

ERNEST R. BOWEN
3606 WEST END AVENUE
NASHVILLE, TENN. 37205

MINUTES
OF THE
TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
Southwest Virginia
Association
OF
Freewill Baptist
Churches



Held With The
DUNGANNON FREEWILL BAPTIST
CHURCH
Dungannon, Virginia
May 19, 1962

The next session will convene with the First Freewill Baptist Church at Richmond, Virginia, on Saturday before the third Sunday in May, 1963, at 9:00 A. M. (EST)

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 the Baptists 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, North Carolina, in the year 1727. This church was later lost to the Calvinistic Baptists. 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 Baptists 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 the 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 denominations. 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 a 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 several 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. Vanhoose, 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 J. A. 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 the Pocahontas Free Will Baptist Church, Pocahontas, Arkansas, July, 1948, and was adopted.

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 sanctions 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, admonish the erring, and, so 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 the Lord Jesus Christ.

O F F I C E R S

Elder J. B. Chism ----- Moderator
 618 N. Hudson Terrace, Newport News, Va.
 Elder H. V. Johnston, Norton, Va. --- Assist. Moderator
 Leslie G. Ketron, Herald, Va. ----- Clerk
 Minnie Belle Ketron, Herald, Va. ----- Assist. Clerk
 E. J. Kilgore, Coeburn, Va. ----- Treasurer

LEAGUE FIELD WORKERS

Bobby Osgood and Paul Sams ----- Wise, Va.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

	Exp. of office
Eld. W. B. Galloway, Big Stone Gap, Va. -----	1963
Wilton H. Dail, 3322 Lens Ave, Norfolk, Va. -----	1964
S. B. Culbertson, Woodway, Va. -----	1965

LEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE BOARD

D. C. Sturgill, Dryden, Va. -----	1963
Clarence Ramey, Jonesville, Va. -----	1964
Frank Shoemaker, Pennington Gap, Va. -----	1965

Lee County Ordaining Council

Elder E. E. Edens, Keokee, Va. -----	1963
Elder L. H. Martin, Jonesville, Va. -----	1964
Elder Paul Pennington, Pennington Gap, Va. -----	1965

Wise County Executive Board

J. D. Sturgill, Rt. 2, Wise, Va. -----	1963
Elder H. V. Johnston, Norton, Va. -----	1964
Elder Harold Kilgore, Esserville, Va. -----	1965

Wise County Ordaining Council

Elder Hobart Addington, Esserville, Va. -----	1963
Elder Kermit Moore, Pound, Va. -----	1964
Elder P. H. Miller, Big Stone Gap, Va. -----	1965

E N R O L L M E N T

DELEGATES: Paul Bowling, Leamon Bowling, Doloris Bowling, Rosalie Ramsey, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Fields, Adrian L. Howard

MINISTERS: W. B. Galloway, Hobert Addington, W. A. Hales, H. V. Johnston, Paul Butler, Raymond Riggs,

V. B. Thacker, Harold Kilore, Robert Dixon, Della Salvers, Emory Vanover, Ben Powers, J. V. Estep, W. Fentress, David Powers, Ralph Staten, Eddie Sturgill, Howard Ashworth :

DEACONS: M. E. Howard. R. A. Farmer, C. Z. Gillenwater, C. O. Bowman, Edgar Jackson, Leslie Ketron.

P R O C E E D I N G S

The association was called to order with singing under the direction of Elder Robert Dixon. Scripture reading by the clerk, and prayer by Elder Wade Powers.

The moderator took charge, and business resumed as follows:

Elder W. A. Hales was elected Assistant Moderator, due to the absence of Elder Fred A. Rivenbark.

Enrollment of all delegates as they appear elsewhere in these minutes. By regular motion Elder Ralph Staten was seated as a delegate, with all privileges, except voting.

The Moderator was given power to appoint members absent from any committee.

By regular motion, the following oral reports were received from Elder Raymond Riggs (state foreign mission director), Bro. M. E. Howard (trustee of Bible College), Elder Homer E. Willis (general director of Home Missions).

By regular motion, an offering for Home Missions was to be received at the beginning of 11 o'clock worship service.

Conference was adjourned until 1:00 P. M.

11 O'clock

Singing under the direction of Elder Robert Dixon. Offering received for Home Mission \$38.17. Prayer by Elder W. A. Hales. Special singing by Elders Ben and Wade Powers.

Messenger—Elder W. B. Galloway.

Scripture reading from 10th chapter of Acts.

Text—"Importance of the People and Importance of the Preacher", from which Eld. Galloway brought a very timely message.

Fellowship service enjoyed by all. Benediction, Elder Ralph Staten.

1:00 O'clock

Singing under the direction of Elder Ralph Flanary.
Prayer by Eder Raymond Riggs.

The moderator took charge and business resumed as follows:

The request of Tidewater Quarterly Conference to organize their own association was tabled until the next Association.

Report from Brother Wilton H. Dail on Home Mission was received. Treasurer's report was received as it appears elsewhere in these minutes.

The following donations were voted from the Association treasury:

One hundred dollars for Childrens' Home; fifty dollars for Foreign Missions; and fifty dollars for the Bible College.

A rising vote of thanks was given the Dungannon Church for the fine hospitality shown throughout the Association.

Quarterly meeting reports were accepted as they appear in these minutes. Ministers' reports were accepted as they appear in these minutes. Officers were elected as they appear elsewhere in these minutes.

Conference was adjourned until Saturday before the third Sunday in May, 1963, when it shall convene with the First Freewill Baptist Church, Richmond, Va.

Benediction.

WISE COUNTY QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

May 19, 1962

GREETINGS: to the Southwest Virginia Association, when convened with Dungannon Church, May 19, 1962

We send as messengers all delegates from our last conference. Our standing is as follows:

No. Churches -----	35	Membership -----	2028
Members dismissed ---	123	Deceased -----	15
Members received ----	169		
No. Sunday Schools ---	35	Membership -----	2412
No. Youth Leagues ----	14	Membership -----	463
Ladies' Auxiliaries ---	12		
Ordained Ministers ---	63	Licentates -----	7

Minute Fund enclosed, \$202.80

Done by order of Wise County Quarterly Conference,
while in regular session with Dry Fork Church, April,
1962.

Eld. Howard Ashworth, Moderator
203 Pinehurst, Dr., Kingsport, Tenn.
Leslie G. Ketron, Clerk
Herald, Va.
Protem—Eld. Harold Kilgore

TIDEWATER CONFERENCE

Norfolk, Va., May 16, 1962

Greetings: To the Southwest Virginia Association of
Freewill Baptists, when convened with the Dungannon
F.W.B. Church, Dungannon, Va., May 19, 1962.

At our last meeting we appointed the moderator to
choose our delegates from those present at this meeting
whom we pray you will receive to sit with you in your
godly deliberations.

Rev. Ralph Staten, Janet Dail, Mrs. W. H. Dail Ad-
rain Howard.

Our standing is as follows:

Number of churches	---- 9	Membership	----- 1602
Received this year	---- 301	No. Sunday Schools	--- 9
Number Leagues	----- 8	No. Prayer Meetings	-- 9
Ordained Ministers	---- 10	Licentates	----- 2

Minute Fund enclosed, \$160.20.

Done by order of Tidewater Quarterly Meeting of Free
will Baptists while in regular session with the Rich-
FWB church, April 14, 1962.

Rev. Raymond Riggs, Moderator
4624 Larkin St., Norfolk 13, Va.
Mrs. Willie L. McDonald, Clerk
7947 Woodall Rd., Norfolk 18, Va.

Motion properly sustained by the Tidewater Quarter-
ly Meeting of Freewill Baptists that the following three
men: Bros. Riggs, Fentress and Albritten be appointed
on a committee for the purpose of formulating a year-
ly association for the Tidewater churches. It is also rec-
ommended that we request a release from the South-
west Virginia Association at its next session.

TREASURER'S REPORT OF SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF FREEWILL BAPTISTS

May 19, 1962

Balance brought forward from last year-----	\$ 89.33
Wise County Quarterly Conference \$202.80	
Tidewater Quarterly Conference -- 160.20	
Lee County Quarterly Conference-- 39.70	402.70
	\$492.03

DISBURSEMENTS

Ralph Flanary (Moderator) -----	\$ 10.00	
Leslie Ketron, Clerk -----	55.00	
J. B. Chism (State Minutes) -----	50	
Foreign Mission -----	50.00	
F.W.B. Home for children-----	100.00	
F.W.B. Bible College -----	50.00	
Beverly's Print Shop -----	131.00	446.00

Balance in Treasury ----- 46.03

Respectfully submitted,

E. J. KILGORE, Treasurer

LEE COUNTY QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

May 19, 1962

GREETINGS: To the Southwest Virginia Association of Freewill Baptists, when convened with Dungannon Freewill Baptist Church at Dungannon, Va., May 19, 1962.

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 churches -----	7	Membership -----	397
Number received -----	63	Members deceased ---	4
Number dismitter -----	17		
Number Sunday Schools 7		Membership-----	537
Number Leagues -----	3	Membership -----	100
Ordained ministers -----	5	Licentiates -----	1

Minute fund enclosed, \$39.70.

Done by order of Lee County Quarterly Conference of
Freewill Baptists, while in regular session with Willis
Chapel, March 31, 1962.

Elder S. B. Culbertson, Moderator
Woodway, Va.

Mrs. Howard Salley, Clerk
Woodway, Va.

Tidewater Quarterly Meeting Annual Report

CHURCH	1	2	3	4
Fairmount Park, Norfolk, Va.	48	718	\$33,501.59	\$33,280.38
Hyde Park, Norfolk, Va.	26	144	10,909.47	10,974.82
Bethany, Norfolk, Va.	63	166	31,442.37	33,857.86
Portsmouth, Portsmouth, Va.	22	87	13,989.98	14,209.70
Calvary, Portsmouth, Va.	20	67	6,700.27	6,594.43
Newport News, Newp't News, Va.	63	234	19,471.28	18,738.16
Richmond, Richmond, Va.	26	115	10,902.82	10,810.77
Princess Anne	1	39	2,407.26	4,497.51
Bloss Memorial, Arlington, Va.	32	32	4,207.81	2,549.42

CHURCH	5	6	7	8	9
Fair. Park	\$700.00	\$962.07	\$415.00	\$ 00	\$87.50
Hyde Park	00	72.74	69.56	.00	.00
Bethany	.00	286.97	00	898.44	27.02
Portsmouth ..	.00	35.45	.00	.00	7
Calvary	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Newport News	.00	421.35	320.77	.00	72.80
Richmond	.00	4.35	35.02	.00	.00
Princess Anne	13.00	51.09	30.00	.00	.00
Bloss Memorial ...	.00	409.40	.00	.00	.00

CHURCH	10	11
Fairmount Park	\$1,350.25	\$3,427.62
Hyde Park	119.26	.847.49
Bethany	319.91	.978.24
Portsmouth	1.50	.396.56
Calvary	.00	169.13
Newport News	556.18	2,625.54
Richmond	.00	446.73
Princess Anne	5.00	201.12
Bloss Memorial	.00	162.98

KEY TO REPORT

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|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Members received | 5. Promotional work | 9. Superannuation |
| 2. Membership | 6. Home Missions | 10. College |
| 3. Receipts | 7. Orphanage | 11 Foreign Missions |
| 4. Paid Out | 8. Co-op Program | |

ANNUAL MINISTERS' REPORT

Sermons Preached	Churches Pastored	Reivals Held	Professions Witnessed	Number Baptised	Additions to Church	Churches Organized	Tunerals Preached	Miles Traveled	Money Received
W. A. Hales	1	3	47	21	16	0	3	2,000	\$5,490.00
W. H. Fentress	Supply	1	120	0	0	0	1	2,000	0
Raymond Riggs	1	7	116	42	53	0	6	00	5,170.00
Kenneth M. Walker	1	2	17		31	1	1	20,000	2,880.00
James A. Branch	1	1	30		10	0	6	1	2,725.00
L. H. Martin	2	2	75	52	41	0	2	00	687.91
S. B. Culbertson	1	0	2	0	8	0	6	00	509.85
Paul Pennington	1	3	21	8	0	0	0	1,500	95.00
P. H. Miller	2	4	36	15	5	0	35	12,000	.00
J. D. Kilgore	1	0	15	23	13	0	11	8,291	00
Ralph Flanary	1	3	29	18	12	0	16	1,200	400.00
Milam Hall	0	2	6	0	0	0	2	00	25.00
George Collins	1	1	16	8	11	0	0	00	00
James Rose	0	0	5	3	0	0	7	275	00
S. M. McFall (No record kept)									
B. R. Powers	1	3	43	45	0	0	81	00	600.00
Wade Powers	2	6	40	20	10	0	25	5,000	100.00
Harlie Greene	0	2	12	10	0	0	1	00	50.00
J. V. Estep	0	. 0	18	2	0	0	1	1,500	00

Gale Scott	104	1	0	0	08	8	0	10	00	2,080.00
Eddie Sturgill	164	3	1	31	25	19	0	6	2,621	00
V. B. Thacker	77	0	3	116	16	6	0	11	7	00
Della Salyers	28	0	0	3	0	0	0	2	370	37.50
Curtis Porter	170	1	1	18	13	15	1	3	00	00
Kermit Moore	75	1	2	30	28	0	0	16	00	00
H. V. Johnston	82	2	0	7	0	11	0	0	19	127.44
Robert Dixon	25	1	1	14	13	3	0	0	325	86.89
J. T. Greear	86	2	4	51	20	1	0	0	4,200	300.00
Hobart Addington	92	1	1	11	7	1	0	7	2,326	194.81
Paul Butler	104	0	5	23	3	0	0	0	(No record kept)	00
Jack Richmond	70	0	5	95	28	0	0	12	00	00
Harold Kilgore	160	2	4	30	16	12	0	4	3,000	400.00
David Powers	65	1	0	12	4	2	0	15	00	00
W. B. Galloway	30	1	0	3	6	7	0	15	1,300	450.00
Howard Ashworth	0	0	5	32	21	0	0	19	00	275.00

Annual Report Of Lee County Churches

CHURCH	Membership	Pd. Pastor	Orphanage	Evangelistic	Literature	Pastor
Mt. Hope	42	\$750.00	\$60.00	\$338.34	\$16.08	Ray Gardner
Rock Lick	65	390.00	49.00	294.97	75.80	L. H. Martin
Mt. Carmel	98	509.85	103.50	224.45	143.96	S B. Culbertson
Ocoonita	81	229.46	40.00	.00	30.00	Willard Bowman
Willis Chapel	32	224.17	.	.00	4.84	L. H. Martin
Minton Memorial ...	53	240.00	22.00	.00	6.64	P. H. Miller
Hoover Chapel	26	71.65	.00	.00	20.08	Paul Pennington
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Annual Report Of Wise County Churches

CHURCH	Membership	Paid Pastor	Evangelistic Work	Children's Home	Super-annuation	Home Mission	Foreign Mission	Literature	Pastor
Dungannon	156	\$350.00	\$130.00	\$360.62	\$27.00	\$.00	\$205.61	\$91.91	Ralph Flanary
Beech Grove	32	155.00	.00	10.00	.00	2.00	.00	44.49	H. V. Johnston
Gillenwater Chapel . . .	52	.00	.00	20.00	3.00	.00	.00	9.80	Roy Kilgore
Beckner Chapel	51	.00	.00	30.00	.00	.00	.00	50.00	Carson Dotson
Mary's Chapel	135	517.65	223.36	152.55	12.00	.00	.00	138.00	Ben Powers
Tacoma	28	90.00	72.50	105.00	30.00	80.00	.00	106.62	Ritz Large
Ramsey	76	60.00	50.00	9.50	12.00	.00	.00	13.43	Jim Romey
Stevens	53	70.00	.00	.00	5.00	98.00	.00	23.84	Eddie Sturgill
Mt. Olive	38	75.00	291.55	20.00	13.00	.00	.00	31.95	Bobby Osgood
Wilson Chapel	32	73.00	12.00	27.38	2.00	.00	.00	36.24	Harold Kilgore
Mt. View	27	80.00	169.00	.00	4.00	30.00	.00	14.00	Oscar Powers
Indian Creek	125	50.00	80.00	91.36	9.00	.00	.00	69.44	Carson Dotson
Davis Chapel	41	.00	206.00	15.00	.00	.00	.00	82.00	George Collins
Stallard Memorial	32	110.89	419.88	78.91	18.00	.00	27.03	58.46	Harold Hawkins
Bethel Chapel	15	.00	73.00	37.92	2.00	.00	.00	30.77	Ray Gardner
Oak Grove	130	550.00	13.00	360.00	40.00	75.00	45.00	280.65	W. B. Galloway
Hopkins Chapel	43	125.00	60.00	.00	15.00	15.00	.00	39.00	Ray Gardner

West End	78	300.00	173.06	48.01	.00	.00	.00	18.52	P. H. Miller
Valley View	24	96.08	13.32	.00	4.00	.00	.00	21.83	J. T. Greear
Lone Pine	101	348.19	198.30	50.72	12.00	175.25	.00	88.00	J. D. Kilgore
Calvary	30	150.00	.00	.00	1.50	8.00	.00	42.02	Harold Kilgore
Martha Chapel	40	.00	.00	12.85	5.00	.00	.00	26.07	Carson Dotson
Glamorgan	97	600.00	718.90	114.60	12.00	267.37	.00	73.75	Bobby Osgood
Dry Fork	28	105.05	51.64	51.49	4.50	.00	.00	32.73	Jeff Salyers
Central	136	1,230.00	150.00	240.00	3.00	20.00	15.00	97.78	W. E. Harrison
Inman	44	66.37	32.67	45.00	6.00	.00	.00	28.57	Jim Ramey
West Norton	32	.00	156.76	47.82	11.00	.00	.00	21.32	Ray Robinette
Bondtown	30	.00	14.35	14.45	8.00	.00	.00	32.50	H. V. Johnston
Esserville	74	230.00	199.16	148.40	11.00	172.19	15.00	154.08	Bobby Laney
Addisons Chapel	40	90.25	119.10	.00	17.00	.00	.00	21.61	Jim Ramey
Huff Cloverlick	24	.00	.00	3.00	2.00	.00	.00	32.08	Emmit Begley
Durham Chapel	31	.00	.00	33.38	.00	.00	.00	39.80	Herman Dickenson
Flatwoods	63	262.16	.00	102.72	.00	.00	.00	30.00	James Rose
Pippins Chapel	39	100.00	.00	66.36	4.00	3.00	.00	16.06	Wade Powers
Kelly View	51	25.00	.00	12.20	2.50	.00	.00	40.17	Theodore Holmes

BY - 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 be 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 represent 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, 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 discussion 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.

18. It shall be the duty of every minister who holds membership in this association to report in writing to every annual meeting of the association. If any minister fails to report to the association for two successive sessions, he may be dismissed from the association by two-thirds of the members present.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **THE BIBLE.** The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by the 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 affected 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 (Mat. 13:23), 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. RESURECTION, 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".

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