

Minutes - -

MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

and

YEARLY ASSOCIATION

of

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

of

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

THIRTY - FOURTH ANNUAL ASSOCIATION

1953

**When Convened With
JOHNSTON CITY F.W.B. CHURCH
JOHNSTON CITY, ILLINOIS**

34TH ANNUAL MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

The 34th Annual Ministerial Association of Free Will Baptists of Southern Illinois, when convened with the Johnston City Free Will Baptist Church on June 3, 1953.

Song, "I Am Thine, O Lord." Prayer by Rev. C. A. Curry. Devotional by Rev. C. A. Curry, reading the entire 13th chapter of I Corinthians.

The Moderator (Rev. C. A. Curry) took charge for election of Moderator for this session. Bro. Willie Huffman nominated. Motion made by Rev. George Waggoner and seconded by Rev. H. V. Smith that nominations cease and elect by acclamation.. Motion carried. Vote taken and Rev. Huffman duly elected. Rev. Huffman then appointed Rev. C. J. Kettelman as assistant moderator.

Minutes of previous session read. Rev. C. A. Curry made motion, seconded by Rev. Wallace Malone that minutes be approved as read. Motion carried.

Next business in order was for the election of someone to speak for the 11:00 o'clock message. Rev. H. V. Smith was nominated. Motion made by Rev. Claude Childers and seconded by Rev. C. A. Curry that nominations cease and we proceed to elect by acclamation. Motion carried and Rev. H. V. Smith was duly elected.

The Business Committee was appointed by the chair, namely: Rev. Lester Breeze, Rev. Everett Hodges, and Rev. C. H. Curry.

Topic for discussion: "What qualifications does the Lord require of a true Child of God?" Opened by Rev. George Waggoner, reading the church covenant as an answer to the topic. Rev. Claude Childers and Rev. Willie Huffman vouching the same. Topic of I John 3:9 was opened by Rev. C. A. Curry, Rev. George Waggoner, Rev. Claude Childers, Rev. C. H. Curry and others.

Business was adjourned until 1:30 p.m.

The Morning Worship Hour was opened by singing, "Revive Us Again," and "At the Cross," followed in prayer by Rev. Everett Beaty. We then sang, "Power In the Blood." Rev. H. V. Smith delivered the morning message based on Matthew 22:1-14, "The Marriage Supper."

Afternoon Session

Opened by congregational singing and prayer by Rev. Everett Hodges. Devotional by Rev. C. J. Kettelman, from

I Peter 5, and then he led a praise service.

No business was found by the Business Committee.

Motion by Rev. C. J. Kettelman, seconded by Rev. George Waggoner, that our Business Committee bring something before the Yearly Meeting that will be binding on our ministers. Not voted on, but a substitute motion was made by Rev. George Waggoner, seconded by Rev. Lester Breeze that the Ministerial Association recommend to the Yearly Conference that every minister that receives a card must make a written report that he is in good standing with his Quarterly Meeting. Motion carried.

Roll call of ministers present: Reverends C. A. Curry, Sherman Sullivan, George Waggoner, Wallace Malone, C. H. Curry, C. J. Kettelman, Everett Beaty, Lester Breeze, Everett Hodges, Opal Hiltibidal, H. V. Smith, W. W. Huffman, Louis S. Schrum, Claude Childers, Geraldine Lewis, Claude Hempleman, Irene Sullivan.

Motion made by Rev. H. V. Smith and seconded by Rev. George Waggoner that the Ministerial Conference recommend to the Yearly Meeting that names of ministers who have turned in their license be stricken from the roll. Motion carried. Those named were Rev. Adlie Rogers, Benton, Illinois, and Rev. Edward P. Matthews, Mt. Vernon, Illinois.

Topic for discussion, "Will the Church be raptured before or after the tribulation?" Discussion was opened by Rev. Claude Childers, Rev. Everett Hodges, Rev. Geo. Waggoner and others.

Nominations in order for someone to bring Introductory Message at Ministers Institute in 1954. Rev. Wallace Malone nominated Rev. Claude Hempleman. Rev. Claude Childers made motion that nominations cease and we elect by acclamation. Seconded by Rev. Geo. Waggoner. Motion carried.

34TH ANNUAL YEARLY CONFERENCE

The 34th Annual Session of the Free Will Baptist Association of Southern Illinois when convened with the Johnston City Free Will Baptist Church, June 3-6, 1953.

Services were opened by congregational singing and prayer. The Assistant Moderator (Rev. H. V. Smith) of

the previous session then took charge and minutes of last session read by the Clerk. Motion was made and seconded that minutes be approved as read. Motion carried.

Nominations for Moderator for this session were: Rev. Claude Childers and Rev. C. J. Kettelman. Motion made by Sis. Geraldine Lewis and seconded by Rev. Everett Beaty that nominations cease and we proceed to elect. Motion carried. Rev. Childers received the unanimous vote. Rev. Childers then appointed Rev. C. J. Kettelman as assistant moderator.

Church Covenant, Constitution and By-Laws of Yearly Meeting were read by the moderator. Letters were read by the clerk.

Motion made by Rev. Mark Dunaway and seconded by Dea. Arthur Jones we accept report of Franklin County Quarterly Meeting as read and seat delegates. Motion carried.

Motion made by Rev. W. R. Burton and seconded by Rev. Mark Dunaway that we accept Wayne County Quarterly Meeting report as read and seat delegates. Motion carried.

Motion made by Rev. H. V. Smith and seconded by Rev. Geraldine Lewis that we accept Freedom Quarterly Meeting report as read and seat delegates. Motion carried.

Pulpit Committee was then appointed by the chair. Those appointed were: Bro. Albert Faverty, Wayne County Quarterly; Bro. Joe Cox, Freedom Quarterly, and Sis. Eunice Malone, Franklin County Quarterly.

Business Committee then appointed by the chair: Coy Cockrum and Les Lappin from Franklin County; Uriel Williams and Iva Marks from Freedom, and Berlin Scarborough from Wayne County Quarterly.

Report of the National Association held at Shawnee, Oklahoma, was then given by Rev. C. J. Kettelman. This was a good report which was enjoyed by all. Rev. C. J. Kettelman also gave a statistical report showing that as Free Will Baptists we are a large group.

Pulpit Committee gave their report as follows: "We, the Pulpit Committee, suggest Rev. Wallace Malone for the 11:00 o'clock message; Rev. Claude Childers for tomorrow at 11:00 o'clock." Signed: Joe Cox, Eunice Malone and A. A. Faverty. Motion made by Rev. W. R. Burton and seconded by Rev. Uriel Williams that we receive report and release committee. Motion carried.

Motion made by Rev. W. R. Burton and seconded by

Rev. Everett Beaty that as Rev. C. J. Kettelman went by car to National Association to save expenses of the Yearly Meeting, that we give him the extra \$15.00 he did not spend instead of reimbursing the Yearly. Motion carried.

Topic: "When Jesus says 'Ye ought to do a thing,' does it make it compulsory and binding?" Discussion opened by Rev. George Waggoner, Rev. Charles R. Porter and others. Motion made by Rev. Charles R. Porter and seconded by Rev. H. V. Smith we dismiss business until 1:30 p.m.

Morning Worship Service

Worship service was opened by congregational singing. Prayer by Rev. Willie Huffman. Devotional by Rev. A. A. White. He read I Corinthians 13. Special song by Charles R. Porter. followed by a praise service.

Report of Committee on Investigation of Constitution and By-Laws read by the Clerk: "We, the undersigned members of the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws make the following report. Rev. Wallace Malone, acting in the absence of the committee as a whole and because the chairman did not call the committee into business, went to Attorney William G. Eovaldi for an interpretation of Articles 15 and 16 of the By-Laws of the Free Will Baptist Yearly Conference and received the attached brief.

Reverend Wallace Malone
Sesser, Illinois

Dear Rev. Malone:

I have examined Article 15 and Article 16 of the By-Laws of the Free Will Baptist Yearly Conference.

It is my opinion that Article 16 means that the Investigation Committee may recommend to the Yearly Conference some penalty for any minister who fails to conform with Article 15. And that, if the Conference accepts the Committee's recommendation the penalty shall be inflicted.

I note that Article 6 of the Constitution provides that the Yearly Conference has power to make any By-Laws necessary to its regulation. Therefore, if there remains any doubt as to the authority of inflicting a penalty, it is my suggestion the Yearly Conference adopt a By-Law to be numbered 16-A to provide whatever penalty the Yearly Conference thinks should be invoked for a violation of Article 15.

Very truly yours,
/s/ William G. Eovaldi

“We recommend that the Constitution and By-Laws be revised by a committee of three.” /s/ Wallace Malone, George Waggoner, Willie W. Huffman and C. H. Curry.

Motion made by Rev. W. R. Burton and seconded by Rev. Charles R. Porter that we accept this recommendation. Motion carried.

Motion made by Rev. Wallace Malone and seconded by Rev. W. R. Burton that this yearly conference shall select a person from each Quarterly Conference to represent us as the Yearly Association, and in addition one from each Quarterly be selected at their next Quarterly, together with a lawyer of their own choosing to present a revision of Constitution and By-Laws at next Yearly Conference which will make a board of seven including the lawyer. Motion carried. Business Committee appointed from the Yearly to serve on this were: Rev. Claude Childers, Rev. George Waggoner who is to serve as Chairman, and Sis. Gladys Wilfong.

Business Committee's report of the Ministers Meeting was read by Clerk. “We, the Business Committee of the Ministers Meeting, recommend to the Yearly Conference that the Constitution and By-Laws be revised, so that the Yearly Conference has sufficient power to discipline its ministers and that the penalty for disobedience would be increased to bring about obedience of these disobedient ministers. /s/ Committee: Everett Hodges, C. H. Curry and Richard McNeil. Motion made by Rev. H. V. Smith and seconded by Rev. W. R. Burton that we accept report and release committee. Motion carried.

Woman's Auxiliary report was given by Rev. Geraldine Lewis. Her report was that two District Auxiliaries and one State Auxiliary organized. Present enrollment 124, distributing leaflets and tracts 135, Vacation Bible Schools 2, Mission Study Classes conducted 3, Stewardship classes 1, week of prayer 11, given to orphanage \$23.48, trays and baskets given to the needy 174.

Auxiliary treasurer's report by Sis. Mae Williams. She stated they had the amount of \$31.11 on hand.

“We, the Business Committee, recommend to extend the Woman's Auxiliary 30 more minutes which would be one hour.” /s/ Committee: R. L. Lappin, A. A. Faverty, Uriel Williams, Coy I. Cockrum and Berlin Scarborough.

Motion made by Rev. Wallace Malone and seconded by Rev. C. J. Kettelman that recommendation from Business Committee that Auxiliary have one hour next year instead

of 30 minutes. Motion carried.

Rev. George Waggoner made a motion being seconded by Rev. Everett Hodges that Woman's Auxiliary report be accepted and a standing vote of thanks be given. Motion carried and vote of thanks taken.

"We, the Business Committee, would like for the delegates and ministers to have buttons of some kind to tell them from the rest of the crowd. We also make the request that the buttons be different, and that Yearly Clerk be authorized to take care of the buttons." /s/ Committee: Uriel Williams, A. A. Faverty, R. L. Lappin, Coy I. Cockrum and Berlin Scarborough. Motion made by Dea. Arthur Jones and seconded by Rev. Esco Bundren that we accept recommendation. Motion carried.

Renewing of Ministers Cards held over until Saturday because of a controversy over issuing of same.

Adjournment until 7:00 p.m.

Friday Evening—7:00 P.M.

Services opened by congregational singing and with prayer, followed by a merimba solo. Rev. George Waggoner gave a missionary report stating that to date our quota to Foreign Missions has not been met.

Song, "At the Cross." Altar prayer for our foreign missionaries.

Rev. Waggoner brought the message from St. John 20.

Saturday Morning—June 6, 1953

At 9:00 o'clock the service was opened by singing "Take the Name of Jesus with You." Prayer by Rev. John M. Smith. Devotional by Sis. Joyce McClerren from I Corinthians 12:1-21.

Minutes of Friday's session read by the clerk. Motion made by Rev. Mark Dunaway and seconded by Uriel Williams that minutes be accepted as read. Motion carried.

Motion by Rev. George Waggoner and seconded by Rev. Wallace Malone that ministers reports be read and passed upon. Motion carried.

Motion made by Rev. Dewey Merritt and seconded by Rev. Jasper Armstrong that we pass on ministers reports in a group. Motion carried.

Rev. H. V. Smith then read the ministers reports for approval. Motion by Dea. Arthur Jones and seconded by Rev. Uriel Williams that we receive reports and requests as read.

A substitute motion was then made by Rev. George Waggoner, and seconded by Rev. Wallace Malone to turn these reports over to an investigation committee who will decide the status of any minister in question, that minister being asked to appear before the committee. Motion carried.

Motion made by Rev. George Waggoner and seconded by Rev. L. E. Able that a committee of five be elected from the floor, the first named to act as chairman of the committee. Committee elected: Rev. George Waggoner, Rev. H. V. Smith, Rev. Claude Childers, Dea. Arthur Jones and Bro. A. A. Faverty. Each was duly elected.

Motion by Rev. George Waggoner we depart from printed program. This was seconded by Rev. Claude Childers. The change was as follows: 1:00 p.m., Memorial sermon by Rev. W. R. Burton; 3:00 p.m., Remarks on Bible College by Bro. Gene Norris; 2:30 p.m., business; 3:15 p.m., treasurer's report and 3:30 p.m., Sunday School Alliance report, which put us back on regular program. Motion carried.

Morning Worship Service

Service opened by congregational singing and prayer.

Rev. Claude Childers then brought a wonderful message on "The Great Church of Jesus Christ."

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. George Waggoner.

Afternoon Session

Services opened by singing and prayer by Rev. L. E. Able. Another song and prayer by Rev. C. A. Curry.

Memorial sermon was then delivered by Rev. W. R. Burton. This was a wonderful Spirit-filled message by an old veteran of the cross. Thirty-six were listed on the Memorial List from the three Quarterlies with no names submitted.

Remarks on the Bible College by Gene Norris.

Business Committee recommends that a State Home Mission Board of five members be appointed from this Yearly, one of which will be secretary and treasurer and serve as State Director in representing the National Home Mission Board. /s/ Committee: Coy I. Cockrum, Uriel Williams, Iva Marks and A. A. Faverty.

Motion made by Rev. George Waggoner and seconded by Rev. Mark Dunaway that we receive the report concerning the State Home Mission Board having five members. Motion carried.

Motion made by Rev. Wallace Malone and seconded by Rev. L. E. Able that the chair appoint the committee. Motion carried. The committee appointed were: Rev. C. J. Kettelman, Rev. Wallace Malone, Sis. Isaac Smith, Rev. Willie Huffman and Rev. George Ritter.

Motion made by Rev. Wallace Malone and seconded by Rev. George Waggoner that we recommend Rev. George Ritter to the National Board as our State Director. Motion carried.

Motion made by Rev. Dwight Dame and seconded by Bro. Coy Cockrum that we reimburse Rev. George Waggoner his expenses of trip to the National Association at Shawnee, Oklahoma. The sum of this expense being \$61.09. Motion carried.

We then proceeded to elect a delegate for our National Association to be held at Mt. Vernon, Illinois, July 13-16, 1953. Bro. Lester Lewis was nominated. Motion made by Rev. Willie Huffman and seconded by Rev. Dewey Merritt that nominations cease and we elect by acclamation. Motion carried. Bro. Lester Lewis being elected delegate.

Nominations were then in order for someone to preach Introductory Message at next Yearly proper. Rev. Dwight Dame nominated. Motion made by Rev. C. A. Curry and seconded by Rev. John M. Smith that nominations close and we elect by acclamation. Motion carried. Rev. Dwight Dame duly elected.

The 1954 yearly session will be held at the Sunday School Alliance Tabernacle at Benton (West City), Illinois, in Franklin County Quarterly.

Election of Yearly Clerk was next in order. Sis. Irene Sullivan gave in her resignation at this time.

Motion made by Rev. Wallace Malone and seconded by Rev. Richard McNeil that we accept Sis. Irene Sullivan's resignation. Motion carried. Sis. Opal Hiltibidal and Sis. Joyce McClerren were nominated: both refused to accept. Sis. Patricia Norris was then nominated. Motion by Rev. Geraldine Lewis and seconded by Bro. Coy Cockrum that nominations cease and we proceed to elect by acclamation. Motion carried. Sis. Patricia Norris duly elected.

Election of treasurer next in order. Bro. Henry Britton gave in his resignation at this time. Motion made and seconded to accept his resignation. Motion carried. Rev. C. J. Kettelman nominated Sis. Joyce McClerren. Motion made by Rev. W. R. Burton and seconded by Rev. John M. Smith that nominations cease and elect by acclamation. Motion carried and Sis. Joyce McClerren duly elected.

Motion made by Rev. George Waggoner and seconded by Rev. John M. Smith that new clerk be instructed to have 500 minutes printed and treasurer pay for same. Motion carried.

Appointment of Auditing Committee next in order. The chair appointed Rev. H. V. Smith, Rev. Willie Huffman and Rev. Lester Breeze.

Investigating Committee report: "We, the Investigation Committee, recommend that all ministers making yearly reports to this Yearly Meeting be given cards except those who have not qualified. We also recommend that those ministers who do not make reports to this Yearly session not be given a card. We also recommend that if any minister reports before the close of this session that his report be read and acted upon." /s/ Committee: George W. Waggoner chairman, Claude Childers, H. V. Smith, A. A. Faverty and A. R. Jones. Motion made by Rev. George Waggoner and seconded by Rev. Wallace Malone that this recommendation be granted. Motion carried.

Reports of ministers who had turned in their reports during this session were then read.

Motion made by Rev. George Waggoner and seconded by Bro. Uriel Williams that we accept the report of Rev. Vernell Clark. Motion carried.

Motion made by Rev. Dwight Dame and seconded by Rev. C. J. Kettelman that we strike the names of Edward P. Matthews and Adlie Rogers from the delinquent list as they have given in papers.

Motion made by Rev. H. V. Smith and seconded by Rev. L. E. Able that Brothers John T. Johnston and Jesse Hamilton receive their card. Motion carried.

Motion made by Rev. H. V. Smith and seconded by Rev. Coy Cockrum that Sis. Vivian Dunning get her card. Motion carried.

Motion made by Rev. George Waggoner and seconded by Rev. John M. Smith that we strike from the record the motion made by Rev. Malone. Motion carried and motion stricken from record.

A report on superannuation was made by Rev. Wallace Malone. At this time he announced his resignation, but withdrew same in favor of next motion.

Motion made by Rev. C. J. Kettelman and seconded by Rev. W. R. Burton that we dissolve the whole board and money referred to the giver as to the disposal of same. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report was then given by Rev. Henry Britton. Motion made by Rev. C. A. Curry and seconded by Rev. John M. Smith that we accept report of treasurer. Motion carried.

The Auditing Committee gave their report. "Johnston City, Illinois, June 6, 1953. We, the Auditing Committee, have this day examined the books of treasurer Henry Britton, and find that they are correct to the best of our knowledge. /s/ Committee: Hosea V. Smith, Lester Breeze and Willie Huffman. Motion made by Rev. W. R. Burton and seconded by Rev. Dwight Dame that we accept committee's report and discharge same. Motion carried.

Motion made by Rev. C. A. Curry and seconded by Rev. Willie Huffman that we go on record as sending to Governor Stratton of Illinois our approval as the Free Will Baptists of the State of Illinois, of his action concerning the sale of intoxicating liquor at the State Fair. Motion carried.

Sunday School Alliance report by Rev. Wallace Malone with some of the children from the Youth Camp testifying.

Motion made by Rev. C. A. Curry and seconded by Rev. Wallace Malone that we stand adjourned until next regular business meeting in 1954. Motion carried.

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. John Hiltibidal. Adjournment.

Claude Childers, Moderator
C. J. Kettelman, Assistant Moderator
Irene Sullivan, Clerk

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 appearance 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 conferences; public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

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

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

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of Missions, the success of Sunday schools, and 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.

