

MINUTES

—OF THE—

42nd Annual Session

—OF THE—

State Line Free Will Baptist Association

HELD WITH

Hickory Grove Church

Jackson County Florida

October the 6th and 7th, 1927

OFFICERS

REV. J. J. BURDESHAW, Dothan, Ala. ----- Moderator
REV. G. W. CHERRY, Dothan, Ala. ----- Assistant Moderator
J. W. D. STEPHENS, Bascom, Fla. ----- Clerk
R. B. ROBINSON, Gordon, Ala. ----- Treasurer

Executive Committee

J. R. Adams, Ashford, Ala.; A. M. Kirkland, Midland City,
Ala.; D. T. Guy, L. C. Mixon, Geneva, Ala.; J. J. Hatcher, Bascom,
Fla.

Home Mission Board

A. J. Granger, Cottonwood, Ala.; J. C. Howell, Dothan,
Ala.; R. G. Hatcher, Bascom, Fla.; R. L. Hunter, Columbia, Ala.;
G. W. Cherry, Dothan, Ala.

The next session meets with New Hope Church, Dale County,
Alabama on Thursday at 11:00 o'clock before the second Sunday
in October 1928. Located 8 miles North of Midland City, Ala.

PROCEEDINGS

The State Line Free Will Baptist Association met with Hickory Grove Church, Jackson County, Fla., in its 42nd Annual Session Thursday October 6, 1927.

Introductory Sermon preached by Rev. R. L. Hunter. Text: 4th Chapter Ephesians and 2nd verse, 4th Chapter Timothy.

Prayer by Bro. J. C. Eldridge, d'smissed until 1:30 o'clock for dinner.

THURSDAY P. M.

The body was called to order by the Moderator reading for a lesson 1st Psalm. after which prayer was offered by Rev. E. A. Drake.

Invited Visiting Brethren to seats with us. Called for letters from the different churches.

The Moderator appointed J. C. Howell and Bro. Henry Melvin to read letters, names of churches and delegates:

New Pilgrim—R. P. McGriff, Tom Crary, L. D. Smith, J. S. Conner, Harvey Smith, Mrs. Tom Crary.

Pleasant Home—J. C. Howell, A. J. Granger, J. A. Callaway, J. F. Capps, J. B. Strickland.

Prospect—J. W. Conner, C. L. Hayes, C. G. Prevatte, Luther Battles, Sisters Nela Hayes, Dolly Conner, Rosa Prevatt.

New Hope—C. R. G. Kirkland, Esther Barnes.

Rocky Grove—Addis Robinson, W. C. Robinson.

Hickory Grove—John Barnes, Jack Hatcher, Winston Ditty, Cecil Oswald, R. B. Robinson, G. W. Long, Annie Baxter, Cynthia Holloway, Katie Green, Mary Alice Baker, J. W. D. Stephens.

Union Springs—W. E. Glass, W. H. Jenkins, W. F. Sims, Ida Jenkins, Pennie Knight, I. A. Tolar, O. Z. Henderson,

Howards Grove—Mildred Jones, Ray Snell, Dewey Jones, Addis Nollin, Sis. Jones, Ruby Collins, J. R. Adams, sister J. R. Adams, W. J. Sowell and wife,

East Pitman—Sam McDuffie, Jessie Busby, D. W. Retherford, Rena, Paul, Bonnie Retherford.

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Shiloh—O. S. Rayon, Nick Edmonson.

Happy Home—Warn Jones.

Springfield—Willie Ingram, R. E. Rabon.

Free Will Rest—H. C. Harrison, M. J. Mercer, C. T. Mercer, G. B. Mercer,.

Magnolia—T. M. Dasinger, G. R. Dunlap, A. W. Hickman, J. C. Jones, O. F. Matthews.

Happy Hour—R. J. Pelham.

Corinth—W. O. Baxley, Crawford Bright, J. F. Roberson,

Long Branch—G. L. Thurston.

Spring Hill—H. E. Peterson, Hamp Anderson.

Piney Grove—By Proxy.

On motion of M. J. Mercer that letters be received with amendment to leave out Magnolia letter. Called for Petitionary letters—None Presented.

On motion R. B. Robinson that Moderator and Clerd be elected by Talley.

Moderator appointed R. G. Hatcher, J. W. D. Stephens, Ralph Oswald to get Homes for the delegates from the different churches

Rev. J. J. Burdeshaw was elected Moderator and J. W. D. Stephens was elected Clerk.

By motion of R. B. Robinson Rev. G. W. Cherry was made assistant Moderator.

Called for Correspondents from sister Associations. The following brethren were received:

Martin—E. A. Drake,.

Liberty—C. I. Wells, W. A. Elmore.

Salem—J. C. Eldridge, Henry Melvin.

As Honorary Member I. W. Broom.

On motion the delegates and honorary member were received and given right hand of fellowship.

The letter from Magnolia Church was re-read and on motion adopted.

Prayer was offered for Rev. W. S. Cook, by Rev. E. A. Drake. Divine service committee appointed.

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On motion adjourned till 8:30 a. m. Friday. Benediction by Moderator.

FRIDAY MORNING

Called to order and Moderator read 11th chapter of John. Prayer by J. M. Murdock. Letter from Long Branch Church received.

Called Roll and Read Decorum.

On motion substitute members to fill vacancies in delegations
The following committees were appointed.

Divine Services—C. B. Green, J. F. Capps, J. W. Conner.

Documents—G. L. Thurston, M. J. Mercer, W. E. Glass.

Education—J. S. Hunter, E. A. Drake, J. S. Conner, J. C. Howell.

Home Missions—A. J. Granger, J. C. Eldridge, W. H. Jenkins.

Nominations—J. R. Adams, John Barnes, G. R. Dunlap, C. R. G. Kirkland.

Suggestions—Willie Hutto, J. M. Murdock, Coly Prevatt, E. W. King.

Sunday Schools—J. C. Howell, A. H. Godfrey, J. A. Calloway, Nina Howell, Cynthia Holloway, Dollie Conner.

Temperance—R. L. Hunter, Annie Baxter, Ida Jenkins, Pen-nie Knight.

Finance—J. L. Battles, Cecil Oswald, W. F. Simes, J. W. Rodgers.

Obituaries—R. R. McGriff, Addis Robinson, James C. Ellis Mary Alice Baker, Etta Barnes.

State of Churches and Character of Ministers—O. Z. Henderson, H. E. Peterson, W. T. Jones, W. O. Baxley, J. N. Edmon-son.

Report on Documents was read and adopted.

The following brethren were received as correspondents and given the right hand of fellowship.

From Southeastern—J. L. Parker, Sister J. L. Parker, J. B. Parker.

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From Midway—Willie Wiley.

Intermission 10 minutes before preaching.

Rev. E. A. Drake preached the 11:00 o'clock sermon. Rev. Willie Wiley closing.

Dismissed for dinner.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The moderator called the body to order. Read 103 Psalm and offered prayer.

Report on Home Missions read and adopted.

The letter from Happy Hour was received.

Report on Education read and adopted.

Report on Nominations read and adopted.

Report on Suggestions read and adopted.

Report on Sunday Schools read and adopted.

Report on Temperance read and adopted.

Report on Obituaries read and adopted with the amendment that the Obituaries appear in the minutes.

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

Corresponding delegates to sister conventions:

Liberty—J. C. Howell, J. F. Capps.

Salem—R. G. Hatcher, J. W. D. Stephens.

Midway—G. W. Cherry, Emma Hare.

Marten—R. L. Hunter, E. W. King.

Southeastern—J. S. Hunter, J. J. Burdeshaw, G. W. Knobles, G. W. Cherry.

Report on Finance Read and adopted.

MISCELLANEOUS

On motion of M. J. Mercer, erase Rev. C. G. Ray's and W. H. Banks name from ministers list because they had joined elsewhere.

Corresponding delegates to General Conference—J. C. Howell, R. G. Hatcher. It convenes at Ayden, N. C. on Wednesday Thursday and Friday before the 3rd Sunday in June 1928.

Appointed representatives to Ala. State Convention—J. S. Hunter, G. W. Cherry.

On motion of M. J. Mercer, suspended regular order of busi-

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ness and re-elected by acclamation the same Executive Committee and the same Home Mission Board, and the same Treasurer, R. B. Robinson.

Treasurers Report read and adopted.

On motion pay Clerk \$12.50.

By motion of M. J. Mercer, tender heartfelt thanks to Hickory Grove church and community for their kind hospitality shown us during our session.

Rev. G. W. Oliff had left our denomination and his name was asked to be erased from the ministers list.

On motion of J. C. Howell, put Rev. J. M. Murdock in the evangelistic field next year. Collect pay where he goes.

Took up Free Will Offering for New Hope Church, of \$6.50.

On motion donate \$10.00 to New Hope Church out of Treasury.

On motion of E. W. King adjourned. Took parting hand. Prayer by Rev. E. A. Drake.

The next session meets with New Hope Church on Thursday at 11:00 o'clock before the second Sunday in October 1928.

REV. J. J. BURDESHAW, Mod.

J. W. D. STEPHENS, Clerk

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

REPORT ON DIVINE SERVICES

We your committee on Divine Services make the following report to-wit: Bro. Willie Hutto preach at 7:30 to-night and Bro. Henry Melvin to close.

Bro. E. A. Drake to preach tomorrow at 11:00 o'clock and Bro. Willie Wiley to close.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS

We your Committee on Documents submit the following report to-wit: We urge our ministers to use their best efforts for the promotion of Christ's kingdom. We further recommend that our pastors introduce our denominational paper "The Free Will Baptist" and that we use our Free Will Baptist Sunday School literature, also that we use the best Sacred Song books.

G. L. THURSTON, Chairman

REPORT OF EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE

We your committee on Education make the following report. We know We must have an educated ministry, we therefore urge each pastor and the delegation present of this Association to continuously urge each church to provide means to take care of the educational interest as the Lord prospers them. We urge each church to provide 10 cents per capita per annum and turn over any amount received to the treasurer of the Association to be held and used only for the specific purpose of educating ministers.

Signed

J. S. HUNTER,
E. A. DRAKE
J. S. CONNER,
J. C. HOWELL.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS

We your committee on Home Missions, seeing the great need of mission work in the bounds of our association resolved that each pastor and church endeavor to raise home mission money by urging the church and taking up collections for that purpose and any preacher or church failing to do so will not be in good standing with this association.

A. J. GRANGER

REPORT OF NOMINATION COMMITTEE

We your committee on Nominations beg lief to report: We nominate New Hope for the next session of the Association. We also nominate Bro. J. S. Hunter to preach the introductory sermon. Located 8 miles North of Midland City, Alabama.

J. R. ADAMS,
JOHN BARNES
G. R. DUNLAP
C. R. G. KIRKLAND
Committee.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUGGESTIONS

We your committee on Suggestions beg leave to make the following report to-wit: We suggest that the pastors of each church instruct the deacons to look after the contributions of each church, also take interest in the preservation of our church property.

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We suggest that our Deacons use their influence to allay strife in our churches and to preserve peace and harmony.

We further suggest that our people be more punctual in the observance of our ordinances, especially the Sacrament and feet washing.

W. T. HUTTO, Chairman

REPORT OF SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

We your committee on Sabbath Schools beg to make the following report—Train up the child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it, and as the Sabbath School is the ideal place to gather them and train them together, we urge that each pastor and church make an earnest effort to maintain a Sabbath School for 12 months, and to use the Free Will Baptist Literature and also the Freewill Baptist Paper.

We find some of our Pastors not urging Sunday School as they should, we therefore ask them to continuously urge Sunday School and be ready to give an answer why a Sunday School is not in each church in their care.

Respectfully Submitted,
J. C. HOWELL, Chairman.

REPORT OF TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

We your Committee on Temperance submit the following report to-wit: That we be temperate in all things, that we speak the things becomes a Christian. That we subdue our passions, and keep our desires in due bounds. That we totally abstain from intoxicating drinks. Pro. 20th chapter 1st. verse—Wine is a mocker and strong drink is raging whosoever is deceived, thereby not wise. So brethren we see that wise men will not be deceived by strong drink, we recommend that the churches of this association deal with any member that makes, sells or drinks intoxicating drinks. Instruct in prayer and pray always without ceasing and we should always give prayer and supplication to God.

ANNIE BAXTER
IDA JENKINS
PENNIE KNIGHT

REPORT OF TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

We your committee on Temperance beg to make the following report: First we find intemperance to be the prime evil of all

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crime, wrecking homes and our rising generations, and churches in most sections.

Therefore we sincerely ask that all christians take a permanent stand against said evil, and to, we ask the State Line Association will not support any officer or candidate that will not condemn this evil.

Respectfully Submitted,
REV. R. L. HUNTER, Chairman.

STATE OF CHURCHES AND CHARACTER OF MINISTERS

We your committee submit the following report, to-wit:

We find all the churches in the association in very good standing, so far as we can ascertain.

We find the ministers all in good standing, so far as we can learn.

Respectfully Submitted,
O. Z. HENDERSON, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES

We your committee on Obituaries submit the following report to-wit: We find the following deaths:

Magnolia Church—Mrs. Lula Matthews, Bro. Bob Lee.
Spring Hill—J. S. Butler.
Pleasant Home—Lexie Myers.
Free Will Rest—L. E. Powell.
Springfield—Beckie McClendon, Sallie Davis.
East Pitman—Rev. J. D. Berry, Lonzy Bryant.
Howard Grove—Laura Oliver, Annette Elmore, Bro. J. F. Johnson.
Union Springs—T. J. Sims, Z. E. Henderson.
Hickory Grove—Ruthie I. Avery.
Rocky Grove—Truddie Baxter, Henry Smith.
Prospect—Haylet Turner, Anne Cherry, Lorine Henderson.
R. R. McGRIFF, Chairman

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

We your committee on Finance make the following report to-wit:

Received for Associational Purposes	\$33.75
Received for Minutes	34.40
Received for Missions	7.15
Received for Education	4.00
Total	\$79.30

Respectfully Submitted,
J. L. BATTLES, Chairman

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TREASURERS REPORT FOR 1927

Amount Brought Forward		
For Home Missions -----	76.82	
For Education -----	14.08	
Total amount brought forward -----		90.90
Amount Received 1926		
For Associational Purposes -----	32.80	
For Minutes -----	35.50	
Amount Tabled -----	2.10	
For Home Missions -----	7.30	
By J. D. Pearce for Ass'n Purposes -----	15.00	
Total Amount Received -----		92.70
Making a Total of -----		183.60
Amount Paid Out		
Paid Clerk -----	12.00	
For Minutes and Postage -----	47.40	
Admittance in the General Conference ----	10.00	
Total Amount Paid Out -----		69.40
Which Leaves a Balance on Hand		
For Home Missions -----	84.12	
For Education -----	14.08	
For Associational Purposes -----	16.00	
Total Amount On Hand -----		114.20

Respectfully Submitted,
R. B. ROBINSON, Treasurer
Gordon, Alabama

REPORT ON WORK

Traveled Miles -----	608
Served Churches -----	4
Preached Sermons -----	138
Held Funeral Services -----	9
Married Couples -----	8
Expenses -----	\$32.00
Received -----	\$116.00

Yours in Christ,
J. M. MURDOCK

LONZY BRYANT

In sacred memory of Sister Lonzy Bryant who departed this life March 19, 1927. She had been a member with us at East Pittman for several years. She leaves a husband, father, (7) children and other relatives to mourn her departure. We learned

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to love her and hope to meet her in the Golden By and By where all is peace and love.

Written by ALICE ADAMS, Clerk

REV. J. D. BERRY

In sacred memory of our beloved Brother J. D. Berry, who departed this life April 18, 1927. He was a faithful member with us at East Pitman for several years. He leaves a wife and three children and other relatives and a host of friends to mourn his departure. He is gone but not forgotten. Never will his memory fade, loving thoughts forever linger around the grave where he is now laid. A precious one from us has gone, a vacant place is in our church which never can be filled. We hope to meet him in the great beyond where there will be no tear dimmed eyes, no sad parting but where there will be peace, joy, love and happiness forever.

Written by ALICE ADAMS, Clerk.

In memory of Sister Lorine Henderson who was a member of Prospect Church for about three years. Was born November 28, 1909, Died May 8, 1927. Peace be to her sleeping dust. May her loved ones strive to meet her in heaven.

Written by G. W. CHERRY

In loving remembrance of our dear Mother, Ann Cherry the wife of Henry Cherry who preceded her 34 years ago. She leaves 5 children and 5 step children and was a member of Prospect church 40 years and was in her 80th year. She leaves several grand children and many friends to mourn. May their love be her eternal gain. In the midst of life we are in death, no man knoweth th day nor hour when we shall be called away. Dear children let us all strive to meet her in heaven. A precious one from us has gone, a voice we love is stilled, a place is vacant in our home which never can be filled. A sleep in some blessed sleep from which none ever wake to weep.

Written by her step-son G. W. Cherry

OBITUARY

In sacred memory of Sister Lula V. Matthews who departed this life November 29, 1926. Sister Matthews was born September 24, 1883, was married to O. F. Matthews April 30, 1905. To them was born 10 children, 6 boys and 4 girls, 6 living and 4 dead. The boys are Fletcher, Floyd and Charles who yet survive them,

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Lambert, Carroll and Robert, Dead. The girls Irene, Amanda and Elinor yet living, and Rachael Dead.

Sister Matthews was a member of the Missionary Faith and order about 16 years. From which joined the Free Will Church at Magnolia where she lived 6 years and up to the time of her death. Sister Matthews was a true christian and a faithful member. Always striving to help the cause and to wave the blood stained banner of Jesus Christ to a Dying world and many friends who met her pathway.

And her death was a great shock to her many friends and loved ones. She died all of a sudden.

Tis hard to part from them we love so well, but when we feel assured that our loved ones die in Christ, we can feel that all is well, and feel that our loss is their eternal gain and strive to meet in yonder world.

Written by her Brother-in-law and I hope a Brother in Christ.
A. W. HICKMAN.

Sacred to the memory of Ruthie I. Avery, born February 15, 1851, departed this life October 7, 1926. She had been a member of Hickory Grove church for many years. She lived and died with an undaunted faith in her maker. Her prayer in her dying hour was that not her will but the Lord's will be done. She leaves a husband two children, four grand-children and other relatives and friends to mourn her departure. Peace be to her.

CONSTITUTION

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

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

Article 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 letters, 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 postoffice, and signed by the pastor and clerk of the church with their postoffice.

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Article 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 receptions shall be manifested by giving the right hand of fellowship.

Article 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 without assigning reason.

Article 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.

Article 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.

Article 8. The 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.

Article 2. Moderator shall preside over the deliberations of Associations 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 right to speech.

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

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

Article 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 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.

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Article 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.

Article 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 government, provided such rules are not repugnant to the Constitution or Decorum of the Association.

Article 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 others for the necessary funds when the Association is not in session. The Board makes rules and regulations for their own government that are not in conflict with the Constitution or Decorum of this Association.

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

Article 10. 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 the moderator of the church, but when he is absent or does not sit as moderator being present a suitable brother shall be appointed to sit in his place.

4. The pastor of each church shall have the 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

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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, 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 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 male members well acquainted with business, shall be appointed whose duty it shall be to give advice to brethren who apply to them relative to case of dealing etc., with the church.

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

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 whatsoever 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 neglect, but the church may exempt members from this rule if necessary.

13. Conference after prayer and divine service shall be opened and conducted as follows: (1) Inviting brethren to seats. (2) Opening door of church for the reception of members. (3) Calling for the reading of the minutes of last conference. (4) Calling for Absentees. (5) Acknowledgments. (6) For reference or deferred business. (7) 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

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shall be allow 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 other 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 by the member who makes them shall be liable to be taken under dealing by the church.

17. When the moderator calls for the 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 acknowledgment 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 walks 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 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 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.

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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 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 duty of each church to attend to the administration of the Lord's Supper and feet washing, at least once a year.

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

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

34. 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 binding on all as our infallible rule of faith and practice—II Tim. 3:16. Rom. 16:4 and 4:23-24. 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 in to a state of sin and condemnation. All his posterity inherited this fall 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 whomsoever will may come and partake of the waters of life—I Cor. 1:7; Eph. 5:2; Heb. 2:9; Rom. 5:5; Rev. 22:17.

8. OF ELECTION—We believe that God has not fixed the future state of men by any unconditional 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; Duet. 11:26-28.

9. OF PERSERVANCE—We believe that none will be finally saved but those 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. 26:26-28. Reference for washing the Saints feet: 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

State Line Free Will Baptist Association

unite in performing the sacred service, regardless of name, denomination or distinction—Gal. 6:4; Matt. 7:10; Rom. 4:3-4.

12. OF THE RESSURECTION—We believe in the ressurection takes place the soul and body will re-unite and form an immortal being that the righteous will be received into everlasting happiness and that 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.

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 correspondence from Sister Associations.
7. Appoint Committees.
8. Call the roll and read Decorum.
9. Appoint Correspondents to Sister Associations.
10. Call for report of committees.
11. Call for Treasurers report.
12. Call for miscellaneous business.
13. Adjournment.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

G. W. Cherry, Prospect	Dothan, Ala.
W. S. Cook, Union Springs	Pansy, Ala.
S. V. Elmore, Pleasant Home	
A. L. Williams, Prospect	Dothan, Ala.
W. T. Carter, Hickory Grove	Crossby, Ala.
G. W. Nobles, New Harmony	Midland City, Ala.
A. M. Kirkland, New Hope	Midland City, Ala.
A. L. Granger, New Life	Grangeburg, Ala.
R. L. Hunter, New Pilgrim	Columbia, Ala.
J. C. Ingram, Pleasant Home	Ashford, Ala.
J. M. Murdock, Howard Grove	Ashford, Ala.
J. D. Pearce, New Harmony	Cottonwood, Ala.
J. D. Stephens, Hickory Grove	St. Petersburg, Fla.
Joseph Whitaker, Howard Grove	Ashford, Ala.
J. A. Widner, New Pilgrim	Hilton, Ga.
J. D. Calloway, Pleasant Ridge	Marianna, Fla.
L. C. Mixon, Pleasant Home	Geneva, Ala.
W. W. Termontana, East Pittman	Graceville, Fla.

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J. L. Tedder, Prospect	Hilton, Ga.
M. M. Hicks, Shiloh	Blakely, Ga.
J. S. Hunter, New Pigrim	Columbia, Ala.
W. T. Hutto, Corinth	Midland City, Ala.
J. J. Burdeshaw, Prospect	Dothan, Ala.

LICENTIATES

O. O. Adams, Corinth	Midland City, Ala.
Otis A. Sellers, New Harmony	Cottonwood, Ala.
C. A. Lewis, Magnolia	Dothan, Ala.
E. C. Mims, Pleasant Home	Black, Ala.
G. H. Jordan, Howard Grove	Red Level, Ala.
A. H. Godfrey, Spring Hill	Gordan, Ala.

STATISTICS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The State Line Free Will Baptist Association Was Organized
At Howard Grove Church, Nov. 20, 1886.

Year	Moderator	Clerk	Church	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	448
1891	R. M. Gray	Calvin Dykes	Prospect	339
1892	R. M. Gray	Calvin Dykes	Silver Run	444
1893	D. M. 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	786
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	Free Will Rest	1315
1910	D. L. Chandler	J. W. D. Stephens	Silver Run	1365

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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—W. S. Cook, J. W. D. Stephens Long Branch	1715
1918—W. S. Cook, J. W. D. Stephens, Magnolia	1456
1919—W. S. Cook, J. W. D. Stephens, New Hope	1646
1920—G. W. Cherry, J. W. D. Stephens, Prospect	1804
1921—G. W. Cherry, J. W. D. Stephens, Howard Grove	2004
1922—G. W. Cherry, J. W. D. Stephens, Pleasant Home	2043
1923—J. D. Stephens, J. W. D. Stephens, New Harmony	2039
1924—J. C. Howell, J. W. D. Stephens, Corinth	2094
1925—J. C. Ingram, J. W. D. Stephens, Magnolia	2042
1925—J. C. Ingram, J. W. D. Stephens, Magnolia	2042
1926—G. W. Chery, C. B. Green, Springfield	2302
1927—J. J. Burdeshaw, J. W. D. Stephens, Hickory Grove	2344

STATISTICAL TABLE 1927

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS AND POST OFFICES	Increased by Baptism	Increased by Confession	Increased by Letter	Increased by Restoration	Decreased by Letter	Decreased by Expulsion	Decreased by Death	Male Members	Female Members	Meeting Day	Associational Purposes	Minutes	Missions	Education	Paid Pastor	Value of Church Buildings	Value of other Property	No. in S. S.	SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPT. AND P. O.
Corinth	J. C. Ingram	O. O. Adams, Midland City, Ala.	3		6					31	37	3	3.00	2.00	3.20		57.25	700.00	100.00	85	S. Jackson, Midland City, Ala.
East Pittman	L. C. Mixon	Alice Adams, Black, Ala.	7				3	2	2	44	82	1	2.75	1.50				100.00	75.00		
Free Wills Rest	M. M. Hicks	M. J. Mercer, Greenwood, Fla.	11		5	1		4	1	28	66	4	2.00	1.65			40.85	500.00	150.00		
Happy Hour	S. M. Tindell	B. B. Shivar, Crosby, Ala.						3		14	10	1	.50	.50			18.69		56.00		
Happy Home	J. M. Murdock	H. H. Clark, Crosby, Ala.	10	2		1				42	38	1	1.50	2.00			26.92		50.00		
Hickory Grove	J. S. Hunter	J. W. D. Stephens, Bascom, Fla.	15	5		1	1		1	134	165	1	2.00	3.00			150.00	1500.00	500.00		J. W. D. Stephens, Bascom, Fla.
Howards Grove	J. S. Hunter	J. R. Adams, Cottonwood, Ala.	29	2	3	3	5		3	69	238	3	3.00	3.00			150.00	1000.00	200.00	88	E. S. Jones, Ashford, Ala.
Long Branch	W. A. Davis	G. L. Thurston, Coffee Springs, Ala.					1	1		39	39	3	1.50	1.50			20.00	300.00	75.00	39	G. L. Thurston, Coffee Springs, Ala.
Magnolia	G. W. Knobles	J. C. Jones, Midland City, Ala.					10	2	2	54	61	2	1.50	2.00	1.00	3.00	50.25	1000.00	400.00		
New Harmony	E. C. Williams	A. J. Granger, Cottonwood, Ala.					2			82	101	2	2.00	2.00			72.00	600.00	150.00	60	O. A. Sellers, Cottonwood, Ala.
New Hope	R. L. Hunter	C. R. G. Kirkland, Midland City, Ala.					2			15	21	3	.75	.75				600.00	75.00	60	Arney Sewell, Midland City, Ala.
New Pilgrim	J. M. Murdock	R. W. Conner, Columbia, Ala.	10		8		3			28	43	4	1.00	1.75			20.80	700.00	50.00	73	De Witt Guy, Columbia, Ala.
Pleasant Home	L. C. Mixon	Harold E. Dixon, Geneva, Ala.	11	2	10				1	83	100	3	1.50	1.50	.90		30.00	500.00	100.00	84	S. V. Elmore, Geneva, Ala.
Pleasant Ridge		Not represented																			
Prospect	J. M. Murdock	Dollie Conner, Dothan, Ala.	1	1			7		3	67	140	3	3.00	3.00				1000.00	1000.00	80	J. C. Howell, Dothan, Ala.
Piney Grove													1.00	1.00							
Rocky Grove	J. M. Murdock	W. C. Robinson, Greenwood, Fla.							2	35	50	2	1.25	1.25			15.00	500.00	300.00		
Shiloh	J. L. Tedder	O. S. Ragan, Columbia, Ala.	3		3					31	30	3	1.00	1.00				500.00	200.00		
Springfield	J. C. Ingram	W. L. Culver, Ashford, Ala.	1	1			3	3	2	37	42	2	1.00	1.50	1.05			900.00	200.00		
Spring Hill	J. C. Ingram	Harvey Cook, Crosby, Ala.	2	2		1			1	17	16	4	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	60.00	1000.00		49	H. E. Peterson, Gordon, Ala.
Union Springs	J. S. Hunter	O. Z. Henderson, Pansy, Ala.	15	10	1			2	2	85	130	2	2.50	2.50			100.00	1500.00	300.00	72	W. S. Cook, Pansy, Ala.
			118	25	36	7	37	17	20	935	1409		33.75	34.40	7.15	4.00					