	Rubye Stanley, Clara Belcher, A. B. Stanley, Cleve Stanley, George Lewis		244.21				1	98	15.00			
Holmes	Mike Pelt Marianna, Fla.	Eloise Commander Ariton, Ala.	Milton Hartzog, Lavaughn Adkinson	48	325.39					29	15.00		236.88	31
Pleasant Hill	Paul Mallory Midland City, Ala	Marvin Calloway Headland, Ala.	Ethal Farmer, Henry Farmer, C. E. Watson, Marvin Callo- way, Jewell Calloway	46	187.69	3	3			91	4.00	2.00	9.00	
Union Grove	D. F. Pelt Marianna, Ala.	Frank Welcher Abbeville, Ala.	Linnie Stokes, Jessie and Mary McKnight, Mary Gamble Bob Stokes		355.03	5		11		195	10.00	5.00	70.00	35
Sardis	J. H. Golden Eufaula, Ala.	W. H. Gilmore Clayton, Ala.	Robert Gilmore, Edd Clark, Earl Roney, John Clark, Horace Haipiced	52	174.82			1		100	2.50	2.50	63.00	
Pilgrim Rest	J. N. Barnes Blakley, Ga.	Ruth Smith Abbeville, Ala.	John T. Wikkon, Elma Lindsay, Frances Davis, Eunice Davis, Gladys Wilson	40	189.13	2		4		150	5.00	5.00	10.00	35
Hickory Grove	P. A. Brackin Newville, Ala.	Vallie Blalock Abbeville, Ala.	Nita Hickman, Mrs. J. C. Money, Fannie Mae Blalock		135.60				1	32	5.25	3.00	7.50	
Evergreen	J. H. Golden Eufaula, Ala.	Edna Beasley Ariton, Ala.	Will Beasley, Bessie Tyler, Minnie Leroy		169.16			2	1	94	15.00		60.50	
New Zion	Chester Pelt Marianna, Fla.	Ruth Oates Headland, Ala.	Hubert Roney, Press Sanders, Masdon Killingsworth, Ruth Oates	69	340.00	1			3	108	20.00			
Friendship	Mike Pelt Mariana, Fla.	Irene Wise Eufaula, Ala.	Joe Mallory, Edna Wise, J. E. Mallory, Tobie Culpepper	40	600.00	4		2		56	15.00		90.00	35
New Prospect	J. H. Golden Eufaula, Ala.	Mrs. Oyd Tew Clopton, Ala.	Hastien Williams, Barney Carroll, Frazell Wilkerson		120.00					154	3.50	1.50	35.00	

REPORT OF THE TREASURER FOR 1951

Old Balance	\$ 33.52
Received at 1950 Session	\$199.46
Total	\$232.98
Paid Out—	
Clerk	\$ 25.00
Moderator	\$ 10.00
Alabama Orphanage	\$ 35.00
Bible College	\$ 25.00
Minutes and Mailing	\$ 47.50
Rev. Mike R. Pelt	\$ 15.00
Rev. John Golden	\$ 25.00
Flowers for Memorial Service	\$ 3.00
Total	\$ 210.50
Total	\$ 232.98
Total	\$ 210.50
Balance in Treasury	\$ 22.48

Respectfully Submitted

LINNIE J. STOKES, Treasurer, 1951

Church Covenant.

Having been brought, as we humbly trust, by Divine grace to embrace the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior, and having obtained justification by faith in His name, we as members of the Baptist church at agree:

1. To watch over each other in love, to pray for each other as members of a common faith, ever striving to keep the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace.

2. We will not speak evil of one another, nor will we persecute or oppose the faults of the weak members or our church, but we will endeavor to be governed by Paul's instructions to Timothy, "That we will reprove, rebuke and exhort each other as members of a common brotherhood."

3. We are commanded to do good unto all men, especially those who are of the household of faith, but we should remember that relations to each other are closer and

the obligations more binding than that of a common bond of Christian charity. In adopting the covenant we become a family, and a family should feel for each other.

4. We will attend the stated meeting of our church unless we are providentially hindered or uncontrollable circumstances prevent us. And we will contribute of our means as the Lord has prospered us for the support of our pastors and other necessary expenses of our church. And we prefer the services of our church to that of any other, and will pray for our pastor while he is preaching the Word to us.

5. We will not injure or influence in the house of the Lord by occupying seats among the ungodly and sinners, but will occupy seats near the pulpit and use the natural powers which the Lord has given us to praise His Holy Name. We will sing with those who sing and pray with those who pray.

6. We will not be guilty of sin of Sabbath breaking by making Sunday visits to our neighbors, which is a double sin against the Lord, and hinders others who might wish to do so. Let us remember the law of Moses, which condemns Sabbath breaking and the words of the inspired apostle which says: "Forsake not assembling of yourselves together as the manner of some is."

7. We will not neglect secret and public prayer, and those of us who are head of families will strive to dedicate our households to the religion of God by teaching our children the great necessity of Christian religion as the only hope for happiness after death. We will adopt the covenant of Joshua, the servant of the Lord, and say: "But as for me and my house we will serve the Lord."

OF GOD—Article 1. We believe there is one, and but one living and true God; who is personally the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, equal and harmonious in every divine perfection.

OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURE—Article 2. We believe that God is the author of the Holy Bible, and that its teaching institutes the only infallible doctrine for the government of His Church.

OF ORIGINAL APOSTASY — Article 3. We believe that Adam was created holy and by voluntary transgressions fell into depravity and consequently involved his posterity in sin.

ON SALVATION — Article 4. We believe that the grace of God comprehends all spiritual blessings. That the gospel is the power of God unto salvation. That the Holy Spirit not only reproves the world of sin, but is the means whereby sinners are converted and made wise unto salvation.

OF CHRISTIAN FAITH — Article 5. We believe that Christian faith is belief in Jesus Christ as the Son and redeemer of the world, and the divinity of the Holy Scriptures. That "Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God."

OF REPENTANCE—Article 6. We believe that repentance is sorrow for sin; the kind of sorrow which constitutes godly repentance, must be preached by effectual conviction of sin.

OF FREE AGENCY—Article 7. We believe the human will is free and that men have ability to accept or reject the conditions of salvation as they are revealed in the Holy Scriptures.

OF PRESERVATION—Article 8. We do not believe under the gospel dispensation that any soul is elected to eternal life conditionally. But those who by faith preserve to the end will be saved. That it is possible for men who have been converted, to "Make shipwrecks of faith," turn again to sin and finally be lost.

OF GOOD WORK—Article 9. We believe that good works is the result of faith and not necessity. That those who have faith will do work of righteousness, while those who have no faith cannot do anything pleasing or acceptable unto God.

OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM—Article 10. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of a believer in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. That baptism cannot be scripturally administered without faith in the subject who receives it.

OF THE LORD'S SUPPER — Article 11. We believe the supper was instituted by our savior as a commemorative ordinance. That the bread and the wine are representative of His broken body and shed blood. That it was instituted for Christians and that all Christians should unite in observing that sacred service, regardless of names or denominational distinctions.

OF THE SOUL—Article 12. We believe that man is a living soul. That the body will die, but the soul is immortal. That death is the separation of the mortal and immortal parts of human beings.

OF THE RESURRECTION—Article 13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead. When the resurrection shall take place the soul and body will unite and form an immortal being. That the righteous will be received into a state of everlasting happiness to reign with God forever. But the wicked will be bound hand and foot and cast into darkness. "The wicked are driven away in their wickedness but the righteous have hope in their deaths."

Articles of Decorum for Association

Article 1. That this Association be known and designated as the Southeastern Free Will Baptist Association and shall hold one annual session each year at such time and place as agreed upon by the previous session. After the body assembles an introductory sermon shall be preached by the minister or his alternate who was elected at the previous session to perform that service. In their absence the ministers present shall select one of their number to perform the service.

Article 2. The annual association shall be composed of delegates from the different churches of the association, represented as follows: One delegate for every twenty-five members or less, and one for every fraction of twenty-five or twelve. Any conference may be considered legal when five members are present.

Article 3. All ordained, licensed ministers, officers of the association shall be honorary members of the association with the privileges as delegates in the association, the Moderator excepted, and he shall only vote in case of a tie.

Article 4. Officers of the association shall be a moderator, clerk, treasurer and executive committee, who shall be elected annually, and their tenure of office shall be one year or until their successors are elected.

Article 5. If the moderator and clerk of the previous session are present, they shall call the body to order. In their absence the ministers present shall appoint a moderator and clerk, proceed to business as follows: Enroll the names of the ministers present, also the delegates from the different churches and visiting brothers and sisters. These shall compose the association.

Article 6. The churches are members of the association and are entitled to fellowship while they are in Gospel order, but a church that becomes disorderly by failing to use discipline in case of immoral conduct among its members shall be excluded.

Article 7. The association has the right to obtain ministers when ordination is called for by the church through its church letters, and reports by the same to the church through its delegates.

Article 8. The minutes of the association shall be read and approved by the body before adjournment.

Article 9. Amendments may be made to the rules of Decorum by a majority of two thirds vote of delegates present.

— NOTES —
