

# MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

## Southern Union Association

### UNITED FREE WILL BAPTIST

HELD WITH

## First Free Will Baptist Church of Dozier

1 mile West of Dozier

SEPTEMBER 26, 27, 28, 1958

#### OFFICERS

Moderator ..... Rev. W. A. Wilkinson

Assistant Moderator ..... Rev. E. T. Sanford

Clerk ..... Sis. Flora Bass

Treasurer ..... Bro. Tom Scott

Reading Clerk ..... Sis. Oattie Lee Wilkinson

Associational Deacons, ..... Bro. John F. Davis, Bro. Tom Scott

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

W. B. Bass      V. L. McGlaun      Homer Watley      Stacy Bass

Myrll Beck      Holly McGlaun

Closed to meet with New Bethany Church, 7 miles S. W. of Baker, Fla. on Friday before the 4th Sun. in Sept., 1959.

## ORDER OF CONFERENCE

1. Invite visiting bretheren to seat with us.
2. Opportunity for members.
3. Reading of Minutes of last Conference.
4. Church report of acknowledgements.
5. Deacon's Report.
6. Unfinished business.
7. Misscellaneous business.
8. Motion to adjourn.

## PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the 32nd Annual Session of The Southern Union Association met with the First Free Will Baptist Church of Dizier, Ala. 1 mile West of Dozier, Sept. 26, 27, 28, 1958.

**Fri. Sept. 26, 1958 - 10:00 A. M.**

Delegates from the different churches of the Southern Union Association met with the First Free Will Baptist Church of Dozier.

Moderator, Bro. W. A. Wilkinson declared body ready for business.

Congregation sang "I Want To Know More About My Lord" Prayer by Sis. Arlene Fleming.

At 11:00 we heard an inspiring introductory sermon by Rev. Troy Engle taking subject of sermon from John 3-16-18. After sermon Bro. Engle suggested all sing "Nothing But The Blood".

Dismissed 1 hr. for lunch by Bro. E. T. Sanford.

**1:00 P. M., Friday**

Congregation called to order by moderator, Choir sang "Tis So Sweet To Trust in Jesus". Scripture reading Psalms 23 by Sis. Arlene Fleming, followed by prayer led by Sis. Irene Scott.

Moderator Bro. W. A. Wilkinson declared body ready for business, called for letters from differentt churches.

### **Delegates enrolled as follows:**

First Free Will Baptist Church of Andalusia: Sisters Lizzie Engle, Anna McGlaun, Pearl Engle, Bro. Cliff Worthington.

New Bethany Church: Sisters Arlene Fleming, Oattie Lee Wilkinson, Carrie Lou Bass, Bro. J. A. Bass.

New Shady Grove Church: Sisters Ineta McGlaun, Evelyn McGlaun, Lucile Sellers, Carol Sellers.

First Free Will Baptist Church of Dozier: Brothers Homer Watley, John Davis, Tom Scott, Sis. Irene Scott.

Shady Hill Church: Sisters Alline Bass, Mattie Johnson, Brothers Stacy B. Bass, Hollie Garvin.

First Free Will Baptist Church of Crestview: Sisters Amy Bass, Josephine Worley, Margaret Lawson, Brother J. D. Bass.

### **Enrollement of Ministers Present:**

Rev. E. F. Sanford.

Rev. W. A. Wilkinson, Rt. 3, Baker, Fla.

Rev. Troy Engle, 104 Woodruff St. Andalusia, Ala.

Rev. A. B. Lawson, Rt. 3, Andalusia, Ala.

### **Enrollment of Ministers absent:**

Rev. T. M. Wright, Opp, Ala.

Rev. W. M. Martin, Crestview, Fla.

Rev. J. C. Williams, Andalusia, Ala.

Licensed Minister Wade Wilkinson, Baker, Fla.

Welcome handshake was given by Delegates, Ministers, and Executive Committee.

### **Officers was elected for next year as follows:**

Moderator .....	W. A. Wilkinson
Assistant Moderator .....	E. F. Sanford
Clerk .....	Flora Bass
Treasurer .....	Tom Scott
Reading Clerk .....	Oattie Lee Wilkinson
Associational Deacons .....	Tom Scott, John F. Davis

**Moderator appointed committees as follows:**

Divine Service: Bro. John F. Davis, J. A. Bass, Hollie Garvin, Sisters Lucille Sellers, Amy Bass.

Suggestions: Sisters Alline Bass, Anna McGlaun, Ottie Lee Wilkinson, Brothers Tom Scott, J. D. Bass.

Finance: Bro. Troy Engle, Sisters Carrie Lou Bass, Evelyn McGlaun.

Temperance: Sisters Mattie Johnson, Josephine Worley, Lizzie Engle.

Sunday School: Sisters Arlene Fleming, Margaret Lawson, Brothers Homer Watley, J. Bennett Bass, H. M. Bass.

Resolutions: Sis. Irene Scott, Brothers W. B. Bass, Cliff Worthington.

Obituaries: Bro. Stacey Bass, Sisters Ineta McGlaun, Pearl Engle.

Dismissed by Bro. W. A. Wilkinson.

**Saturday, 9:00 A. M.**

Moderator Bro. W. A. Wilkinson called body to order. Congregation sang "My God is Real". Scripture reading Psalms 1, by Bro. Herman Bass, Followed by prayer led by Rev. Grady Palmer.

Moderator recessed one hour for Committees to work on their reports.

**Saturday, 10:20 A. M.**

House called to order, Moderator declared body ready for business.

Congregation sang "A Beautiful Life"

Moderator recognizes and welcomes visitors.

Sister Grady Palmer, Liberty No. 1 Association.

Sister Bruce Burkett, Liberty No. 1 Association.

Sister Mayme Lou Palmer, Liberty No. 1 Association.

Bro. M. M. Burkett, Liberty No. 1 Association.

Bro. W. E. Holley, First Free Will Baptist Church, Pensacola

Sister Ethel R. Cooper, Covington Assn. Miss. Baptist

**Visiting Ministers:**

Rev. Grady Palmer, Liberty No. 1 Association.

Rev. J. W. Barlow, Liberty No. 1 Association.

Rev. L. V. Pinson, First Free Will Bap. Church, Pensacola

Moderator called for reports of the different committees.

Report of Divine Service Committee.

Rev. Jim Barlow preach followed by Rev. L. V. Pinson,  
Sat 11:00.

Sat. 7:30 P. M. preaching by Rev. E. T. Sanford.

Sunday 11:00 preaching by Rev. Island, followed by Rev.  
R. R. Zeiglar.

Report received, Committee discharged.

Report of Committee on Obituaries:

We your committee on obituaries report as follows:

We find one death in the Association, Member of the New  
Bethany Church, Bro. Charles Yow.

"Gone to rest in Jesus

'Till the resurrection day

May we too find sweet rest

at the end of life's way.

Bro. S. B. Bass, Chairman

Report received, Committee discharged.

Report of Committee on Resolutions:

We your committee on resolutions report as follows:

We recommend that resolutions remain as they appear  
in previous minutes, 1. That no preacher or deacon shall be  
in good standing in our Association having two living wives.  
2. Resolve that no minister be held responsible for marrying  
anyone unknowingly who has previously been married hav-  
ing a living husband or wife. 3. Resolve that each church  
appoint 4 delegates to the Association each year.

Sister Irene Scott, Chairman

Report received, Committee discharged.

Committee on Temperance:

We your committee on temperance report as follows: We  
as church members being professed followers of Christ, do  
all that is legal and just to stamp out the curse of intoxicating  
drink. We believe in carrying out the Bible standard in being  
temperate in all things.

Sis. Mattie Johnson, Chairman

Report received, Committee discharged.

**Saturday, 11:00 A. M.**

Congregation sang "Way Down Deep in My Soul". After which we heard a wonderful sermon about baptism by Rev. Jim Barlow, taking subject of sermon Acts 19 1-5. Followed by Rev. L. V. Pinson who taking subject of sermon from Matt. 24, 12-13.

Dismissed one hour for lunch by Sis. Linda Wilkinson.

**Saturday, 1:00 P. M.**

Body called to order by moderator.  
Congregation sang "The Son Hath Made Me Free". prayer by Rev. Jim Barlow. Moderator declared body ready for business.

**Report of Committee on Finance:**

We your committee on finance report as follows:

Received from	
Crestview Church .....	\$ 13.00
Andalusia Church .....	7.00
New Shady Grove Church .....	6.00
Dozier Church .....	8.81
Shady Hill Church .....	15.25
New Bethany Church .....	21.00
Balance brought from 1956-57 .....	93.65
Total	\$164.76

Rev. Troy Engle, Chairman,

Report received, Committee discharged.

**Report of Committee on Sabbath School:**

We your committee on Sabbath school report:

We find all the churches in the Association with a good lively Sunday school, and prayer meetings at 4 of the churches. F. W. B. L at 3 churches. We reccomend that all churches use some kind of Bible study in connection with the Sunday School.

Arlene Fleming, Chairman

Report received, Committee discharged.

**Treasurer's Report:**

I your Treasurer reportt as follows:

Amount in treasury .....	\$150.63
Paid for Minutes .....	46.98
Paid Clerk .....	10.00
Balance in treasury .....	93.65

Bro. J. Bennett Bass, Treasurer

Report received.

Report of Committee on Suggestions:

We your committee on suggestions report as follows:

We suggest the Association meet with New Bethany Church, 7 miles Southwest of Baker, Fla. on Friday before the 4th Sunday in Sept. 1959. We suggest the Sunday School Rally be held with New Shady Grove Church, Andalusia, Ala. second Sunday in June 1959. We suggest the first fifth Sunday meeting be held with Shady Hill Church. We suggest the Association clerk be paid \$5.00 each year. We suggest Rev. E. T. Sanford preach the introductory sermon at the next association, in his absence we suggest Rev. W. A. Wilkinson. We suggest the preachers of this association put forth more effort to attend the association. We suggest the clerk write a resolution of thanks.

Alline Bass, Chairman.

Report received, Committee discharged.

Rev. L. V. Pinson and Bro. W. E. Holly come before the Association at this time, bringing a petitionary letter from The First Free Will Baptist Church, 412 Wiggins Ave. Pensacola, Fla. After numerous discussions. This church was accepted in full fellowship into the Southern Union Assn.

The Association accepted the names recommended by each church. To serve on the Executive Committee for a term of two years.

Dismissed by prayer led by Rev. Troy Engle.

**Sat. Night Sept. 27, 1958**

Song service, sang "Amazing Grace". Prayer by Bro. Tom Scott. Preaching by Rev. E. T. Sanford taking subject of sermon from 1st Kings 13:18, Revelations 22:17.

Dismissed by Sis. Mattie Jane Davis.

**Sunday, 11:00 A. M.**

After Sunday School congregation sang "Come and Dine" Prayer led by Rev. G. D. McVay. Preaching by Rev. Island, taking as text Eph. 4: 9-17. followed by Rev. R. R. Zeiglar.

Bro. W. B. Bass was elected Chairman of Executive Com.

### **Resolution of Thanks:**

We the Ministers, Executive Committee and Delegates Composing the 32nd Annual Session of the Southern Union Association wish to express our thanks and appreciation to the First Free Will Baptist Church at Dozier Community for their kind hospitality shown us during this Association. We pray God's richest blessings on each of you.

Flora Bass, Associational Clerk

The parting hand was extended to Ministers, Delegates and Executive Committee.

Dismissed by Rev. E. T. Sanford.

Southern Union Association is happy to send \$13.11 to Children's Home at Eldridge, Ala.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. As to God—One God and Father of all. Eph. 4:6.
2. As to Scriptures—All Scripture is given by inspiration of God. 2nd Tim. 3:16.
3. As to Freedom of Will—"Ye will not come unto Me." John 5:40. "Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Rev. 22:17.
4. As to Condition of Salvation—He (Christ) died for all. 2nd Cor. 5:15. "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Rom. 10:13. "For in due season we shall reap if we faint not." Gal. 6:9. "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life." Rev. 2:10.
5. As to Election—"God is no respecter of persons, but in every nation he that feareth Him and worketh righteousness is accepted with Him." Acts 10:34-35.
6. As to Grace—"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men." Titus 2:11. "For by grace are ye saved through faith." Eph. 2:8.
7. As to Faith—"Justified by Faith." Rom. 5:1. "This is the victory which overcometh the world, even our faith." 1st John 5:4.
8. As to Works—"Faith without works is dead." James 2:6. "God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." Eph. 2:10.
9. As to Baptism—"And they went down both into the water, and when they were come up out of the water." Acts 8:39. "We are buried with Him by baptism unto death." Rom. 6:4.
10. As to Subject to Baptism—"If thou believest with all thine heart thou mayest." Acts 8:27. "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." Rom. 14:12.
11. As to Oneness of the Christian Church—"Is Christ divided?" 1 Cor. 1:13. "I am the Vine, ye are the branches." John 15:5. "That they may be one as we are." John 17:11-21. "There is one body and one spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling." Eph. 4:4.
12. As to Communion—"This do in remembrance of Me." Luke 22:19. "But let a man examine himself and so let him eat the bread and drink of the cup." 1 Cor. 11:28. "Let no man therefore, judge you." Col. 2:16.
13. As to the Resurrection—"For the hour cometh in which all that are in the grave shall hear His voice and shall come forth." John 5:28. "For the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be raised incorruptible and we shall be changed." 1 Cor. 15:52.
14. As to the Judgment, Reward and Punishment—"For we shall all stand before the Judgment seat of Christ." Rom. 14:10. "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal." Matt. 25:46.

15. As to Feet Washing—"Ye also ought to wash one another's feet." John 13:14. "For I have given you an example." John 13:15. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, the servant is not greater than his lord." John 13:16. "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." John 13:17. "Because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example." 1 Peter 2:21.

## CHURCH COVENANT

In order to have more perfect and free Christian love and fellowship for each other, and to advance the cause of our Lord, and Master, We do hereby agree and covenant, by the help of God, our Father, and aided by the Holy Spirit, to keep the ordinances, precepts and examples, as laid down in the New Testament of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

### AS TO THE RULES—ARTICLE 1.

Section 1. When a sufficient number of members are ready for organization the articles of faith and church covenant shall be read and if adopted the right hand of fellowship shall be extended, and after prayer they shall proceed to the election of officers, after which they shall be declared organized and ready for business.

Section 2. No church shall be organized with less than three male members, nor within six miles of another church of the same faith, unless in towns or cities.

Section 3. The officers of a church shall be a pastor, one or more deacons, and a clerk and treasurer, and not less than three trustees.

Section 4. The church shall call their pastor at the next conference preceding the last regular conference, in the Associational year, unless in case of a vacancy; in such case they may call a conference for that purpose.

Section 5. Any church, in case of necessity, may call a conference and elect one of their members, or a visiting minister, as moderator.

Section 6. The church may hold a conference as often as it deems it necessary.

Section 7. It is suggested that the church commune and wash the members' feet as often as convenient, and it shall not be postponed on account of disobedient members.

Section 8. The church shall not try a member without a hearing unless said member refuses to attend the conference, when notified to do so.

Section 9. The church may grant a license to any member in good standing to preach the gospel if it deems him worthy and competent, and said license shall be good as long as he is an advantage to the cause, but shall be ordained only by the recommendation or order of the church.

Section 10. When ministers or deacons are to be ordained the church shall hold a presbytery or instruct their pastor to do so for that purpose.

And said presbytery shall be composed of two ministers or one minister and two deacons.

Section 11. Deacons shall not be ordained until they are tried.

Section 12. Each minister shall be a member of some live church and in good standing with the church.

Section 13. It shall be the duty of every member, male and female, to attend each conference meeting if they can, for on that day the pastor is expected to instruct the church in a spiritual manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on doctrine and discipline, and the rule of holy living and the church members' duties.

Section 14. No member shall give or attend card parties, or attend other places of worldly amusement, or allow such things to be held in their homes, and drunkenness is strictly forbidden.

## ARTICLE 2.

Section 1. The pastor shall attend his church monthly unless providentially hindered, and shall sit as moderator and see that justice is done, but may appoint some suitable brother to sit in his stead when he thinks proper for the cause. He shall also hold a protracted meeting with his church once a year.

Section 2. The deacon shall be elected by the church and shall hold office at the direction of the church. They shall watch over the flock, advise the unruly members and report such to the church in conference, when necessary, and may administer the ordinance of baptism; they shall make all necessary arrangements for the communion; look into the needs of the church, and the support of the pastor; they shall take notice of such members as refuse or neglect to partake of the Lord's Supper and wash each other's feet, and endeavor to ascertain the cause, that the same may be laid before the church in conference.

Section 3. The clerk shall be elected by the church and shall hold office at the discretion of the church; he shall keep a record of the members and minutes of the business transactions of the church, and shall read the same at the conference as often as the church may demand, and shall turn all books and papers over to his successor in office.

Section 4. The treasurer shall be elected by the church, shall hold office at the will of the church, shall hold all monies paid into the church for general expenses, and pay out the same only on an order from the church, in conference, and shall turn over all money and papers to his successor.

Section 5. The trustees shall be elected by the church, and shall hold office for two years and until their successors are elected, unless removed for cause; they have charge of the deeds and all other church property, and shall look after the repairs of the church, but they cannot sell or otherwise dispose of the church property without an order from the

church in conference.

Section 6. No one shall be received in the church unless spiritually baptised, by an ordained baptiser.

Section 7. Members must pay their debts contracted by them, or make satisfactory arrangements with their creditors, and they shall help pay their pastors.

Section 8. We recommend that each church elect a Home Mission Treasurer and all money collected for Home Missions be retained in the church and paid out only by order of the church.

Section 9. No preacher has a right to organize and bring a church into our Association without the arm of a church in our Association to help organize and presbytery same for ordaining ministers or deacons.

Section 10. We recommend that each ordained minister in our Association obtain credentials showing denomination that ordained them, name of church, county and state. Also presbtery that ordained them if possible.

Section 11. It is required of each church to do everything possible to promote religious work by giving youth members an opportunity and encouraging them to speak in public in behalf of our Savior. And each church shall be required to make a report of what they have done along this line at the regular associational conference.

Section 12. Each church shall encourage its members to attend every conference possible, to study minutes, follow the rules and the articles of faith be read in the church at least once a year.

Section 13. No member shall leave the house without sufficient cause nor engage in conversation without being subject to be called to order by the moderator.

Section 14. All discussions in conference must be conducted in conference with calmness and good feelings: and those who speak must arise to their feet and address the moderator and keep the point in debate.

Section 15. No member shall speak more than twice on the same subject without permission from the moderator nor shall the remarks of anyone be unreasonable long.

Section 16. When the moderator speaks he shall nominate some other moderator in his stead.

Section 17. No one shall be interrupted while speaking unless it is necessary to call him to order.

Section 18. The Executive Committee is the governing body of the Association to act on things pertaining to the Association when the Association is not in session.

# STATISTICAL TABLES FOR YEAR 1958 - 1959

Churches and Pastors	Clerks and Addresses	Total Members	Paid Pastor	Home Mission	Paid for Minutes	Time of Meeting
First F. W. B. Andalusia Troy Engle	Mrs. Troy Engle 104 Woodruff St. Andalusia	10	\$57.00	\$310.19	\$7.00	Each Sun. and Sun. night
New Bethany W. A. Wilkinson	Nellie Wilkinson Baker, Fla.	42	\$294.64	\$118.51	\$21.00	4th Sun. and Sat. night before
New Shady Grove E. F. Sanford	Lucille Sellars Rt. 3, Andalusia, Ala.	71	\$119.65	\$99.66	\$6.00	1st & 3rd Sun. and Sun. night
First F. W. B. Dozier Jim Barlow	Mrs. John F. Davis Dozier, Ala.	61	\$99.80	\$16.00	\$8.76	1st & 3rd Sun. and Sat. night before
Shady Hill Gaston D. McVay	Alline Bass Rt. 5, Andalusia, Ala.	58	\$161.85	\$266.33	\$15.25	2n Sun. and Sun. night
First F. W. B. Crestview W. A. Wilkinson	Genola Spence 386 N. Spring St. Crestview, Fla.	27	\$281.00	\$57.76	\$13.00	1st & 3rd Sun. Sat. night before
First F. W. B. Pensacola L. V. Pinson	O. H. Wilson 5138 W. Jackson St. Pensacola, Fla.	98	\$1367.31	\$30.39		Every Sun. 11:00 A. M. 7:30 P. M.