

Minutes--

Of The

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

Of The

Southwest Virginia

ASSOCIATION

Of

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES

—oOo—

Held With The

FAIRMOUNT PARK F.W.B. CHURCH

NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

May 16, 1953

—oOo—

**The next association will convene with the
Meades Chapel Church, Herald, Virginia,
on Saturday, 9:00 a.m., E.S.T., before
the Third Sunday in May, 1954**

O F F I C E R S

Rev. W. A. Hales, Norfolk, Va. Moderator
 Rev. P. H. Miller, Big Stone Gap, Va. Assistant Mod.
 Mr. L. G. Ketron, Box 5, Herald, Va. Clerk
 Mr. E. J. Kilgore, Route 1, Coeburn, Va. Treasurer

Field Worker and Organizer for Young People's Leagues

Rev. Daniel J. Merkh, 8312½ Chesapeake St., Norfolk, Va.

Executive Board Exp. of Office

Rev. J. W. Brannon, Pennington Gap, Va.1954
 Wilton H. Dail, 309 Graydon Ave., Norfolk 7, Va.1955
 Rev. S. M. McFalls, Clintwood, Va.1956

Wise County Executive Board Exp. of Office

J. D. Sturgill, Route 1, Esserville, Va.1954
 W. C. Robbins, Dorchester, Va.1955
 E. P. Edens, Norton, Va.1956

Wise County Ordaining Council Exp. of Office

Rev. Shelby H. Jackson, Dorchester, Va.1954
 Rev. Mack Butler, Dunganon, Va.1955
 Rev. Paul Harry Miller, Big Stone Gap, Va.1956

Lee County Executive Board Exp. of Office

D. C. Sturgill, Dryden, Va.1954
 Ray Davis, Dryden, Va.1955
 Frank Sheoemaker, Pennington Gap, Va.1956

Lee County Ordaining Council Exp. of Office

Rev. Edgar Baltimore, Calvin, Va.1954
 Rev. S. B. Culbertson, Woodway, Va.1955

Tidewater Executive Board

Rev. W. A. Hales, Corner Argonne and Pershing Avenues,
 Norfolk 9, Virginia
 Mr. Wilton H. Dail 309 Graydon Ave., Norfolk 7, Va.
 Mr. Frank Pairrisher Norfolk, Va.

ENROLLMENT

Ministers

P. H. Miller, M. C. Roscholar, S. M. McFall, Wilson Addington, H. E. Bevins, D. J. Merkh, J. L. Meade, E. M. Rose, C. H. Denton, W. A. Hales, D. C. Dodd, Leroy Forlines, E. H. Overman.

Deacons

H. E. Creech, W. H. Dail, L. W. Ewell, R. W. Lineberry Sr., E. J. Kilgore, L. G. Ketron, J. S. Overman, A. J. Filyaw, F. H. Parrishér, Marvin Howard.

Delegates

Otto Capps, Mrs. H. S. Graham, Mrs. Edith Williams, Mrs. Chas. P. Rogers, Harold Waterman.

PROCEEDINGS

9:00

The Seventeenth Annual Session of the Southwest Virginia Association of Free Will Baptist met with the Fairmount Park Church, Norfolk, Virginia, May 16, 1953.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. W. A. Hales. Opening hymn, "Jesus, How I Love Him." Prayer by Rev. Lewis Belton. Scripture reading, 125 Psalm, by moderator. Business resumed as follows:

Rev. P. H. Miller was appointed as Assistant Moderator. Rev. P. H. Miller, E. J. Kilgore and W. H. Dail were selected to serve on the Pulpit Committee. Letters from the Wise County, Lee County, and Tidewater Quarterly Conferences were read and received. Rev. E. M. Rose gave an oral report on the work of the John Thomas Association. The report was welcomed by everyone. We were glad to have them sit with us. Rev. S. M. McFall was unanimously elected to serve as a member of the Executive Board, replacing Bro. Cossie Meade. Rev. Daniel J. Merkh was elected to serve as field worker in the Youth League program. He was also given power to raise money to carry on this work. The Pulpit Committee selected Rev. D. C. Dodd to bring the 11:00 o'clock message. The Rose Quartet rendered special singing during the fellowship service. Conference was then adjourned until 1:30.

11:00

Singing by congregation, "He Lifted Me," and "Power in the Blood." Prayer was offered by Bro. Leroy Forlines. Scripture reading, John 4:31-35: text, "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest?" from which Rev. Dodd delivered a very inspirational message. The congregation sang, "Onward Christian Soldiers," while an offering was received for Rev. Dodd to be used for transportation home and the remainder going into the Foreign Mission treasury. Rev. H. E. Bevins gave thanks to God for the offering. Benediction hymn, "Have Thine Own Way." Benediction prayer by Rev. Wilson Addington.

1:30

The Association was opened by special singing. Scripture reading and prayer by Rev. Wilson Addington. The moderator took charge and business resumed as follows:

The minister's reports were called for and received as they appear in the minutes. W. A. Hales was elected to be moderator for the next year and P. H. Miller was elected as assistant. The pulpit supply selected E. M. Rose to bring the 7:30 message. Power was given the treasurer, E. J. Kilgore, to write a check sufficient to cover the expenses of the Association. Delegates were elected to the following Associations: John Thomas Association—Mr. E. J. Kilgore, S. M. McFall, P. H. Miller. Clinch Valley Association—Leslie Ketron, E. J. Kilgore. John Wheeler Association—Wilson Addington, H. E. Bevins, S. M. McFall. National Association—M. E. Howard. State Association—Mrs. Ray Davis, Mrs. Charles Rogers, Mrs. W. F. Minton, Mrs. Winona Graham, Mrs. Edith Williams, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Ewebanks. E. J. Kilgore was retained as treasurer for the Association. L. G. Ketron was retained as clerk for the Association. By regular motion, Rev. Lewis Moulton was elected to bring the 11:00 o'clock message at the next Association. Rev. W. A. Hales was elected as alternate. The Executive Board ruled the next Association would convene with Meade's Chapel Church, Herald, Virginia (May, 1954).

7:30

Service was opened with congregational singing. The Rose Quartet then rendered several special hymns. Scripture reading by Rev. P. H. Miller, Romans, 8th chapter. Prayer by Rev. Hadely Overman. Song by congregation,

"Leave it There." Speaker of the hour, Rev. E. M. Rose: text, Matthew 19:17, "but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments." Benediction hymn, "Amazing Grace." Benediction prayer by Rev. J. L. Meade.

Treasurer's Report: Southwest Virginia Association FWB
May 16, 1953

Carried forward from 1952	\$263.20
Wise County Quarterly Conference	159.20
Lee County Quarterly Conference	42.00
Tidewater Quarterly Conference	98.00
Total receipts this year	\$562.40
Expenditures—	
Minutes from F.W.B. Gem	\$98.45
L. G. Ketron for postage	3.92
Total expenditures	\$102.37
Leaving a grand total of	\$460.03

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. E. J. Kilgore,
R 1, Coeburn, Virginia

Wise County Quarterly Conference:

Greetings:

To the Southwest Virginia Association of Free Will Baptist while in regular session with the Fairmont Park Free Will Baptist Church; Norfolk, Va., May 16, 1953.

We have chose all delegates from our last conference as messengers. These, we pray, to sit with you in your Godly work. Our standing is as follows:

Number of churches 33, membership 1,597, number of Sunday schools 31, membership 2,002, state of religion good, deceased members 12, total loss in membership from last year 74, number prayer meetings 31, number youth's leagues 9, membership 297, ordained ministers 63, licentees 8, minutes fund enclosed 159.70.

Done by order of the Wise County Quarterly Conference of Free Will Baptist while in regular session with the Hopkins Chapel church, Norton, Va., April 11, 1953.

Moderators: Rev. Mack Butler, Rev. Gillus Francis
Clerks: Leslie G. Ketron, Jackie Culbertson

Lee County Quarterly Conference:

Greetings:

To the Southwest Virginia Association of Free Will Baptist, when convened with the Fairmount Park Free Will Baptist Church, Norfolk, Virginia, May 16, 1953.

We have chosen all delegates from our last conference

as messengers. These we pray may sit with you in your Godly work. Our standing is as follows:

Number of churches 10, membership 420, members received this year 32, members dismissed 31, members deceased 2, number Sunday schools 10, membership 527, number youths Leagues 4, membership 174, ordained ministers 10, minute fund enclosed \$42.00.

Done by order of the Lee County Quarterly Conference of Free Will Baptist this 13th day of April, 1953.

Moderator: J. M. Collier, Keesee, Va.
Clerk: E. R. Davis, Dryden, Va.

Tidewater Quarterly Conference:

Greetings:

To the Southwest Virginia Association of Free Will Baptist, when convened with the Fairmount Park Free Will Baptist Church, Norfolk, Virginia, May 16, 1953.

We send as delegates our beloved brother and sister H. L. Waterman and Mrs. Otto Caps. These we pray may sit with you in your Godly work. Our standing is as follows:

Number churches 5, total membership 980, members received this year 174, number baptised 45, number dismissed 12, number died 0, number Sunday schools 5, number Leagues 5, condition of prayer meetings good, ordained ministers 7, licentiates 2, minute fund enclosed \$98.00.

Done by the order of the Tidewater Quarterly Conference.

Moderator: Rev. Louis H. Moulton
Clerk: M. E. Howard

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TIDEWATER CHURCHES

CHURCH	Membership	Paid Pastor	Paid Evangelist	Orphanage	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	S.S. Literature
Fairmount Park ...	809	5,610	585	355	266.47	376.33	894.96
Richmond First	31	3,045	320	88		50.00	50.63
Hyde Park	71	600	85				10.00
Little Creek	25	79		58	2.50	7.50	32.00
Warwick First	44	1,600	144	10		64.00	60.00

Reports of Wise County and Lee County Churches in center of this book.

MINISTERS ANNUAL REPORT

MINISTER	Sermons preached	Churches pastored	Revivals held	Profess'ns witnessed	Number baptized	Additions to ch.	Churches organized	Funerals preached	Miles traveled	Money received
Arney, C. C.	53	2		9				5	1,980	20.50
Addington, J. W. .	102		3	35				5	1,600	150.00
Addington, Hobert	25	2	1	2		4		1	350	10.00
Butler, Mack	52	1			2	2			1,000	336.00
Bevins, H. E.	84		2	21			1	3	1,755	55.00
Ball, S. R.	72				7				500	100.00
Blevins, Palmer ..	36		1	5	3			1	400	50.00
Brannon, J. W. ...	175		1	12				1	1,000	65.14
Culbertson, S. B. .	104	1		4	1			1	1,000	262.30
Collier, J. M.	15			11				3	200	15.00
Dotson, Carson ...	85	3		14	11			21	400	126.00
Davis, E. R.	31							1		
Denton, C. H.	(retired)									
Edens, Echel	36			2				2	300	25.00
Forlines, Leroy ...	135	1		7	16	21	1		10,000	2,700.00
Francus, G. T.	160	2	5	50	22	11		3	5,158	515.80
Fields, James	91	2		9	5		1	4	3,168	94.60
Hales, W. A.	160	1	3	49	60	84	1	9	18,000	5,200.00
Moulton, Louis H. .	249	4	15	101	21	38		3	40,000	5,500.00
Merkh, Daniel J. .	130	2	3	22	10	85	1	2	20,000	1,340.00
Miller, P. H.	230	3	5	110	75	35	1	15	6,000	1,500.00
Meade, J. L.	48	1		5	4			7	400	26.00
Mullins, Charlie ..	180	1	10	70	30	30		15	2,000	150.00
Martain, Hobert ..	65							2		100.00
McFall, S. M.	98	3	1		15	10		30		
Mullins, Hansford	60		2	8					400	14.00
Overman, E. H. ...	(student at Nashville)									
Powers, David	91		3	36	6			5	1,762	31.00
Porter, Curtiss ...	203	1	4	122	21	14		8	2,000	232.00
Roscholar, M. C. ...	100	1		11	6	14			1,100	79.00
Rose, James	50	2			3			3	500	52.00
Surrett, W. R.	103		1	79	14			3	1,200	25.50
Scott, Gale			2	29	10			5		
Thacker, V. B.	95	3						12	860	149.54
White, Wythe	106		2	49	8	5		13	3,000	300.00
Wynn, Curtiss	125		2	38					500	50.00
Kilgore, Roy	60	1	1	5				3		

P R E F A C E

For well over two hundred years there has been a Baptist people in the United States who preached and practiced "Freedom of the Will." A great many of these Baptist came from Wales and London to the Eastern part of the United States, in the early settling of this country. Among the earliest records available we find the name of Paul Palmer who preached and organized a church in Perquims County, North Carolina in the year of 1727. This church was later lost to the Calvinistic Baptist. Not only this church was lost, but several others in the course of time were lost, but a sufficient number kept the "Faith once delivered to the saints," that a steady increase has prevailed throughout the years.

Those who are called Free Will Baptist, in North Carolina were first called by this name by those who opposed the Doctrine of "Freedom of the Will." The same thing was true in the north with Rev. Benjamin Randall and his followers whose church was organized at New Durham, N. H. in the year of 1780. The name was later adopted by the believers in "Salvation by Grace through Faith" who preached "Freedom of the Will."

Among these believers it was deemed wise to set forth certain outstanding, fundamental doctrines as believed by the denomination. In several of the states there were booklets published setting forth the "Articles of Faith." Many of the Disciplines set forth had different ways of doing things, while the fundamental doctrine was the same in all. These Disciplines and the "articles of faith" set forth the fact that "these were set forth for convenience" with the solemn declaration that "The Bible is infallible," and in every instance it was plainly set forth that "We believe the whole Scriptures to be the word of God."

In the year 1935 at Cofer's Chapel, Nashville, Tennessee, a committee was elected for the purpose of formulating, by way of revision, a Treatise out of the various Disciplines and former Treatise, to be used in Free Will Baptist churches. This committee was composed of the following ministers, namely: J. C. Griffin, chairman, and Winford Davis, E. B. Joyner, J. S. Frederick, E. E. Morris, W. B. Davenport, Millard Vanhooose, C. B. Thompson, and Ralph Staten, with two laymen, M. L. Morris and Hubert Post. This Committee worked for several hours and then reported. A motion was carried that the report

ANNUAL REPORT OF WISE COUNTY F.W.B. CHURCHES

CHURCH

PASTOR

Membership
Paid Pastor
Paid Evangelist
Orphanage
Home Missions
Foreign Missions
S.S. Membership
S.S. Literature

Dunganon.....	153	228.24	225.00	390.00	210.00	10.00	123	51.67	Rev. S. M. McFall
Cherry Grove	45	108.00		60.85	30.00		54	26.40	Rev. C. A. Robinette
Beech Grove	75	290.00	100.00	104.64	72.75		100	49.64	Rev. Gale Scott
Beckner's Chapel	19	143.00	17.80	21.80	100.60		44	23.23	Rev. Osca Powers
Mary's Chapel	154	261.00	339.00	178.54	311.71	25.00	206	77.65	Rev. James Rose
Tacoma	19	60.33	40.58	30.00	136.00		91	33.26	Rev. C. A. Robinette
Ramsey	53	165.90			14.09		33	7.16	Rev. Jim Ramey
Steven's Chapel	49	20.00	32.25	4.00	41.51		47	29.39	Rev. Hobert Addington
Gillenwater Chapel ..							46	2.64	Rev. Roy Kilgore
Mt. Olive	42	25.00	36.10		131.53		44	18.17	Rev. Lacy Powers
Wilson's Chapel	55	133.00	139.28	74.54	186.00	14.20	58	27.82	Rev. S. M. McFall
Mt. View	29	107.63	108.00		20.00		57	21.00	Rev. William Harold
Indian Creek	110	55.00	12.10	61.00	251.40	6.50	61	27.30	Rev. Carson Dotson
Davis Chapel	28	53.34	31.71		17.35		65	8.89	Rev. Edgar Baltimore
Stallard Memorial	17	102.00	12.90	58.58	9.65	29.79	54	24.97	Rev. C. A. Robinette
Meades Chapel	94	32.00	80.20	20.00	148.45	10.56	60	34.83	Rev. James Rose
Oak Grove	87	930.00	110.00	400.00	763.22	150.63	225	228.49	Rev. Mack Fisher
Hopkins Chapel	63	137.25	46.50		105.00		50	28.00	Rev. Jim Ramey
Valley View	51	66.42	45.77	14.00	10.00		51	36.74	Rev. W. E. Kern
Lone Pine	71	354.45	110.00	50.00	126.17		61	39.86	Rev. Mack Fisher
Martha's Chapel	32		48.00		40.00		64	15.00	Rev. Carson Dotson
Glamorgan	53	600.00		60.00	15.00		100	33.25	Rev. P. H. Miller
Dry Fork	41	167.25	203.05	36.50	16.00		35	25.74	Rev. Wade Powers
	57	100.00	100.00	92.97	92.97		95	22.22	Rev. C. A. Robinette

Martha's Chapel	32		48.00	60.00	40.00	64	15.00	Rev. Carson. Dotson
Glamorgan	53	600.00		36.50	15.00	100	33.25	Rev. P. H. Miller
Dry Fork	41	167.25	203.05	36.50	16.00	35	25.74	Rev. Wade Powers
South Side	57	180.00	190.00	83.35	304.39	85	32.32	Rev. G. T. Francus
Calvary Baptist	40	253.00	39.50		150.22	45	25.93	Rev. P. H. Miller
Inman	55	218.33	189.22	61.85	313.25	75	61.23	Rev. P. H. Miller
West Norton	32	39.01	20.23	45.00		72	17.51	Rev. Hobert Addington
Dales Ridge	17				3.00	50	4.45	Rev. H. V. Johnston
Esserville	58	15.30	163.45	280.00	740.00	139	73.77	Rev. Mack Fisher
Mt. Sinai	14				25.58	58	47.46	Rev. G. T. Francus
West End	22	83.38	80.62	10.00	325.01	85	21.93	Rev. Curtis Porter
McClellans Chapel ...								
Big Springs								

ANNUAL REPORT OF LEE COUNTY F.W.B. CHURCHES

CHURCH

<i>League Literature</i>	<i>PASTOR</i>
<i>League Attend.</i>	
<i>S.S. Literature</i>	
<i>S.S. Attendance</i>	
<i>Orphanage</i>	
<i>Paid Evangelist</i>	
<i>Paid Pastor</i>	
<i>Membership</i>	

Mt. Hope	37	136.40	191.31	71.25	60	10.52	15.80	Rev. Ray Gardner
Rock Lick	53	165.00	17.35	27.05	76	29.58	8.42	Rev. Eggar Baltimore
Mt. Carmel	37	226.28	157.32	118.48	72	56.91		Rev. S. B. Culbertson
Palmer's Chapel	41	451.95	35.00	29.80	75	22.98		Rev. Kelse Hammonds
Ocoonita	82	548.23	77.18	10.08	62	12.24	15.12	Rev. Kelse Hammonds
Willis Chapel	50	35.12			40	19.52	15.12	Rev. Hobert Martain
Gibson's Chapel	20				35			Rev. Eggar Baltimore
Sigma	30	56.59	164.17	17.19	20	17.28		Rev. James Fields
Minton Memorial	45	272.99	174.23		50	12.59		Rev. Kelse Hammonds
Hoover's Chapel	25	94.44		22.00	37	30.05		Rev. Eggar Baltimore

be accepted. In the year of 1947, while the National Association was in session at Highland Park F.W.B. Church in Detroit, Michigan, a resolution was passed in which seven members of the General Board of the National Association and one member from each affiliated State Convention or Association was to meet and revise the Treatise and report at the next session of the National Association. This committee composed of the following ministers, namely: J. L. Welch, chairman; R. B. Crawford, J. C. Griffin, J. F. Miller, K. V. Shutes, F. S. Vanhooose, L. A. Holiday, I. W. Yandall, M. L. Sutton, Ralph Staten, Harry Beatty, H. E. Willis, Floyd Cherry, R. N. Hinnant, Seldon Bullard, C. H. Curry and A. J. Lambert met at Cofer's Chapel in Nashville, Tennessee in April and the revision was made and presented to the National Association in session in Pocahontas Free Will Baptist Church, Pocahontas, Arkansas, July, 1948, and was adopted.

BY-LAWS

1. The clerk or assistant clerk, or in their absence, the senior minister in years shall call the Association into conference, and if a quorum is present the moderator, or in his absence, the assistant moderator shall take charge; and if neither of them is present, the senior minister in years shall act as moderator.

2. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to enroll the delegates to the Association, who shall present themselves with proper evidence of their rights to seats therein, and those enrolled by the Clerk shall compose the Association. In case of questionable representation, however, the cases under question shall be referred to the credential committee.

3. It shall be the duty of every body belonging to this Association to send a letter to every annual session of this Association, reporting in the same its spiritual condition, benevolent work, and its statistics. Any body belonging to this Association, which shall fail to report itself for two successive sessions, may be dismissed from the Association by a two-thirds vote of all members present.

4. Each meeting shall be opened by reading a portion of the Bible and with prayer, and shall be closed with prayer.

5. By a two-thirds vote of all members present a ruling of the moderator can be overruled.

6. This Association may correspond by messenger or otherwise with other religious bodies.

7. This Association shall sit with open doors except when it shall go into a committee of the whole.

8. Any person not a member of this Association may be allowed to take part in its discussions by obtaining permission from the moderator.

9. It shall be the duty of all the members of the Association to be present at the time appointed for each meeting, and any one wishing to retire shall first obtain leave of the moderator.

10. No member shall absent himself from the Association during its meetings without first obtaining permission from the moderator..

11. No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any committee, provided the person nominated be elected.

12. The moderator shall not allow discussions when not carried on in a Christian spirit or when he thinks it will cause discord or division.

13. Any one desiring to speak shall rise to his feet and address the moderator by the appellation, "Brother Moderator," but shall not speak further until recognized by the moderator.

14. The "yeas" and "nays" may be counted on any question by request of one-fifth of the members present.

15. No member of this Association shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes nor twice on the same subject without permission from the moderator.

16. It shall be the duty of the moderator to seat delegates in a body in a designated section of the assembly room at the beginning of each business session.

17. These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any regular or adjourned session of this Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **The Bible.** The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. **God.** There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe; and in the Scriptures as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good,

whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore, and obey.

3. Christ. Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified, He is now risen and glorified, and is our ever present Saviour and Lord.

4. The Holy Spirit. The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God.

5. The Government of God. God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of man requires.

6. The Sinfulness of man. Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherit a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability sin, and become guilty before God.

7. The Work of Christ. The Son of God by His incarnation, life, suffering, death and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

8. The Terms of Salvation. The conditions of salvation are: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Saviour and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

9. Election. God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

10. Freedom of the Will. The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.

11. Salvation Free. God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.

12. Perseverance. All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.

13. Gospel Ordinances. Baptism, or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's Supper are ordinances

to be perpetuated under the Gospel; **Feet Washing**, an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be ministered to all true believers.

14. Tithing. God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ indorsed it in the Gospel (Matt. 23:23), and the Apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him." (I Cor. 16:2).

15. The Christian Sabbath. The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works and activities, and for personal communion with God.

16. Resurrection, Judgment and Final Retribution. The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant.

We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all 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.

