

MINUTES

Of The

EIGHTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION

Of The

Southeastern Free Will Baptist Association

Which Convened With

UNION FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Friday

and

GOODWATER CHURCH

Saturday before the 3rd Sunday

in October, 1962

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OFFICERS—1963

REV. DURWARD ADKINSON.....	Moderator
REV. PAUL MALLORY.....	Vice-Moderator
SISTER EVELYN SUTTON.....	Clerk
BRO. GENE CARR.....	Treasurer

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Bro. Thomas Kirkland, Bro. Jack Calhoun, Bro. Herbert
Roney, Sister Linnie Stokes and Sister Aletha Deese.

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The next session will convene with Pilgrim Rest on Friday
before the 4th Sunday in October and with Chester Chapel
on Saturday before the 4th Sunday in October, 1963.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY OF THE SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA

The Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary of the Southeastern District of Alabama met with New Zion Free Will Baptist Church of Tumbleton, May 4, 1962.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. Lucy Roney. The convention opened with the group singing, "Jesus Calls Us."

Devotional was given by Mrs. Thyra Mallory of New Zion.

The welcome address by Mrs. Barbara Hanna of New Zion with Mrs. Eloise Commander of Holmes giving the response.

Special music was by Wanda Watson and Sandra DeShazo of New Zion.

Recognition of pastors and visitors. There were four pastors present whom were: Rev. Ralph Bell of Goodwater, Rev. Durward Atkinson of Holmes, Rev. John Edwards of Dothan and Rev. Paul Mallory of New Zion.

Roll call—six auxiliaries reported: Goodwater, Holmes, Union, Pilgrim Rest, New Prospect and New Zion. Each auxiliary had a mighty good report.

We re-elected the same officers to serve another year.

The group then sang, "We'll Work Till Jesus Comes."

Our message was brought to us by Mrs. Eunice Edwards, Secretary and Treasurer of the National Free Will Baptist Womans Auxiliary of Nashville, Tenn. We felt very fortunate in having Mrs. Edwards with us and she brought a most inspiring message on Foreign Missions. After her message we had a question and answer period.

Our next meeting will be held at Union Free Will Baptist Church on Friday night, April 5, 1963.

The benediction was by Rev. Paul Mallory and afterwards we enjoyed a social hour in the recreation room of the church.

MRS. LUCY RONEY, President

MRS. SHIRLEY PEEL, Secretary and Treasurer

Program of The 1963 Southeastern Free Will Baptist Association which will convene with Pilgrim Rest Church on Friday before the 4th Sunday in October, 1963.

Program will be sent out by Guest Church.

Program of the Association Saturday before the 4th Sunday in October, 1963 will convene with Chester Chapel Church.

Program will be sent out by Guest Church.

LEAGUE REPORT

The Southeastern Free Will Baptist League Convention met with the First Free Will Baptist Church on September 30, 1962 for the annual meeting.

Morning session was called to order by Bro. Abe Norton and Sister Mary Ella Wilson gave the welcome address. Sister Lucile Bodiford the response.

Bro. Paul Mallory gave the morning message from Matthew 5-13-16. Adjourned for the noon hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Rev. Durward Atkinson brought the afternoon message from Ecclesiastes. Business session. Bro. Paul Mallory, moderator.

Motion to have convention one-half day next year was agreed on.

Nomination for League President. Bro. Swezey nominated and elected. Nomination for Secretary and Treasurer. Sister Mary Ella Wilson was nominated and elected. Nomination for League convention next year. Sardis Church was nominated will be in charge of program. Fourth Sunday afternoon in September 1963.

After the business we were entertained with singing by the Gilmore family.

Closed by singing, "Blest Be The Tie."

PAUL MALLORY, Moderator
IRENE WISE, Clerk

PROGRAM FOR THE 1963 SOUTHEASTERN FREE WILL BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION ON JUNE 30, 1963

To Convene With Holmes Church

- 9:45 OPENING WITH GROUP SINGING..... Led by Zeke Stokes
DEVOTION..... Rev. Durward Adkinson
WELCOME..... Bro. Milton Hartzog
RESPONSE..... Sister Linnie Stokes
SUNDAY SCHOOL ADULT CLASS..... Bro. Swezey
YOUNG PEOPLE'S CLASSES..... By Holmes Teachers
SONGS..... Led by Song Leader
RECEIVE REPORTS FROM CHURCHES.
SONG.
MESSAGE..... By Guest Speaker
12:00 NOON.
1:10 SONG.
PRAYER.
PROGRAMS FROM CHURCHES.
BUSINESS PERIOD.
ADJOURNMENT.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

The Southeastern Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention met on the 5th Sunday in July with Hickory Grove Church with a real good attendance from eight churches. Five were absent.

Rev. Durward Adkinson was chairman in absence of Rev. Hutto.

Singing led by Bro. Vickers from Mt. Zion. Opening prayer by Bro. Paul Mallory.

Welcome by Hickory Grove Church. Response by Mt. Zion Church.

Sunday School lesson taught by Bro. Helms.

Offering taken for Orphan's Home, amount \$25.00.

Song. Prayer by Rev. Henderson. Song by Choir.

Message by Rev. Hyman. Scripture from Acts 5-42. Theme: "Sunday School the Right Arm of the Church."

At noon a bountiful spread of food was enjoyed by everyone.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Song and prayer.

Judges appointed to judge programs. Six churches gave programs.

New Prospect won the \$5.00 award for Best Program. Mt. Zion won the convention Attendance Banner with 34 from their church attending. New Zion won the Percentage Attendance Banner for Highest Yearly Attendance with 78 percent.

Business Session

Moved and seconded, Bro. Adkinson appoint an executive committee to work program up, set up by by-laws, name and get out report blanks for next session of convention.

Committee named, Rev. Paul Mallory, Mrs. Herbert Roney and Mrs. Jessie McKnight.

Moved and seconded each church will entertain the convention alphabetically and that each church will elect one delegate to the State Convention.

Eleven churches reported, all 13 have Sunday Schools.

Meeting adjourned.

May God bless and keep us all in his work.

MRS. HERBERT RONEY

Secretary and Treasurer

REV. DURWARD ADKINSON, Moderator

PROCEEDINGS

**Southeastern Free Will Baptist Association
First Day's Session**

FRIDAY MORNING

Minutes of the Southeastern Free Will Baptist Association which met with Union Church, Abbeville, Ala.

The Moderator, Rev. Durward Adkinson, asked the Lord's blessings on this session of the Association.

Sister Eloise Commander and Sister Rosa Adkinson presided at the register for Union Church.

The Association opened with a song led by Bro. Aurie Long Stokes, "Revive Us Again."

Congregational singing.

Bro. Sammy Johnson, a layman League director, gave some useful and interesting information about league work. The League's motto is: "Seek, Ye First The Kingdom of God."

Bro. Roy McKnight gave a wonderful welcome address.

Sister Blondell Hartzog gave a nice response.

The Moderator, Rev. Durward Adkinson, asked that he appoint a clerk to serve during this session. Sister Evelyn Sutton was asked to serve.

The Moderator asked that the church letters be read by each church clerk or one of their delegates.

Motion was made and seconded to receive the letters and seat the delegates.

The following ministers were recognized by the clerk, Sister Evelyn Sutton: Rev. John Edwards, Rev. Paul Mallory and Rev. Randell Miller.

Song service.

Committee on Committees was appointed: Bro. Gene Carr, Sister Sarah Hollingsworth and Bro. Jack Calhoun.

Rev. John Edwards brought the morning message: "Church, The Most Important Institution On Earth." The Church is the only organization in the whole world organized by God. All other organizations were inspired by Man.

The Church should be: (1) A United Church. (2) Attended Church. (3) A Friendly Church. (4) A Loving Church. (5) A Spiritual Church. (6) A Reverent Church. (7) A Soul-Winning Church.

The Moderator asked God's blessings on an offering for Headquarters Building in Nashville, Tennessee. \$50.00 was donated. The Association will receive a Certificate for this.

Song: "Bringing In The Sheaves," led by Bro. Holt Stokes. Rev. J. T. Helms dismissed for lunch.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Song service led by Bro. Herbert Roney, "Leaning On The Everlasting Arm."

Rev. Durward Adkinson brought the afternoon devotional, "Are We Walking With God."

Congregation singing.

Rev. Paul Mallory brought the afternoon message. (1) Pray and talk with God. (2) Believe. (3) Pray that we be humble and submissive to God's will. A wonderful sermon.

Motion was made and passed that all churches close out their association letters the last of August.

COMMITTEES

Report from Committee on Committees was given and adopted:

NOMINATING COMMITTEE—Sister Clara Belcher, Sister Lucy Roney and Sister Edna Lawrence.

FINANCE COMMITTEE — Bro. Daniel Calloway, Sister Irene Wise and Bro. Loyd White.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE — Bro. J. H. Oates, Sister Blondell Hartzog and Bro. Aurie Long Stokes.

Motion was made and passed for adjournment.

A rising vote of thanks was given to Union Church for a wonderful day with them.

Song, "Sweet Hour of Prayer." Dismissed by Mrs. Edwards.

SATURDAY MORNING

Registration began at 9:40 A.M. Sister Kate Palmer and Sister Aletha Deese presided over the register.

Congregational singing, "At The Cross," led by Sister Grace Whitaker.

Rev. Craddock led the congregation in prayer.

Rev. Paul Mallory brought the morning devotional: "Work Toward The Lifting Up of Christ."

Welcome Address was given by Rev. Ralph Bell.

Sister Lucy Roney gave a nice response.

Rev. W. T. Hutto extended the right hand of Christian fellowship to all visiting members.

The letter from Holmes Church was read by Sister Elouise Commander the Church Clerk.

Delegates from visiting associations were recognized and asked to be seated: State Line Association, Salem Association and Florida Progressing Association.

Rev. Paul Mallory brought the thought before the Association that we have quarterly sessions as well as the annual session.

Rev. John Edwards gave some interesting ideas about the quarterly meeting.

Rev. Lambert sang, "Sweet Hour of Prayer."

Rev. W. T. Hutto dismissed for a short recess. Congregational singing.

Rev. Carlton Lambert sang a special which was enjoyed by every one, "The Love of God."

Congregational singing.

Rev. John Edwards led the congregation in prayer.

Rev. Carlton Lambert brought the morning message. "Do We Have A Compassion For Lost Souls?" A wonderful message.

An offering was taken for the orphanage at Eldridge, Alabama, \$43.03.

Rev. Chester Pelt dismissed for lunch.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Congregational singing.

The Moderator, Rev. Durward Adkinson, led the congregation in prayer.

Rev. J. T. Helms was ordained. Rev. John Edwards gave the charge to Rev. J. T. Helms.

Rev. W. T. Hutto presented the Bible to Rev. J. T. Helms as a Christian weapon.

All Ministers were asked to come forward during the prayer that Rev. Paul Mallory led in ordaining Rev. J. T. Helms.

"Amazing Grace," was sung and every one fellowshiped Rev. J. T. Helms and wished him God's speed.

IN MEMORIAM

Memorial services for our deceased brothers and sisters were held.

Rev. Durward Adkinson and Sister Blondell Hartzog

CHURCHES	PASTORS AND POSTOFFICES	CLERKS AND POSTOFFICES	DELEGATES	Enrollment in S.S.	Pastor's Salary	Dismissed by Letter	Rec'd. on Confession	Died	Present Membership	Paid Association and Minutes	Other Donations
Goodwater	Charles Craddock Dothan, Ala.	Grace Whitaker Newton, Ala.	Chester Matthews, Johnny B. Sanders, Shirley Sullivan, Loyd White, Ouida Draughn and Magdalene Jones	45	\$ 587.50		10		75	\$15.00	\$ 235.00
Chester Chapel	Durward Adkinson Ariton, Ala.	Mattie Coates Abbeville, Ala.	Jack Vinson, Jack Della Calhoun, Mattie Coates, Pauline Coates, Ethel Steed and Wiley Coates	39	409.17	3	7		53	15.00	798.86
Mt. Zion	Randell Miller Enterprise, Ala.	Lowell Vickers Abbeville, Ala.	Clara Belcher, Mary George and Irene Vickers	40	600.21		5		96	15.00	2,132.32
Holmes	Durward Adkinson Ariton, Ala.	Eloise Commander Ariton, Ala.	Reba Barr, Mattie Sutton, Clara Tillman and Blondell Hartzog	30	1,000.00	3	2		42	15.00	1,341.35
Pleasant Hill	Melvin Moody Morgan, Ga.	Edward Givens Headland, Ala.	Henry Farmer, Effie Givens, Mable Farmer and Daniel Galloway	14	416.50			1	87	15.00	335.54
Union	Paul Mallory Headland, Ala.	Juliette Stokes Abbeville, Ala.	Emory Hamilton, Sam Mason, and Arrie Long Stokes	40	871.80	5	3	1	100	20.00	252.40
Sardis	George Stephens Dothan, Ala.	W. H. Gilmore Clayton, Ala.	Warren Gilmore, Peggy Gilmore, William Bush, Thomas Hollingsworth and Sara Hollingsworth	35	851.00		5		118	15.00	294.00
Pilgrim Rest	W. F. McDuffie Blakely, Ga.	Gene Carr Abbeville, Ala.	J. T. Helms, J. A. Money, Gene Carr, Roy Wilson, John Wilson and Earl Money	20	581.13	2	1	2	113	15.00	138.63
Evergreen	W. T. Hutto Midland City, Ala.	Lloyd Beasley Ariton, Ala.	Jinnie Doster, Lillian Wilson, Alga Sue Garner, Effie Skinner, Ezra Paulk and Sharon Skinner	15	647.36		4	1	57	15.00	230.00
New Zion	Paul Mallory Headland, Ala.	Ruth Oates Headland, Ala.	Jack Shelley, Herbert Roney, Tommie Stokes, Raymond Herring and Mauline Oates	111	1,250.00		4		160	20.00	3,341.92
First Free Will Baptist	Hubert Henderson Dothan, Ala.	Irene Wise Eufaula, Ala.	Abe Norton, Edna Lawrence, Irene Wise, Mary Wilson, John Edwards and Ouida Watson	10	383.00	3	1		56	15.00	129.32
New Prospect	Durward Adkinson Ariton, Ala.	Gwen Sowell Abbeville, Ala.	Alvan Sowell, Linda Sowell and Mary Carroll	25	822.91	1	5	1	97	15.00	351.84
Hickory Grove	Rufus Hyman Slocomb, Ala.	Irene Blalock Abbeville, Ala.	Charley Blalock, Kate Blalock and Mrs. C. B. Hickman	25	467.50	2	4	2	37	15.00	351.84

read scripture and left some wonderful thoughts with us about the deceased members.

Rev. Dan Pelt led in prayer.

"Precious Memories," was sung.

NEW PROSPECT—Sister Tinnie Dunlap.

HICKORY GROVE—Sister Emma L. Edwards and Sister Matha Rose Weddle.

UNION—Sister Mattie Bedsole.

PLEASANT HILL—Bro. Early Calloway.

EVERGREEN—Mrs. Robinson.

PILGRIM REST—Sister Mary Buxton and Sister Amy Money.

Bro. J. H. Oates told us that he was at Goodwater Church 47 years ago during a session of the association.

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We, your Nominating Committee, ask that the following Churches entertain our next session of our Association on Friday at Pilgrim Rest Church on Saturday Chester Chapel Church before the 4th Sunday in October 1963. We ask that Rev. Durward Adkinson serve as Moderator and Bro. Paul Mallory serve as Vice Moderator, and Sister Evelyn Sutton as Clerk and Bro. Gene Carr as Treasurer.

We ask that Union Church entertain the Women's Auxiliary in 1963 which will be on Friday night after the first fifth Sunday.

SISTER CLARA BELCHER
SISTER LUCY RONEY
SISTER EDNA LAWRENCE

RESOLUTIONS REPORT

We suggest each Church send \$20.00 to the Association and \$25.00 if possible.

The Moderator continues to be responsible for a guest speaker chosen by the Moderator.

The Churches keep up the good work in Sunday School and each Church organize prayer meetings.

Date of Association be moved to Friday and Saturday before the 4th Sunday in October.

SISTER J. H. OATES
SISTER BLONDELL HARTZOG
BRO. ZEKE STOKES

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

We, the Finance Committee, recommend to the Association that the Moderator be paid \$20.00 and the Clerk \$45.00.

Association to be responsible for the expense of visiting ministers who are placed on programs. Also any other expense for preparing program.

BRO. LOYD WHITE

BRO. G. D. CALLOWAY

SISTER IRENE WISE

Rev. Paul Mallory made a motion to have a quarterly session Saturday before the 4th Sunday in January. Motion was made and passed.

QUARTERLY MEETINGS

First Quarterly Meeting — Saturday before the 4th Sunday in January at New Zion.

Second Quarterly Meeting—Saturday before the 4th Sunday in April at Mt. Zion.

Third Quarterly Meeting—Saturday before the 4th Sunday in July at Sardis Church.

Motion was made and passed to have these printed in minutes as to time and place.

Motion was made and passed to print the minutes and not wait for programs from Churches having the Association. Print a standard form as to who is having the Association and where.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Old Balance	\$ 50.00
Received at 1961 Session.....	195.00
Received for Children's Home.....	72.20

\$317.20

PAID OUT:

Guest Speaker	\$ 35.00
Clerk	45.00
Moderator	20.00
State Association	26.00
Children's Home	72.20

Minutes and Mailing	59.63
	\$257.83
New Balance	\$ 59.37

Respectfully submitted,
GENE CARR, Treasurer

A rising vote of thanks was given to Goodwater Church for a wonderful day.

Rev. Ralph Bell gave the benediction.

ORDER OF CONFERENCE

Conference after prayer and divine service shall be opened and conducted as follows: (1) Inviting brethren to seats; (2) Opening door of church for reception of members; (3) Calling for absentees; (4) Acknowledgements; (5) For reference of deferred business; (6) For new matters of debating which are to come before the body; (7) For miscellaneous business.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **THE BIBLE.** The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. **GOD.** There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe; and in Scriptures as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore and obey.

3. **CHRIST.** Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified, He is now risen and glorified, and is our ever present Saviour and Lord.

4. **THE HOLY SPIRIT.** The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God.

5. **THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD.** God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the construction and laws of nature. He also performs special acts, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of men requires.

6. **THE SINFULNESS OF MAN.** Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and

condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherit a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability sin, and becomes guilty before God.

7. **THE WORK OF CHRIST.** The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

8. **THE TERMS OF SALVATION.** The conditions of salvation are: (1) Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. (2) Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God. (3) Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

9. **ELECTION.** God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

10. **FREEDOM OF THE WILL.** The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.

11. **SALVATION FREE.** God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whatsoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.

12. **PERSEVERANCE.** All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.

13. **GOSPEL ORDINANCES.** BAPTISM, or the immersion of believers in water, and the LORD'S SUPPER, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel; FEET WASHING, and ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be ministered to all true believers.

14. **TITHING.** God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ endorsed it in the Gospel (Matt. 23:23), and the apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him." (1 Cor. 16:2).

15. **THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH.** The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works and activities, and for personal communion with God.

16. RESURRECTION, J U D G M E N T AND FINAL RETRIBUTION. The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant.

We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearances of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conference; public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay its poor, and all its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principles 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 tilling that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of Missions, the success of Sunday Schools and the evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the World. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.