

MINUTES
OF THE
30TH ANNUAL ASSOCIATION
OF THE
MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION
AND
YEARLY ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
OF
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

1949

When Convened With
BLUE POINT CHURCH

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM, MONETT, MO.

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

The 30th Annual Ministerial Conference of Free Will Baptists of Southern Illinois when convened with Blue Point Church September, 1949.

Song, "Showers of Blessings."

Prayer by Sis. Geraldine Lewis.

Song, "Have Thine Own Way."

In absence of Moderator and Assistant Moderator, the Yearly Meeting Clerk took over for election of Moderator. Bro. Floyd Hartley elected by acclamation. Bro. Hartley then read for the scripture reading John 17:1-11.

Prayer by Rev. Wallace Malone.

Bro. C. H. Curry appointed Assistant Moderator.

Minutes of last meeting read and accepted.

Business Committee appointed: Hosea Smith, Lepton Harpole and Louie Hanna.

Sis. Geraldine Lewis selected to bring 11:00 o'clock message.

Topic—"What is the Pastor's duty to the Church?" opened by Bro. Lepton Harpole, followed by Bro. Wm. Buster.

Topic—"What is the Church's duty to the Pastor?" opened by Bro. Wallace Malone, followed by Bro. Jasper Armstrong.

Dismissed by prayer by Bro. Vernell Clark. Called together at 11:00 o'clock.

Sermon by Sis. Geraldine Lewis. Sis. Lewis brought a very good message.

Adjournment.

Afternoon—1:30 O'clock

Singing by congregation.

Prayer by Sis. Reba Edwards.

Devotional reading from John, 11th chapter by Bro. Beasley.

Prayer by Bro. Jasper Armstrong.

Business Committee report by Bro. Hosea Smith. Points discussed were: Church extension and possibilities of full time services for each church. Discussions made by Bro. Wallace Malone, Bro. Jasper Armstrong, Sis. Alene Hanna and Bro. Wm. Buster. Bro. Wm. Buster made a motion, seconded by Bro. Wallace Malone, that we refer the motion to the Yearly Meeting proper concerning Church Extension.

Nominations for some one to bring the Introductory sermon for 1950 Ministerial Conference. Bro. Lee Le Vault elected by acclamation.

Roll call of ministers present: Elders Jasper Armstrong, Wallace Malone, Dewey Merritt, Sherman Sullivan, Wm. W. Huffman, C. H. Curry, Hosea V. Smith, Wm. Buster, Lepton Harpole, Curt Rogers, Louie Hanna, Alene Hanna, Floyd Hartley and Vernell Clark.

Deacons present: C. O. Stark, J. A. Flanders, George Block, Justin Bunnell, Steve Vaughn and Dan Hilliard.

Topic—"What are the Ministers obligations to each other?" opened by Bro. Wm. Buster.

Adjournment.

PROCEEDINGS YEARLY ASSOCIATION

The 30th Annual Session of the Free Will Baptist Yearly Association of Southern Illinois when convened with the Blue Point Free Will Baptist Church September 7-11, 1949.

Called into session by Assistant Moderator of last Yearly Meeting.

Letters from the Franklin County, Wayne County and Freedom Quarterlies were read and delegates seated.

Nominations for Moderator called for. Bro. Wallace Malone duly elected by acclamation.

The Moderator took over and duly appointed Bro. Chas. R. Porter as Assistant Moderator for this session.

Moderator proceeded to appoint committees.

Pulpit Committee: Roy McClerren of Union; Justin Bunnell of Blue Point, and Sis. Reba Edwards of Oak Grove.

Minutes of previous Yearly read by Clerk. Motion made by Bro. Bain and seconded by Bro. Lepton Harpole that minutes be accepted as read. Motion carried.

The Business Committee appointed last year tendered their resignation (Bro's. C. H. Curry, Jack Kettelman, Chas. R. Porter, W. E. Gullledge, Jack Eden and Bunnell). Motion made and seconded this be carried out. Motion carried.

Motion made and carried that the chair be given power to appoint a new Business Committee for this 30th

Annual Session of the Conference. Those appointed were: Bro's. Paul Sulcer, Chas. R. Porter, Willie Huffman, Bunnell and C. H. Curry.

Partial report of Pulpit Committee selecting Rev. Paul Sulcer for 11:00 o'clock.

Motion made by Bro. Bain, seconded by C. H. Curry that we adjourn business until 1:30 p. m.

Motion carried. Adjournment.

Eleven O'clock Service

Service opened with songs and prayer.

Rev. Paul Sulcer based his message on Hebrews 10:23-29. This was a very stirring message followed by a handshake.

Noon adjournment.

Afternoon—1:30 O'clock

Afternoon session opened by singing.

Prayer by Sis. Alene Hanna.

Devotional led by Bro. Jasper Armstrong.

Minutes of morning session read and approved.

Memorial Committee appointed: Edward Robillard of White Ash; Lester Lewis of Bear Point, and Fred Parks of Arnold View.

Closing Resolution Committee: Joe Cox of Freedom; Omar Smith of Bakerville, and Tom Davis of Mt. Pleasant.

Auditing Committee: Tom McKemie of Hazel Dell; Dewey Merritt of Mt. Vernoo, and Guy Sulcer of Oakland.

No report from National Association.

Discussion—"Why support the National Program?" opened by Bro. Jack Kettelman followed by Sis. Reba Edwards, Bro. Wallace Malone, Marsh Harpole, Vernell Clark, Sis. Opal Hiltibidal, Lepton Harpole, Hosea Smith, and Howard Clampet.

The Ladies Auxiliary gave their report to the Conference by Sis. Chesta Clampet of Bear Point Church. She reported two new auxiliaries organized, those being Pleasant View and DesPlains. She gave individual reports from Pittsburg, Pleasant View and Rock Springs Valley.

Sis. Geraldine Lewis reported for Bear Point. She reported six new members gained in the year, one Daily Vacation Bible School conducted, and two converts in the Bible School.

Sis. Alene Hanna reported for Oak Grove. She reported they have nine members and all of them tithers for

which we should be thankful. Sis. Alene also made the Treasurer's report in the absence of Sis. Emma Moore.

Motion made by Bro. Porter, seconded by Bro. Buster, that we extend a vote of thanks to the Ladies Auxiliary. Motion carried.

Business Committee gave a partial report at this time —Retired Ministers Committee recommendations:

"We, the undersigned committee, recommend the following resolution: Whereas there is in existence a fund for our retired ministers, whereas so far it has only been supported by a very few of our churches in Franklin County Quarterly Meeting, yet at the same time it is supposed to include the Yearly Conference, and whereas there is now a certain amount of money in the hands of the above Committee, and whereas we now have in our Yearly Conference the Wayne County Quarterly Meeting so they are now included in our Yearly Meeting, We therefore make and recommend the following resolution: 'We recommend the money be retained in the fund for the benefit of the whole Yearly Meeting and very strongly urge that every church in all our Yearly Meeting take up as often as each church sees fit, an offering to support this for the benefit of our retired ministers.'

"We further recommend that each Quarterly be duly represented on this Committee. We further believe that each Quarterly should recommend their own representatives of this Committee—2 from Freedom and 1 from Wayne in this session." Signed, committee: Chas. R. Porter, Paul E. Sulcer, Willie Huffman, Justin Bunnell and C. H. Curry.

Motion made by Bro. Wallace Malone and seconded by Bro. Marsh Harpole that we accept the resolutions as read. Motion carried.

Business Committee on Superannuation appointed were: Jack Kettelman, Wallace Malone and C. H. Curry from Franklin County Quarterly; Arthur Jones and Jake McAnnally from Freedom Quarterly, and Roy Conard from Wayne County Quarterly.

Final report from Pulpit Committee: "We, the Pulpit Committee, recommend the following ministers to bring the messages during this Yearly Meeting:

"Saturday 11:00 o'clock—Rev. Chas. R. Porter.

"Saturday 8:00 o'clock—Rev. Vernell Clark. Since this is Bro. Harpole's regular service time we leave the Sunday 11:00 o'clock and 8:00 o'clock service to him to

choose the minister he sees fit or preach himself." Signed, committee: Roy McClerren, Justin Bunnell and Reba Edwards.

Motion made and seconded we receive the report of Pulpit Committee. Motion carried.

Ministers cards were renewed and distributed.

Conference adjourned until 8:00 p. m.

Evening Service—8:00 O'clock

Evening service opened by congregational singing and prayer by Bro. Lester Lewis, after which we were favored with several special songs.

Rev. Wallace Malone of the Mission Board made a report on missions.

Rev. Wm. Buster brought a very inspiring message on missions.

A free will offering was taken amounting to \$35.00.

Saturday Morning

Session opened by congregational singing and prayer.

Scripture reading by Bro. Oran Kersh from the 7th chapter of Revelation.

Minutes of previous days business read.

Motion made and seconded we accept same as read. Motion carried.

In the absence of Bro. Guy Sulcer the chair appointed Bro. Hosea Smith to serve on Auditing Committee.

Bro. Dewey Merritt and Oran Kersh nominated to preach the introductory sermon at next Yearly Meeting. Moved and seconded nominations cease and we take the vote. Motion carried. Bro. Kersh received eight votes; also Bro. Merritt eight votes. On account of the tie in votes the chair voted for Bro. Merritt to preach at Pittsburg Church in 1950 making him duly elected.

Election of Yearly Clerk and Treasurer now in order. Motion made and seconded we retain present officers another year (they are: Irene Sullivan, Clerk, Valier, Ill., and Henry Britton, Treasurer, Whittington, Ill.). Motion carried.

Motion made and seconded we have on the Program Committee one from each Quarterly with the Y. M. Clerk being chairman of the committee. Motion carried.

The committee appointed by the chair is as follows: Sis. Irene Sullivan, chairman; Sis. Edith Smith from Wayne County Quarterly, Bro. John Wilhite from Free-

dom Quarterly, and Sis. Geraldine Lewis from Franklin County Quarterly.

In the absence of Bro. Parks the chair appointed Bro. Curt Rogers to serve on Memorial Committee.

Topic—"Remarks on the Bible College," by Sis. Reba Edwards. Sis. Edwards talk was very spiritual and inspiring. "Sweet Hour of Prayer" was then sung and dedicated to Sis. Reba. Sis. Reba and her brother Donald were favored with an old fashioned hand shake. Dismissed at this time for a few minutes by Bro. Wm. Buster.

Eleven O'clock Service

Service opened by singing and prayer by Bro. Curt Rogers.

Rev. Porter based his message on the third chapter of St. John. This was a very soul stirring message followed by a handshake and an altar of prayer service, praying for Bro. Marsh Harpole's son who is ill.

Noon adjournment.

Afternoon—1:30 O'clock

Service opened by singing and prayer by Sis. Opal Hiltibidal.

Special song by Bro. Melvin Robertson, "Zions Hill."

Special songs by Oak Valley Quartet, "Just A Little Talk with Jesus," and "Each Day I'll Do A Golden Deed."

Minutes of morning session read and approved.

Scripture reading by Bro. Wallace Malone.

Led in prayer by Bro. Vernell Clark.

Memorial Sermon by Rev. Riley Burton. Very inspiring.

Business Committee makes the following recommendations: "Whereas our Yearly Meeting convenes on Thursday night before the second Sunday in September, we now recommend that we meet on the first Wednesday night in June.. The reason—that it would give an up-to-date report to the National Association which convenes in the month of July.

"This resolution to be adopted at the next Yearly Meeting in September, 1950." Signed, committee: Chas. R. Porter, Justin Bunnell, Paul E. Sulcer, Willie Huffman and C. H. Curry.

Motion made by Bro. Buster and seconded by Bro. Kersh that this recommendation be received and adopted. Motion carried.

"We the undersigned Committee on Business recommend that an ordained minister in good standing and qualified to work in the capacity as a Home Missionary be chosen to serve the various churches located in the Yearly Meeting or such new fields of labor that might arise."

Motion made and seconded we adopt the recommendation. Motion carried.

"We also recommend that the Quarterly Meeting wherein the church is located be responsible for the financial support of the missionary when working in that territory. We also suggest that free will offerings be taken among the several churches and the proceeds be sent to Rev. W. R. Burton, Whittington, Ill., who is the treasurer of a fund for this purpose."

Motion made by Bro. Burton and seconded by Bro. Hosea Smith that this resolution be adopted. Motion carried.

Bro. Burton made a motion, seconded by Bro. Vernell Clark that we accept the recipients of Sis. Opal Hiltibidal, Bro. Hosea Smith and Bro. Tracy Dees as our field workers. Motion carried.

Business suspended for a few minutes that the treasurer might give his report. Motion made and seconded that we receive the Treasurer's report as read. Motion carried.

Bro. Hosea Smith made a motion and seconded by Bro. Burton that we give a standing vote of thanks to the Blue Point Church for their hospitality shown. Motion carried and vote of thanks given.

"We further recommend that the Yearly Meeting dues be raised from \$4.00 to \$5.00, the additional dollar to be given to the particular church that entertains the Yearly Meeting for the purpose of buying food during the session."

Motion made and seconded we adopt this recommendation. Carried.

"We also recommend that in the future the church that entertains the Yearly Meeting serve sandwiches instead of regular meals in order for the women to enjoy the services instead of cooking throughout the meeting."

Motion made by Bro. Kersh and seconded by Bro. Clark this recommendation be ignored. Motion carried.

"We further recommend that Rev. Tracy Dees be granted the renewal of his ministerial papers and card

from the Yearly Clerk just as soon as he again becomes a member of a Free Will Baptist Church in our Quarterly Meeting, and is recommended by the church at the Franklin County Quarterly Meeting for his ministerial papers."

Motion made and seconded that we adopt this resolution with it understood that the Clerk of the Yearly meeting notify the Quarterly Meeting Clerk of this action. Motion carried.

"We further recommend that all ministers' cards be withheld who have failed to attend Quarterly and Yearly Meetings according to our laws until they give reason of absence for renewal." Signed, committee: Chas. R. Porter, Willie Huffman, Artie Wilfong and Paul E. Sulcer.

Motion made and seconded we adopt this recommendation. Motion carried.

Memorial Committee made their report. "There were 26 deaths reported and the following names handed in: Bro. Johnnie Johnston, Bro. Lewis Claude, Bro. Jim Scott, Bro. Floyd Cockrum, Bro. George Loucks, Bro. Willie Taylor, Sis. Minnie Cockrum, Sis. Mattie Walker, Sis. Mary Cowger Brown, Sis. Mary Harpole and Ella Bryan Harpole from Franklin County Quarterly.

Alfred Moss, Minnie Rains, Stella Marks, Harvey Craig, Ose Evans, Margaret Craig, John Lewis, Chalrey Pogue, Rev. Bob Smith, Ula Throp, Mattie Campbell, Lula Myers and Dal Miller from Freedom Quarterly.

"Marvin Smith from Wayne County Quarterly." Signed, committee: Edward Robillard, Curt Rogers and Lester Lewis.

Motion made and seconded that we accept report and release committee. Motion carried.

Closing Resolution Committee made their report: "We, the members of the Closing Resolutions Committee, wish to express our thanks and appreciation to the people of Blue Point, Johnsonville and Oak Grove Churches for the fine spirit of fellowship and co-operation during these series of this Yearly Meeting. May the Lord add His blessings to these churches and community." Signed, committee: Joe Cox, Omar H. Smithland, Tom Davis.

Motion made and seconded that we accept report and release committee. Motion carried.

Motion made and seconded that 500 copies of the Minutes of this Yearly Conference be printed. The Clerk to put in the Minutes the names of the delegates as well

as the ministers, and that the Treasurer be empowered to pay bill for the same. Motion carried.

Motion made and seconded that the Clerk be empowered to buy such things as are needful for the work of this office and treasurer be empowered to pay bill for the same. Motion carried.

In the absence of Bro. Edams no report was given on the Sunday School Alliance.

Motion in order that we adjourn. Motion made and seconded that we adjourn until Thursday night before the second Sunday in September, 1950. Motion carried.

Wallace Malone, Moderator
Irene Sullivan, Clerk

Delegates to the Yearly Meeting as follows:

Reba Edwards	Arthur Wilhite
Mark Pepple	Ila Lance
Howard Warren	Joe Cox
John Lovell	R. O. Albright
Ray Settle	Willie Horn
Perry Armstrong	Bill Phemister
Omar H. Smith	Lewis Arnold
Joe Pressley	Tom Davis
Juel Mandrell	Charlie Schram
Harry Smith	Roy McClerren
Lester Lewis	Pauline Grant
Laverne Adams	Fred Parks
Guy Sulcer	Edward Robillard
Guy Peterson	Mark Dunaway
Thomas McKemie	Dan Hilliard
Arthur Norris	Iva Brooker
Leon McBride	Justin Bunnell
D. E. Bain	

Ministers' Cards Issued as follows:

Elders:

W. R. Burton
Jack Edens
Jesse Hamilton
George Wilson
Emma Moore
Paul E. Sulcer

Elders:

C. J. Kettelman
John Hiltibidal
Ella Mae Hiltibidal
Opal Hiltibidal
Harlan Street
John T. Johnson

Raymond Pitchford
Jesse Brooks
C. A. Curry
J. Pat Lairsey
Sherman Sullivan
Dewey Merritt
M. L. Baker
Leslie Gibson
Ernest Pearson
Bertram Smith
Jasper Armstrong
Henry Shockley
Dorsey Braden
W. R. Spurlock
Opal Wells
Cloy Myers
William Smothers
Taylor Coursey
Floyd Hartley
George W. Waggoner
B. H. Barnfield
Oran Kersh
Louie Hanna
Alene Hanna
C. A. McBride
Arlie Robinson
Chas. R. Porter
Wallace Malone
A. E. Buntin
Wm. Buster
C. H. Curry
Barney Serles

Lee LeVault
Marsh Harpole
Lepton Harpole
George Morgan
Hosea V. Smith
Charles Osborn
Pauline Osborn
Hazel Buick
Vivian Downen
Pearl Perriman
Geraldine Lewis
Leslie Elliott
Wendell Newton
Jack Smothers
R. E. Montgomery
Ira Harris
H. T. Little
Willie W. Huffman
Lee Davis
Louis S. Schrum
Curt Rogers
Gazelle Murphy
Jake McAnally
Opal E. Jeffreys
Kenneth McNeely
Raymond Boyd
Ethel Hoffard
Vernell Clark
J. O. Travelstead
Walter Wayne Warren
Claude Childers
Everett Rendleman