

**MINUTES**  
OF THE  
**Thirty-First Annual Session**  
OF THE  
**State Line Freewill Baptist**  
**Association**  
CONVENED WITH  
**Rocky Grove Church**  
Jackson County, Florida  
OCTOBER 5th, 6th, 7th, 1916.

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**OFFICERS:**

REV. W. S. COOK, Moderator	Pansy, Ala.
REV. J. M. MURDOCK, Assistant Moderator	Ashford, Ala.
J. W. D. STEPHENS, Clerk	Bascom, Fla.
H. G. GREEN, Treasurer	Bascom, Fla.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

R. G. HATCHER, Bascom, Fla.	WESLEY TAYLOR, Ashford, Ala.
W. H. JENKINS, Ashford, Ala.	D. W. OWENS,
J. D. OLIVER, Ashford, Ala.	

**HOME MISSION BOARD**

J. G. CHANDLER, Ashford, Ala.	J. M. MURDOCK, Ashford, Ala.
A. L. GRANGER, Crosby, Ala.	A. HOLLAND, Bascom, Fla.
G. W. CHERRY, Dothan, Ala.	

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The next session meets with Long Branch church, Geneva County, Ala., on Thursday before the Second Sunday in October, 1917.

*Ref. 1000*

# ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Organize.
2. Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.
3. Call for letters from the different Churches.
4. Call for Petitionary letters.
5. Elect officers.
6. Call for Correspondents from Sister Associations.
7. Appoint committees.
8. Call roll and read Decorum.
9. Appoint correspondents to Sister Associations.
10. Call for report of Committees.
11. Call for Treasurer's report.
12. Call for miscellaneous business.
13. Adjournment.

## ORDAINED MINISTERS

Adams, O. O.	Magnolia	Midland City.	Ala.
Braun, C. F.	Pittman Creek	Black,	Ala.
Burdeshaw, J. H.	Prospect	Cowarts,	Ala.
Burdeshaw, J. J.	Prospect	Dothan,	Ala.
Chandler, D. L.	Springfield	Ashford.	Ala.
Cherry, G. W.	Prospect	Dothan,	Ala.
Cook, W. S.	Union Springs	Pansy,	Ala.
Givens, J. A.	Springfield	Webb,	Ala.
Granger, A. L.	New Life	Grosby,	Ala.
Hunter, R. L.	New Pilgrim	Columbia,	Ala.
Ingram, J. C.	Pleasant Home	Ashford,	Ala.
Murdock, J. M.	Howard Grove	Ashford,	Ala.
Oloff, G. W.	Howard Grove	Ashford,	Ala.
Pearce, J. D.	New Harmony	Cottonwood,	Ala.
Ray, C. G.	New Rocky Grove	Bassom,	Ala.
Rhodes, J. H.	New Pilgrim	Ashford,	Ala.
Sowell, J. D.	Pittman Creek	Black,	Ala.
Stephens, J. D.	Hickory Grove	Marianna,	Fla.
Swails, F. M.	Pleasant Home	Hartford,	Ala.
Tremontana, W. W.	Pittman Creek	Black,	Ala.
Whitaker, Joseph	Howard Grove	Ashford,	Ala.
Whittle, C. M.	New Hope	Ozark,	Ala.
Widner, J. A.	Springfield	Webb,	Ala.

## LICENTIATES

Adams O.O.	Magnolia	Midland City	Ala.
Carter, W. T.	Springfield	Ashford;	Ala.
Dunn, G. J.	Long Branch	Sampson,	Ala.
Kirkland, A. M.	New Hope	Midland City,	Ala.
Radney, A. B.	Prospect	Webb,	Ala.
Sellers, Otis A.	New Harmony	Cottonwood,	Ala.

*Heard, Wm. New Harmony Malone, Ala.*  
*Widner J.A. Springfield, Webb, Ala.*

# MINUTES

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The State Line Freewill Baptist Association convened in its Thirty-First annual session with Rocky Grove church, Jackson county, Florida, Thursday, October 5, 1916.

Rev. R. L. Hunter preached the introductory sermon, Text: Titus 2:11.

Adjourned for dinner.

The Moderator, Jefferson D. Stephens, called the body to order. The moderator read the 8th chapter of Romans with some comment.

Prayer by Rev. J. J. Burdeshaw.

The body announced ready for business. Invited visiting brethren to seats with us. Called for letters from different churches and Bro. A. J. Granger and Bro. B. L. Hunter were appointed to read the letters. Names of churches and delegates as follows:

Magnolia—G. R. Dunlap.

Springfield—W. H. Hays, W. J. Griffin.

Pleasant Home—D. W. Owens, J. T. Eubanks.

Union Springs—O. Z. Henderson.

New Hope—A. M. Kirkland.

Rocky Grove—Cary Baxter, T. Z. Evans, Charlie Robinson, Richard Baxter, Geo. Elmore, Joe Lynn.

Spring Hill—Collis Jordan, W. J. Robinson.

Freewills Rest—B. S. Braswell, H. C. Harrison, Allen Baxter, J. T. Braswell, S. E. Braswell, W. R. Braswell.

New Harmony—A. J. Granger, J. J. Granger, Tom Hall, James Granger, Riley Moore.

Hickory Grove—H. G. Green, R. G. Hatcher, Joe Ditty, T. J. Simes, T. J. Miller, Frank Hatcher, Lacy Ditty, Walter Baxter, Wesley Ditty, A. Holland, G. W. Long, C. B. Green, J. J. Hatcher.

Prospect—J. F. Patterson, T. E. Cherry, J. S. Conner.



Pleasant Ridge—J. W. Day, H. C. Smith.

Long Branch—R. E. Evans.

New Life—J. H. Williams, J. T. Evans.

Howards Grove—Geo. Smith, S. P. Adams, J. F. Capps.

The letters were received and adopted.

By motion, called and corrected roll.

Call for petitionary letters.

The body was permanently organized by electing moderator and clerk. Rev. W. S. Cook was elected moderator and J. W. D. Stephens was re-elected clerk. Rev. J. M. Murdock was next highest and was chosen as assistant moderator.

Prayer by Rev. J. C. Eldridge. Called for correspondents from sister associations.

From Salem—Rev. J. C. Eldridge.

From Liberty—Rev. T. E. Ross.

From Midway—Rev. J. Houston and Rev. S. Ely.

They were received and given right hand of fellowship while singing "Stand Up for Jesus."

Appointed part of committees. Adjourned till 8:30 a. m. Friday.

#### FRIDAY MORNING.

Song. Prayer by Rev. S. Ely. Moderator read from 5th chapter of Matt. Prayer by the moderator.

Completed committee appointments. Committees as follows:

Divine Services—T. Z. Evans, R. G. Hatcher, G. R. Dunlap.

State of Churches and Character of Ministers—W. H. Hays, G. R. Dunlap, H. G. Green, J. T. Eubanks, A. J. Granger.

Documents—G. W. Cherry, A. Holland, J. Houston, G. W. Oliff.

Education—R. L. Hunter, J. Houston, Jefferson D. Stephens, G. W. Oliff, J. J. Burdeshaw.

Home Missions—A. Holland, Otis Sellers, J. C. Eldridge, Carter Harrison, H. C. Smith.

Nominations—Cary Baxter, A. M. Kirkland, C. G. Ray, O. Z. Henderson, Joe Ditty, Allen Baxter, D. W. Owens, J. S. Conner.

Suggestions—Jefferson D. Stephens, W. J. Griffin, J. Houston, J. C. Eldridge, T. E. Ross, J. J. Burdeshaw.

Sunday Schools—D. L. Chandler, G. W. Long, J. F. Patterson, C. B. Green, T. E. Cherry, S. Ely.

Temperance—R. G. Hatcher, T. J. Miller, Lacy Ditty, T. E. Cherry, Jas. Granger, T. E. Ross.

Finance—Jefferson D. Stephens, J. W. Day, George Smith, A. J. Granger, J. D. Pearce.

Obituaries—G. W. Cherry, Geo. Elmore, Richard Baxter, J. F. Capps, Otis Sellers.

Read Decorum. Appoint correspondents to sister associations.

To Salem—J. T. Braswell, B. S. Braswell, G. W. Oliff.

To Midway—R. L. Hunter, J. J. Burdeshaw.

To Liberty—J. M. Murdock, R. E. Evans, G. W. Elmore, J. T. Eubanks, H. C. Harrison.

To Southeastern—G. W. Cherry, R. L. Hunter, J. J. Burdshaw.

To Marten—A. Holland, J. T. Braswell, B. S. Braswell, H. C. Harrison.

Adjourned till 1:30 p. m.

Rev. J. Houston preached an interesting sermon at 11 o'clock.

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

The body was called to order and the moderator read from 25th chapter of Matt.

Report on missions read and was adopted after being discussed by A. Holland, J. D. Pearce, G. W. Oliff, G. W. Cherry, J. J. Burdshaw, Otis Sellers and J. C. Eldridge.

Report on suggestions read and adopted by amending that each male member send 50c instead of 25c.

Report on Nominations read and adopted.

Report on Sunday Schools read and adopted. It was interestingly discussed.

Report on Finance read and adopted.

Report on Obituaries read and adopted. The body sang "Nearer My God to Thee," and humbled in prayer with Rev. R. L. Hunter in memory of Rev. J. I. Hatcher, deceased.

Report on State of Churches and Character of Ministers read and adopted.

Report on Education read and adopted.

Report on Documents read and adopted.

Adjourned till 8:30 a. m. Saturday.

### SATURDAY MORNING

The body was called to order and after prayer by Jefferson D. Stephens, the moderator read the 23rd Psalm. Prayer by the moderator.

Report on Temperance read and adopted.

Treasurer's report made and adopted.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Received.....	\$37 45	
Paid Clerk for his services.....		\$10 00
Paid for printing minutes.....		25 00
Paid expenses on minutes from press		
to various churches .....		1 70
Balance on hand.....		75
		<hr/>
		\$37 45

Miscellaneous - On motion pay clerk \$10.00

The following ministers' names were removed from ministers roll: Rev. J. I. Hatcher, deceased; Rev. J. D. Calloway, joined Salem association.

By motion, extended right hand of Christian greeting to Rev. J. J. Burdshaw.

By motion, elect executive committee: R. G. Hatcher, Wesly Toler, W. H. Jenkins, D. W. Owens, J. D. Oliver were elected.

By motion, elected Home Mission Board. J. G. Chandler, J. M. Murdock, A. L. Granger, A. Holland, G. W. Cherry were elected.

Bro. H. G. Green was elected treasurer.

By motion, table report of committee on discipline, which was handed in at last session.

By motion of A. Holland the heart felt thanks of the Association was tendered Rocky Grove church and community for their kind hospitality during our session.

On motion of Bro. J. T. Eubanks, adjourn to meet with Long Branch church on Thursday before second Sunday in October, 1917.

REV. W. S. COOK, Moderator.

J. W. D. Stephens, Clerk.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEES

### FINANCE

We, your committee on Finance, beg leave to report as follows:

Received for Associational purposes	\$13 60
Received for minutes	15 30
Received for Home Missions	75

Total \$29. 65

JEFFERSON D. STEPHENS

Chairman Committee.

### DIVINE SERVICES

We, the committee on Divine Services, report as follows: Thursday, Rev. J. J. Burdshaw to preach at 8 p. m., Friday; Rev. J. Houston to preach at 11 a. m.; Rev. T. E. Ross to preach at 7 p. m.; Saturday, Rev. S. Ely to preach at 11 a. m.

Respectfully,

T. Z. EVANS, Chairman.

### STATE of CHURCHES & CHARACTER of MINISTERS

We, your committee on Churches and Character of Ministers, beg leave to report as follows: That all churches and the ministers are in good standing so far as comes under our knowledge at the present.

W. H. HAYS, Chairman.

### HOME MISSIONS

We, your committee on Home Missions, make the fol-



lowing report: We find that there is still nothing being done in the work of Home Missions, and recommend that all ministers serving churches in this Association preach on Home Missions and endeavor to raise funds for this purpose, and on failure to do so he must give his reason for same. The purpose of this is to raise funds to put a missionary in the field.

Respectfully,

A. HOLLAND, Chairman.

Amended by Rev. G. W. Cherry to say that each male member send 50c and each female send 25c.

### SUNDAY SCHOOLS

We, your committee on Sunday Schools, find the Sunday school on the upper tendency. We find quite an increase of churches that have Sunday schools. We recommend that the churches put forth greater efforts to further the interest of the Sabbath school cause. We also recommend that the preachers take an active interest in this cause.

D. L. CHANDLER, Chairman.

### OBITUARIES

We, the committee, make the following report: We find 20 deaths in our Association and recommend that the clerk of the church furnish the clerk of the Association with the obituaries that they may be placed on the minutes of this Association. Names as follows:

Sister Georgia West, New Harmony.

Sister Minnie Hammack, Magnolia.

Sister Bob Brown, Magnolia.

A. L. Jordan, Union Springs.

S. T. Stewart, Pleasant Home.

John Stones, Pleasant Home.

A. M. Lowery, Pleasant Home.

Emma Dickson, Pleasant Home.

Sarah Swails, Pleasant Home.

J. T. Ward, New Hope.

Tiney Baxter, Rocky Grove.

Sister S. F. Robinson, Spring Hill.

G. A. Howard, Spring Hill.



Sister Jennie Pool, Spring Hill.

Rev. J. I. Hatcher, Hickory Grove.

Vincy Howell, Prospect.

H. M. Moore, Prospect.

P. A. Hart, New Life.

J. I. Finlay, New Life.

Mary A. Robinson, Prospect. Respectfully,

G. W. CHERRY, Chairman,

### NOMINATIONS

We, your committee on Nominations, beg leave to make the following report: We nominate Long Branch for the next session of this association. We nominate Brother J. M. Murdock to preach the introductory sermon and Brother G. W. Cherry to close. Also that the Union Meeting meet with New Harmony church and Brother J. J. Burdshaw to preach the introductory sermon.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. BAXTER, Chairman.

### TEMPERANCE

We, your committee, beg to make the following report: We believe that intoxicating spirits is one of the worst evils that there is amongst us, because it brings want to our land and makes orphans and widows, and fills our jails and insane asylums with its victims. Brethren, let's work and pray and strive with all of our power and strength to remove it from amongst us. We ask all of our preaches to at least preach on Temperance once every year.

Respectfully submitted,

T. E. ROSS, Chairman.

### DOCUMENTS

We, your committee on Documents, beg to make the following report: That we urge our churches to use Free-will Baptist literature in our Sunday schools, and to use the Freewill Baptist paper published at Aden, N. C.

Respectfully,

G. W. CHERRY, Chairman.

We, the committee on Suggestions report as follows.

1. Immediately after the adjournment of this association that each church come together with their pastor and elect a treasureman and finance committee; that they take up a collection quarterly, to be placed in the hands of the treasury for the support of the pastor and other necessities of the church. Also 50c from each male member to be sent to the Association for Home Missions and for the support of aged ministers. Any church failing to endeavor to do so must give their cause or reason to the Association. We further suggest that each pastor must preach at least one sermon on Home Mission in his church in this Association. We further suggest that each pastor use his best efforts to have a Sunday school organized in his church. We suggest that each preacher of this association report to the next session a detailed itemized statement of his work for the year.

JEFFERSON D. STEPHENS, Chm.

#### EDUCATION.

Your committee beg to submit the following report—  
On christian education: The Freewill Baptist denomination for the last five years has been phenomenal. This should be very gratifying to all who have an interest in the great work of bringing our denomination up to a higher degree of efficiency. Education means success to your denomination, by this means we hope to add strength to the great force of our christian workers. It is the duty of every christian to concentrate his efforts and money for the advancement of our cause and to bring our children up to a higher standard of morals and christian activity, and we insist that our ministers give their members a thorough training in Bible doctrines, and we especially insist that they strive to make deep and lasting impressions upon the minds of every hearer that will be instrumental in shaping their destiny that they may be a power in the world for good, for we fully realize that the time has come when the educated must bear the great responsibility of reforming the world. The great leaders of today are men

who have spent the greater part of their lives preparing themselves for every emergency, and if we, as a denomination, will educate our boys and girls and especially our boys, we will have as great men as the world has ever had. We believe that a goodly number of them will join the great army of christian workers, then let us go with our time and money and give our children a more complete education that they may help us to further the cause of Christianity in this world. Respectfully submitted,

R. L. HUNTER, Chairman,

## CONSTITUTION

Article 1.—This Association shall be composed of delegates sent annually from the churches upon which it is based.

Art. 2. Each church shall be entitled to two delegates for every twenty-five members and one delegates for the fractional part of twenty-five. Providing any church having less than twenty-five members it shall be entitled to two delegates.

Art. 3. The delegates from each church shall bear a letter certifying their election, to which shall be subjoined a table stating the number baptized, received by confession of faith, by letter, by restoration, dismissed by letter, excluded or died within last Associational year, amount of all contributions, the time of the monthly meeting, the membership, ordained and licentiated ministers with their post office, and signed by the pastor and clerk of the church with their post office.

Art. 4. Newly constituted, or other churches, desiring admission into this union shall petition by delegation and letter, and if upon examination found to be orthodox and orderly they shall be received into the Association, and such reception shall be manifested by giving the right hand of fellowship.

Art. 5. It is expected that the churches composing this body will send delegates and contributions every session and that no church withdraw from the Association assigning reason for the intended withdrawal.

Art. 6. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, Executive Committee and Home Mission Board. The Executive Committee and Home Mission Board shall be composed of five members each.

Art. 7. The Association shall meet annually, according to adjournment, and shall have power to transact all business pertaining to the general good of the body.

Art. 8. This Constitution may be altered or amended by a majority of the delegates present during any session.

## DECORUM

Article 1. The Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, Executive Committee and Home Mission Board shall be elected by ballot annually.

Art. 2. Moderator shall preside over the deliberations of Association when in session, preserve order and submit motions and other matters. He shall have the same right to vote as any other member, and provided the chair is occupied, the same right of speech.

Art. 3. Every motion receiving a second shall be submitted to the body unless withdrawn.

Art. 4. Only one person shall be allowed to speak at a time and such speaker shall address the Moderator and shall not be interrupted while speaking except by the Moderator, and then only when he departs from the subject under debate. Provided, how-



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ever, any brother may address the Moderator to a point of order.

Art. 5. The Clerk shall record the proceedings of the body when in session and superintend the publication of the same, and do all other writing pertaining to the business of the Association. He shall also preserve a file of the minutes of the Association which he shall deliver to his successor in office.

Art. 6. The Treasurer shall keep a correct account of all funds received and disbursed by him showing balance if any, on hand. He shall only pay out money on the order of the Association or the Executive Committee.

Art. 7. The Executive Committee shall have power to execute the laws and regulations of the Association, when the Association is not in session, and to make rules for their own government, provided such rules are not repugnant to the Constitution or Decorem of the Association.

Art. 8. It shall be the duty of the Home Mission Board to work for church extension and church preservation for which purpose they shall draw on the Executive Committee and various churches for the necessary funds when the Association is not in session. The Board may make rules and regulations for their own government that are not conflictive with the Constitution or Decorum of the Association.

Art. 9. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

Art. 10. The name of the delegates shall be enrolled and called as often as the Association may deem proper.

Art. 11. No church or minister shall be received into this Association that refuses to comply with this Decorum or the ordinances which are given us in the Gospel.

Art. 12. This Decorum may be altered or amended by a majority of the delegates present during any session.

#### CHURCH DECORUM

1. The church may choose a pastor annually at the last regular conference in Associational year; or if they prefer, it may choose a pastor for an indefinite length of time to continue from year to year, so long as they may deem it proper to keep up connection.

2. When it becomes necessary, a pastor may be chosen at any other time, but if the choice be made at a special conference, the time must be appointed at a monthly meeting of the church.

3. The pastor shall be moderator of the church, but when he is absent or does not sit as moderator, being present some suitable brother shall be appointed to sit in his place.

4. The pastor of each church shall have power to form a presbytery and ordain deacons for the church; also examine preachers who may apply for such, also to examine ordained ministers who make application to our order, shall be set apart in rank, but not re-ordained.

5. There shall be two or more deacons in the church whose duty it shall be to superintend the collection and disbursement of the contributions made by the church for the pastor, etc., and to distribute the bread and wine in the Administration of the Lord's Supper.

6. The deacons shall take notice of such members as refuse or neglect to partake of the Lord's Supper and endeavor to ascertain the cause, that the same may be laid before the church in conference if necessary.

7. Some suitable member shall be appointed clerk and it shall be his duty to do all the recording and other writing pertaining to the business of the church, and to preserve a file of the minutes of the Association.

8. When a new clerk is appointed all the books, etc., belonging to the clerk shall be immediately delivered to him by his predecessor.

9. When a church deems it necessary, a committee of not less than three males members well acquainted with business, shall be appointed, whose duty it shall be to give advice to brethren who apply to them relative to cases of dealing, etc., with the church.

10. The church shall hold a two days meeting monthly embracing Saturday and the Lord's Day following, the first of which shall be the regular time of conference.

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11. It shall be the duty of every member, male and female, to attend each conference meeting if they can, for on that day the pastor is expected to instruct the church in a spiritual manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on doctrine, discipline and the rule of holy living.

12. Any church member who shall fail to attend three successive conferences and any member whatever who may be generally remiss in attending the meetings of the church according to the covenant (Art. 10), shall be cited to appear in conference and answer for his neglect, but the church may exempt members from this rule if necessary.

13. Conference after prayer or divine service shall be opened and conducted as follows: (1) Inviting visiting brethren to seats. (2) Opening door of church for the reception of members. (3) Calling for the reading of the minutes of the last conference. (4) Calling for absentees. (5) For acknowledgements. (6) For new matters of dealing which are to come before the body. (8) For miscellaneous business.

14. Visiting brethren, as helps called from sister churches, shall be allowed to speak and make motions but not allowed to vote.

15. Any orderly member of the Baptist church may be received into the church without a letter, when it is made apparent that his Christian character is unimpeachable and that he has applied for a letter and could not obtain it because he desired to join this or some sister church. All other members must join by letter or baptism.

16. No member shall be received without the unanimous consent of the members present, but unreasonable objections shall not be valid, and unless withdrawn the member who makes them shall be liable to be taken under dealing by the church.

17. When the moderator calls for absentees, the Clerk shall inform the church what members have been absent from three successive conferences, and the moderator shall appoint some brother or brethren to cite each of them to the next conference.

18. No member shall be expelled unless he has been cited verbally or in writing to attend his trial; provided his residence be known to the church.

19. When a witness, not a member of the church, is introduced, he shall not be examined till the question has been put to the church; "Will you hear the testimony of this witness?"

20. The evidence in every case of dealing and acknowledgement shall be minuted in the church book.

21. Members dismissed from the church by letter who become disorderly, or continue to hold their letters without a good reason, shall be cited to the conference to answer for their conduct.

22. Expelled members may be restored to fellowship on their petition if their walk since expulsion has convinced the church that they have sincerely repented of their former evil conduct.

23. A vote shall not be taken upon any question without a move and a second, and in all important questions the vote shall be taken by rising to the feet.

24. No motion shall be made while a move and a second is before the conference.

25. It shall be considered disorderly for any member to absent himself from conference when an important question is to be decided, but a member upon his request may be exempted from voting on either side in peculiar cases.

26. No member shall leave the house during conference without sufficient cause, nor engage in conversation or whispering without being subject to be called to order by the moderator.

27. All discussions in conference must be conducted with calmness and good feeling; those who wish to speak must rise to their feet and address the moderator and keep to the point in the debate.

28. No one shall speak more than three times on the same motion without permission from the moderator, nor shall the remarks of any one be unreasonably long.

29. When the moderator speaks in debate he must nominate some brother moderator in his stead.

30. No one shall be interrupted while speaking unless it is necessary to call him to order.

31. It shall be the rule of the church to attend to the administration of the Lord's



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Supper at least four times a year and the expenses are to be paid by the church.

34. Members not in good standing shall not commune, but the administration shall not be deferred on account of any ordinary matter of dealing.

33. Feet washing shall be attended to as the church sees proper.

34. Public fasting, humiliation and prayer shall be observed on proper occasions.

35. The Decorum may be amended or altered by the vote of two-thirds of the members present at any two successive monthly conferences.

#### ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. Of God—We believe that there is one and only one living and true God, infinite in all His attributes, the Creator, Preserver and Governor of the universe, revealed to us in the Scriptures as the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.—Tim. 1:7; Isaiah 45:22; St. John 17:2.

2. The Holy Scriptures—We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by the inspiration of God and are binding on all as our infallible rule of faith and practice.—II Tim. 3:16; Rom. 16:4; and 4:23-41, Peter 1:21.

3. Of Christ—We believe He is God manifest in the flesh; being in His divine nature the true God, in human nature the true man, united in person the Messiah and the mediator for the redemption of the world.—Luke 2:4-12 inclusive; Matt. 1:18-21.

4. Of the holy Spirit—We believe that He is the third person in the Holy Trinity and possesses all personal divine attributes, being the Reprover, Comforter and Sanctifier.—St. John 14:25, 15-26 and 16:7-15, inclusive.

5. Of salvation—That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel, that it is the immediate duty of all to receive it by cordial and obedient faith, and that nothing prevents the salvation of any, so long as the spirit continues to strive with them, but their own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ.—Rom. 1:16; Phil. 2:12; Heb. 2:3.

6. The Fall of Man—We believe that man was created sinless, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. All his posterity inherited this falling nature and all who come to years of accountability will sin and come short of the glory of God except that they receive Salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ.—Gen. 3:6, 1-26, 5:1 and 9-6; Rom. 3:23; Mark 16-16; Acts 10-43.

7. Atonement—We believe that Christ in His great compassion offered Himself as a sacrifice in our stead; therefore God desires the salvation of all, and the gospel invites all, and whosoever will may come and partake of the water of Life.—I Cor. 1:7; Eph. 5:2; Heb. 2:9, 26; Rom. 5:5; Rev. 22:17.

8. Of Election—We believe that God has not fixed the future state of man by any unconstitutional decree delivered from the beginning, except to save all who comply with the terms of salvation.—John 8:31; Luke 11:28; Acts 10:35; Deut 11:26-28.

9. Of Perseverance—We believe that none will be finally saved but those who through grace persevere in holiness to the end.—John 8:31; Tim. 1:19; Peter 2:21-22.

10. Gospel Ordinances—We believe that baptism or the burial of believers in water and the Lord's Supper and washing of the Saint's feet are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel of universal salvation, and to be observed by all true believers. Reference for baptism: John 3:5 and Rom. 6:4. Reference for the Lord's Supper: Matt. 23:26, 28. Reference for washing the Saint's feet: John 13:5, 17 inclusive.

11. The Lord's Supper—We believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted by our Saviour as a commemorative ordinance; that the bread and wine represents His body and blood; that it was instituted for Christians, and that all Christians should unite in performing the sacred service, regardless of name, denomination or distinction.—Gal. 6:4; Matt. 7:1; Rom. 4:3, 4.

12. Of the Resurrection—We believe in the Resurrection of the dead and a general judgment, and when the resurrection takes place the soul and body will reunite and form an immortal being, that the righteous will be received into everlasting happiness and the wicked driven into everlasting darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.—John 5:29; Acts 14:16; Isa. 17; Heb. 9:27.



Reproduce

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### STATISTICS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The State Line Free Will Baptist Association Was Organized at Howard Grove Church,  
November 20th, 1886.

YEAR	MODERATOR	CLERK	CHURCH	No. Mem.
1886	D. L. Chandler	Calvin Dykes	Howard Grove	449
1887	D. L. Chandler	Calvin Dykes	Beulah	577
1888	R. M. Gray	Calvin Dykes	Macedonia	403
1889	R. M. Gray	Calvin Dykes	Friendship	516
1890	R. M. Gray	Calvin Dykes	Lovewood	443
1891	R. M. Gray	Calvin Dykes	Prospect	339
1892	R. M. Gray	Calvin Dykes	Silver Run	444
1893	D. L. Chandler	J. D. Stephens	Hickory Grove	450
1894	R. M. Gray	J. D. Stephens	Spring Hill	422
1895	D. L. Chandler	J. D. Stephens	Pittman Creek	503
1896	Calvin Dykes	J. D. Stephens	Howard Grove	568
1897	D. L. Chandler	J. D. Stephens	New Hope	653
1898	D. L. Chandler	J. D. Stephens	Rocky Grove	633
1899	D. L. Chandler	J. D. Stephens	Prospect	671
1900	G. W. Cherry	J. D. Stephens	Free Will Rest	803
1901	Calvin Dykes	J. W. D. Stephens	Antioch	916
1902	Calvin Dykes	J. W. D. Stephens	Union Springs	947
1903	J. D. Stephens	J. W. D. Stephens	Hickory Grove	827
1904	J. D. Stephens	J. W. D. Stephens	Howard Grove	786
1905	J. D. Stephens	J. W. D. Stephens	New Pilgrim	745
1906	J. D. Stephens	J. W. D. Stephens	Springfield	958
1907	R. L. Hunter	J. W. D. Stephens	Rocky Grove	1099
1908	J. D. Stephens	J. W. D. Stephens	Pleasant Home	1199
1909	J. D. Stephens	J. W. D. Stephens	Freewills Rest	1315
1910	D. L. Chandler	J. W. D. Stephens	Silver Run	1365
1911	D. L. Chandler	J. W. D. Stephens	New Life	1442
1912	D. L. Chandler	J. W. D. Stephens	Pittman Creek	1477
1913	J. M. Murdock	J. W. D. Stephens	Spring Hill	1462
1914	G. W. Cherry	J. W. D. Stephens	Union Springs	1553
1915	J. D. Stephens	J. W. D. Stephens	Hickory Grove	1721
1916	W. S. Cook	J. W. D. Stephens	Rocky Grove	1611

1917 1715

### OBITUARIES

In Remembrance of our dearly beloved mother, Sarah F. R. Sbinson, who was born March 2nd, 1837; was called by the death angel August 6th, 1916, making her stay on earth 79 years, 5 months and 3 days. She was a faithful church member from a child. She leaves 5 sons, 2 daughters, 52 grand-children and a host of friends with sad hearts. Mother, we miss you so much; it seems hard, but the Lord thought it best or he would not have called you to rest. Your seat is vacant; your voice is still.

No one on earth can ever fill.

Farewell mother, for a while, I will meet you bye and bye. Your son,

R. B. R.

In loving memory of our beloved brother, J. T. Ward, who departed this life February 29th, 1916. He joined the church at New Hope July 15th, 1877, and he was elected deacon of the church and ordained July 15, 1915. He lived a consistent member of the Freewill Baptist church with us. He leaves a wife and 4 children, one brother and one sister and a host of friends to mourn his loss, but I feel that our loss is his eternal gain.

He has laid down the burdens of life to rest in the sweet beyond.

Written by a brother and a friend,

A. M. KIRKLAND

In loving remembrance of our beloved sister, Mrs. Winnie Hammack, who departed from this life September 3rd, 1916. She joined the church at Magnolia in July, 1915, and was a member in good standing. She was about 52 years old. Her place in the church is badly being missed and especially the people and the community at large will miss her, for she was always ready to lend a helping hand to everybody, especially to the sick and helpless. Mrs. Hammack leaves a husband, three sons, one daughter and a host of relatives and friends to mourn her loss. But we all hope to meet her in a better world. Written by

A FRIEND.

Sacred to the memory of our deceased sister, Mrs. Bob Brown, who departed this life the 4th Sunday in September, 1916. Mrs. Brown joined Magnolia church in August, 1916. She had not been a member of our church very long, but she was a good woman to all and will be missed very much. Mrs. Brown leaves a husband, four children and a host of friends to mourn her death. May God's richest blessings be sent upon her bereaved ones. Written by

A FRIEND.

Sacred to the memory of Elder J. I. Hatcher. He had been a faithful member of Hickory Grove church for more than thirty years. He was fifty-seven years old and had been a minister of the gospel for nearly thirty years. He leaves a wife and several children and grand-children to mourn his loss. The church also will miss him, a faithful attendant. Peace be unto him and that he may be resting from his labors.

In memory of sister Mary A. Robinson, who departed this life December 23rd, 1915, and died in her 88th year. He leaves two sons and many grand-children and friends to mourn. May their loss be her eternal gain.

Asleep in Jesus, Oh how sweet—

From which none ever wakes to weep.

May her children and friends remember her kind words to meet her in heaven where there is joy forever more.

PASTOR G. W. CHERRY.

In memory of Bro. H. M. Moore who departed this life in his 72nd year. He joined the Methodist church when a boy, but later changed to the Freewill Baptist church and lived a christian life until death. He leaves a wife and several children to mourn his loss, but we feel that their loss is his eternal gain. Let us strive to meet him in glory. Written by his Father,

G. W. CHERRY.

In memory of Vincie Howell who departed this life July 1, 1916, and was born December 26, 1900, making him fifteen years, seven months and four days old, and was consistent member of the Freewill Baptist church at Prospect, and lived a Christian life for about three years. He was always found at his place at home and also at the church and was one of the best boys in the community. He leaves a broken hearted mother and four sisters and one little brother to mourn his loss. But I feel that their loss is his eternal gain.

Asleep in Jesus, blessed sleep,

From which none ever wakes to weep.

A beautiful light from us is gone

Up in heaven to wear a crown.

May we all strive to meet him in glory. Written by his pastor, G. W. CHERRY.

In memory of Sister Tinay Baxter, who departed this life February 8, 1916. She had lived a good christian member of the church for 20 years. She was a good christian mother and wife. She leaves a husband and seven children and a host of relatives and friends to mourn her departure, but we trust our loss is heaven's gain. She was in her 53th year. May God bless her husband and children that they may meet their wife and mother in heaven.

CLERK.

# Statistical Table of State Line Baptist Association, 1916

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS AND POSTOFFICE	Increased By				Decreased By			Membership	Meeting Days	Associational	Minutes	Mission	Paid Pastors	Value of Church Building	Value of Other Property	Sunday School Enrollment	Sunday School Superintendents
			Baptized	Confession	Letter	Restoration	Letter	Expulsion	Death										
Freewill Rest.....	J T Knight.....	L E Powell, Bascom, Fla.....	2	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	96	4	\$1 50	\$1 50	.....	.....	250 00	100 00	31	W C Smith, Grand Ridge, Fla....
Hickory Grove.....	G W Cherry.....	J W D Stephens, Bascom, Fla..	7	5	2	.....	1	1	1	184	4	1 50	1 50	.....	\$73 30	500 00	100 00	65	J W D Stephens, Bascom, Fla....
Howards Grove.....	J C Eldridge.....	A P Lingo, Cottonwood, Ala..	5	.....	.....	1	4	.....	.....	231	3	1 50	1 50	.....	36 50	300 00	100 00	40	J R Adams, Ashford, Ala.....
Long Branch.....	T E Ross.....	Ofey O Powell, Geneva, Ala...	.....	.....	.....	2	3	3	.....	50	1	1 00	1 00	.....	.....	300 00	100 00	.....	M M Pippins, Coffee Springs, Ala.
Magnolia.....	J C Ingram.....	W L Dunlap, Midl'nd City, Ala	3	.....	7	.....	1	.....	.....	53	2	.....	1 00	.....	.....	300 00	15 00	65	.....
New Harmony.....	J C Eldrige.....	A J Granger, Cottonwood, Ala	7	1	3	.....	2	.....	.....	121	2	1 00	1 50	.....	36 25	400 00	100 00	.....	Hilton Sellers, Cottonwood, Ala..
New Hope.....	J C Ingram.....	C R G Kirkland, Mid. City, Ala	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	46	3	70	65	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Life.....	J T Knight.....	A L Granger, Crosby, Ala.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	.....	.....	90	3	50	50	.....	.....	125 00	.....	.....	.....
New Pilgrim.....	.....	No Report.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pleasant Home.....	T E Ross.....	L P Mixon, Geneva, Ala.....	5	2	2	1	3	7	5	165	3	1 50	1 50	.....	.....	225 00	100 00	.....	.....
Prospect.....	G W Cherry.....	J S Connor, Dothan, Ala.....	.....	.....	5	.....	5	1	2	181	3	1 00	1 00	.....	.....	120 00	500 00	.....	.....
Rocky Grove.....	J M Murdock.....	Celia Windish, Malone, Fla...	1	.....	3	.....	5	2	1	74	3	75	75	.....	42 85	500 00	200 00	53	C G Ray, Bascom, Fla.....
Shady Grove.....	.....	No Report.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Shiloah.....	.....	No Report.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Silver Run.....	.....	No Report.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Springfield.....	R L Hunter.....	J D Oliver, Ashford, Ala.....	4	1	3	.....	3	2	.....	63	2	1 00	1 00	.....	20 00	150 00	100 00	40	W L Berry, Webb, Ala.....
Spring Hill.....	R L Hunter.....	H D Robinson, Gordon, Ala..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	50	1	.....	75	50	16 00	400 00	25 00	.....	.....
Union Springs.....	J Houston.....	O Z Henderson, Pansy, Ala...	.....	.....	1	.....	1	7	1	165	2	65	65	.....	31 70	120 00	150 00	75	W S Cook, Pansy, Ala.....
Pleasant Ridge.....	J M Murdock.....	T J Whitehead, Cottonw'd, Ala	4	3	5	1	5	1	.....	52	4	1 00	50	.....	.....	500 00	150 00	42	Nathan Christmas, Marianna, Fla.
.....	.....	.....	38	14	33	7	34	31	20	1611	.....	\$13 60	\$15 30	50	.....	.....	411	.....	.....