

MINUTES
Of The
TWENTIETH ANNUAL SESSION
Of The
Southwest Virginia
Association
Of
FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCHES

Held With The
MARY'S CHAPEL CHURCH
Coeburn, Virginia
May 19, 1956

The next session will convene with Oak Grove
Free Will Baptist Church, Big Stone Gap, Va.,
beginning on Saturday before the third Sunday in
May, 1957, at 9:00 A. M., E. S. T.

O F F I C E R S

Elder E. H. Overman, Norfolk, Va.----- Moderator
 Elder P. H. Miller, Big Stone Gap, Va.---- Asst. Moderator
 Leslie G. Ketron, Herald, Va.-----Clerk
 E. J. Kilgore, RFD 1, Coeburn, Va.----- Treasurer

Field Workers And Organizer For Youths' Leagues

Mrs. Leslie Ketron, Box 5, Herald, Va.

Executive Board

Exp. of Office

Elder E. R. Davis, Dryden, Va. ----- 1957
 Wilton H. Dail, 309 Graydon Ave., Norfolk, Va.----- 1958
 Elder David D. Powers, Norton, Va.----- 1959

Wise County Executive Board

J. D. Sturgill, RFD 2, Wise, Va.----- 1957
 Elder H. V. Johnston, Norton, Va.----- 1958
 S. M. McFall, Clintwood, Va. ----- 1959

Wise County Ordaining Council

Elder J. W. Branman, Rt. 2, Pennington Gap, Va.---- 1957
 Elder L. J. Fields, Norton, Va.----- 1958
 Elder P. H. Miller, Big Stone Gap, Va.----- 1959

Lee County Executive Board

D. C. Sturgill, Dryden, Va.----- 1957
 E. R. Davis, Dryden, Va.----- 1958
 Frank Shoemaker, Pennington Gap, Va.----- 1959

Lee County Ordaining Council

Elder E. E. Edens, Keokee, Va.----- 1957
 Elder E. H. Martin, Jonesville, Va.----- 1958
 Elder Edgar Baltimore, Dryden, Va. ----- 1959

Tidewater Executive Board

W. H. Dail, 309 Graydon Ave., Norfolk, Va.----- 1957
 L. H. Ewell, 324 Poole St., Norfolk, Va.----- 1958

The incoming members of this board were not reported.

Tidewater Ordaining Council

Elder Billy A. Melvin, Richmond, Va.----- 1957
 Elder Ronald Creech, Warwick, Va.----- 1958
 Elder E. H. Overman, Norfolk, Va.----- 1959
 Elder Fred A. Rivenbark, Norfolk, Va.,----- 1960

Incoming members of this Council were not reported.

ENROLLMENT

MINISTERS—H. V. Johnston, S. M. McFall, J. W. Brannan, David Powers, George Collins, V. B. Thacker, Gale Scott, Wade Powers, Della Salyer, E. H. Overman, Jake Welch, W. B. Galloway, P. H. Miller, W. M. Bowman, Fred A. Rivenbark, J. V. Estep, W. E. Adams, Roy Kilgore, L. J. Fields, Lester Able, (from John Thomas Association) and Wythe White.

DEACONS—Wilton H. Dail, E. J. Kilgore, L. G. Ketron, R. W. Lindberry, Dave Buchannon, Harding Brewer.

DELEGATES — Alma Osgood, Fay Sams, Mrs. W. H. Byrd, Annie Davis, Octavia Jones, Dixie Wells, Bonnie Willis, Leonard Barnette, Mrs. C. L. Freeman, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Lindberry, Sr., H. G. Findly David J. Hill, Aaron Poff, B. B. Willis, Minnie Belle Ketron.

PROCEEDINGS

The Twentieth Annual Session of the Southwest Virginia Association of Freewill Baptists met with Mary's Chapel Church of Coeburn, Va., May 19, 1956. The Association was called to order by the clerk. A short devotional service under the direction of Bro. Leslie Ketron. Prayer by Elder H. V. Johnson.

The moderator took charge and business resumed as follows:

Enrollment and seating of all delegates. Letters from Lee and Wise counties were read and accepted by regular motion. An oral report was received from the Tidewater section of their wonderful work. It was accepted along with a motion that they should be allowed to mail in a written report to the clerk. Corresponding messengers were called for. We were very glad to welcome the John Thomas Association into our midst, accept their letter along with Elder Able and Bro. Sexton as delegates.

The following delegates were chosen to attend the John Thomas Association: S. M. McFall, Wade Powers, H. V. Johnston and Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Ketron.

Officers were then elected for the coming year, as they appear in the minutes.

Conference was adjourned until 1:30.

11:00

Singing under the direction of Leslie Ketron.

Messenger, Elder S. M. McFall

Scripture, 133 Psalms

Prayer, Elder Wade Powers

Text—"United we stand, Divided We Fall," from which Elder McFall brought a very timely message.

The right hand of fellowship was given to two of our brothers from Kentucky, Charley Ison and Donald Sexton. We were very happy to have them sit with us.

Benediction.

1:30

Devotional under the direction of Elder P. H. Miller; Scripture 19th Psalm; prayer Elder L. J. Fields. The moderator took charge and business resumed as follows:

An oral report was received from the League field worker. 15 new leagues had been organized this year. A league convention had also been organized and will convene the first Sunday in August at 2:00 with Valley View church in Clintwood, Va.

Mrs. Leslie Ketron was retained as Youth League field worker. It was voted to pay Mrs. Ketron \$100.00 for services rendered last year, and to allow \$75.00 to buy literature for the coming year. A love offering was received for league field workers amounting to \$30.75.

Brother E. J. Kilgore made a fine talk about the childrens' home and received an offering of \$52.00 for this worthy cause. Fifty dollars was also voted from the treasury for the childrens' home.

It was voted to give the treasurer power to write checks to cover the expenses of the Association.

The following reports were approved: Treasurer's report, League report, Ladies' Auxiliary reports from Tidewater and Wise County and ministers' reports.

Brother Dail made a report on home mission work and received the Home Mission church from Sister Della Salyer containing \$9.20 in offerings. Elder J. B. Chism, Jr., of Warwick church, Richmond, Va., was selected to bring the message at the next Association. Elder Fred A. Rivenbark Fairmount Park church, Norfolk, Va., was chosen alternate.

A rising vote of thanks was given to the good people of Mary's Chapel for the fine hospitality shown throughout the Association. There was a fine fellowship service and conference adjourned until Saturday before the third Sunday in May, 1957, when it shall convene with Oak Grove Freewill Baptist Church, Big Stone Gap, Va.

Benediction.

**Treasurer's Report: Southwest Virginia Association
of Freewill Baptists, May 19, 1956**

On hand May 1956----- \$690.44

DISBURSEMENTS

Freewill Baptist childrens home -----	50.00
Wilton H. Dail for St. Association -----	50.00
Leslie Ketron, clerk -----	10.00
Preparing manuscript -----	35.00
Postage -----	4.75
Printing of Minutes -----	90.00
Mrs. Leslie Ketron, League literature-----	45.50
	\$285.25
Balance In Treasury -----	\$405.19

Respectfully submitted,
E. J. KILGORE, Treasurer

LEE COUNTY QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

GREETINGS: To the Southwest Virginia Association of Freewill Baptist, when convened with Mary's Chapel, Coeburn, Va., Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in May, 1956.

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, 9	Membership, 416
Members received, 16	Members dismissed, 17
Number Sunday Schools, 9	Membership, 593
Number Youth Leagues, 3	Membership, 95
Ordained Ministers, 5	

Done by order of Lee County Quarterly Conference of Freewill Baptists, April, 1956.

Minute fund enclosed, \$40.00

Elder S. B. Culbertson, Moderator
E. R. Davis, Clerk
Dryden, Va.

GREETINGS: To the Southwest Virginia Association of Freewill Baptists when convened with Mary's Chapel, Coeburn, Va., Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in May, 1956:

We have chosen all delegates from our last conference

as messengers, whom we pray may be seated with you in your Godly work.

Our standing is as follows:

Number of churches	33	Membership	1852
Members received	69	Dismissed	43
		Died	16
Number Sunday Schools	33	Membership	2729
Number Youth Leagues	18	Membership	512
Number Auxiliaries	9	Number Ordained Ministers	61
		Licentiates	6

Done by order of Wise County Quarterly Conference while in regular session with Addison Chapel, April, 1956.

Minute fund enclosed, \$185.00.

Elder Mack Fisher, Moderator
Leslie Ketron, Clerk

Norfolk, Va., June 6, 1956

GREETINGS: To the Southwest Virginia Association of Freewill Baptists when convened with Mary's Chapel, Coeburn, Va., May 19, 1956:

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

Number of churches, 6; Membership, 1246; Received this year 285; Dismissed 55; Deceased 3; Baptised 94; Number Sunday Schools 6; Number Youth Leagues 5; Number Prayer Meetings 6; Ordained ministers 5; Licentees 7; Minute fund enclosed \$123.70.

Done by order of the Tidewater Quarterly Meeting of Freewill Baptists while in regular session with the First Church, Little Creek, Va., April, 1956.

Rev. Fred A. Rivenbark, Moderator
3301 Verndon Ave, Norfolk, Va.
C. W. Roughton, Clerk-Treasurer
RFD 2, Box 155, Norfolk, Va.

GREETINGS: To the Southwest Virginia Association from the Wise County League Conference:

We send as delegates the Mary's Chapel League.

We are happy to announce we have had one quarterly meeting of the Wise County League Conference, which was just recently organized. We now have 18 leagues. Ten of these leagues reported to our first conference, as they appear in these minutes. These reports cover only a three month period. We hope the coming year will bring us

more leagues and more of our youth will be won for Christ.

JACK McGLOTHLIN, President

Coeburn, Va.

TONYA KILGORE, Recording Sec'y

Coeburn, Va.

ANNUAL REPORT OF FREEWILL BAPTIST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY OF WISE COUNTY

Goldie Kiser, President	Herald, Va.
Mary Bates, Treasurer	Esserville, Va.
Number of auxiliaries reporting	9
Enrollment at beginning of convention year	93
Present enrollment	156
Number of y. p. a.	6
Membership	206
Study Course	Prayer No. weeks of Prayer
Total members observing prayer fellowship	40
Number of daily Bible readers	125
Number making soul-winning efforts	25
Numbr souls won	2
Number subscribers to Freewill Baptist papers	35

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Home Missions, \$867.35; Children's Home, \$151.75; Super-
annuation, \$77.51.

Mary Bates, Recording Secretary
Esserville, Va.

IN MEMORY

WILLIAM ANDERSON STALLARD

William Anderson Stallard, aged 83, of Coeburn, Va.,
passed away in a Norton hospital January 6, 1956. He had
been a faithful member of the Indian Creek Freewill Bap-
tist Church since March 24, 1954.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. C. L. FREEMAN

ELDER WILLIE E. KERN

Elder Willie E. Kern was a member of Wilson Chapel
church. He died at his home Jan. 1, 1956, after a long ill-
ness. His life had truly been one of service to men in all
walks of life. The great leadership in the many churches

he had pastored shall not be forgotten. We feel our loss is heaven's gain.

Respectfully submitted
LESLIE G. KETRON

ELDER C. C. ARNEY

Elder C. C. Arney was a member of Meade Chapel Free-will Baptist Church. He was killed in a coal mine May 2, 1956, at the age of 49 years and 13 days.

Mr. Arney was converted October, 1937, at Banner, Va., and was baptised the same year, Nov. 1937. He was united with the Freewill Baptist Church Nov. 1937, and ordained to preach the gospel Nov. 1938. From this time forward more than 18 years, his life was dedicated to God for the sole purpose of bringing more people closer to Christianity, and being the well known man he was, he was honest and understanding toward his family and community. He was a manual worker for his living, a Reverend for his God, and truly a wonderful father and husband to his wife and children. His home church—Meade Chapel—shall never forget his great leadership and watch-care. He will surely be missed by all, but the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away.

Respectfully submitted by his two sons,

Frank and Jewel Arney

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 Perquimans, North Carolina, in the year 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 the 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, Tenn., 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 be accepted. In the year 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. Holliday, 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, Tenn., 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.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TIDEWATER QUARTERLY MEETING

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
771	\$5200.00	1947.64	235.00			280.07		Church tithe 10 pct. to		
242	4505.00	113.75	9.90	39.80	19.80		17.33	National Work	174.69	5.88
101	2730.00	196.10	60.00	157.60	65.79	5.00	290.00	69.39	1125.47	39.25
49	3560.76	187.84					64.31		57.55,	
74	1860.00	75.00		68.15	15.05			15.00	61.55	
22	New work									

KEY TO REPORT

CHURCHES

- Line 1—Fairmount Park
- Line 2—Hyde Park
- Line 3—First Church, Warwick
- Line 4—First Church, Richmond
- Line 5—First Church, Little Creek
- Line 6—Princess Anne (new work)

- A—Membership
- B—Paid Pastor

- C—Paid Evangelist
- D—State Promotional
- E—Orphanage
- F—State Home Mission
- G—State Superannuation
- H—Christian Education
- I—National Home Mission
- J—Foreign Mission
- K—National Superannuation

ANNUAL REPORT OF WISE COUNTY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES

CHURCH	Member- ship	Paid Pastor	Evangel- istic	Orphanage	Home Mission	Literature	PASTOR
Dungannon	153	\$120.32	\$101.95	\$231.37	\$280.67	\$83.36	Ralph Flanary
Beech Grove	32	153.00	94.78	60.00	268.00	43.91	S. M. McFall
Beckner's Chapel	46	82.25	60.45	27.00	192.41	45.53	Hobert Addington
Mary's Chapel	121	114.00	47.92	77.16	162.68	102.22	Leonard Fields
Tacoma	25	62.42	44.66	75.00	236.00	25.75	Ray Robinette
Ramsey	62	189.07	0	0	165.41	34.09	Jim Ramey
Stevens C.	36	12.00	0	0	87.00	20.00	Oscar Powers
Gillenwater C.	62	0	125.00	36.75	167.00	20.70	Roy Kilgore
Mt. O live	21	3.35	53.28	0	0	32.00	H. V. Johnston
Wilson Chapel	54	39.50	22.93	59.49	91.65	28.83	Oscar Powers
Mt. View	32	8.25	26.00	0	0	8.00	Jack Richmond
Indian Creek	114	38.00	64.00	107.95	149.19	81.60	Carson Dotson
Davis Chapel	48	199.69	125.50	0	0	25.42	Edgar Baltimore
Stallard Memorial	15	41.40	0	30.04	33.56	25.03	J. T. Hartsock
Meades Chapel	84	111.10	0	40.00	108.00	33.78	Wythe White
Oak Grove	125	600.00	100.00	394.00	941.44	225.15	G. W. Galloway
Hopkins Chapel	66	197.05	119.97	15.00	23.00	10.80	Cova Robinette
West End	55	153.00	356.70	64.34	547.68	22.67	P. H. Miller
Valley View	52	53.77	5.41	40.00	0	31.95	Ralph Flanary
Lone Pine	85	1003.00	74.00	40.00	151.41	63.64	Mack Fisher
Martha's Chapel	21	\$ 65.00	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 10.00	\$16.34	Jim Ramey
Glamorgan	67	581.00	30.00	60.00	215.69	75.01	L. J. Fields
Dry Fork	44	110.50	8.00	34.61	2.00	21.92	James Rose
Central	81	666.58	85.00	218.30	880.90	55.96	W. E. Harrison

Calvary B. -----	82	570.00	0	0	380.39	31.41	P. H. Miller
Inman -----	33	147.19	116.58	91.28	262.02	61.00	Jim Ramey
West Norton -----	31	87.85	40.33	40.00	0	23.58	L. J. Fields
Dales Ridge -----	25	. 0	0	0	0	20.00	H. V. Johnston
Esserville -----	68	58.39	66.75	59.75	867.70	120.65	Oscar Powers
Addison Chapel --	31	0	0	0	300.00	46.07	B. Addison
Huff Cloverlick --	31	0	0	0	110.00	32.10	Emmit Begley
Durham Chapel --	31	9.75	0	0	40.00	43.34	Gale Scott
Flatwoods -----	20	52.65	0	12.93	13.92	41.08	

The following churches contributed to superannuation: Dungannon, \$15.00; Beech Grove, \$3.00; Wilson Chapel, \$10.19; Central, \$100.00; Esserville, \$3.00. The following churches contributed to foreign mission: Wilson's Chapel, \$8.56; Stallard Memorial, \$40.01; Mary's Chapel, \$5.00; Oak Grove, \$120.00.

ANNUAL REPORT OF LEE COUNTY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES

CHURCH	Member- ship	Paid Pastor	Orphanage	Paid Evangelist	Literature	PASTOR
Mt. Hope -----	45	\$240.00	\$67.08	\$165.59	\$ 0	L. H. Martin
Rock Lick -----	54	165.00	48.04	0	60.76	Edgar Baltimore
Mt. Carmel -----	43	358.22	83.87	0	63.50	S. B. Culbertson
Palmer Chapel -----	27	30.93	36.25	0	17.20	L. H. Martin
Sigma -----	24	18.13	0	12.67	5.20	Curtis Porter
Ocoonita -----	80	306.18	31.00	0	10.76	S. B. Culbertson
Willis Chapel -----	50	0	0	50.00	0	L. H. Martin
Minton Memorial --	67	180.00	0	21.20	10.00	Edgar Baltimore
Hoover Chapel ---	26	0	0	. 0	13.97	E. E. Edens

ANNUAL MINISTERS' REPORT

Preached	Churches	Reverals	Profess'n's	Number	Additions	Churches	Organized	Tunerals	Miles	Travelled	Money
Sermons	Received										
Adams, W. E. -----	34	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	1200		\$ 24.00
Addington, Hobert -	65	1	1	1	11	0	3	0	624		375.83
Bowman, W. M. -----	42	2	1	1	43	33	34	0	4000		27.00
Brannan, J. W. -----	42	0	0	0	11	0	31	0	3000		35.96
Ball, S. R. -----	66	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	500		18.00
Baltimore, Edgar ---	225	5	3	3	0	0	0	0	4000		350.00
Collins, George N. ---	87	0	2	2	37	27	0	0	3000		154.00
Chism, J. B. -----	45	1	0	0	12	0	13	0	7000		1210.00
Culbertson, S. B. ---	130	1	1	1	3	1	9	0			284.35
Dixon, Robert -----	30	1	1	1	12	3	0	0			
Edens, Echel E. -----	---	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	300		
Francis, G. T. -----	62	3	3	3	8	7	6	0	2240		53.00
Fields, L. J. -----	86	2	3	3	48	0	40	0	2391		783.50
Flanary, Ralph -----	200	1	7	7	84	34	6	0	5000		200.00
Galloway, W. B. -----	65	1	1	1	40	15	45	0	1300		Turned back to bldg. fund
Johnston, H. V. -----	68	2	0	0	17	0	12	0	1800		219.00
Kilgore, Roy W. -----	70	1	1	1	2	0	1	0			
Maggard, J. B. -----	115	0	4	4	22	5	10	0	4000		130.00
McFall, S. M. -----	55	1	0	0	10	2	3	0			75.00

Melvin, Billie	150	1	2	30	4	5	0	1	10,000	3380.00
Miller, P. H.	114	2	3	31	29	12	0	20	10,000	600.00
Martin, L. H.	128	4	0	1	2	0	0	0		600.00
May, Allen B.	206	2	9	72	46	11	1	14	16,000	285.00
Meade, J. L.	46	2	2	5	3	10	0	4	2000	20.00
Overman, E. H.	109	1	0	60	38	90	0	4	35,000	4505.00
Parsons, Elmer R.	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Powers, B. R.	150	3	18	140	85	24	1	50	0	150.00
Powers, David	145	0	4	65	70	0	0	10	3500	26.00
Powers, Wade	150	3	10	50	40	15	0	25	20,000	75.00
Ramey, James	100	3	1	16	0	8	0	7	1000	300.00
Rivenbark, Fred A.	119	1	4	90	70	105	1	13	25,000	5200.00
Robbins, Ethel	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1600	
Rose, James	51	1	1	3	0	0	0	2	500	120.00
Salyer, Mrs. Della	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	26.00
Scott, Gale		1	2	0	6					0
Thacker, V. B.	61	2	1	0	0	0	0	10	835	236.42
Welch, Jake	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	200	40.00
White, Wythe	59	1	0	9	0	0	0	21	1847	364.00
Forlines, Leroy	30	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	300	100.00
Porter, Curtis	59	1	6	0	29	3	0	8	3000	100.00
Wynn, Curtiss	50	0	3	100	0	0	0	0	750	0

Gardner (No work reported due to illness)

LEAGUE	Members at Beginning of Quarter	Present Membership	Attending Worship Service	Home Missions	Orphanage	Church Literature	President
Meade's Chapel -----	30	30	12	\$5.00		\$5.00	Flora Cummer
Wilson's Chapel -----	14	14	12			3.70	Carole Brickey
Mary's Chapel -----	34	45	18			21.45	Roger Brewer
Oak Grove -----	40	44	37			3.00	Benson Coffey
Glemorgan -----	32	34	20			60.37	Doris Owens
Central -----	33	40	35			53.50	Jean Shell
Beckner's Chapel -----	22	35	35			1.50	Glenda Moore
Valley View -----	47	40	15			9.00	Gerald Moore
Stallard Memorial -----	22	26	15			20.00	Thelma Litton
E. serville -----	35	43	25			33.40	Herbert T. Gardner

B Y - L A W S

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 case 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 may 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 members of the association to be present at the time appointed for each meeting, and anyone wishing to retire shall first obtain leave of the moderator.

10. No member shall absent himself from the association during its meeting 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. Anyone 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 ones 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 endorsed 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 in 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 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 purpose 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.

