

1980  
Minutes  
of  
The Quarterly Meetings  
and the  
One Hundred and Second Annual Session  
Of  
The Southeastern  
Association  
of  
Free Will  
Baptist Churches



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## OFFICERS

Rev. Clarence Culpepper ..... Moderator  
 109 Nancy Ross Dr., Eufaula, Al. 36027 - Ph. 687-4462  
 Rev. Thomas Gamble ..... Vice Moderator  
 Rt. 1, Abbeville, Al. 36310 - Ph. 585-3856  
 Mrs. Aletha Deese ..... Clerk & Treasurer  
 Rt. 2, Box 97, Newton, Al. 36352 - Ph. 692-3348  
 Rev. Ralph Baker ..... Assistant Clerk & Treasurer  
 107 Imperial Dr. Eufaula, Al. 36027 Ph. 687-3463

## ORDAINED MINISTER OF THE ASSOCIATION

Rev. Arthur Anderson ..... Ph. 794-7451  
 1201 Imperial Drive, Dothan, Al. 36302  
 Rev. Ralph Baker ..... Ph. 687-5445  
 107 Imperial Dr., Eufaula, Al. 36027  
 Rev. Mike Beckom ..... Ph. 794-4839  
 Rt. 1, Box 98G4, Webb, Al. 36376  
 Rev. Clarence Culpepper ..... Ph. 687-4462  
 109 Nancy Ross Dr., Eufaula, Al. 36027  
 Rev. Thomas Gamble ..... Ph. 585-3856  
 Rt. 1, Abbeville, Al. 36310  
 Rev. J. M. Goode ..... Phone 696-3370  
 Rt. 1, Columbia, Al. 36319  
 Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland ..... Ph. 687-4515  
 Rt. 4, Eufaula, Al. 36027  
 Rev. Gilbert Lacey ..... Address Unknown  
 Rev. Edward Nance ..... Ph.  
 Rt. 1, Ariton, Al. 36311  
 Rev. Bobby Ned Peters ..... Ph. 762-2254  
 Rt. 1, Ariton, Al. 36311  
 Rev. Earl Stevens ..... Ph. 795-3356  
 Rt. 1, Midland City, Al. 36350

## LICENSED MINISTERS

Rev. David Hidle ..... Ph. 692-3654

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chester Chapel ..... John E. Coates  
 819 Pump Station Rd., Eufaula, Al. 36027  
 Evergreen ..... J. Lowell Sammons  
 Rt. 2, Box 41, Ariton, Al. 36311  
 First Church, Eufaula ..... Mrs. Ouida Watson  
 Rt. 4, Thomas Dr., Eufaula, Al. 36027

Goodwater ..... Mrs. Ouida Draughon  
 Rt. 2, Newton, Al. 36352  
 Hickory Grove ..... Mrs. Martha Blalock  
 Rt. 1, Abbeville, Al. 36310  
 Holmes ..... Mrs. Blondell Hartzog  
 Rt. 2, Ariton, Al., 36311  
 Mt. Zion ..... Lowell Vickers  
 607 Holly Dr., Eufaula, Al. 36027  
 New Prospect ..... Lang Sowell  
 Rt. 1, Clopton, Al. 36317  
 New Zion ..... Mrs. Edna Whitehead  
 302 Murray Street, Headland, Al. 36345  
 Pilgrim Rest ..... Mrs. Elma Rentz  
 Rt. 1, Abbeville, 36310  
 Pleasant Hill ..... Henry Farmer  
 Rt. 3, Headland, Al. 36345  
 Sardis ..... Kenneth Clark  
 Rt. 1, Box 86X, Clayton, Al. 36316  
 Union ..... Holt Stokes  
 Rt. 2, Abbeville, Al. 36310

## CREDENTIALS AND EXAMINING COMMITTEE

Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland ..... 5 year term, expires 1985  
 Rev. Clarence Culpepper ..... 4 year term, expires 1984  
 Lowell Vickers ..... 3 year term, expires 1983  
 Sam Trammell ..... 2 year term, expires 1982  
 Rev. Bobby Peters ..... 1 year term, expires 1981

## BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Rev. Ralph Baker ..... 3 year term, expires 1983  
 Rev. Mike Beckom ..... 2 year term, expires 1982  
 Rev. Edward Nance ..... 1 year term, expires 1981

## CHILDREN'S HOME COMMITTEE

Mrs. Nell Anderson ..... 3 year term, expires 1983  
 Mrs. Nina Vickers ..... 2 year term, expires 1982  
 Mrs. Nina Vickers ..... 1 year term, expires 1981  
 Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland ..... Trustee Board Member

## MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Rev. Bobby Ned Peters ..... 3 year term, expires 1983



Johnny Cordell ..... 2 year term, expires 1982  
 Mrs. Miriam Shelley ..... 1 year term, expires 1981

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Rev. Arthur Anderson ..... 3 year term, expires 1983  
 Rev. Thomas Gamble ..... 2 year term, expires 1982  
 Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland ..... 1 year term, expires 1981

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Rev. Arthur Anderson ..... 3 year term, expires 1983  
 Rev. Ralph Baker ..... 2 year term, expires 1982  
 Mrs. Fannie Bedsole ..... 1 year term, expires 1981

### PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST QUARTERLY SESSION FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH JANUARY 19, 1981

The First Quarterly Session of the Southeastern Association met at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Eufaula on January 19, 1980. The meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. A. G. Lacey. Rev. Dilmos Johnston led in prayer.

Bro. Lowell Vickers led in Congregational singing with Leigh Vickers as pianist.

The Moderator challenged everyone to a faithful and dedicated year in the Association. He asked all ministers and deacons to join him at the altar for a prayer of dedication. Rev. Thomas Gamble led the prayer.

Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland gave the devotional using the scripture Luke 10:29, 36-37. As pastor of the host church he extended a warm welcome to everyone. Bro. Wayne Gilmore gave the response.

The Moderator recognized one visitor from outside our association - Bro. Taft Snell from Echo Methodist Church.

After a roll call of delegates and MSC to seat the delegates, Rev. Bobby Ned Peters led in prayer.

After a short recess, the congregation sang "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be." Rev. James Shields led in prayer. Joe and Leigh Vickers sang "Jesus and Me."

Rev. Gilbert Lacey appointed a Finance Committee. (See report for personnel).

Rev. David Hayes brought the morning message on "What Are We Doing? Are We Gathering or Are We Scattering?" His scripture was taken from John 3:16; Mat. 12:30; Luke 9:50; and 11:33. He reminded us that as Christians we are either gathering or scattering. Rev. Clarence Culpepper led the offertory prayer and

an offering of \$92.04 was received.

The host pastor, Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland, made the lunch announcement and Rev. Arthur Anderson returned thanks for the food.

### LUNCH

The afternoon session was called to order by the Vice Moderator, Rev. Clarence Culpepper. The congregation sang "I Want To Be A Worker" and "Victory In Jesus." Rev. David Hayes led in prayer.

Joe and Leigh Vickers brought a special message in song. They sang "The Holy Hills of Heaven."

Rev. Mike Beckom brought the afternoon message on "Is It Well?" His scripture was taken from II Kings 4:8-20; 26. He challenged us to be more loyal dedicated workers.

The Finance Committee gave the following report:

We, your Finance Committee, recommend the offering of \$92.04 be designated to the general fund.

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Rev. Dilmos Johnston  
 Bryan Gilmore  
 Rev. David Hayes

### MSC

Rev. Bobby Peters gave a report for the Board of Christian Education. He announced the date of the camp would be July 6-11 and the first 80 applications would be the campers. He asked the churches to send their 5th Sunday offerings and to please support the camp with their prayers and funds. MSC to receive this report as information.

Rev. Dilmos Johnston reported the Missionary Conference would be held February 8-11 and asked the cooperation of each church.

The Registration Committee reported the following were registered:

13 Ministers
12 Deacons
48 Delegates
19 Visitors
<hr/>
92 Total

### MSC

A motion to remove the constitutional amendments from the table was made by Rev. David Hayes. MSC. Rev. Clarence Culpepper read the Amendments item by item and each item was voted on separately. (See pages 26 through 33 for the Constitution with all approved amendments.)

After a rising vote of thanks to the host church for their



hospitality.

Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland led the closing prayer.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND QUARTERLY SESSION  
PLEASANT HILL APRIL 19, 1980**

In the absence of the Moderator, Rev. Gilbert Lacey, the session was called to order by the Vice Moderator, Rev. Clarence Culpepper. In his opening remarks he challenged the members of this association to ever look to God for leadership.

Rev. Dave Collins led the congregational singing with Sis. Della Cutchens as pianist.

The devotional was given by Rev. Madison Taylor from the State Line Association.

Rev. Earl Stevens, pastor of the host church extended a warm welcome to everyone. Sis. Kate Palmer gave the response.

The V. Moderator recognized the following visitors: Rev. & Mrs. Randall Deal from the Abbeville Assembly of God Church, Rev. Madison Taylor, & Mrs. Anne Stevens from the State Line Association.

The following Ministers of our association were recognized: Rev. Earl Steven, Rev. Davey Kirkland, Rev. Ralph Baker, Rev. Arthur Anderson,, Rev. Bobby Peters, Rev. Edward Nance, Rev. Dave Collins, Rev. David Hayes, Rev. Thomas Gamble, and Rev. Clarence Culpepper.

After the roll call of delegates, there was a MSC to seat the delegates. Rev. Bobby Peters led in prayer. Rev. Clarence Culpepper appointed the following to serve on a finance committee just at this session:

Rev. Arthur Anderson  
Rev. David Hayes  
Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland

The congregation sang two hymns. Bro. Lowell, Joe and Leigh Vickers sang "The Sun is Coming Up in the Morning" and "I Believe He's Coming Back."

Rev. Clarence Culpepper led the offertory prayer and a offering of \$62.37 was received. This offering was later designated to the Christian Education Fund.

The morning message on "The Unity of the Spirit in 1980" was delivered by Rev. Thomas Gamble. He based his remarks on I Cor. 2:9-16 and other scriptures. He challenged Christians to return to the burning bush and to stir up the gift within them.

Rev. Earl Stevens, host pastor, made the lunch announcement and asked God's Blessings on the Food.

**LUNCH**

The session was called to order by Mrs. Earl Stevens who led

the congregation in singing "Sowing Precious Seeds." Bro. Henry Farmer led the prayer. After the congregation sang two more hymns, Rev. Dave Collins and Sis. Eunice Stevens sang "Pick Up The Broken Pieces."

Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland brought the afternoon message. His text was from Rev. 2:4. Bro. Bryan Gilmore led the Prayer.

**BUSINESS**

We, your nominating committee, recommed the following:

Rev. David Hayes - Credentials Committee - 3 Yrs. MSC

Rev. Thomas Gamble - Bd. of Christian - 2 yrs. - MSC

Rev. Davey Kirkland - Mission Committee - 1 yr. - MSC

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Davey Kirkland

Rev. Thomas Gamble

Rev. David Hayes

Rev. Bobby Peters made a motion the constitution be printed in the minutes each year.. MSC

Credentials and examining committee - no report.

We your financial Committee make the following report:

Dues rec'd ..... \$362.00

Plate offering..... 62.37

We recommend it be dispersed as following:

Associational purposes..... \$271.50

National Cooperative Plan ..... 36.20

State Cooperative Plan..... 36.20

Children Home ..... 18.10

We also recommend the plate offering be designated to the Board of Christian Education for use in the summer camp.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Arthur Anderson

Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland

Rev. Ralph Baker

**MSC**

Rev. Bobby Peters reported there would be a charge of \$15.00 per child with a limit of 85 children for the camp. He announced a meeting at Holmes Church on May 24 to organize workers for the camp.

MSC - Rev. Bobby Peters to be camp Director.

MSC - Rev. Ken Driggers to be camp Evangelist.

A report received as information on the Children's Home was given by Rev. Davey Kirkland. He mentioned one side of the building was in need of repair that would be quite expensive. They had discussed a long range plan of building cottages - perhaps one each year. He said 37% of the support for the home came from Churches in Alabama last year.



We the Mission Committee, have received correspondence from Rev. Larry Nix, Missionary to Atlanta, Georgia, concerning a great need. Their Church has an installment of \$5000 due on May 8, 1980. We recommend the Association send \$100 to help meet this need.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nina Vickers  
Johnny Cordell  
Rev. Dilmos Johnston

#### MSC

The registration committee reported the following registered:

48 delegates  
12 ministers  
7 deacons  
15 visitors  

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82 total

Respectfully,  
The Host Church

#### MSC

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

### PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRD QUARTERLY SESSION EVERGREEN CHURCH JULY 19, 1980

The session was called to order by Rev. Clarence Culpepper, Vice Moderator, Rev. David Hayes led the prayer.

Bro. Lowell Vickers led the congregation in singing with Sis. Linda Sowell as pianist.

Rev. Mike Beckom, Pastor of the host church, brought the devotional from Matt. 14:22-34. He said "When storms come in our lives Jesus is always there." He challenged the lost to be saved.

A warm welcome was extended to everyone by Rev. Mike Beckom. Rev. Arthur Anderson gave the response.

Ministers, deacons, delegates, and visitors were recognized.

There was a roll call of delegates. MSC to seat delegates.

After announcements, Rev. Culpepper dismissed with prayer for recess.

On reassembling, Rev. David Hayes led in prayer.

The Moderator appointed a finance committee composed of Rev. Arthur Anderson, Charlie Rentz and Wayne Gilmore.

Three hymns were sung, Rev. Bobby Peters led the offertory prayer and an offering of \$89.78 was received.

Joe and Leigh Vickers sang "The Sun Is Coming Up In The

Morning," and "Sheltered in the Arms of God."

The morning message was brought by Rev. Clarence Culpepper. His subject was "Who are Free Will Baptist? What do they believe?" His scripture was taken from St. John 7:14-17, a part of Rom. 11; Gen. 3:9; Luke 13:1-4; Eph. 2:8-9; John 11:25; John 6:44-47; Heb. 6:4-6 and I Chron. 28:9. He said "We believe there is a gospel call - A Call of God." We also believe in repentance, justification, sanctification and perseverance. After an invitation for Salvation, we were dismissed with prayer by Rev. Mike Beckom.

#### LUNCH

The afternoon session began with congregational singing. The moderator appointed a Nominating Committee composed of Rev. Arthur Anderson, Thomas Gamble, and Davey Lee Kirkland.

Joe and Leigh Vickers brought a special message in song. They sang "Had It Not Been" and "What Sin Are You Talking About." Robin and Renee Peters also brought a special message in song. They sang "Holy Spirit Thou Art Welcome In This Place." Joe and Leigh Vickers sang "I Believe He's Coming Back" accompanied by Brad Stokes. On request Brad also played a piano solo.

The afternoon message was brought by Rev. Arthur Anderson, pastor of Mt. Zion Church. His scripture was from St. John Chapter 3 and he emphasized the necessity of being "Born Again". In the close of the message he reminded us of John 3:16.

The Business session began with reports, from the different committees;

The Credentials Committee makes the following recommendations:

1. A letter of good standing from this Association be granted to Rev. Dilmos Johnston at the request of Goodwater Church.

2. A letter of good standing be granted to Rev. James Shields by the association and mailed to him.

Respectfully,  
Lowell Vickers  
Rev. C. L. Culpepper  
Rev. David Hayes

Pilgrim Rest licensed Bro. David Hidle to preach the gospel on July 6, 1980.

#### MSC

For the Board of Christian Education, Rev. Edward Nance made a motion that beginning in September the Association have a Youth Rally each quarter. He also recommended a Youth Revival be held in the Association during AEA in 1981. MSC He also reported the summer camp had been very successful.



## FINANCE COMMITTEE

We, your finance committee make the following report:

Total received.....\$362.00

Plate Offering ..... 89.78

We recommend the plate offering to be given to the Children's Home.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Arthur Anderson  
Wayne Gilmore  
Charlie Rentz

### MSC

Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland gave an informational report on the Children's Home. He reported 21 children in the home now. The Policemen and the prisoners played a ballgame. They gave the proceeds of \$3000 to the home. MSC to received this report as information.

The registration committee reported the following were registered:

12 Ministers  
7 Deacons  
48 Delegates  
69 Visitors  

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136 Total

### HOST CHURCH

### MSC

Rev. Edward Nance requested special prayer for Bro. Thomas Gamble who is in the hospital recovering from an accident.

After a rising vote of thanks to the host church for their hospitality, Rev. Ralph Baker led the closing prayer.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

### HOLMES

OCTOBER 17, 1980

The session was called to order with prayer by the Vice Moderator, Rev. Clarence Culpepper. Congregational singing was led by Rev. Arthur Anderson.

Rev. Bobby Peters, pastor of the host church, extended a warm welcome to all, Sister Kate Palmer gave the response.

The morning devotional was given by Rev. Bobby Peters. His scripture was I Thes. 2:4. He reminded us we are not a christian nation anymore and we are on the verge of losing our christian heritage. He challenged us to be the kind of stewards our Lord intended us to be.

In the Moderator's remarks he reminded us "Where there is no vision the people perish." He stressed the importance of

choosing leaders in our churches with a christian attitude of love and devotion to God, to the church, and to our association.

The Moderator recognized visitors, deacons, and ministers. (See registration report for number of each.)

The Credentials and Examining Committee reported the church letters in order.

There was a roll call of delegates and a MSC to seat the delegates.

Rev. Ralph Baker led the prayer to dismiss for recess.

The session resumed with congregational singing with Renee Peters as pianist. The Moderator appointed a Finance Committee to serve just for this session (See report for personnel).

Rev. Herman Calloway led the offertory prayer.

Rev. Ralph Baker brought the morning message on "The Condition of our Stewardship." He read from Luke Chapter 16 verses 1 through 13 and referred to other scriptures. He reminded us we must be a peculiar, separated people and as live Christians. We should use our talents for God. Material blessings are given by God and should be used for God.

The lunch announcement and thanks for the food were given by Rev. Bobby Peters.

### LUNCH

The afternoon session opened with prayer by Bro. Junior Senn.

Rev. Edward Nance brought the afternoon message. His scripture was taken from Prov. 14:10; I Sam. 10:26-27, and other scriptures. He compared the condition of America with the decline of the Roman Empire. He closed with reading a poem "Set My Soul on Fire."

The Registration Committee reported the following were registered:

42 Visitors  
30 Delegates  
8 Ministers  
8 Deacons  

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88 Total

MSC to give the host church a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality.

MSC to recess until 10:00 A.M. Saturday to meet with New Zion Church.

Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland led the closing prayer.



## PROCEEDINGS OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

### NEW ZION

OCTOBER 18, 1980

The session was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. Clarence Culpepper. Rev. Arthur Anderson led the congregational singing with Leigh Vickers as pianist and Renee Peters as organist. Bro. Joe Vickers led the prayer.

The welcome was given by Rev. David Hayes, pastor of the host church. Rev. David Collins gave the response.

The devotion was given by Rev. David Hayes from Psalm 87:7 and 8. He stressed verse 8.

After a roll call of delegates and a MSC to seat them, the moderator recognized the ministers, deacons and visitors.

We were dismissed for recess with prayer.

The afternoon session resumed with prayer by Rev. Davey Kirkland followed by congregational singing. Rev. Ralph Baker led the offertory prayer.

Some messages in songs were brought by: Rev. Thomas Gamble who sang, "The Old Rugged Cross," Joe and Leigh Vickers sang "I Should Have Been Crucified," and Bro. Lowell, Joe and Leigh Vickers sang "The Sun Is Coming Up In The Morning."

The clerk was asked to make copies of the map showing where the State Association will meet and mail two to each church in our Association.

Rev. Culpepper introduced Rev. Herman Calloway, pastor of Pleasant Hill. Rev. Calloway sang, "Is He Satisfied With Me?" before he brought the morning message. He spoke on "Will God be Satisfied With Any Less Than Our Best?" His scripture was from Phil. 3:8-11; Matt. 16:24; and John 1:12. He challenged us to examine our lives and ask ourselves "Am I Doing My Best? Will God Be Satisfied With Me?"

Rev. David Hayes made the lunch announcement and gave thanks for the food.

### LUNCH

The afternoon began with prayer by Rev. Ralph Baker followed by congregational singing.

The afternoon message was brought by Rev. Ralph Bell on "Give of Your Best to The Master." His scriptures were from Micah 6:1-6, Mark 14:35, Matt. 11:28, and John 14:1. He challenged us to give our best to Christ. Rev. Bobby Peters led the prayer.

MSC to accept the Financial Report (See under Reports).

MSC to accept the Board of Christian Education Report. (See Reports).

MSC to accept the Children's Home Report as information. He reported the lowest bid on repair of the building was \$17,000;

therefore the Board decided to table that for the time being. MSC to reimburse Rev. Davey Kirkland for expenses to the board meetings at the Children's Home.

MSC to accept the Missions Committee report. (See Reports)

MSC to accept the Nominating Committee report. (See Reports)

MSC to accept the Placement Committee report (see Reports)

MSC to accept the Resolution Committee report (see reports).

Rev. David Hayes made a motion that the Constitution be amended. After reading the proposed amendment, there was an MSC to table it until the January session. MSC to accept the Registration Committee report (see reports).

The Memorial Service was given by Rev. David Collins. He said "We enter that eternal realm by death." After some very comforting remarks and scripture quotes, he closed with this poem:

### HOW BLEST THE RIGHTEOUS WHEN HE DIES

How blest the righteous when he dies!  
When sinks a weary soul to rest!  
How mildly beam the closing eyes!  
How gently heaves the expiring breast!  
So fades a summer cloud away;  
So sinks the gale when storms are o'er;  
So gently shuts the eyes of day;  
So dies the wave along the shore,  
A holy quiet reigns around,  
A calm which life not death destroys;  
And naught disturbs the peace profound  
Which his unfettered soul enjoys.  
Life's labor done, as sinks the clay,  
Light from its load the spirit flies,  
While heav'n and earth combine to say,  
"How blest the righteous when he dies."

—Barbault

The following were appointed as delegates to the State Association; Bob Davis, Jackie Peters, Kate Palmer, Johnny Cordell, Mrs. Herman Calloway; Grad Stokes, Nell Anderson, and Myrtle Pettis.

MSC to give a rising vote of thanks to the host church for their hospitality.

We were dismissed with prayer by Rev. David Hayes.

### REPORTS

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

We, your Finance Committee make the following recommendation.



A. The total offerings of \$119.39 received at the Annual Session on 10/17/80 and 10/18/80 be placed in the Christian Education Fund for 1981 camp. MSC

B. We further recommend that all funds now in the Christian Education Fund and all funds received between now and the time need for Youth Camp be placed in the highest yielding savings account available to use as an Association. We ask that Sis. Deese be placed in charge of looking into this matter. MSC

Respectfully Submitted,  
Your Finance Committee  
Rev. Ralph Baker  
Rev. Arthur Anderson  
Sis. Fannie Bedsole

### **BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

We, your Board of Christian Education recommend:

A. That Bro. Johnny Cordell be elected as Camp Director for 1981. MSC

B. We ask each church to send in 1% of their offerings to support the camp.

C. We would like to ask each church to encourage their youth to attend the Rallies.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rev. Mike Beckom  
Rev. Ralph Baker  
Rev. Edward Nance

MSC

### **MISSIONS REPORT**

We, your Missions Committee, have learned from correspondence from our Home Mission Board that 10 of our Missionaries have deficits in their accounts. Since November is Home Missions Month in our Auxiliaries, we ask each church to prayerfully and financially support our Missionaries.

Respectfully Submitted  
Nina Vickers  
Johnny Cordell

### **NOMINATIONS REPORT**

We, your Nominating Committee, submit the following for your consideration:

Moderator - Rev. Clarence Culpepper; Vice-Moderator - Rev. Thomas Gamble; Clerk & Treasurer - Mrs. Aletha Deese; Assistant - Mrs. Nina Vickers. (Tabled to January Meeting)

A. Credentials & Examining:

1. Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland - 5 year term
2. Bro. Lowell Vickers - 2 year term



TABLE I — CHURCH MEMBERSHIP — AUXILIARY STATISTICS

CHURCH	Date Organized	Rec'd by Baptism	Added by Letter, profession of Faith etc.	Lost by Death, Revision of Roll, etc.	Resident Members	Non-Resident Members	Total Membership	Ordained Ministers	Licensed Ministers	S.S. Enrollment	SS Average attendance	CTS Enrollment	CTS Average attend.	Woman Auxiliary enrollment	Average Attendance	Master Men enrollment	Master Men Ave. Attendance	Average Prayer Meeting att.
Chester Chapel	1911	1	5	0	54	8	62	1	0	43	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
Evergreen	1885	3	0	5	53	14	67	1	0	20	25	20	23	0	0	0	0	27
First Church	1939	0	3	1	34	16	50			10	8	10	8	0	0	10	0	8
Goodwater		4	3	7	143	0	143	0	0	90	82	73	63	23	16	10	5	40
Hickory Grove	Nov. 1938	14	29	2	75	45	120	0	0							18	15	60
Holmes	12/2/45	10	15	1	92	40	132	2	0		80		55	22	18			40
Mt. Zion	1881	9	2	5	64	35	99	1	0	43	30	0	0	20	15	13	10	20
New Prospect	1874	1	2	2	59	40	99	2	0	36	34	23	20	0	0	0	0	23
New Zion		1	0	3	95	41	136	1	0	87	65	0	0	15	9	0	0	
Pilgrim Rest		0	4	2	72	62	134	0	1	28	22	26	20	11	7	10	6	10
Pleasant Hill	1890	0	3	3	21	17	38	1	0	28	26	15	11	7	5			
Sardis	7/10 1906	1	7	3	101	97	198	0	0	58	37	30	23	8	8	24	18	15
Union	Feb. 13 1877	1	6	1	56	20	76	2	0	32	28	20	12	8	6	0	0	14
TOTALS		56	79	35	919	435	1354	11	1	475	464	217	235	114	75	75	54	272



**TABLE 2 - CHURCH DIRECTORY**

CHURCH	PASTORS & ADDRESSES	CLERK & ADDRESSES	SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS AND ADDRESSES	C.T.S. DIRECTORS AND ADDRESSES	WOMAN AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS AND ADDRESSES	MASTER'S MEN PRESIDENTS AND ADDRESSES
CHESTER CHAPEL	Rev. Ralph Baker 107 Imperial Dr. Eufaula, Al. 36027	Mrs. Annice Hudspeth 102 Gordon Dr. Abbeville, Al. 36310	Jack L. Bedsole Eufaula, Al. 36027			
EVERGREEN	Rev. Mike Beckom Route 1 Box 98 G 4 Webb, Al. 36376	J. Lowell Sammons Route 2 Box 41 Ariton, Al. 36311	Hilton Sasser Route 2 Box 264 Ariton, Al. 36311	Randall McKnight Route 1 Box 258 Clio, Al. 36017		
FIRST CHURCH	Rev. Davey L. Kirkland Route 4 Box 49 A Eufaula, Al. 36027	Elizabeth Roush 809 Madison St. Eufaula, Al. 36027	O. P. Pettus 806 Madison Ave. Eufaula, Al. 36027	O. P. Pettus 806 Madison Ave. Eufaula, Al. 36027		
GOODWATER		Mrs. Dorothy Smith Route 1 Box 258 Newton, Al. 36352	Douglas E. Smith Route 5 Box 355 Dothan, Al. 36301	N. C. Knowles Route 2 Box 101 Slocomb, Al. 36375	Mrs. Joyce McGriff Route 1 Newton, Al. 36352	
HICKORY GROVE	Rev. Thomas Gamble Route 1 Abbeville, Al. 36310	Eddie D. Taylor 313 E. Washington St. Abbeville, Al. 36310	Ray Money Route 1 Abbeville, Al. 36310		Mrs. Rhetha Blalock Box 341 Abbeville, Al. 36310	James Bradley Adams Road Abbeville, Al. 36310
HOLMES	Rev. Bobby N. Peters Route 1 Box 261 Ariton, Al. 36311	Mrs. Nina Sasser Route 2 Box 269 A Ariton, Al. 36311	Rev. Edward Nance Route 1 Ariton, Al. 36311	James Miller Route 1 box 226 Ariton, Al. 36311	Mrs. Anita Senn Box 266 Ariton, Al. 36311	David Lawrence Ariton, Al. 36311
MT. ZION	Rev. Arthur Anderson 1201 Imperial Dr. Dothan, Al. 36301	Lowell B. Vickers 607 Holly Dr. Eufaula, Al. 36027	Otis Vickers 204 Dothan Rd. Abbeville, Al. 36310		Mrs. Lillie Thompson 402 Kent Dr. Willow Oaks Sub. Eufaula, Al. 36027	Billy Joe Medley Route 4 Box 51 E Eufaula, Al. 36027
NEW PROSPECT	Rev. Clarence Culpepper 109 Nancy Ross Dr. Eufaula, Al. 36027	Mrs. Linda Cordell Route 1 Box 320 C Eufaula, Al. 36027	Johnny Cordell Route 1 Box 320 C Eufaula, Al. 36027	William Sowell Route 1 Clopton, Al. 36317		
NEW ZION		Mrs. Edna Whitehead 302 Murray St. Headland, Al. 36345	Pat Oates Route 2 Headland, Al. 36345		Mrs. Mae Shelley Route 2 Headland, Al. 36345	
PLEASANT HILL	Rev. Herman Calloway 120 Donna Dr. Dothan, Al. 36301	Mrs. Shirley Cherry Route 3 Headland, Al. 36345	Henry Farmer Route 3 Headland, Al. 36345	Mrs. Joan Mitchell Route 2 Headland, Al. 36345	Mrs. Mabel Farmer Route 3 Headland, Al. 36345	
PILGRIM REST	Rev. David Hidle Route 5 Box 458 Dothan, Al. 36301	Gene Carr 111 Dothan Road Abbeville, Al. 36310	Gene Carr 111 Dothan Road Abbeville, Al. 36310	Charlie Rentz Route 1 Abbeville, Al. 36310	Mrs. Judy Wilson Route 1 Abbeville, Al. 36310	Charlie Rentz Route 1 Abbeville, Al. 36310
SARDIS		Mrs. Peggy Gilmore Route 1 Box 75 Clayton, Al. 36316	Joel Miller Route 4 Box 207 C Eufaula, Al. 36027	Ronnie Marshall Route 1 Clayton, Al. 36016	Mrs. Tessie Glover Route 4 box 213 Eufaula, Al. 36027	Johnny Gilmore Route 1 Clayton, Al. 36016
UNION	Rev. Dave Collins 1202 Judson Ave. Dothan, Al. 36301	Mrs. Peggy Stokes Route 2 Abbeville, Al. 36310	W. G. Moring Southdale Apt. Abbeville, Al. 36310	Rev. Dave Collins 1202 Judson Ave. Dothan, Al. 36301	Mrs. Linda Floyd Route 2 Abbeville, Al. 36310	



B. Children's Home:

1. Mrs. Arthur Anderson - 3 year term  
Rev. Davey Lee Kirkland - Trustee

C. Missions:

1. Rev. Bobby Ned Peters - 3 year term
2. Mrs. Miriam Shelley - 1 year term

D. Christian Education:

1. Rev. Ralph Baker - 3 year term
2. Rev. Mike Beckom - 2 year term

E. Nominating:

1. Rev. Arthur Anderson - 3 year term
2. Rev. Thomas Gamble - 2 year term
1. Rev. Davey Kirkland - 1 year term

F. Finance

1. Rev. Arthur Anderson - 3 year term
2. Rev. Ralph Baker - 2 year term
3. Sis. Fannie Bedsole - 1 year term

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rev. Ralph Baker  
Rev. Arthur Anderson  
Sis. Fannie Bedsole

MSC

**PLACEMENT REPORT**

We, your Placement Committee, ask the following churches to entertain the 1981 Sessions:

First Quarter, Chester Chapel, Abbeville, Al.

January 17, 1981

Second Quarter, Mt. Zion, Eufaula, Al

April 18, 1981

Third Quarter, Goodwater, Wicksburg, Al.

July 18, 1981

**ANNUAL SESSION**

Friday, Union, Abbeville, Al.

October 16, 1981

Saturday, Hickory Grove, Abbeville, Al.

October 17, 1981

Respectfully Submitted,  
Nina Vickers, Chairwoman  
Kate Palmer  
James Wilson

MSC

**RESOLUTION REPORT**

We, your Resolution Committee, resolve:

1. Each church support the Youth Camp financially.
2. Each church teach Christ more so that we might win more of our youth to strengthen our Association.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bob Davis  
Lillian Wilson

Nell Anderson

MSC

**REGISTRATION REPORT**

We, your Registration Committee, report the following were registered on Saturday, October 18, 1980:

48 Visitors  
36 Delegates  
10 Ministers  
9 Deacons  
103 Total

Respectfully Submitted  
New Zion Church

MSC

**ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT**

October 1, 1979

October 31, 1980

Balance brought forward \$ 677.06

Received in Local Dues and Tithe	1748.55
Home Missions	1756.17
State Dues	130.00
Plate Offerings	296.45
Christian Education (designated)	8.00
Total Cash to account for	\$4616.23

**EXPENDITURES**

Christian Education (designated)	\$ 8.00
Bible College (plate offering designated)	115.23
Moderator	25.00
Clerk	100.00
National Cooperative Plan of Support	154.78
State Cooperative Plan of Support	154.77
Alabama State Association	130.00
Postmaster (Stamps & Cards)	18.00
FWB Children Home	167.17
Supplies (Ink, paper, name tags etc.)	48.16
Minutes	160.27
Home Mission Board	1589.85
State Line Assoc. (our part of Motel bill)	311.06
Debit for checks	18.40
Total	\$3000.69

Total Cash to account for	\$4616.23
Total Expenditures	3000.69



Balance on hand 10/30/80 \$1615.54  
 Respectfully submitted,  
 Aletha Deese  
 Clerk

# **ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

October 1, 1979 October 31, 1980

Received In Dues .....	\$ 985.00
Received From Churches .....	1020.06
Designated Gift .....	8.00
Plate Offering (Designated) .....	62.37
Total Cash Received This Year .....	2075.43
Balance Brought Forward .....	677.06
Total Cash To Account For .....	2752.49

## **EXPENDITURES**

Camp Reservation .....	\$ 100.00
Camp Rent .....	863.00
Evangelist - Rev. Ken Driggers .....	225.00
New Zion Refund .....	75.00
Holmes Church - Telephone Calls .....	33.68
Memo Debit (2 Checks Returned) .....	65.00
Groceries and Other Supplies .....	716.03
	<u>\$2077.71</u>

Total Cash .....	\$2752.49
Total Expenditures .....	2077.71
9/30/80 Balance in Bank .....	\$ 674.78

## **EXECUTIVE MEETING**

The Executive Committee and Ministers of the Southeastern Association met at Union Church on December 12 at 7:00 P.M. The meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. Clarence Culpepper. Rev. Herman Calloway led in prayer.

The Moderator brought to the attention of the Committee Rev. David Hayes request for a letter of good standing from this association to the Jasper Association. MSC to grant the letter.

Only two churches in the Association were not represented by either their Committee member or their pastor. Ministers present were: Rev. Clarence Culpepper, Rev. Ralph Baker, Rev. Bobby Ned Peters, Rev. Herman Calloway, Rev. David Hidle, and Rev. Edward Nance.

After a discussion of themes, subjects, and speaker with a vote of approval on each, a program for the year was planned. (See Page 2 for program).

Bro. Edward Nance spoke briefly on the Youth Rallies. He said the next rally would be at Hickory Grove and encouraged each church to please support the rallies. He announced there would be a Youth Revival at Union Church in March during AEA Holidays with Rev. Mike Beckom as evangelist.

Rev. Culpepper led a discussion on the letters the churches had received from the State Association concerning the deficit in funds for food at the last meeting in November. It was decided since each church had already sent \$5.00 for this, it would be left up to the individual church if they wanted to receive an offering and send.

Rev. Peters spoke briefly on the Pastors and Workers Conference in February. He encouraged everyone that enjoys good preaching to attend since there are about 4 or 5 good sermons each day. He also asked each church to receive an offering or consider a donation for the support of this. Please mail this to Bro. Cordell. He also asked each church to encourage their youth to attend the Teen Retreat to be held at Yappertown with Rev. Mickey Kirkland as evangelist. The tentative date is August 13-15, 1981.

MSC to adjourn. Rev. Bobby Peters led the closing prayer.

## **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SOUTHEASTERN FREE WILL BAPTIST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY**

The Southeastern Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary met on Friday night, April 11, 1980 at 7:30 P.M. with Sardis Free Will Baptist Church at Eufaula, Alabama. Mrs. Jackie Peters, President called the meeting to order and Mrs. Johnnie Ruth Taylor led in Prayer. The Welcome was given by Mrs. Dolly Rickrett and the Response was given by Mrs. Martha Blalock.

Bro. Bryan Gilmore led the singing with Bro. Tim Bridges as Pianist. Special music was presented by the Sweet Earth Sounds. They sung "He Was There All The Time" and "I've Never Been This Homesick Before."

The Devotion was given by Mrs. Tessie Glover. She read Ephesians 4:1-32. She concluded by reading a poem entitled "God Has A Right."

The minutes were read and approved as read. Roll call showed 32 members, 20 visitors, and 2 ministers. The offerings was \$37.39. We had a MSC to send this to the Alabama Woman's Auxiliary as a love gift for the state speaker. We had a MSC to have the next auxiliary meeting at Goodwater Free Will Baptist Church at Wicksburg, Alabama, April 10, 1981 at 7:30 p.m. The next State Convention will be held May 2, 1981 at Red Bay, Alabama. We concluded our business session by having oral reports by delegates about the work going on in their churches.



These reports were very good and showed very good work going on the further God's work.

Rev. Jim Turnbough was the guest speaker for the night. He is a Home Missionary to Enterprise, Alabama. He titled his message "Grow up Into Him" He used Ephesians 4:14-16. He showed a physical and spiritual need in the lives of people. He compared food for our bodies and God's Word for our minds. We like to eat sweet things or wear showy things which might not be good for us. We need to get down to the basic of life and listen to what God is telling us to do. The more we study and the more we read God's Word the sweeter it grows. So many times we sit on the stool of do nothing and sing "We Shall Not Be Moved." if we do not grow we get Atrophed, and wither away. We need to rest and listen to God's direction for our lives. God's Law tells us to Love God and Love our Neighbor.

We had a MSC to give Sardis Church a rising vote of thanks. Delicious refreshments were served to those present by the host church.

Nina Vickers, Secretary

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT OF THE**

#### **SOUTHEASTERN FREE WILL BAPTIST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY**

Balance brought forward .....	\$ 72.75
Received from the Auxiliaries for Dues .....	232.00
Received from the Auxiliaries for the State Project (Foreign) .....	88.00
Received from the collection at the convention .....	37.39
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$430.14</b>

#### **Total Paid Out and Why**

Rev. Jim Turnbough - Convention Speaker .....	\$ 25.00
Alabama State Woman's Auxiliary, Love Gift for Speaker ...	37.39
Alabama State Woman's Auxiliary, Dues .....	145.00
Alabama State Woman's Auxiliary, State Project(Foreign) ..	100.00
<b>Total Paid Out .....</b>	<b>\$307.39</b>
<b>Balance on Hand .....</b>	<b>\$122.75</b>

#### **SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CTS CONVENTION**

The Southeastern Sunday School and CTS Convention met March 22, 1980 at Union Free Will Baptist Church. We had 105 to register for the day. We had 10 churches represented.

The convention was called to order by President Johnny Cordell. Prayer by Rev. Clarence Culpepper. Welcome by Rev. Dave Collins. Response by Rev. Bobby Peters. Devotional by Rev. Dave Collins using Luke 5th chapter verses 1-6 and 10.

Sunday School was conducted by Union Sunday School teachers. Dismissed by prayer by Bro. Holt Stokes. Recess at this

time.

Song service led by Bro. Holt Stokes. Offering taken at this time to be placed later. Prayer by Bro. Johnny Cordell.

The Ministers were recognized at this time. They were: Rev. David Hayes, Rev. Earl Stevens, Rev. Bobby Peters, Rev. Clarence Culpepper, Rev. A. G. Lacey, Rev. Dave Collins, Rev. Edward Nance, and Ron Edgel.

Song service led by Bro. Holt Stokes with Bro. Grad Stokes at Piano.

The morning message was by Rev. Ron Edgel using Matt. Chapter 13, verses 1-9 and John Chapter 15 verse 2. Very wonderful message.

Dismissed at this time for lunch with prayer and asking God's blessings on the food by Rev. Earl Stevens.

The evening session was called to order by Vice President Wayne Gilmore. Prayer by Bro. Johnny Gilmore.

We had a song service at this time with Bro. Holt Stokes leading.

Programs were presented at this time with 4 churches having programs. They were: New Prospect, Pilgrim, Sardis, and Union. All programs were very good. Bro. Wayne Gilmore ask the convention that more of our churches try to have programs.

This time the convention went into the Business session with prayer by Rev. Bobby Peters. The Vice President ask if there were any old business. We did not have any. New business, Sis. Martha Blalock made a motion that the offering for the day to be sent to our guest speaker in the amount of \$46.45. Motion carried.

The banners were presented at this time. They were:

Sunday School attendance - Sardis

CTS - Pleasant Hill

Percentage - Evergreen

The reading of the minutes and finance report was given. Motion by Bro. Lamar Buxton to accept as read. Seconded by Sis. Stevens. Motion carried.

At this time the Vice President ask if there was a church that wanted to host convention for 1981. Holmes ask for convention to meet with them. This was agreeable with everyone.

Motion by Bro. Johnny Gilmore for a "rising vote" of thanks to Union Church for such a wonderful day and to adjourn. Prayer for dismiss by Bro. Wayne Gilmore.

Johnny Cordell, President

Mary Culpepper, Secretary, Treasurer



**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS  
OF THE  
SOUTHEASTERN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST  
CHURCHES**

Preamble: In Order to encourage and inspire the churches of this association to engage in a more definite plan of work, to labor together in unity, and to coordinate their efforts for a greater program to Christ and His Kingdom, We do hereby adopt this Constitution and By-Laws.

**CONSTITUTION**

ARTICLE I. Name - This organization shall be known as the Southeastern Association of Free Will Baptist Churches.

ARTICLE II. Officers - The officers of this association shall be a Moderator, and Assistant Moderator, a Clerk and a Treasurer.

ARTICLE III. Membership - This Association shall be composed of churches in good standing according to the Faith and Practices of the Treatise of the National Association Free Will Baptists.

Section 1. Churches desiring membership in this Association shall send delegates bearing a petitionary letter. If the above church(es) upon examination by the Credentials/Examining Committee, are found to be in order and properly organized as specified in the Treatise, they shall, by vote of this body, be received in full fellowship.

Section 2. All churches of this Association are requested to require their pastors to be a member of the congregation which he serves, unless he pastors two or more churches, then he must be a member of at least one of the churches he serves.

Section 3. Acceptance of Ministers into the Association - No minister shall have any vote or hold any office till one of the following applies:

a. Ministers coming from another association must receive a written recommendation from the association from which he comes in good standing or upon the recommendation of the examining committee be put under the watch care of the association for a period of time, (not to exceed one (1) year).

b. Ministers coming from an independent church or another denomination must unite with a church in this association and the church he unites with request the Association's Examining Committee to examine him according to the Holy Scriptures,

Faith and Practices in the Treatise of the Free Will Baptists and make their recommendation to the Association Delegates for vote.

c. No minister or Deacon be a member of this Association whose church membership is outside the Association. (You must have your membership in one of the Association's churches to be a member).

ARTICLE IV. Representation - Each church is requested to be represented at the Quarterly and Annual Sessions.

Section 1. Each church shall be represented at the Quarterly and Annual Sessions of the Association by a proportionate number of Delegates based on the size of the ACTIVE CHURCH MEMBERSHIP. The first 50 members entitles a church to 3 delegates and 1 additional delegate for each additional 25 members or part thereof, as given in the minutes of the previous annual meeting.

Section 2. All the Standing Delegates are encouraged to attend the Association's meeting at least three (3) times a year.

ARTICLE V. Committees - All committees shall be subject to the association for approval or disapproval vote on their actions (Except the Executive Committee). All committees shall give a report of their actions at each association session. Each member of a committee must be a member of this Association in good standing and a member of a church in this Association. Each committee shall have one member coming up for re-election or replacement each year thereafter (Except The Executive Committee). Each committee shall elect their own chairman of the committee.

Section 1. Executive Committee - The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Moderator, The Assistant Moderator, The Clerk, The Treasurer and one member elected by and from each church in good standing in the Association. The duties are:

a. The Executive Committee shall be to act for the Association of Churches when it is not in session on things that cannot wait till the association is in regular session.

b. This committee shall plan and arrange the years program for all sessions of the Association.

c. This committee shall act as the promotional agency for the



various work of the Association.

d. This committee shall be called into session when necessary by the Moderator or in his absence Asst. Moderator.

Section 2. Credentials and Examining Committee - All member of this committee shall be from the standing delegates (Ordained Ministers or Deacons) and shall be members of this Association in good standing. ~~There shall be members of this Association in good standing.~~ There shall be five (5) elected members on this committee, elected at the annual session from the floor; one for five years; one for four years; one for three years; one for two years and one for one year. The duties are:

a. It shall be the duty of this committee to examine the letters of the churches in preparing the authorized (Quorum) delegation to this body and present the Moderator the proper delegation to be seated.

b. It shall be the duty of the Credentials and Examining Committee of this Association to examine all candidates (Ministers and Deacons) at the request of the Local Church, for Ordination. Such candidates shall be members in good standing of the church making the request. (Ordination requiring they must have been a Christian for at least two years). All licensees for the ministry shall be given both a written and oral examination (the questionnaire to be furnished by this committee). Deacons shall be examined according to the Holy Scriptures and the Faith and Practices in the Treatise of Free Will Baptists.

c. Ministers coming from other association, independent church, or denominations shall be examined by this committee according to the Faith and Practices in the Treatise of Free Will Baptists and the Holy Scriptures, at the request of the Local Church.

d. Any recommendation coming from this committee must come before the body for approval or disapproval.

e. No letter of recommendation will be given to a minister leaving this association going to another without the prior approval from the church he is leaving.

Section 3. Christian Education - There shall be a Christian Education Committee, consisting of three members elected to terms of one for three years; one for two years; and one for one

year. The duties are:

a. To organize, plan and supervise the Youth Rallies, CTS Competition, Sunday School Promotion, and Summer Camps for the Association.

b. They shall recommend to the Association the Director for Summer Camp and the place Summer Camp will be held. The Association shall vote on the Camp Director and place for the Summer Camp at the 1st or 2nd quarterly session for the coming year.

c. To promote our Bible College and education of our people.

Section 4. Mission Committee - There shall be a Mission Committee consisting of five members elected to terms; one for five years; one for four years; one for three years; one for two years; and one for one year. The duties are:

a. To promote mission work in this association.

b. To coordinate the needs of our missionary (Home and Foreign) to each of our churches in this association. To plan, organize and supervise mission work (retreat, conference, and etc) in the association.

Section 5. Children's Home Committee - There shall be a Children's Home Committee consisting of three members elected to terms of one for three years; one for two years and one for one year. One of this committee shall be the Southeastern Association's Board Member to the children's Home.

a. To coordinate efforts to relief the strain on the Children's Home and keep the association informed of the Home.

Section 6. Finance Committee - There shall be a Finance Committee consisting of three members elected to terms of one for three years; one for two years; and one for one year. The Treasurer shall sit in on this committee at their (committee's) request, but have no vote on this committee. The duties are:

a. This committee is to work with the Treasurer in working up a budget for the distribution of monies for the association. The budget will be presented at the annual session for approval.



Section 7. Placement Committee - There shall be a Placement Committee consisting of three members elected to terms of one for three years; one for two years; and one for one year. The duties are;

a. The duties of this committee shall be to coordinate the place to hold the quarterly and annual sessions of each associational year.

Section 8. Nominating Committee - There shall be a nominating committee consisting of three members elected from the delegation at the annual session for terms of; One for three years; one for two years and one for one year. The duties are:

a. The duties of this committee shall be to make nominations to fill vacancies on the various boards, to nominate association officers and such other action as may come before this committee.

Section 9. Any member of the above committees that fails to cooperate with the committee for a period of one year may, upon recommendation of the committee be replaced by the association.

ARTICLE VI. Independence of Churches - Each church of this Association is a distinct and independent organization, with full and absolute authority to manage its own internal and external affairs, to elect its pastor, officers, to receive and dismiss its members.

Section 1. Each church of this association shall have, hold and control all its property, real and otherwise.

Section 2. The association holds no authority over or in the member churches. It is only a vehicle through which member churches fellowship, work, and cooperate in all things which tend to promote and advance the cause of Christ and the Free Will Baptist faith in God's Kingdom.

Section 3. Discipline: This association shall act only in an advisory capacity. Should there arise in the local church any question on doctrine, practices or discipline, the Bible and the Treatise of the Faith and Practices of Free Will Baptists shall be considered the final authority. However, if said church(es) fail to comply with same, this body, when in session, may by majority vote of delegates present, withdraw the hand of fellowship from said church(es) until such time that they have set their house in

order.

ARTICLE VII. Meetings - The Association shall meet in Quarterly sessions on Saturday before the third Sunday in January, April and July. The Annual Session shall meet on Friday and Saturday before the third Sunday in October.

Section 1. Robert's Rules of Order shall be used as a guide in all business transactions and parliamentary usages.

ARTICLE VIII. Quorum - Thirty (30) delegates from six (6) or more churches of this association shall constitute a quorum. A lesser number may adjourn until such a quorum is present.

## **PROPOSED BY-LAWS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SOUTHEASTERN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES**

ARTICLE I. Duties of Associational Officers.

Section 1. Moderator - The Moderator shall preside over all meetings of the Association; appoint temporary committees, and call the members of the Executive Committee together when necessary.

Section 2. Assistant Moderator - The Assistant Moderator shall preside over the meetings of the association in the absence of the Moderator. He shall assist the Moderator in the General work of the association.

Section 3. Clerk - The Clerk shall record the proceedings of the Quarterly and Annual Sessions of the Association and of the Executive Committee, and shall edit and have them printed into annual minutes for the general information of the member churches. He shall turn all records of the Association over to their successor in office.

Section 4. Treasurer -; The Treasurer shall have charge of all associational funds. He shall keep a record of all monies received and paid out by the Association. He shall make and give a financial report at each session of the association. He shall disburse funds at the direction of the association while in session, or Executive Committee by a majority vote of members present. He



shall turn all record of the association over to his successor in office.

Section 5. Provision for Moderator - In case of the absence of both the Moderator and Assistant Moderator, the senior minister of the Standing Delegates shall act in that capacity.

#### ARTICLE II. Reports.

Section 1. Each church is requested to send Quarterly and Annual reports of progress on forms furnished by the association.

Section 2. The Clerk of the Association shall prepare an associational report to the Alabama State Association of Free Will Baptist Church.

ARTICLE III. Standing Delegates - All Ministers and Deacons who are members in good standing of churches affiliated with this association shall be standing delegates.

ARTICLE IV. Election of Officers - All officers shall be elected by the association in annual session from nominations either by a committee or from the floor of delegates.

Section 1. All officers shall be elected annually and no person shall be disqualified for re-election because of having served in office the previous year.

#### ARTICLE V. Use of Funds.

Section 1. The funds of this association shall be used to pay the Moderator, Clerk, and printing of the Annual Minutes.

Section 2. The Association shall support Home and Foreign Mission; the Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee; The Children's Home in Eldridge, Alabama; and The Superannuation of our older Ministers.

Section 3. The Association shall operate on the 75/25% basis until the Finance Committee can work up a budget for the association. The budget will be submitted to the association for approval.

Section 4. All plate offerings received at the Quarterly and Annual sessions after paying the speaker shall be designated by vote of

the Delegates.

Section 5. All funds shall be disbursed Quarterly to the National and State Cooperative Programs and to the Children's Home.

#### ARTICLE VI. Amendments.

Section 1. This Constitution and these By-Laws shall not be changed or altered except and only by a two-thirds vote of Delegates present from member churches in any session of the Association.

Section 2. All Amendments shall lie on the table not less than three months prior to adoption and shall be presented to the association in writing, and read to the association not less than two times before action is taken upon them.



## RULES OF DECORUM

1. The Association, when convened, shall be opened and closed by singing and prayer.
2. Only one person shall speak at a time, and he will rise to his feet and address the moderator.
3. Each person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in speech, except by the moderator, until he gets through; nor shall the moderator interrupt him unless he breaks order.
4. The person speaking shall adhere to the question and shall in no wise cast reflections on any person who may have spoken before him.
5. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave of the Association.
6. No person shall laugh or whisper in time of public speech.
7. Members shall address each other by the appellation of brother, or brethen, or sisters.
8. No members of this Association shall absent himself when the association is sitting in conference without leave of the moderator.
9. The names of the members of this association shall be enrolled and called as often as the association thinks is necessary.
10. No member shall speak longer than fifteen minutes at any one time without leave of the moderator.

## 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 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 ac-

countability 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 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 selfcontrolled, 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 Saviour 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.