

SOUTHERN UNION  
DISTRICT ASSOCIATION  
OF  
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

MINUTES

1990

RALPH BASS; MODERATOR

MINUTES  
of the  
SIXTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION  
of the  
SOUTHERN UNION DISTRICT ASSOCIATION  
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

convened in  
HOLT, FLORIDA  
September 22, 1990

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1991 Session  
CAMP NEBO  
Holt, Florida  
September 21, 1991  
9:00 A.M.

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## MEMBER CHURCHES

CANANN FREE WILL BAPTIST . . . . . (205) 867-6756  
Route 4, Box 338, Brewton, AL 36426

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST . . . . . (205) 296-3385  
Route 1, Box 345, Flomaton, AL 36441

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST . . . . . (205) 478-7798  
1251 Navco Road, Mobile, AL 36605

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST . . . . . (904) 433-7321  
412 Wiggins Avenue, Pensacola, FL 32505

NEW BETHANY FREE WILL BAPTIST . . . . . NONE  
Route 1, Box 84, Holt, Florida 32564

SHADY HILL FREE WILL BAPTIST . . . . . NONE  
Route 1, Andalusia, AL 36420

## GENERAL OFFICERS FOR 1991

Moderator . . . . . Rev. Tony Downey  
P.O. Box 91, Perdido, AL 36562 - (205) 937-5967

Assistant Moderator . . . . . Rev. L. V. Pinson  
3015 Boulder Ave., Pensacola, FL 32526 - (904) 944-5092

Clerk . . . . . Rev. Greg Hollifield  
1205 Navco Road, Mobile, AL 36605 - (205) 478-7798  
(205) 476-0743

Treasurer . . . . . Mr. Darrel Holley  
29 West Lloyd St., Pensacola, FL 32501 - (904) 438-1852

Reading Clerk . . . . . Mrs. Joyce Bass  
Route 1, Andalusia, AL 36420 - (205) 222-2887

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. W. A. Wilkinson (Chairman) . . . . . (904) 537-3192  
Route 2, Box 300, Baker, FL 32531

Mr. Ralph Bass . . . . . (205) 222-2887  
Route 1, Andalusia, AL 36420

Mr. Ralph Beasley . . . . . (205) 867-6755  
Route 4, Box 338, Brewton, AL 36426

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
(continued)

Mr. Frank Harris . . . . . (904) 477-7121  
8310 Gardenia Circle, Pensacola, FL 32504

Rev. Greg Hollifield . . . . . (205) 476-0743  
1205 Navco Road, Mobile, AL 36605

Mr. James Turner . . . . . (205) 296-2219  
Route 1, Flomaton, AL 36441

ORDAINING COUNCIL AND DATE OFFICE EXPIRES

Rev. L. V. Pinson . . . . . 1991  
3015 Boulder Avenue, Pensacola, FL 32526

Rev. W. A. Wilkinson . . . . . 1992  
Route 2, Box 300, Baker, FL 325331

Mr. James Turner . . . . . 1993  
Route 1, Flomaton, AL

Rev. Tony Downey . . . . . 1994  
P.O. Box 91, Perdido, AL 36562

Mr. John Pinson . . . . . 1995  
6621 Owens Street, Pensacola, FL 32506

CAMPSITE COMMITTEE

Rev. W. A. Wilkinson, Chairman .  
Mr. Frank Harris  
Mr. Lamar Holmes  
Rev. L. V. Pinson

\*Other nominees to be presented at the first quarterly meeting of 1991.

MINISTERS PRESENT FOR ANNUAL MEETING

Rev. James Carden, Route 1, Box 345, Flomaton, AL 36441  
Rev. Tony Downey, P.O. Box 91, Perdido, AL 36562  
Rev. Greg Hollifield, 1205 Navco Road, Mobile, AL 36605  
Rev. L. V. Pinson, 3015 Boulder Avenue, Pensacola, FL 32526  
Rev. W. A. Wilkinson, Route 2, Box 300, Baker, FL 32531

## DELEGATES PRESENT FOR ANNUAL MEETING

### CANAAN FREE WILL BAPTIST

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST, FLOMATON

Doris Carden  
Irma Turner

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST, MOBILE

Patti Hollifield

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST, PENSACOLA

Ronald Glaze  
Betty Harris  
Linda Pinson  
Matthew Pinson

NEW BETHANY FREE WILL BAPTIST

Glynda Cupp  
Ina Walters  
Naomi Wilkinson  
Ottie Wilkinson

SHADY HILL FREE WILL BAPTIST

Joyce Bass  
Learvene Bass  
Mavis Joyce Bass  
Mavis McVay  
Alt. Adam Bass  
Beth Bass  
Eric Bass  
Donna Russell

\*It is also noted here that all pastors and deacons of the association are standing delegates. Total attendance for the meeting was 36.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

### Morning Session

The Sixty-Fourth session of the Southern Union Association of Free Will Baptists met on September 22, 1990 at Camp Nebo, in Holt, Florida.

At 9:00 a.m. Bro. Ralph Bass, moderator, opened the session with a word of welcome and an invitation to the visiting brethren to be seated in the fellowship of the association. The congregation was then led by Bro. Darrell Holley in singing "We're Marching to Zion" and "All Hail the Power." Following the singing, the opening prayer was offered by Rev. L.V. Pinson. The congregation then retired to the front yard for the customary welcoming handshake.

Upon returning to the building, the reading clerk, Sis. Linda Pinson, read the church letters. (The vital statistics from those letters are contained in a chart at the end of this publication). The findings of those letters were accepted by majority vote.

The minutes of the preceding quarterly meeting were read by the interim clerk, Rev. Greg Hollifield. After the minutes were approved by the body, Bro. James Turner and Bro. Ed Bass were elected as associational deacons.

At 9:50 a.m. the meeting was dismissed for a ten minute recess so that the moderator, clerk, and treasurer might prepare nominations for the various committees. At 10:00 a.m. the body reconvened with the singing of an hymn followed by the reading of committee nominees. Nominations were accepted by majority vote and the committees were given time to convene until 10:45 a.m.

From 10:45 until 11:00 a.m. the reports from the following committees were presented: Temperance, Sunday School, Ladies Auxiliary, Resolutions, and Obituaries. Following the reading of the report from the Obituaries Committee, a moment of silence was observed.

The reading of committee reports was suspended at 11:00 a.m. for a time of worship. Bro. John Pinson led the congregation in singing "No, Not One," then Rev. Greg Hollifield presented an expository sermon from Galatians 1:1-9 entitled "God's Prescription for the Soul's Disease." The body was then dismissed for lunch.

#### Afternoon Session

The congregation reconvened at 1:00 p.m. with singing led by Bro. Darrell Holley. Following prayer offered by Bro. Ed Bass, the reports of the Treasurer and Suggestions Committee were given. (The contents of each report are presented in the next section).

Rev. W. A. Wilkinson presented the afternoon devotion entitled "A Definition of Faith" from Hebrews 11:1-6. At the conclusion of the devotion, an host of business matters were addressed:

The Executive Committee moved to replace Rev. Steve Hasty, who has recently moved, with Rev. Greg Hollifield.

The Ordaining Council was made complete by having Bro. James Turner replace Rev. V.C. Whittaker. Bro. John Pinson, whose term on the council expired in 1990, was reappointed by the body to continue his work there until 1995.

The Campsite Committee nominees were presented and approved. (For a listing of those on the committee, please consult the appropriate section of the Associational Directory.) Matthew Pinson was approved to be the youth camp coordinator for 1991.

Patti Hollifield and Linda Pinson were approved by the body to be delegates from our association at the state meeting to be held in Birmingham, AL.

Rev. W. A. Wilkinson reported that the balance in the camp fund as of September 22, 1990 was \$1185.16.

Nominations for association officers were then taken and voted on. The officers approved for 1991 are listed in the front of this publication.

Rev. W. A. Wilkinson gave a report on the Children's Home, and an offering of \$83.13 was collected for the Home.

Rev. L. V. Pinson presented a letter from the National Association's President of the Master's Men, James Vallance, concerning a financial need for his trip to Cuba. An offering of \$49.00 was collected for this need.

Following these matters of business, Bro. John Pinson, the chairman of the ordaining council, presented Bro. James Carden to the body for the purpose of ordination. Following the laying on of hands upon Bro. Carden, Rev. L. V. Pinson presented to Bro. Carden and his wife a charge to faithfulness in the ministry. As Bro. Darrell Holley led in singing "Faith of Our Fathers," the congregation presented the right hand of fellowship to Rev. and Sis. Carden. Rev. Carden was then appointed by the body to bring the morning message at the next annual meeting.

The Sixty-Fourth Session of the Southern Union Association of Free Will Baptists concluded in the front yard with the customary parting handshake.

## ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Temperance Committee: We, the temperance committee, suggest that Christian people avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from sinful amusements and worldly conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages and drugs, to provide things honest in the sight of all men and pray for each other daily.

Ottie Lee Wilkinson, Chairman  
Joyce Bass  
Doris Carden  
Betty Harris

Sunday School Committee: We, the committee on the Sunday School, find six (6) churches have an active Sunday School with a total of 164 members. We would like to stress the importance of Sunday School in teaching the fundamentals of the faith and grounding of the body of Christ. We pray for saving of souls and the cause of Christ to be strengthened. We ask that each church be represented at our annual rally and the other activities of the association. We ask each member of the association to pray and strive for an active Sunday School showing our youth a way of life to be desired and a vision of heavenly things to come.

John Pinson, Chairman  
Glynda Cupp  
Patti Hollifield  
Mavis McVay  
Erma Turner

Ladies Auxiliary Committee: We, the Ladies' Auxiliary Committee, find two active auxiliaries in our association. We regret some of the other groups have failed to function recently. We show a total membership of fifteen and an average attendance of ten. We have a central thrust of missions and try to assist the pastor and other officers in the church where possible. In these times we strongly urge our women to form an active group where none exist and let us all strive to further the cause of Christ.

Linda Pinson, Chairman  
Patti Hollifield

Resolutions Committee: Be it resolved that the Southern Union Association of Free Will Baptists promote the individual demonstration of the fruits of the Spirit at all times.

- That we uphold Biblical standards of family life.



- That we stand against the social evil of abortion, in full support of the pro-life position.
- That we have spiritual harmony and unity in the body of Christ.

W. A. Wilkinson, Chairman  
 Mavis Joyce Bass  
 Frank Harris  
 Matthew Pinson

Obituaries Committee: With deepest regret, we report the death of these members:

Noah Beasley, Esther Rouse - Canaan Free Will Baptist Church

James Hastings - First Free Will Baptist Church, Flomaton

Rosa Steinson - First Free Will Baptist Church, Pensacola

Our loss is Heavens's gain.

L.V. Pinson, Chairman  
 Learvene Bass  
 Ina Walters

Treasurer's Report:

Balance brought forward	\$1,137.86
Paid in:	
contributions from churches	600.00
Paid out:	
to Rev. V. C. Whittaker, associational clerk	100.00
To Alabama State Association of Free Will Baptists	120.00
Sub-total	1,517.86
Interest income	74.96
Total in treasury	\$1,592.82

Respectfully,  
 Darrell Holley

Suggestions Committee: The following suggestions were made by this committee and are arranged according to majority vote.

## PASSED

1. The suggestion that the association's clerk mail to each church on an annual basis the proper form for preparing the annual church letter.
2. The suggestion that each church of our association join the National Association in their Sunday School campaign in order to reach more young children for Christ.
3. The suggestion that youth camp begin on June 17, 1991.
4. The suggestion that camp be lengthened from four days to five days.
5. The suggestion that the annual meeting be held at Camp Nebo on September 21, 1991 at 9:00 a.m.
6. The suggestion that the quarterly meetings be held as follows:
  - January 21, 1991 - First Free Will Baptist of Flomaton at 10:00 a.m.
  - April 6, 1991 - New Bethany Free Will Baptist Church at 10:00 a.m.
  - July 13, 1991 - Shady Hill Free Will Baptist Church at 10:00 a.m.
7. The suggestion that the Sunday School Rally be held at Camp Nebo on June 8, 1991 beginning at 10:00 a.m.
8. The suggestion that the Easter fellowship be held on March 30, 1991 at Camp Nebo beginning at 1:00 p.m.

## REJECTED

1. The suggestion that the number of associational meetings be reduced from four to two per year.
2. The suggestion that the annual meeting be moved yearly from church-to-church. The body voted instead to make Camp Nebo the permanent residence of the annual meetings.
3. The suggestion that the association's clerk be paid \$70.00 after producing the annual minutes and \$10.00 at each quarterly meeting he attends. The body voted instead that the current practice of paying \$100.00 in one lump sum be continued.

## TABLED

The suggestion that the process for deciding our annual committee nominees be changed by gathering the names for these committees two to three weeks in advance of the annual meeting.

Tony Downey, Chairman  
Ed Bass  
Robert Clark  
Ronald Glaze  
Greg Hollifield  
James Turner  
Naomi Wilkinson

Resolution of Thanks: We, the people of the Southern Union Association, wish to express in written form our gratitude for the work of the New Bethany Free Will Baptist Church in preparing Camp Nebo for our annual meeting. Furthermore, we wish to thank everyone else that has made this past associational year a successful one. To attempt to name everyone who has been involved in that success would be futile. May the Lord who leaves no good deed unrewarded smile upon you each.

Respectfully,  
Greg Hollifield, Clerk

## FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING January 13, 1990 First Free Will Baptist Church of Pensacola

The first quarterly meeting of the decade was called to order by Rev. L.V. Pinson. Brother Darrell Holley was then called upon by Rev. Pinson to lead the congregation in singing "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name", "O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing", and "This is My Father's World."

Following the official word of greeting extended by the host pastor, the moderator, Ralph Bass, addressed the need of arriving on time for the meetings. (This announcement was necessitated by a recent change in the starting time for the quarterly meetings.) Then, Mr. and Mrs. Greg Hollifield were welcomed to the association.

Prior to the morning message, the congregation was led by Brother John Pinson in singing "He Lives" and "Alas and

Did My Savior Bleed." Two special musical selections were presented as well. The second was a duet by John and Matthew Pinson singing "Now I Belong to Him." Burdened by the lack of interest in the associational meetings, Rev. L.V. Pinson presented a challenge to the body by reading a note from the 1889 minutes of the Liberty #1 Association of Free Will Baptists. To highlight the history of the Southern Union Association, Rev. W.A. Wilkinson presented a brief testimony on his role in the association. Brother Greg Hollifield was then asked to deliver the morning message. From Luke 12:13-21, Brother Hollifield presented an expository sermon entitled "The Parable of the Rich Fool/The Lonely Whine of the Top Dog." Following the message, the body was dismissed for lunch.

In the afternoon session, the body assembled by singing "Did You Think to Pray?" The moderator, after presenting an exhortation to faithfulness, asked Rev. John Whitfield to open in prayer. Brother Darrell Holley then presented a brief devotion from Paul's correspondence to the Thessalonians.

The business meeting was then conducted by Brother Ralph Bass. A letter was presented to the association from the First Free Will Baptist Church of Mobile requesting that their new pastor, Mr. Greg Hollifield, be screened for

ordination. Following an unanimous acceptance of the request, Rev. W.A. Wilkinson gave his report on the financial status of the camp.

In other matters of business: Rev. L.V. Pinson reported on the plans for the Mid-South Pastor's and Worker's Conference; the body voted to continue starting its quarterly meetings at 10:00 a.m.; and Rev. W.A. Wilkinson reminded everyone of the date for the Easter Fellowship.

While the congregation fellowshiped and sang, the ordaining council screened Brother Greg Hollifield and approved of him for ordination. In the presence of God's people, Rev. L.V. Pinson presented the charge to Brother Hollifield and exhorted his wife Patti to faithfully support her husband in the ministry to which God had called him.

After collecting an offering of \$30.00 for the Children's Home, the meeting was dismissed in prayer led by Brother John Pinson.

SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING  
April 7, 1990  
First Free Will Baptist Church of Mobile

In the morning session of the second quarterly meeting, Brother Ralph Bass opened by welcoming those in attendance. Rev. Steve Hasty, the minister of music in the Mobile church, then led the body in singing six hymns. Following the first two hymns, Rev. W.A. Wilkinson was asked to lead the congregation in prayer. After the fourth hymn, Brother Matthew Pinson presented a special selection in song. With the completion of the sixth hymn, Rev. Steve Hasty delivered the morning message using Matthew 20:1-16 as his text. His message, entitled "Why stand we here idle?", presented an historical overview of the Free Will Baptist movement. After the message, the host pastor dismissed the congregation for lunch.

In the afternoon session, the assembly reconvened as Rev. Steve Hasty led those present in singing two opening hymns. Between those hymns, Rev. L.V. Pinson led the congregation in prayer. Following the second hymn, Rev. W.A. Wilkinson presented the afternoon devotion from Judges 6:34-40.

To open the business session, Rev. Tony Downey led the body in prayer seeking God's direction for all that would be done. Rev. W.A. Wilkinson then reported on the financial status of Camp Nebo. Rev. L.V. Pinson followed with an update on the foreign missions outreach of Free Will Baptists.

With the presentation and acceptance of Rev. V.C. Whittaker's resignation from the office of association clerk, the assembly selected Rev. Greg Hollifield to fulfill Rev. Whittaker's term. It was at this point that the new clerk assumed his responsibility of keeping the minutes for the meeting.

Following the appointment of an interim clerk, discussion was made concerning who would take Rev. E.B. Ledlow's place as the speaker at the annual meeting. With nothing resolved concerning this matter, it was announced that the next quarterly meeting would be held at the Canaan Free Will Baptist Church, and Rev. W.A. Wilkinson reminded the body that the Easter Egg Hunt would be held at Camp Nebo on Saturday, April 14.

In other business, Rev. Greg Hollifield announced that he would be filing Form 4361 this year with the Internal Revenue Service. (Although Rev. Hollifield mistakenly referred to this form as Form 4136, he wants to go on public

record here to make the correction in case of being audited). After this announcement, an offering of \$18.50 was collected for Camp Nebo.

Thanks were then extended to the ladies of the Mobile church for their hospitality. Prayer requests were shared and Rev. Steve Hasty led the body in taking these requests to the Lord in prayer. Rev. Greg Hollifield then presented a brief report on the status of Southeastern Free Will Baptist College. Following that report, Rev. L.V. Pinson led the body in praying the dismissal prayer.

THIRD QUARTERLY MEETING  
July 7, 1990  
Canaan Free Will Baptist Church

Sixteen people attended the third quarterly meeting of 1990. They were called to worship by Brother Jesse Odom who led the assembly in singing "Victory in Jesus" and "More About Jesus." Between the two hymns, Brother Odom also led the body in prayer.

Brother Darrell Holley then assumed the responsibility of leading the congregation by leading in the hymns "Faith of Our Fathers", "There Is a Fountain", "Praise Him!", "Shall We Gather at the River?", and "He Hideth My Soul." After Patti Hollifield sang "My Jesus I Love Thee," the host pastor extended his official welcome. Prayer requests were then received by Rev. Downey and public prayer was led by Rev. W.A. Wilkinson.

Rev. L.V. Pinson then delivered the morning message. Using Psalm 26:1-12 as his text, Rev. Pinson presented a sermon entitled "Our Love for the Church" in which he gave five reasons one should love the church.

Following the message, Rev. Downey gave a brief testimony, and Rev. Wilkinson announced that Brother Ralph Bass would be absent for the day due to certain funerals within his community. Due to the moderator's absence, Rev. Wilkinson, as chairman of the executive committee, assumed the responsibility of directing the meeting. Brother Darrell Holley was then asked to dismiss the body in prayer prior to lunch.

After lunch, Brother Odom led the congregation in singing "The Glory-Land Way." Following prayer, led by Rev. Downey, the afternoon devotion was presented by Brother Odom from John 14:1-9.



As the business session was opened, Rev. Wilkinson announced that the next meeting would be held at Camp Nebo on Saturday, September 22. In new business, Rev. Downey proposed that the pastors and deacons from the association meet at a future date to discuss current social and associational issues. It was emphasized that such a meeting wasn't to be a formal meeting but more of an informal fellowship. It was decided in majority vote that this meeting be held on Saturday, September 8 at 10:00 a.m. at Canaan Free Will Baptist Church.

Rev. W.A. Wilkinson then presented a financial statement on the operation of Camp Nebo. With twenty-one campers in June 1990, \$380.00 was collected in camper fees. The total expense for the camp was \$442.52 leaving \$1,199.46 in the camp treasury.

Rev. Pinson then announced the current needs of Rev. R.C. Wiggins placing a great emphasis on his financial needs due to an imminent heart surgery. Afterward, an offering of \$40.67 was collected for the children's home. The meeting was then dismissed in prayer by Rev. Greg Hollifield.

PASTORS AND DEACONS FELLOWSHIP  
September 8, 1990  
Canaan Free Will Baptist Church

Presiding over the fellowship was Rev. Tony Downey. After a word of welcome, Brother John Pinson was asked to lead the body in singing four hymns. Following the fourth hymn, Rev. Downey opened the floor for discussion of modern issues of concern. Issues discussed included: America's involvement in the Persian Gulf crisis; making the Gospel relevant in the twentieth century; and the present apathy of the local church.

After presenting these issues to the Lord in prayer, Brother John Pinson sang "I Would Love to Tell You What I Think of Jesus." Then, Brother John was joined by his son Matthew in singing "Where Could I Go but to the Lord?" Following the singing of three more hymns led by Brother Pinson, the assembly listened to Rev. Downey deliver the morning message from I Chronicles 12. The sermon was an exhortation to consistently apply the Scriptures to twentieth century issues. The body was then dismissed for lunch. No meeting followed the lunch break.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. As to God--One God and Father of all. Eph. 4:6.
2. As to Scripture--All Scripture is given by inspiration of God. II 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. II Cor. 5:15. "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Romans 10:13. "For in due season ye shall reap if ye 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 you 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." I John 5:4.
8. As to Works--"Faith without works is dead." James 2:26. "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 subject to Baptism--"If thou believest with all thine heart thou mayest." Acts 8:37. "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?" I 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." I 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." I Cor. 15:52.
14. As to the Judgement, Reward and Punishment--"For we shall all stand before the judgement 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 you know these things happy are ye if ye do them." John 13:17. "Because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example." I Peter 2:21.

#### AS TO THE RULES - ARTICLE 1

- Section 1 When a sufficient number of members are ready for organization, the articles of faith and the covenant shall be read, and if adopted, the right hand of fellowship shall be extended. 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, 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 vacancy, in such a 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 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 is to recommend the questioning of any member for licensing, the same as for ordination.
- Section 10 A presbytery of 5 ordained men shall be appointed by the moderator to hold office for 5 years to conduct ordination of ministers or deacons for this association or any church connected with this association.
- 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 or female, to attend each conference meeting if possible. On that day, the pastor is expected to instruct the church in a spiritual manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on doctrine, discipline, the rule of holy living, and the church member's duties.
- Section 14 As the Scriptures teach against worldliness in any form, be it resolved that each member seek the divine guidance of the Holy Spirit in things that pertain to holy and righteous living.

## ARTICLE 2

- Section 1 The pastor shall attend his church unless providentially hindered and shall sit as moderator to see that justice is carried out. In case of his absence, he is to appoint some suitable brother to assume his responsibility when he thinks the situation warrants such action. He shall also hold a protracted meeting with his church once a year.
- Section 2 The deacons shall be elected by the church and shall hold office at the discretion of the church. They shall watch the flock, advise the unruly members, and report such to the church in conference when necessary. They may administer the ordinance of baptism, shall make all necessary arrangements for the communion, monitor the needs of the church and the support of the pastor. They shall take notice of such members who 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 same. He shall keep a record of the members and minutes of the business transactions of the church and shall read the same in conference as often as the church may demand. He 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 monies paid into the church for general expenses, 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 until their successors are elected, unless removed for cause. They 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 Scripturally baptised by immersion by an ordained baptizer.

- Section 7 Members must pay their debts contracted by themselves or make satisfactory arrangements with their creditors, and they shall help pay their pastors.
- Section 8 We recommend that each church elect a Home Missions 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.
- Section 10 We recommend that each ordained minister in our Association obtain credentials showing the denomination that ordained him, the name of the church, the country, and the state. If possible, the presbytery that ordained him should also be named.
- Section 11 It is required of each church to do everything possible to promote religious work by encouraging young members to speak in public in behalf of our Saviour.
- Section 12 Each church shall encourage its members to attend every conference possible, to study the minutes, follow the rules and the articles of faith which are to 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 being called to order by the moderator.
- Section 14 All discussion in conference must be conducted with calmness and good feelings. Those who speak must rise to their feet, address the moderator and stay with 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 any member be unreasonably long.
- Section 16 When the moderator speaks in debate, 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.

#### PERMANENT REGULATIONS

1. The officers shall be elected every 2 years.
2. Each church may appoint up to 4 delegates to the Association each year.
3. All deacons from the different churches are to be counted as standing delegates to the Association.
4. Minutes will be kept by Clerk of the Quarterly Meetings and recorded in the Annual Minutes.
5. The clerk is to write the Resolution of Thanks.
6. Each church is to record and report their Children's Home offering separate from other offerings.
7. A letter of explanation from each church is to be sent in absence of representation at the Quarterly Meetings.
8. No minister shall be held responsible for marrying anyone unknowingly who has previously been married, having a living husband or living wife.
9. No minister is to be called as pastor or used as an evangelist in any church in this Association without being subject to questioning by the ordaining council.
10. No minister is to be used as an evangelist in this Association except one of Free Will Baptist Faith.
11. Each church recommend someone from their membership to be placed on the executive committee every two years.

#### GUIDELINES FOR ORDINATION

1. This Association ordains no man that has more than one living wife; nor a man whose wife has more than one living husband.
2. Every minister carries a license until he is either called to a church or enters full time evangelistic work. The license of ministers licensed by this

Association are to be reissued each year if the church of which they are member makes this request.

3. This Association ordains no one that doesn't fully believe the faith and practices of the Free Will Baptist Treatise.
4. This Association ordains no one that doesn't believe and practice tithing.
5. This Association ordains no one that doesn't believe in the verbal inspiration of the Word of God.
6. This Association will not ordain women to preach the Gospel.
7. This Association will not ordain anyone that is affiliated with the World Council of Churches..
8. This Association will not ordain anyone with a bad testimony with them that are without.
9. This Association will not ordain anyone that doesn't believe and practice the ordinances of the church.
10. This Association will not ordain anyone that doesn't believe a person can apostatize and be lost.



## CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Jesus 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 men.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship, and by self-denial, faith and good works endeavor to grow in the grace and in 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 to one another's happiness and reputation, 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 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.

# STATISTICAL TABLES 1990

CHURCH	CLERK	MEMBERSHIP	PAID FEE	SERVICE SCHEDULE
Canaan F.W.B. Brewton, AL	Frances Beasley Rt. 4, Box 338 Brewton, AL 36426 (205) 867-6756	25	\$100.00	Sunday Mornings and Evenings Wednesday Evenings
First F.W.B. Flomaton, AL	Teri L. Turner Rt. 1, Box 185 Flomaton, AL 36441 (205) 296-5700	78	\$100.00	Sunday Mornings and Evenings Wednesday Evenings
First F.W.B. Mobile, AL	Sherry L. Hinton 918 Navco Road Mobile, AL 36605 (205) 476-3424	45	\$100.00	Sunday Mornings and Evenings Wednesday Evenings
First F.W.B. Pensacola, FL	Hazel Glaze 8241 Tempest Drive Pensacola, FL 32506 (904) 456-0260	82	\$ 50.00	Sunday Mornings and Evenings Wednesday Evenings
New Bethany F.W.B. Holt, FL	Ottie Lee Wilkinson Rt. 1, Box 84 Holt, FL 32564 (904) 537-6752	20	\$100.00	Fourth Sunday Preaching S.S. Each Sunday
Shady Hill F.W.B. Andalusia, AL	Learvene Bass Rt. 1, Box 179 Andalusia, AL 36420 (205) 222-4597	48	\$100.00	Sunday Mornings Wednesday Evenings



# STATISTICAL TABLES, CONTINUED

CHURCH	SUNDAY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT	AVERAGE ATTENDANCE	BAPTISMS	MEMBERS ADDED	C.T.S. MEMBERS
Canaan F.W.B. Brewton, AL	10	8	0	0	0
First F.W.B. Flomaton, AL	32	25	2	13	0
First F.W.B. Mobile, AL	25	20	2	9	0
First F.W.B. Pensacola, FL	55	31	0	0	35
New Bethany F.W.B. Holt, FL	8	6	0	0	0
Shady Hill F.W.B. Andalusia, AL	34	20	0	3	0