

1974
MINUTES
Of
THE QUARTERLY MEETINGS
and the
NINETY - SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION
Of
THE SOUTHEASTERN
ASSOCIATION
Of
FREE WILL
BAPTIST CHURCHES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS.....	Page 2
OFFICERS	2
ORDAINED MINISTERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.....	3
COMMITTEES	3
Executive	
Credentials and Examining	
Christian Education	
Children's Home	
Missions	
Youth Activities	
PROCEEDINGS	4
First Quarterly Session	
Second Quarterly Session	
Third Quarterly Session	
Annual Session	
STATISTICAL REPORT OF CHURCHES.....	Foldout
REPORTS OF REGULAR AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES.....	12
Finance Committee	
Resolutions Committee	
Missions Committee	
Nominations Committee	
Credentials and Examining Committee	
Placement Committee	
DISTRICT S.S. AND C.T.S. CONVENTION.....	14
ANNUAL REPORT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY	15
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING.....	16
TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT	17
ARTICLES OF FAITH	18
CHURCH COVENANT	19
ASSOCIATIONAL DIRECTORY	20

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

GENERAL THEME:

"The Needs of the Local Church Today"

FIRST QUARTERLY SESSION - NEW ZION - SATURDAY,
JANUARY 18, 1975

Morning Message: "Members Saved By Grace"---Rev. Steve Bailey

Afternoon Message-----Rev. Gilbert Lacy

SECOND QUARTERLY SESSION - PILGRIM REST - SATURDAY,
APRIL 19, 1975

Morning Message: "Members Working Together in State and
National Work"-----Rev. Paul Mallory

Afternoon Message: Rev. Jack Rollins, or other available
State or National Worker

THIRD QUARTERLY SESSION - FIRST CHURCH, EUFAULA -
SATURDAY, JULY 19, 1975

Morning Message: "Making More of Christ"---Rev. Dilmos Johnston

Afternoon Message-----Rev. Melvin Hunter

ANNUAL SESSION

FIRST DAY - HOLMES CHURCH - FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1975

Morning Message: "Desiring to See Christ"---Rev. Clarence Culpepper

Afternoon Message-----Rev. Pat Wilson

SECOND DAY - EVERGREEN - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1975

Morning Message: "Evangelism"-----Rev. Thomas Gamble

Afternoon Message-----Rev. Gerald Baxley

1975 ASSOCIATIONAL CALENDAR

FIRST QUARTERLY SESSION-----SATURDAY, JANUARY 18
At New Zion Church, Headland

SECOND QUARTERLY SESSION-----SATURDAY, APRIL 19
At Pilgrim Rest Church, Abbeville

THIRD QUARTERLY SESSION-----SATURDAY, JULY 19
At First Church, Eufaula

ANNUAL SESSIONS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17 - HOLMES CHURCH, ARITON

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18 - EVERGREEN CHURCH, ARITON

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CTS CONVENTION, UNION CHURCH,
SUNDAY, MARCH 30

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION - HICKORY GROVE
CHURCH, FRIDAY, APRIL 11 at 7:30 P.M.

OFFICERS

Rev. Clarence Culpepper-----Moderator
109 Nancy Ross Dr., Eufaula, AL 36027

Rev. Paul Mallory-----Vice-Moderator
Route 2, Headland, AL 36345

Mrs. Aletha Deese-----Clerk
Route 2, Newton, AL 36352

Mrs. Aletha Deese-----Treasurer
Route 2, Newton, AL 36352

ORDAINED MINISTERS OF ASSOCIATION

Rev. Steve Bailey-----Route 1, Abbeville, AL 36310
Rev. Gerald Baxley-----Midland City, AL 36350
*Rev. Ralph D. (Buddy) Bell-----Route 1, Ashford, AL 36312
*Rev. W. W. Bush-----Clayton, AL 36316
Rev. Thomas Coxwell-----Route 2, Abbeville, AL 36310
Rev. Clarence Culpepper-----109 Nancy Ross Dr., Eufaula, AL 36327
Rev. Thomas Gamble-----P. O. Box 172, Abbeville, AL 36310
*Rev. Donald Grice
*Rev. J. T. Helms-----Route 2, Abbeville, AL 36310
Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland-----Route 4, Eufaula, AL 36027
Rev. Paul Mallory-----Route 2, Headland, AL 36345
Rev. Randall Miller-----Route 3, Enterprise, AL 36330
*Rev. Cleve Stanley-----Route 1, Eufaula, AL 36027
* Members of Association not pastoring in Association at present.

LICENSED MINISTERS OF ASSOCIATION

Rev. Ted Medley-----Route 1, Eufaula, Ala. 36027
Rev. Lemuel P. (Pat) Wilson-----Route 1, Box 309, Eufaula, Ala. 36027

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chester Chapel-----John E. Coates
819 Pump Station Road, Eufaula, AL 36027
Evergreen-----Mrs. Lillian Wilson
Route 1, Ariton, AL 36311
First Church Eufaula-----Mrs. Pat Wilson
Route 1, Eufaula, AL 36027
Goodwater-----Boyd Deese
Route 2, Newton, AL 36352
Hickory Grove-----Mrs. Martha Blalock
Route 1, Abbeville, AL 36310
Holmes-----Mrs. Blondell Hartzog
Route 2, Ariton, AL 36311
Mt. Zion-----Lowell Vickers
Route 1, Eufaula, AL 36027
New Prospect-----Edward Nance
Route 1, Clopton, AL 36317
New Zion-----Mrs. Lucy Roney
Route 3, Headland, AL 36345
Pilgrim Rest-----Mrs. Elma Rentz
Route 1, Abbeville, AL 36310
Pleasant Hill-----Henry Farmer
Route 3, Headland, AL 36345
Sardis-----Kenneth Clark
Route 1, Box 86X, Clayton, AL 36316
Union-----Mrs. Linnie Stokes
Route 1, Abbeville, AL 36310

CREDENTIALS AND EXAMINING COMMITTEE

Rev. Paul Mallory, Chairman-----5 year Term, Expire 1979
Rev. Clarence Culpepper-----4 year Term, Expire 1978
Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland-----3 year Term, Expire 1977
Rev. Thomas Coxwell-----2 year Term, Expire 1976
Lowell Vickers-----1 year Term, Expire 1975

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Rev. Thomas Gamble, Chairman.....3 year Term, Expire 1977
Kate Palmer.....2 year Term, Expire 1976
Gene White1 year Term, Expire 1975

CHILDREN'S HOME COMMITTEE

Rev. Thomas Coxwell, Chairman.....3 Year Term, Expire 1977
Rev. W. W. Bush.....2 Year Term, Expire 1976
Martha Blalock1 Year Term, Expire 1975

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Rev. Clarence Culpepper, Chairman.....3 Year Term, Expire 1977
J. Lowell Sammons.....2 Year Term, Expire 1976
Elma Rentz1 Year Term, Expire 1975

YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Edward Nance, Chairman.....2 Year Term, Expire 1976
Rev. Pat Wilson.....3 Year Term, Expire 1977
Linda Sowell.....1 Year Term, Expire 1975

THE FIRST QUARTERLY SESSION

JANUARY 19, 1974 SARDIS CHURCH

The session was called to order with prayer by the Moderator, Rev. Clarence Culpepper. Bro. Lowell Vickers led the congregation in singing with Mrs. Earl Stevens as pianist. Rev. W. W. Bush led the prayer.

A warm welcome was extended to everyone by Rev. Wade Walton, Pastor of host Church. Rev. Thomas Gamble gave the response.

Bro. Johnny Gilmore brought a very good devotional. He read Acts 12: 11.

Eight ministers and six deacons were recognized, also Rev. and Mrs. Earl Stevens from the State Line Association.

After a roll call of delegates, MSC to seat delegates. Bro. Lowell Vickers dismissed the body for recess.

The Moderator appointed a Finance Committee composed of Sisters Jessie McKnight, Wylene Arnold, and Betty Downs; and a Resolution Committee composed of Sisters Elma Rentz, Dovie Holloway and Bro. Joey Hudspeth.

Bro. Johnny Gilmore led in singing hymns. Rev. Buddy Bell led the prayer.

The Moderator displayed a picture and reported on the destruction of Pleasant Hill Church by a tornado in December, 1973. Rev. Ralph Bell led the offertory prayer and an offering of \$80.80 was received.

Rev. Thomas Coxwell, Pastor of Union Church, brought a very interesting and challenging message on "Look Up for Your Redemption Draweth Nigh". Bro. Lowell Vickers led the prayer to dismiss for lunch.

After lunch, Bro. Bryan Gilmore led in congregational singing followed by prayer by Rev. Earl Stevens.

The Gilmore Quartet sang two beautiful songs, "I Won't Have to Worry Anymore", and "I'll Meet You in the Morning".

The Moderator requested prayer for Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland, Sister Edna Beasley and others who were ill.

Rev. Wade Walton, Pastor of the Host Church, brought a very good message using St. John 1: 29, 10: 10-14, 2: 3; Mark 16: 15, and other

scriptures. The Gilmore Quartet sang the invitation hymn "Pass Me Not".

The Moderator called for the reports of the different committees.

The Finance Committee reported:

10/20/73	Balance on hand	\$1,047.64
	Paid Clerk	100.00
	Paid Moderator	25.00
	Sent State Association	130.00
	Received from churches for state dues and food	50.00
1/19/74	Balance in treasury	842.64
	Received from churches	122.00
	Special Offering received	80.80
	Balance	\$1,045.44
	Jessie McKnight	
	Wylene Arnold	
	Betty Downs	

M.S.C. to adopt the report.

We, your Resolutions Committee, recommend that the special offering be given to Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church to help rebuild after the tornado which struck December 29, 1973. We also recommend that each Church in the Association pledge to give \$25.00 to this cause. Elmer Rentz, Joey Hudspeth and Dovie Holloway.

MSC to adopt the report.

The Board of Christian Education made the following report:

We will have four area study courses within the Association during the month of February. These courses will be one night at each location. In order to cut the distance of travel down, we have the following list of locations with the churches participating there.

February 18 — Sardis - Host Church
Chester Chapel
Mt. Zion
First Church Eufaula

February 19 — New Prospect - Host Church
Evergreen
Holmes

February 20 — Goodwater

February 21 — New Zion - Host Church
Pilgrim Rest
Pleasant Hill
Hickory Grove
Union

We encourage you to support these courses. We further plan a week's courses at these churches at a later date.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Ralph D. Bell, Chm.
Rev. Gerald Baxley
Bro. Gene White

The Board of Christian Education also set forth the following guidelines for this board.

Purpose: To promote education on the church level, encourage teachers, Pastors, and students to study God's Word more. To draw the local church into the State and National Work to a greater degree.

Proposals:

- I. To encourage each church to have at least one (1) study course during the Associational year.
- II. To encourage each church to set up a library within the church with emphasis on study books to help teachers and students in preparing lessons. We recommend that these books be purchased through our national offices.
- III. We further recommend that books be included on Free Will Baptist Doctrines, Visitation, Church Financing, and books concerning Christian growth and general Christian reading.
- IV. We recommend that each church make an effort to be placed on the mailing list of all National Offices in order to receive any promotional aides available and to keep in touch with National events and what we as Free Will Baptists are doing elsewhere.
- V. We recommend that each church put forth a continuous extra effort in the promotion of all church services. These would include Sunday School, Morning Worship, C.T.S., Evening Worship, Prayer Meeting, Visitation, and Associational Meetings (Quarter and Annual).
- VI. The Board recommends that if local instructors are used to teach study courses, that they be paid ten (10) cents per mile from their home to the location of the course. This would not apply to teachers from our National offices or other Associations.
- VII. We request that the Association allocate fifty (50) dollars to the Board of Education in order to get this Board operating. This money would be used for supplies and travel expenses only. It will be replaced as books are sold, and by offerings taken during study courses. We recommend that the Board be given permission to set up it's own bank account, and be required to give an itemized financial report at Quarterly and Annual Sessions. No check may be issued without the signature of both the Treasurer of the Board and the Chairman.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Ralph D. Bell, Chm.
Rev. Gerald Baxley
Bro. Gene White

MSC to adopt the report.

The Children's Home Committee had no report.

The Youth Committee had no report.

The Missions Committee reported December 1973 Alabama Home

Missions had a balance on hand of_____ \$1,199.53

December Receipts_____ 2,642.46

Total Cash on Hand_____ 3,841.99

Expenses for December----- 2,346.80
Balance on hand 1/1/74-----\$1,495.19

Ken Walker

\$600.00 received for the Mobile Mission. \$500.00 of this was used for final payment on that property.

Rev. Clarence Culpepper
J. Lowell Sammons
Merilyn Lipscomb

M.S.C. to adopt the report.

The Special Committee report was read and put on the table for three months since it involved Constitutional changes. The Clerk was to make copies and mail one copy to each church as soon as possible.

After a rising vote of thanks to the Host Church, we adjourned with prayer.

THE SECOND QUARTERLY SESSION

APRIL 20, 1974 HICKORY GROVE CHURCH

The session was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. Clarence Culpepper, who led the opening prayer. Sister Martha Blalock led in Congregational singing with Sister Rheta Blalock as pianist. The pastor of the host church, Rev. Steve Bailey gave the welcome address and Rev. Paul Mallory gave the response.

Bro. Kenneth Blalock brought a very timely devotional, basing his remarks on the scriptures Eph. 4: 25 - 32 and Prov. 10: 4.

The Moderator recognized ten deacons and nine ministers including the two visiting ministers - Rev. Herman Hersey, Nashville, Tennessee and Rev. Gary Watson, Missionary Appointee to Hawaii.

The roll call of delegates was followed by MSC to seat the delegates.

Bro. Bo Vickers led the congregation in singing two hymns. Rev. Charles Allen led the prayer to dismiss for recess.

On reconvening, the Moderator appointed Sisters Kate Palmer and Johnnie Taylor and Bro. Dewey Dean to serve on the Finance Committee. Appointed to serve on the Resolutions Committee were Sisters Martha Blalock, Rosa Payne and Bro. Otis Vickers.

After Congregational singing, Rev. Thomas Coxwell led the prayer. A message in song was presented by Rev. Herman Hersey who rendered a special arrangement of "O Happy Day".

Rev. Paul Mallory led the offertory prayer. An offering of \$67.07 was received.

Before the morning message, Rev. Hersey spoke briefly on the insurance plan for Ministers and layment. Then he brought a wonderful message on "Redeeming the Time Because the Days are Evil." He read Eph. 5: 6 - 22, II Tim. 3: 1 - 5 and other scriptures. This was a very challenging message to Christians. After the invitation we were dismissed for lunch with prayer by Rev. Earl Stephens.

We reconvened with Congregational singing.

After a question and answer session on the work of the Department of Retirement and Insurance - the newest department of the National Association, Rev. Herman Hersey brought another wonderful message challenging us as Christians to be regular in Church attendance and faithful in our services.

The report on the proposed Amendment to the Constitution was re-read. M.S.C.

The Treasurer reported:

1/19/74	Balance on hand	-----	\$ 842.64
	Dues Received	-----	122.00
	Offering Received	-----	80.80
			<hr/>
			\$1,045.44
4/20/70	Donation to Pleasant Hill Church	-----	100.80
			<hr/>
			944.64
	Paid for 1973 Minutes	-----	311.81
			<hr/>
			632.83
	Dues Received	-----	91.00
	Offering Received	-----	67.07
			<hr/>
	Balance	-----	\$ 790.90

We, your Finance Committee, have examined the Finance Report and find it correct. —Sisters Kate Palmer, Johnnie Taylor, Bro. Dewey Dean.

The Examining and Credentials Committee reported they had examined Bro. Lemuel P. (Pat) Wilson and found him of sound doctrine and qualified to be licensed for preaching and Ministering in Free Will Baptist Churches. —Lowell Vickers, Rev. C. L. Culpepper and Rev. Davie Lee Kirkland.

Bro. Dennis Pittman voluntarily surrendered his license to the Ministry. He said he felt no call of God to the Ministry at this time.

The Board of Christian Education made the following report:

A series of study courses were held the week of February 18 - 21. Total attendance for the week was 108.

Offering for the week was \$43.35. As of this date, no checks have been written. We have not received the operating expense from the treasurer, due to the fact that the checking account has just been completed with two signatures necessary for writing of checks. We will ask for the operating expense this week.

Again, if you wish a study course in your local church, and the Board can be of assistance, please inform us.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Ralph D. (Buddy) Bell
Rev. Gerald Baxley
Bro. Gene White

M. S. C.

The Clerk was instructed to write the treasurer to give a check in the amount of \$50.00 to the Board of Christian Education.

The Moderator read portions of letters from Rev. Larry Russell, Missionary to Louisiana, and from Rev. E. B. Ledlow, who reported on Alabama State Mission work in Decatur, Mobile, and Enterprise, Alabama. The missions in Alabama and Louisiana are doing well.

There was a discussion on the disbursement of the offering. M.S.C. to send it to the National Department of Retirement and Insurance. A

motion was made to increase this amount to \$75.00. It was then proposed to amend this motion and send \$125.00. M. S. C.

A Certificate of license to the Ministry was presented to Bro. Lemuel P. (Pat) Wilson.

We, your Resolution Committee, resolve to give Hickory Grove Church a rising vote of thanks for such a nice day. —Sisters Martha Blalock, Johnnie Taylor, and Bro. Otis Vickers. M.S.C.

The closing prayer was led by Rev. Gary Watkins, Appointee to Hawaii.

THE THIRD QUARTERLY SESSION
JULY 20, 1974 CHESTER CHAPEL CHURCH

The session was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. Clarence Culpepper. Rev. Ralph L. Bell led the opening prayer. Bro. Jack Calhoun led in congregational singing with Bro. Joey Hudspeth as pianist. Rev. Clarence Culpepper led in prayer.

A very interesting devotional was given by Sister Annette White. Sister White also extended a warm welcome to the body. Rev. Thomas Coxwell gave the response.

The Moderator recognized seven ministers and nine deacons.

After the roll call of delegates, M.S.C. to seat delegates.

After the announcements and a song, we were dismissed for recess.

On reconvening, the Moderator appointed Rev. Paul Mallory to replace Bro. Homer Lee Hamilton on the Credentials and Examining Committee. He appointed Sisters Jessie McKnight, Lucy Roney and Bro. Otis Vickers to serve on the Finance Committee; Sisters Blondell Hartzog, Ouida Watson, and Bro. John Wilson to serve on the Resolution Committee.

After special music, "Come Unto Me", by Sister Annette White, Rev. Thomas Gamble and Bro. Jack Calhoun, Bro. Johnny Gilmore led the offertory prayer. An offering of \$55.91 was received.

Rev. Thomas Gamble, Pastor of the Host Church, brought a very inspiring message on "The Christian's Duty In the Latter Days." He read Rev. 2: 5 - 7.

Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland led the prayer to dismiss for lunch.

After lunch we reconvened with congregational singing. Rev. Thomas Coxwell led in prayer.

Rev. Thomas Gamble brought a special message in song, "Fill My Cup Lord".

Bro. Lowell Vickers brought the afternoon message. He read I Thes. 5: 1 - 2 and 6: 9 - 23 and challenged Christians to hold on to Christ, uphold their ministers in prayer, and do things becoming to Christians.

The Moderator asked the session to consider combining the Clerk and the Treasurer into one office.

The Finance Committee reported:

4/20/74 Balance on hand	\$792.90
Special Offering received	54.91
Dues from Churches	95.00
Balance	\$942.81
Jessie McKnight	
Lucy Roney	
Otis Vickers	

M.S.C. to adopt the report.

We, your Resolutions Committee, recommend that each church designate their Home Mission and Children's Home Funds to the state work instead of a designated place. —Blondell Hartzog, Ouida Watson, John T. Wilson.

The Moderator appointed Rev. Paul Mallory, Sister Jessie McKnight and Sister Lucy Roney to serve on the committee for changing the Constitution.

The Youth Activities Committee reported a Youth Revival to be held at different churches in the Association.

The Credentials and Examining Committee reported:

Having received a request from Sardis Church to examine Bro. Ted Medley for the Ministry, we have done so, on this date, and recommend that he be licensed to preach for one year and at the end of that year he come before this committee again to be considered for Ordination.

We received a request from Evergreen Church to examine Bro. Lowell Sammons whom they desire to ordain as a Deacon. We have examined Bro. Sammons and recommend he be ordained.

Respectfully,
Bro. Lowell Vickers, Chm.
Rev. Clarence Culpepper
Rev. David Kirkland
Rev. Paul Mallory

After a rising vote of thanks to the Host Church for their hospitality, Rev. Earl Stevens dismissed the body.

THE NINETY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION

FRIDAY, OCT. 18, 1974 GOODWATER CHURCH

The Ninety-Sixth Annual Session was called to order with prayer by the Moderator, Rev. Clarence Culpepper. Bro. Lowell Vickers led in congregational singing, with Sister Linda Sowell as pianist.

Rev. Gerald Baxley, pastor of the host church, brought the devotional on "Time". He challenged Christians to pledge themselves to stay awake, alert, and active in work for Jesus. He then extended a warm welcome to everyone. Sister Kate Palmer gave the response.

All 13 churches were represented.

The Moderator recognized 6 ministers, 6 deacons, and two visitors - Rev. and Mrs. Daniel Pelt, Marianna, Fla.

Rev. Thomas Gamble led in prayer.

After a short recess, the moderator appointed the following committees:
NOMINATIONS: Lowell Vickers, Blondell Hartzog and Lucy Roney.
FINANCE: Jessie McKnight, Kate Palmer, and Alga Sue Garner.
RESOLUTIONS: Nina Vickers, Jane Dean and Grace Graham.
PLACEMENT: Elma Rentz, Evie Lee Harris, and Ann Pelham.

The Moderator read a letter from Rev. Owen Gainey of N. C. desiring to preach in revivals. He also announced that New Prospect will celebrate their centennial on November 10, and invited everyone.

Rev. Paul Mallory led the offertory prayer, and an offering of \$51.31 was received.

Rev. Thomas Gamble sang a special: "Face To Face".

Rev. Daniel Pelt brought the morning message. He read Heb. 9:28; II Tim. 4:6-8; Isa. 12:2; Rom. 1:16; a portion of Mark 5, and Rom. 1:16. He challenged Christians to examine their relationship to God, completely surrender themselves to Him, and look to Him for the solution to all their problems. Rev. Thomas Coxwell led the prayer and offered thanks for the food.

AFTERNOON SESSION

We reconvened with congregational singing, followed with prayer by Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland.

Rev. Paul Mallory reported for the special committee that the offices of clerk and treasurer could not be combined without changing the Constitution, but the same person could be elected to both offices, if the Association desired.

Rev. Paul Mallory brought a good message from St. John 1: 1-9. He pointed out the Bible study and practice is the answer in times like these. He challenged Christians to study their Bible more and give God a chance to speak to them through His Word.

M.S.C. to give the host church a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality.

Rev. Gerald Baxley led the prayer. M.S.C. to adjourn until 10:00 AM, Saturday, at New Prospect Church.

THE NINETY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION SATURDAY, OCT. 19, 1974 NEW PROSPECT CHURCH

The Moderator, Rev. Clarence Culpepper, opened the session with prayer. Bro. Edward Nance led the congregation in singing, with Sis. Joyce Smith as pianist. Rev. Thomas Gamble led in prayer.

Bro. Neil Smith brought a good devotional using the scriptures James 5: 1-8 and Luke 12: 20-21 and Bro. Lowell Vickers led the prayer.

The welcome was extended by Bro. William Sowell and the response was given by Rev. Pat Wilson.

After the clerk called the roll of delegates, the moderator recognized 11 ministers and 7 deacons.

We were dismissed for recess with prayer by Rev. W. W. Bush.

We reconvened with prayer by Rev. Paul Mallory. After congregational singing, Rev. Clarence Culpepper led the offertory prayer, and an offering of \$32.30 was received.

Rev. Thomas Gamble brought a message in song: "Victory on Jesus".

Rev. Ralph Bell brought the morning message on "Heaven". He used Heb. 8: 1-6, John 14, Isa. 66:1 and other scripture as a basis for his thoughts. He said God's Word is the only source of information we have on Heaven. A wonderful description of the Second Coming of Christ and the things preceding His Coming are also found in His Word. Bro. Lowell Vickers dismissed the body for lunch.

AFTERNOON SESSION

We reconvened with prayer led by Rev. Thomas Gamble.

Rev. Earl Stevens brought the afternoon message on "The Second Com-

ing of Christ". He challenged everyone to be ready for the greatest of all events -- the Second Coming of Christ.

The moderator read the resignation of Rev. Gerald Baxley from the Christian Education Committee and the Children's Home Committee. M.S.C. to accept the resignation.

The reports of the committees were called, read and adopted as follows: Finance Committee, Resolutions Committee, Missions Committee, Nominating Committee, and Placement Committee. (See each under Reports).

The Credentials and Examining Committee had no report.

The Christian Education Committee had no report.

For the Youth Activities Committee, Bro. Edward Nance asked each church to get behind the Youth Rally and support it.

For the Children's Home Report, Rev. Gerald Baxley emphasized the desperate need of workers at the home.

The offerings for Friday and today (\$83.61) were designated to be equally divided between the Children's Home and the Bible College.

After a rising vote of thanks to the host church, Rev. Earl Stevens dismissed with prayer.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

4/20/74	Cash on hand at close of day	\$ 792.90
4/27/74	Offering and Dues received	150.91
	Total	\$ 943.81
	Paid Dept. of Retirement of Insurance	125.00
	Paid Christian Education Committee	50.00
	Balance	\$ 768.81
10/18/74	Received from Churches for Dues	347.00
	Offering Received at Goodwater	51.31
10/19/74	Offering Received at New Prospect	32.30
	Total	\$1,199.42

Respectfully submitted,
Jessie McKnight, Chm.
Alva Sue Garner
Kate Palmer

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your Resolutions Committee, recommend that the Treasurer disperse the funds PROMPTLY according to the Constitution of the Association.

Respectfully submitted,
Nina Vickers, Chm.
Jane Dean
Grace Graham

MISSIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your Missions Committee, recommend the churches of the Association set aside one Sunday each quarter for Home Mission Sunday. We recommend a Special Offering be taken and sent to the Home Mission Board.

Respectfully submitted,
Clarence Culpepper
J. Lowell Sammons

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your Nominating Committee, respectfully submit these nominees for the following offices and/or committees:

Moderator: Rev. Clarence Culpepper
Vice Moderator: Rev. Paul Mallory
Clerk: Mrs. Aletha Deese
Treasurer: Mrs. Aletha Deese

CHILDREN'S HOME COMMITTEE

Rev. Tom Coxwell, Chairman	3 Year Term
Rev. W. W. Bush	2 Year Term
Martha Blalock	1 Year Term

YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Edward Nance, Chairman	2 Year Term
Rev. Pat Wilson	3 Year Term
Linda Sowell	1 Year Term

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Rev. Clarence Culpepper, Chairman	2 Year Term
J. Lowell Sammons	1 Year Term
Elma Rentz	3 Year Term

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Rev. Thomas Gamble, Chairman	3 Year Term
Kate Palmer	2 Year Term
Gene White	1 Year Term

R E P O R T S

CREDENTIALS AND EXAMINING COMMITTEE

Rev. Paul Mallory, Chairman	5 Year Term
Rev. Clarence Culpepper	4 Year Term
Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland	3 Year Term
Rev. Tom Coxwell	2 Year Term
Lowell Vickers	1 Year Term

Respectfully submitted,
Lowell Vickers, Chairman
Blondell Hartzog
Lucy Roney

PLACEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your Placement Committee, ask that New Zion entertain the Quarterly Session in January, Pilgrim Rest in April, and The First Church Eufaula in July.

We ask that Holmes entertain the Annual Session on Friday, and Evergreen on Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1975.

Respectfully submitted,
Elma Rentz, Chairman
Evie Lee Harris
Ann Pelham

**THE SOUTHEASTERN FREE WILL BAPTIST DISTRICT
SUNDAY SCHOOL AND C.T.S. CONVENTION
SARDIS CHURCH — MARCH 31, 1974**

The Southeastern Free Will Baptist District Sunday School and C.T.S. Convention was held March 31, 1974 with Sardis Free Will Baptist Church as host church.

The Convention was called to order by Bro. Johnny Gilmore, President. There were 145 present.

Bro. Johnny Gilmore gave the welcome address. Response was given by Sister Martha Blalock. Rev. Thomas Gamble led the congregation in prayer.

Bro. Clinton Cutchens gave the devotion, using I Thess. 4:10.

The president called for the convention letters from each church. There were 9 churches represented, and 4 ministers present.

The host church conducted the Sunday School service.

The Sunday School was dismissed by Rev. Charles Allen.

After a short intermission, the convention was again called to order by President Johnny Gilmore.

Morning song service was conducted by host church for those present who had a Birthday or Anniversary. This was led by Bro. Bryan Gilmore.

The convention received a special offering of \$64.00. This offering to be designated at a later time.

Rev. Clarence Culpepper, pastor of New Prospect Church, brought the morning message, using II Kings 5: 1-11. A very interesting message.

The convention was dismissed for lunch by Bro. Ted Medley asking God's Blessings on the food.

The evening session of the convention was called to order by the president with Rev. Thomas Gamble leading the song service and Bro. Kenneth Blalock leading in prayer.

The host church Youth Choir treated the convention with special singing. This was enjoyed by all.

There were 9 churches represented and each church gave a program.

The business session was opened by the reading of the last minutes, and finance report by secretary & treasurer.

Motion seconded and carried to accept as read.

There was no old business to come before the convention.

Sister Martha Blalock made a motion to print in the minutes the number that was present at the convention. M.S.C. to this.

After much discussion about some churches not sending their dues, there was a motion by Bro. Wilson for the Secretary & Treasurer to send letters to request churches not paying their dues to please forward this to the Secretary & Treasurer. M.S.C. for this to be done.

Union Free Will Baptist Church asked to host the convention in 1975. The noon meal to be furnished by the host church.

The banners were presented at this time. They were as follows:

Convention Attendance — New Prospect

Sunday School Banner — Evergreen

C. T. S. Banner — Union

Motion made by Rev. Thomas Gamble to send the Special Offering to Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church. Motion seconded & carried.

Bro. Lowell Vickers made a motion to give host church a rising vote of thanks for such a nice day.

The convention was dismissed by Rev. Davey Kirkland leading in prayer.

Bro. Johnny Gilmore
President

Sister Mary Culpepper
Secretary & Treasurer

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SOUTHEASTERN FREEWILL BAPTIST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

The Southeastern Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary met on Friday night, April 12, 1974 at 7:30 with the Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Church at Route 1, Eufaula, Alabama.

Mrs. Martha Blalock, President, presiding over the meeting. Miss Judy Mallory was pianist with Mrs. Mary George as song leader. The Welcome was given by Mrs. Irene Vickers with Mrs. Patty Bailey giving the response.

The Devotion was given by Mrs. Mary George. She used as her Scripture I Corinthians 3:9. As part of the devotion Mrs. Thyra Mallory and Miss Judy Mallory sang a special entitled, "FILL MY CUP LORD".

Roll call showed 34 members, 5 ministers, and 7 visitors. The ministers present were: Steve Bailey, Thomas Coxwell, Thomas Gamble, Gerald Baxley, and Paul Mallory.

During our business session the minutes were read and approved. We had no old business. Under new business we voted to increase our dues from \$1.25 per member to \$2.00 per member. The next convention will be with the Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Abbeville, Ala. on April 11, 1975 at 7:30 P.M.

Mrs. Thyra Mallory was our convention speaker. The title of her message was "Our Everyday Living". Her Scripture was taken from St. Matthew 25: 19-22: 32-39, and 28: 18-20. We should show Love in our everyday living, through daily prayer, by keeping a confidence, and we should try counting our blessings and weigh them against our troubles. This message was enjoyed by all.

At this time a rising vote of thanks was given to Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Church. The benediction was given by Rev. Steve Bailey. Delicious refreshments were served to those present by the host church.

Respectfully submitted,
Nina Vickers
Secretary & Treasurer

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance brought forward.....	\$ 14.75
Received from Auxiliaries.....	188.50
Total	<u>\$203.25</u>
Paid to Mrs. Thyra Mallory (Speaker at Convention).....	10.00
Alabama Woman's Auxiliary (State Dues).....	105.00
Alabama Woman's Auxiliary (State Project).....	66.00
Total Paid Out.....	<u>\$181.00</u>
Balance on Hand.....	\$ 22.25

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The pastors and committee met at Union Church, November 11, 1974 at 7:00 P.M. The Vice Moderator, Rev. Paul Mallory, called the meeting to order and Rev. Gerald Baxley led the prayer. Only 3 churches were not represented.

"The Needs Of The Local Church Today" was chosen for the general theme.

The following program was planned:

FIRST QUARTERLY SESSION: New Zion, Saturday, January 18, 1975

Morning Message: "Members Saved By Grace"--Rev. Steve Bailey

Afternoon Message: Rev. Gilbert Lacy

SECOND QUARTERLY SESSION: Pilgrim Rest, Saturday, April 19, 1975

Morning Message--"Members Working Together In State and National Work"-----Rev. Paul Mallory

Afternoon Message: Rev. Jack Rollins, or other available
State or National Worker

THIRD QUARTERLY SESSION: First Church, Eufaula, Saturday,
July 19, 1975

Morning Message: "Making More Of Christ"--Rev. Dilmos Johnston

Afternoon Message: Rev. Melvin Hunter

ANNUAL SESSION

FIRST DAY: Holmes — Friday, October 17, 1975

Morning Message: "Desiring To See Christ"

Rev. Clarence Culpepper

Afternoon Message: Rev. Pat Wilson

SECOND DAY: Evergreen — Saturday, October 18, 1975

Morning Message: "Evangelism"-----Rev. Thomas Gamble

Afternoon Message: Rev. Gerald Baxley

Memorial Service: Bro. Lowell Vickers

M.S.C. for clerk to pay for cards, stamps and other supplies needed from the treasury; also to buy name tags for delegates, ministers, deacons and visitors.

M.S.C. each pastor be responsible for registration at host church.

Rev. Gerald Baxley encouraged each church to support Home Missions.

Rev. C. Culpepper asked each church to earmark money for each work.

Rev. Mallory suggested a Mission Rally. M.S.C. to have a Rally at Union at Rev. Mayo's convenience.

M.S.C. to give Union a rising vote of thanks.

Rev. Thomas Coxwell led the closing prayer.

TREASURER'S REPORT

1/ 1/74	Cash on Hand	\$1,047.64
	Received from Churches for State Dues & food	50.00
1/19/74	Received from Churches—1st Quarter Dues	122.00
1/19/74	Offering Received	80.80
4/20/74	Received from Churches—2nd Quarter Dues	91.00
4/20/74	Offering Received	69.07
7/20/74	Received from Churches—3rd Quarter Dues	96.00
7/20/74	Offering Received	54.91
Total Cash Received		<u>\$1,611.42</u>
10/18/74	Received from Churches (Annual)	347.00
10/18/74	Received Offering at Goodwater	51.31
10/19/74	Received Offering at New Prospect	32.30
Total Cash Received		<u>\$2,042.03</u>
CASH PAID OUT:		
	Clerk	\$ 100.00
	Moderator	25.00
	State Association for Dues & Food	130.00
	Donation to Pleasant Hill Church	100.80
	Tri-State Publishing Company	311.81
	Dept. Retirement & Insurance (Bro. Hersey)	125.00
	Christian Education Committee	50.00
Total Paid Out		<u>\$ 842.61</u>
10/20/74	Balance On Hand	\$1,199.42

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 things and all things by maintaining the construction and laws of nature. He also performs special acts, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare as 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 reserved committal of one's self to Christ as Saviour 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 diminution 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 whosoever will, may come and take of the water of life freely.

12. **PERSEVERENCE:** 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, an 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." (I 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, JUDGEMENT 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 until 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 so 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 telling 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 School 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.

ASSOCIATIONAL DIRECTORY - PASTORS AND CLERKS

CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK
CHESTER CHAPEL	Rev. Thomas Gamble P. O. Box 172 Abbeville, Ala. 36310	Mrs. Annice Hudspeth 102 Gordon Drive Abbeville, Ala. 36310
EVERGREEN	Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland Route 4 Eufaula, Ala. 36027	J. Lowell Sammons Route 2, Box 130 Ariton, Ala. 36311
FIRST CHURCH	Rev. Melvin Hunter River Street Eufaula, Ala. 36027	Rita Holmes Route 4, Box 49 A Eufaula, Ala. 36027
GOODWATER	Rev. Gerald Baxley 5 William Drive Midland City, Ala. 36350	Mrs. Jonnie Gilley Route 1, Box 136 Newton, Ala. 36352
HICKORY GROVE	Rev. Steve Bailey Route 1 Abbeville, Ala. 36310	Mrs. Estelle Blalock Route 1 Abbeville, Ala. 36310
HOLMES		Mrs. Brenda Carter Route 1 Ariton, Ala. 36311
MT. ZION	Rev. Paul Mallory Route 2 Headland, Ala. 36345	Lowell Vickers Route 1, Box 275 Eufaula, Ala. 36027
NEW PROSPECT	Rev. Clarence Culpepper 109 Nancy Ross Drive Eufaula, Ala. 36027	Mrs. Linda Sowell Route 1 Clopton, Ala. 36317
NEW ZION	Rev. Dilmos Johnston Route 2 Headland, Ala. 36345	Mrs. Lucy Roney Route 3 Headland, Ala. 36345
PILGRIM REST	Rev. Randall Miller Route 3 Enterprise, Ala. 36300	Roy Wilson 307 Columbus Road Abbeville, Ala. 36310
PLEASANT HILL	Rev. Earl Stevens Route 1 Midland City, Ala. 36350	Mrs. Shirley Cherry Route 3 Headland, Ala. 36345
SARDIS	Rev. Gilbert Lacy Mancuso Subdiv., Rt. 4 Eufaula, Ala. 36027	Mrs. Zonda Clark Route 1, Box 86 Clayton, Ala. 36016
UNION	Rev. Thomas Coxwell Route 2 Abbeville, Ala. 36310	Mrs. Deborah Riggs 101 Lapine Drive Abbeville, Ala. 36310

SOUTHEASTERN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES

CHURCH	CHESTER CHAPEL	EVERGREEN	FIRST EUFULA	GODDWATER	HICKORY GROVE	HOLMES	Mt ZION	NEW PROSPECT	NEW ZION	PILGRIM REST	PLEAANT HILL	SARDIS	UNION	TOTALS
														13
Members By Baptism	0	5	3	8	0	9	2	8	0	1	0	17	15	68
No. by Letter, professions, Statement, etc.	3	1	2	2	1	1	2	10	1	1	6	26	21	77
Members Lost by Letter, death, etc.	0	4	4	2	2	3	2	6	6	1	3	1	6	40
No. lost to Non-FWB Churches	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	1	1	0	1	7
Resident members	46	56	78	94	60	64	56	52	114	65	28	148	93	954
Non-Resident members	9	13	12	12	11	16	42	55		62	11	15	21	279
TOTAL PRESENT MEMBERSHIP	55	69	90	106	71	80	98	107	114	127	39	163	114	1233
Current Value Pastor's Home if owned by Church	0	0	7,000.00		5,000.00	20,000.00			20,000.00			18,000.00		70,000.00
" " Church Property, including Parsonage	10,000.00	10,000.00	27,000.00	50,000.00	26,000.00	60,000.00	20,000.00	22,000.00	60,000.00	25,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	35,000.00	445,000.00
Church indebtedness at end of Associational year	0	0	6,385.25	15,000.00	5,216.17	3,000.00	2,000.00		80,000.00		13,000.00			43,501.95
Ordained ministers	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1			1	12
Licensed ministers	0		1									1		2
Bible School enrollment				101	38	97	43		45	20		72		396
Average Prayer meeting Attendance	12		10	25	15	20	0	20	20	20	10	20	15	187
Sunday School enrollment	30	30	25	85	34	56	29	37	85	18	18	71	55	575
Average Sunday School Attendance	25	28		62	27	44	20	35	63	22	15	52	45	434
C. I. S. Enrollment			23	68		25		15		12	15	50	34	273
Womans Auxiliary enrollment			6	23	16	13	12		9			10	15	116
Master Men enrollment	7		5	8		4							8	37
Total Receipts from tithes, offerings, gifts, or other money	5,156.00	8,005.19	5,192.80	12,985.00	9,862.26	9,977.34	7,638.08	6,519.64	10,325.65	4,958.95	23,961.00	15,002.73	12,424.00	132,008.64
Amount Borrowed	0			15,000.00			3,000.00				12,000.00			30,000.00
Total income	5,156.00	8,005.19	5,192.80	12,985.00	9,862.26	9,977.34	10,638.08	6,519.64	10,325.65	4,958.95	35,961.00	15,002.73	12,424.00	163,008.64
Pastor's salary (money actually paid by Church)	3,080.00	2,450.00	2,720.00	2,600.00	4,405.00	5,895.00	3,793.55	2,490.00	4,273.14	2,095.00	2,080.00	4,035.13	5,000.00	45,466.82
Other Church staff workers, minister of music, minister of Ed., etc.	0	160.00									100.00	998.00		1,258.00
Money Paid out for remodeling, new construction, etc.	241		193.00		776.09			2,130.24		1,806.79	24,978.00	792.40		30,907.52
Paid on debt retirement	0			3,927.00	260.08	2,200.00	10,255.00							9,412.08
All other local expenditures (literature, utilities, printing, property maintenance, revival expense, pastor retirement, housing, etc.)	853.00	1,060.35	2,000.77	19,309.21	1,357.25	1900.30	1,504.65	1,456.43	4,350.00	1,057.16	280.00	1,344.00	2,685.61	40,058.73
GRAND TOTAL LOCAL EXPENDITURES	4,174.00	3,670.35	4,963.77	25,736.21	9,798.42	9,995.30	6,323.00	6,576.67	8,623.14	4,953.95	27,438.00	7,159.53	7,685.61	127,103.15
WORLD MISSIONS														
Cooperative Plan						\$50.00		\$253.61						303.61
C. I. S. - Other Nat'l Ministries												426.00		426.00
Executive Office - Designated: Dist. or State									10.00					10.00
Foreign missions (Colleges, Camps, Children's Home)		107.29				30.00			184.62				197.00	518.91
F.W.B. Bible College		90.39				100.00			179.62				239.00	609.01
Home Missions and Church Ext.	25.00	100.07		113.00	129.05	126.60	100.00		194.62	104.23			189.00	1,081.57
Other District or State (designated or other)	48.00	123.42	91.28		192.00	113.00	107.50		149.64	289.25			384.00	1428.59
TOTAL SPENT FOR OUTSIDE CAUSES	73.00	421.71	91.28	113.00	321.05	369.60	207.50	253.61	718.50	393.78	0	426.00	939.00	4,327.69

