

15-855

MINUTES
FORTIETH ANNUAL SESSION

**Southwest Virginia
Association
of
Freewill Baptist Churches
and
Southwest Virginia
Ministers' Conference**

HELD WITH THE
HOOVER CHAPEL FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Keokee, Virginia

MAY 15th

1976

The Next Session Will Convene With The
DRY FORK FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH

at Coeburn, Virginia

on Saturday, May 14, 1977

9:30 A.M.

PREFACE

For well over two hundred years there has been 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 U. S. 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, N.C., 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 Freewill 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 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 Freewill Baptist churches.

This committee was composed of the following ministers, namely: J. C. Griffin, chairman; Winford Davis, E. B. Joyner, F. 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. 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 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 Freewill 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 knowledge of our Lord and Savior, 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, or 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.

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 Savior 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 men 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 (Matt. 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. **RESURRECTION, JUDGEMENT 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."

OFFICERS

Harold Kilgore, Moderator	Wise, Virginia
Elmer Miner, Assistant Moderator.	St. Paul, Virginia
Ralph Flanary, Clerk	Dungannon, Virginia
Mrs. Ralph Flanary, Assistant Clerk	Dungannon, Virginia
Paul Sams, Treasurer	Wise, Virginia

EXECUTIVE BOARD

	Exp. of Office
Hobert Addington, Wise, Virginia	1977
Ralph Flanary, Dungannon, Virginia	1978
Denver Dean, Wise, Virginia	1979

C. T. S. FIELD WORKERS

Paul Sams, Wise, Virginia	1977
Jeffery Sams, Wise, Virginia	1977
Lars Dorton, Wise, Virginia	1977

ENROLLMENT MINISTERS

William Maness	Denver Dean
Billy Crawford	Harold Kilgore
J. V. Estep	Hobert Addington
Elmer Miner	J. D. Kilgore
Ray Davis	Ray Gardner - Lic.
Ralph Flanary	Donald Bolling - Lic.
Raymond Baird - Lic.	

DEACONS

Lee Greene	Lawerence Honeycutt
Everett Noe	Paul Maness
Elton Hobbs	Oscar Shepherd

DELEGATES

Sharon Maness	Beulah Estep
Faye Sams	Lola Sturgill
Ruth Maness	Lydia Isom
Glessie Shuler	Ida Carter

PROCEEDINGS

9:00 O'clock

The 40th annual session of the Southwest Virginia Association of Free-will Baptist convened with Hoover Chapel Freewill Baptist Church May 15, 1976.

The session was opened by congregational singing of "Beautiful Star of Bethlehem" led by Sister Ruth Maness.

The host pastor, Rev. William Maness, welcomed each one to the church. The clerk then read I Thes. 4:9-18, prayer was led by Rev. Billy R. Crawford.

The Moderator, Rev. Hobert Addington, took charge and called the session to order. Business began by enrolling and seating of ministers, deacons and delegates as shown in the enrollment.

Minutes from last yearly meeting were read and accepted.

Brother Arthur Hall, from Clinch Valley Association was welcomed.

The Moderator gave a report on the John Thomas Associational meeting. He also asked for respect concerning God's business and these meetings.

The letter from the East Wise County Quarterly Conference and the West Wise County Quarterly Conference were read and accepted. A total of \$454.75 was sent with the reports for Associational funds.

The clerk made note of how many were being confused on the starting time of the Conference. He made a motion, and was seconded by Rev. J. V. Estep to change starting time to 9:30 a.m. Motion carried.

The Moderator spoke on love and lack of concern. Rev. Elmer Miner spoke concerning someone to promote interest in the yearly meeting. He made a motion to that effect, and Rev. Ralph Flanary seconded. Motion carried. Rev. Miner said the Moderator should pick someone and give him this responsibility. Rev. Billy Crawford said officers of the conference should do the inviting. Rev. Denver Dean said Pastors did not have time. Rev. J. V. Estep said that responsibility of good will should be placed on a committee. Rev. Harold Kilgore spoke of stirring concern through the Quarterly meeting and the churches. Rev. Addington spoke on independence of churches and if they were going to be this way, they did not need the Association. He asked people to become involved. He picked a committee to promote the annual meeting. The committee consists of Rev. Billy Crawford, Rev. Ralph Flanary, Rev. Harold Kilgore, and Rev. William Maness.

Officers were elected or retained as they appear on the officers list.

Treasurers report was read and accepted. Rev. Flanary pointed out we need to send more money to state meeting.

Rev. Billy Crawford spoke concerning the Lee County Conference. He asked for permission to re-organize the Lee County Conference. They would report to this yearly meeting. He made the above in the form of a motion and a request. Rev. J. V. Estep seconded the motion. Rev. Ralph Flanary spoke on people involved and if there would be enough. Rev. Harold Kilgore asked that consent be given, but that the executive board would give a report at the next yearly meeting. Rev. J. K. Kilgore spoke favorably on the request and his Lee County churches' cooperation.

After other discussion, Rev. Crawford's motion carried, and it was pointed out if the executive board report is favorable, Lee County will be

a quarterly conference and accepted by this association. Mrs. Ida Carter spoke on Lee County re-organization and issuing cooperation and fellowship.

Rev. Ralph Flanary gave ministers conference report which was accepted as it appears in Ministers Conference Report.

An offering of \$81.59 was received for the conference. This brought to a conclusion the business for this session. It was passed that after the preaching service and lunch, each one would be at liberty to go home. The executive board had selected Dry Fork as the next meeting place on May 14, 1977 at 9:30 a.m. Rev. Ronnie Floyd will be the speaker, and Rev. Hobert Addington will be alternate.

Rev. Billy Crawford asked for permission to write letter of protest to the State concerning use of different versions of the Bible other than the King James Version. Motion by Rev. Harold Kilgore and seconded by Denver Dean he be granted permission. Motion carried. All delegates to this meeting will be delegates to the state meeting on Friday and Saturday before the third Sunday in June at Roanoke.

11:00 O'clock

Morning worship began by singing from the Hoover Chapel Trio. Their singing was very inspirational and enjoyed by all. As they sang, an offering of \$35.07 was received for the Children's Home. Prayer was led by Rev. Ray Gardner. Rev. William Maness read I Thes. 5:1-11, and brought a challenging message for our churches and church people wake up and be prepared for Eternity. After a song and fellowship, Rev. Billy Crawford dismissed with prayer and Rev. Elmer Miner blessed the food.

Moderator: Hobert Addington
Asst. Moderator: Billy Crawford

Clerks: William C. Maness
Sharon Maness

MINISTER'S CONFERENCE REPORT
1975 - 1976

The Southwest Virginia Minister's Conference met at Glamorgan Chapel, Friday, April 9, 1976, with 24 members present, one reporting by letter, 17 members absent.

OFFICERS

Rev. J. D. Kilgore, President	Pound, Virginia
Rev. William Maness, Vice-President	Big Stone Gap, Virginia
Rev. Ralph Flanary, Secretary, Treasurer	Dungannon, Virginia

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. J. D. Kilgore	Rev. Danny Mullins
Rev. William Maness	Rev. Milam Hall
Rev. Ralph Flanary	

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance At Beginning of Year	\$ 32.90
Receipts During Year	195.52
	\$228.42
Total Expenses During Year	191.42
Balance At End of Year	37.00

Respectfully Submitted
Rev. Ralph Flanary,
Secretary, Treasurer

CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS
Of the Ministers' Conference of the Southwest Virginia Association
Of Freewill Baptists

ARTICLE I - NAME: This organization shall be called the Ministers' Conference of Southwest Virginia Association of Freewill Baptists.

ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP: The membership of this Ministers' Conference shall consist of ordained ministers in good standing who hold their membership in a Freewill Baptist Church within the Southwest Virginia Association area. This association is to issue cards annually to all members in good standing.

ARTICLE III - FINANCE: This Ministers' Conference will be financed by free-will offerings, which will be received at each session of the conference.

ARTICLE IV - PURPOSE: The purpose of this conference is to promote unity and brotherly love; to promote the Gospel; to promote intellectual and spiritual improvement and to promote Exegetical, Doctrinal and Homolectical study of the scriptures.

All applicants for ministerial licenses must be qualified to preach the Gospel according to the scripture, and must be able to read and write and show a general willingness to grow in the ministry, and willing to abide by the by-laws and treatise of the Freewill Baptist Church.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS: The officers of this conference shall be President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer, the officers to be elected annually.

ARTICLE VI - COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS:

Section 1. Executive Committee: The Executive Committee shall be composed of the President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, and two (2) members elected from the floor.

Section 2. Special Committees: Any special committee may be elected or appointed as needed.

Section 3. A Committee on Ministerial Conduct and Improvement: This Committee shall be composed of five pastors who have been in good standing for five (5) previous years, elected by the body. Their term of office shall be 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 years. One new member to be elected each year.

ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS: The time of meetings of this Ministers' Conference shall be at 7:30 p.m. on Friday night preceeding each Quarterly Conference.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS: This constitution may be amended or altered at any regular meeting of the Ministers Conference by a three-fourths vote of ministers present provided the proposed amendments or alteration be presented in writing to the body at the last regular meeting.

BY-LAWS

1. Each meeting shall be opened with Scripture reading and prayer and shall be closed with prayer.

2. Duties of Officers:

A. President: It shall be the duty of the president to call each meeting to order, preside over all meetings, maintain proper Christian order and discipline in each meeting and to perform the various other duties relating to his office.

B. Vice-President: It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to perform all the duties of the President in his absence.

C. Secretary-Treasurer: It shall be the duty of the Secretary-Treasurer to record minutes, maintain records, keep accurate accounts of all finances and to perform such other duties as pertaining to his office. It shall further be his duty to notify all ministers in this Conference of the time and place of each meeting three weeks in advance of the meeting.

3. It shall be the duty and responsibility of each minister to be present at all meetings if possible. He may report by letter or in person. Each minister must report by letter or in person at least every four meetings to remain in good standing.

4. By a two-thirds vote of all ministers present, a ruling of the president may be overruled.

5. Any person not a member of this conference may be allowed to take part in its discussions by a majority vote of the body.

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

7. On any question of procedure ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER shall be final.

8. No minister of this conference shall be allowed to speak more than five (5) minutes or more than twice on the same subject without the permission of the President.

9. Duties of the Various Committees:

A. Executive Committee: It shall have the power to act in behalf of and for the Ministers Conference from one regular session to another. Any action taken by the Executive Committee when Conference is not in session shall be reported in writing to the next regular Conference for its approval.

B. Committee on Ministerial Conduct and Improvement: It shall be the duty of this committee to hear any appeals which may be made to it by any minister appealing a decision of the ordaining council.

It shall be the duty of this committee to investigate un-Christian conduct, Doctrine and Practices which are not in accord with the National Treatise of Freewill Baptist, and unethical Ministerial Practices or policies. If this committee deems it wise and expedient they should present written charges against any minister who is unsound in Doctrine or practices to the Southwest Virginia Ministers' Association.

It shall be the duty of this Committee, through every means at its disposal to promote ministerial improvement in the fields of Pastoral Care, Administration and Preaching.

**SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION
TREASURER'S REPORT
MAY 15, 1976**

Balance Forward:	\$ 7.76
West Wise County Quarterly Conference	216.00
East Wise County Quarterly Conference.	256.50
 TOTAL	 480.26
Less Disbursements	470.00
 Balance In Treasury	 10.26

DISBURSEMENTS

William Maness, Clerk	\$ 55.00
Virginia State Association	50.00
Treasurer	10.00
Moderator	10.00
Assoc. Minutes	345.00
Total Disbursement	470.00

Respectfully Submitted
Paul D. Sams, Treasurer

GREETINGS:

To the Southwest Virginia Association of Freewill Baptist when convened with Hoover Chapel Freewill Baptist Church, Keokee, Virginia, May 15, 1976. We have chosen all delegates from our last conference as messengers. These, we pray, may sit with you and aid you in your Godly work. Our standing is as follows:

Number of Churches	14
Church Membership.	788
Number of Sunday Schools	14
Sunday School membership.	819
Number of C. T. S.	6
Membership of C. T. S.. . . .	209
Church members received	78
Members dismissed	25
Members deceased	6
Ordained Ministers.	38
Licentiates	6

DISBURSEMENTS

Pastor's salaries	19,014.46
Evangelistic Work	7,553.25
Home for children	1,726.38
Superannuation	274.76
Home missions	3,400.91
Foreign missions	926.80
Literature & Publications	1,726.38
Building and repairs	27,252.93
Minute fund enclosed.	197.00

OFFICERS OF WEST WISE COUNTY QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Jimmy Smith, Norton, Va. 1977
Watson Mullins, Wise, Va. 1978
Kenneth Proffitt, Norton, Va. 1979
Carlos Hash, Wise, Va. 1980
Vadis Shupe, Wise, Va. 1981

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Hobert Addington, Wise, Va. 1977
Denver Dean, Wise, Va. 1978
Roger Freeman, Pound, Va. 1979
Bobby Laney, Wise, Va. 1980
Ray Goode, Wise, Va. 1981

CHURCH TRAINING SERVICE FIELD WORKERS

Mr. and Mrs. James Sawyer, Pound, Va. 1977

TREASURER

Paul Sams, Wise, Va. 1977

Done by order of the West Wise County Quarterly Conference of Free-will Baptist while in regular session with Esserville Church, Esserville, Va., February 28, 1976.

Moderator: Rev. Ray Goode
Asst. Mod: Rev. C. G. Turner

Clerk: Rev. William C. Maness
Asst. Clerk: Sharon Maness

**BY-LAWS
WEST WISE COUNTY CONFERENCE
OF FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCHES**

1. The clerk or assistant clerk, or in their absence, the senior minister in the ministry, who is a member of the West Wise County Conference, shall call the conference to order, 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 the ministry, who is a member of the West Wise County Conference, shall act as moderator.

2. It shall be the duty of the clerk with the assistant clerk to enroll delegates at the door of the conference. Delegates shall present proper evidence of their rights to be seated therein. All delegates shall be issued some type of identification such as a ribbon or badge or card with the name of the delegates pinned to or on the lapel where it will be visible by the moderator when the delegate is standing for business. The deacons, ministers, and delegates enrolled by the clerk shall compose the conference. In case of questionable representation, however, the case under question shall be referred to the Executive Committee.

3. It shall be the duty of every church belonging to this conference to send a letter to every session of this conference reporting in the same, its spiritual condition, benevolent work, and its statistics. Any church belonging to this conference which fails to represent itself for two successive sessions may be dismissed from the conference 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. The meeting shall be closed with prayer.

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

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

7. This conference shall sit with open doors except when it shall go into a Committee of the Whole.

8. It shall be the duty of all members of the conference to be present at the time appointed for each meeting, and anyone wishing to retire shall first obtain permission from the moderator. Exceptions to this would be due to illness, deaths and funerals.

9. No member shall absent himself from the conference during its meeting without first obtaining permission from the moderator.

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

11. The moderator shall not allow discussion when it is not carried on in a Christian spirit, or when he thinks it will cause discord or division.

12. 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.

13. The standing vote, or lifted hands may be counted on any question by request of one-fifth of the members present.

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

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

16. These by-laws may be altered or amended at any regular session of this conference by a two-thirds vote of the members present. All proposed amendments or alterations will be tabled for three months to let each church discuss said amendment or alteration and make their decision of how they want to vote.

17. Any minister desiring to be licensed or ordained must be the husband of one living wife. His wife must have only one living husband.

18. All ministers must be brought before this conference and examined by the ordaining council before being granted a license or ordained.

19. Any Church wishing to join the West Wise County Conference will have a one year waiting period for acceptance or rejection by the Body. After the year is up, if the Church is accepted, it will then be eligible to host the next Conference, regardless of where it stands in alphabetic listing of churches.

20. A person must be present at the conference meeting in order to be elected to an office of this conference.

GREETINGS:

To the Southwest Virginia Association of Freewill Baptist when convened with the Hoover Chapel Church, Keokee, Va., May 15, 1976. We have chosen all delegates from our last conference as Messengers, these we pray may sit with you and aid you in this Godly work.

Our standing is as follows:

Number of Churches	21
Church Membership	1,029
Number of Sunday Schools	21
Sunday School Membership	1,347
No. of Youth Leagues	7
Youth League Membership	233
Church Members Received	132
Members Dismissed	27
Members Deceased	27
Ordained Ministers	32
Licentiates	7

DISBURSEMENTS

Pastors Salaries	24,839.76
Evangelistic Work	7,465.76
Home For Children	3,384.19
Superannuation	619.51
Home Mission	1,951.45
Foreign Mission	1,444.00
Literature & Publications	4,471.40
Building & Repairs	55,901.59
Minute Fund Enclosed	257.25

OFFICERS OF EAST WISE COUNTY QUARTERLY CONFERENCE:

ORDAINING COUNCIL

- Eddie Sturgill, Jenkins, Ky. 1981
- Ray Davis, Pennington Gap, Va. 1980
- J. V. Estep, Big Stone Gap, Va. 1979
- Billy Stover, Norton, Va. 1978
- Ralph Flanary, Dungannon, Va. 1977

EXECUTIVE BOARD

- J. D. Kilgore, Pound, Va. 1979
- Palmer Blevins, Coeburn, Va. 1978
- C. L. Kilgore, Coeburn, Va. 1977

LEAGUE FIELD WORKERS

Mr. and Mrs. Noon Kiser, Coeburn, Va. 1977
Monroe Robinette, Coeburn, Va. 1977

Done by order of the East Wise County Quarterly Conference of Freewill Baptist, while in regular session with the Bull Run Church, Coeburn, Va. April 10, 1976.

Moderator: Rev. J. D. Kilgore
Asst. Mod.: Rev. Billy Crawford

Clerk: Rev. Elmer Miner, Sr.
Asst. Clerk: Monroe Robinette

CONSTITUTION OF EAST WISE COUNTY QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

ARTICLE I. This association shall be called the East Wise County Quarterly Conference, and shall be composed of such consistent, well regulated Freewill Baptist Churches which possess sound doctrine, character, reputation, fellowship, stability and organization, as shall unite in this compact and agree to this constitution.

ARTICLE II. The acting members of this Quarterly Conference shall be the Ministers and Deacons belonging to member churches, who shall be considered as standing members, together with such delegates as are chosen by the several churches of which the Quarterly Conference is composed, to represent them in this Conference; every church to be entitled to two delegates, every church containing 50 members to three (3) delegates, and one (1) additional delegate for each additional twenty-five (25) members.

ARTICLE III. The officers of this Quarterly Conference shall be a Moderator, who shall be elected at the close of each Conference session, and shall serve the conference the following three months. A clerk, and treasurer, who shall serve as standing officers of the Quarterly conference at the discretion of the Quarterly, together with assistants as may be deemed necessary, and an Executive Board consisting of three (3) members, all of whom shall perform such duties as set forth in the by-laws and as usually devolve upon such officers.

ARTICLE IV. Any well-organized and well regulated Freewill Baptist Church which conforms to the practices and agree with the doctrine of the Freewill Baptist denomination, as stated in the treatise of their faith, and are in favor of the benevolent enterprises, as Sunday Schools, Missions, Temperance, and Education, may be received into this Conference, on application, by vote of the Conference.

ARTICLE V. This Quarterly Conference shall have power to discipline its churches for unchristian behavior, a want of conformity to Gospel order, or a violation of the conditions of this compact, and expel them in case of unsuccessful labor; to license and ordain ministers, such as give evidence of being qualified and called of God. By request of churches to which such persons belong; to settle such questions of discipline and doctrine as the churches may refer to it; and transact such other business as may be necessary for the benefit of religion, consistent with liberty and independence of the churches according to the practices of the Freewill Baptist Denomination, and not repugnant to the regulations of the yearly association with which this conference is connected; and to make such by-laws necessary to its regulation not repugnant to this Constitution.

ARTICLE VI. The sessions of the Quarterly Conference shall be on Saturday before the second Sunday in January, April, July and October at 9 a.m. at which time it shall be the duty of all the churches of which it is composed to represent themselves by letter and delegates.

ARTICLE VII. This Constitution may be altered or amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present, notice of such intended alterations or amendments having been given and recorded by the Clerk at the last regular session of the Conference.

BY-LAWS OF THE EAST WISE COUNTY QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

1. Each session of this Conference shall be called in conference by the clerk or assistant clerk, or in their absence the senior minister in years; if a quorum is present, charge shall be taken by the Moderator, or assistant Moderator, or in their absence a moderator shall be elected from the floor. Each session shall be opened by reading a portion of the Bible and with prayer, and shall be closed with prayer.

2. It shall be the duty of the clerk to enroll all ordained ministers and deacons of this conference as standing delegates, and to enroll lay-delegates elected by the various churches as letters are read and approved. Also keep a concise and careful record of all the proceedings, read them at the direction of the moderator, and to perform such other duties his office may direct.

3. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep an accurate record of all Conference finances and disbursements and to report such at the direction of the Moderator.

4. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over all the business transactions of the Conference, and to see that such is carried on according to Roberts Rules of Order parliamentary procedure; to maintain proper christian order and discipline; and to call and preside over any special called meeting of the conference, between sessions, should an emergency arise that warrants immediate attention.

5. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to arrange the programs of the Conference session, if not otherwise determined, to assist in securing pastors for the churches and suitable fields of labor for the ministers; to render special assistance to weak churches; to see that effective work for Home and Foreign Missions, Christian Education, Superannuation, and Sunday Schools is being done in all the churches, appointing, if need be, suitable committees and workers for these enterprises; and to labor faithfully for the general good of the Quarterly Conference.

As such this Board shall have power to act for and in behalf of the Conference from one regular session to another; any such action to be reported to the next regular session for approval.

6. It shall be the duty of the Ordaining Council to examine for license, candidates at the request of the churches to which they are a member; to examine for ordination candidates, recommended by their local churches who have been licensed for one year or more; to ordain deacons at the request of the churches; to ordain candidates to the Gospel Ministry who favorably pass examination, such examination shall include sufficient material to determine a reasonable acquaintance with the Bible, Christian doctrine, and Freewill Baptist teachings, to examine ministers coming from other conferences or denominations.

7. 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 session.

8. This Conference shall be generally governed by Chapter three (3) of this Treatise as published by the National Association in 1969, except as otherwise provided in the Constitution and these By-Laws.

9. The Moderator shall not allow discussions when not carried on in a Christian spirit, or when he thinks it will cause discord and divisions.

10. By a two-thirds majority vote of the members present a ruling of the Moderator may be overruled.

11. Any person not a member of the Conference may be allowed to take part in its discussion by a majority vote of the Conference.

12. No member shall be allowed to speak more than ten (10) minutes, not more than twice on the same subject without permission from the Moderator.

13. No women shall be ordained into the ministry.

14. All candidates ordained into the ministry will be required to be able to read the Bible and to manifest a desire for self-improvement and study. A minister from another denomination wishing to unite with the Freewill Baptist denomination must first unite with a local church, practicing Freewill Baptist doctrine, and will then be subject to examination by the ordaining council as noted in Article VI.

15. Any candidate who has been married and divorced and remarries another will not be granted credentials; no candidate married to a divorcee will be granted credentials; any minister who belongs to this Conference, who divorces his wife and marries another, forfeits his right in the Conference to preach the Gospel, and his credentials will be called for by the Ordaining Council.

16. These By-Laws may be altered or amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present, notice of such intended alterations having been given and recorded by the Clerk at the last regular session of the Conference.

17. This Conference adopts the covenants together with the Faith and Practice of the National Association of Free Will Baptist.

18. No person should hold more than one elective office, at one time that shall continue for one year.

19. Anyone desiring to speak shall rise to their feet, and address the Moderator, "Brother Moderator," but shall not speak further until recognized by the Moderator.

1976 ANNUAL MINISTERS REPORT OF SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA MINISTERS CONFERENCE

MINISTER	Sermons Preached	Churches Pastored	Revivals Held	Professions Witnessed	Number Baptised	Additions To Church	Funerals Preached	Miles Traveled	Money Received
Hobart Addington	65	1		4		6	2	2914	\$1,260.00
C. B. Addison	38	1	1	5		5	1		1,200.00
Jeff Bevins									
Robert Bevins									
Palmer Blevins	135	2	3	25	20	27	3	25,000	3,200.00
Edison Boggs									
Bernard Brasky	64			6	3				150.00
Jess Cowden									
Billy R. Crawford	183	1	5	34	18	19	3	5,000+	3,100.00
E. R. Davis		Sick							
Denver Dean	50	1		9	8		3		
J. V. Estep	60	1	1	6	9	10	1	3640	407.97
Ralph Flanary	161	2	2	16	12	10	12	5,000+	1,800.00
Ronnie Floyd	112	1	1	24	10	15	2	20,000	7,800.00
G. T. Francis	40		1	5	2		2	1,000	
Roger Freeman	105		9	52	37		5		
Ray L. Goode	95	1	3	150	40	15	1	15,000	1,000.00
Perry W. Honeycutt	48	2			3		2	1,000	1,150.00
Milam Hall		1		3		5	1	1,500	
Munroe Hall	24								

Vestus Jessee	23		1	5						
James H. Kilgore	90	1	2	5	10	6	12			
J. D. Kilgore	130		1	12	13	12	7	5,465	\$365.00	
William Kilgore	40			15			4			
J. E. Leonard	45	1		5		1	4	1,500	885.00	
Hansford Mullins	42	1		6						
Leroy Mullins	90	1						800		
William C. Maness	105	1	1	23	8	17	3	4,500	750.00	
Richard McFarland	75	1	1	3				10,000	400.00	
Hobart Martin		1				6			50.00	
Ermitt Mullins	100	1	1	15	20			10,000	1,200.00	
Elmer Mines, Sr.	170	1		8	5	3	25	3,000	2,000.00	
Everet Mullins	21							1,500		
Ben Powers	24				5		84			
David Powers	76	1		24	12	2	28			
Paul Pennington	45	1	2	3	10				420.00	
Fred Ramey	97	1	2	18	20	1	2	20,000		
Donnie Rutherford	75	1		30	22	15		1,000	\$100.00	
Jim Ramey	100	1		2		2	9	150		
Jeff Salyer (Retired, ill)										
Bill Stover		1					2			
Garland Summers	50			3			1	1,000		
Claude Sloce										
Eddie Sturgill	147	2	9	104	39	12	14	7,149		
C. G. Turner	26			4						
Tyler Tate	35						2	1,818	581.20	

ANNUAL REPORT ON CHURCHES OF THE EAST WISE COUNTY QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

CHURCH	Membership	Paid Pastor	Paid Evangelist	Paid Orphanage	Super-annuation	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Literature & Publications	Sunday School Membership	League Membership	
Beech Grove	27	1,005.60	571.74	40.00		164.78		165.70	50	16	William Maness
Bondtown	45			10.00				31.00	45		Gene Vanover
Bull Run	52	600.00	1,114.94	439.26	20.00	30.00		231.90	80	40	Ralph Flanary
Central	82	7,810.00	225.00	100.00		690.00	679.00	1,176.48	103	46	Ronnie Floyd
Davis Chapel	33	593.00	317.66	40.00	40.00			142.00	55	25	David Powers
Dry Fork	58	1,647.00	536.64	40.00	20.00			216.05	68	20	Elmer Miner, Jr.
Durham	29		348.35	358.35		458.81		232.16	55	30	Jonah Shoop
First FWB	30	351.00	255.00					47.94	42		Fred Ramey
Flatwood	35	628.00	132.67	20.00	20.00			95.08	35		Milam Hall
Inman	21	650.00	745.94	424.97	300.00			138.24	40		Billy Stover
Lone Pine	66	1,350.00	215.00	241.04	79.50	150.00	125.00	522.48	55		Kermit Moore
Mary's Chapel	167	1,200.00	962.81	415.64	20.00		420.00	708.97	260	56	Eddie Sturgill
North Fork	43	350.00	221.50	60.00				66.75	35		Paul Pennington
Oconita	42	1,000.00	415.00	203.17		100.00	100.00	88.25	40		Palmer Blevins
Pippin Chapel	28		75.00	10.00	1.00	1.00			30		Willard Kiser
Ramsey	97	346.27	383.20	186.66	60.00		40.00	48.60	123		James Ramey
Rock Lick	73	2,600.00	403.33	640.00	40.00	40.00	80.00	246.89	87		Palmer Blevins
Tacoma	21	90.00				50.71		39.09	40		Perry Honeycutt
Valley View	22	483.58	30.00	103.10	20.00			64.28	29		Perry Honeycutt
Victory	41	2,867.93	433.98	20.00		267.14		137.81	59		Billy Crawford
Willis Chapel	17	421.00	78.00	32.00				71.73	17		J. V. Estep

ANNUAL REPORT ON CHURCHES OF THE WEST WISE COUNTY QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

CHURCH	Membership	Paid Pastor	Paid Evangelist	Paid Orphanage	Super-annuation	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Literature & Publications	Sunday School Membership	League Membership	
Martha's Ch.	64			10.00	10.00				30		Danny C. Mullins
Mt. Olive	29	825.00	100.00	225.00	20.00			101.92	65		Leroy Mullins
Mt. View	68	1,200.00	894.69		20.00			110.69	90	30	C. B. Addison
Stevens	33	125.00	138.00	25.00	15.00			35.00	40		Donnie Rutherford
West Norton	49	600.00	1,480.56	72.89	20.00		150.00	95.05	55		Ray Goode
Wilson's Ch.	42	1,125.00	547.85	130.00	20.00	100.96	25.00	169.45	70	40	Thurman Mullins
Beckners Ch.	71	807.60	215.40		20.00			118.11	65		Monroe Hale
Bethel*	43		363.83	135.20	13.76	15.00	15.00	93.55	54	34	Denver Dean
Esserville	70	9,400.00	444.91	76.07	20.00	133.35	165.00	505.91	93	58	
Glamorgan**	86	1,826.00	1,371.00	225.00	36.00	170.00	135.00	781.24	102	26	James H. Kilgore
Hoover Hill	39	450.86	943.05		20.00			14.55	45		William C. Maness
Hopkins Ch.	67	1,000.00		76.27	20.00			76.12	40		Emmitt Mullins
Indian Creek	111	1,115.00	742.00	400.00	20.00	568.00	721.80	573.62	80	21	Eddie Sturgill
Kelly View	16	240.00	311.96	350.95	20.00			63.75	30		Theodore Holmes

*\$15.00 to Bible College **\$60.00 to Bible College

