

**MINUTES**  
OF THE  
**Sixty-Seventh Annual Session**  
OF THE  
**STATE LINE ASSOCIATION**  
**OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

HELD WITH  
**HOWARD'S GROVE CHURCH**  
Houston County, Alabama

AND  
**COWART'S CREEK CHURCH**  
Houston County, Alabama  
OCTOBER 9th and 10th, 1952

●  
**OFFICERS**

REV. G. H. JORDAN, *Moderator* ..... Cottonwood, Ala.  
MRS. MARY EDNA COOK, *Clerk* ..... Dothan, Ala.  
REV. D. W. POOLE, *Treasurer* ..... Dothan, Ala.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Ralph L. Bell, Ashford, Ala.; E. S. Jones, Ashford, Ala.; Ulas Granger,  
Cottonwood, Ala.; G. W. Jeffcoat, Gordon, Ala.;  
William H. Stephens, Dothan, Ala.

**HOME MISSION BOARD**

Georgia Trawick, Dothan, Ala.; James Calloway, Cottonwood, Ala.;  
Dewey Jones, Cottonwood, Ala.; Leona Granger, Cottonwood,  
Alabama; John Lewis Womack, Cottonwood, Ala.

●  
The next session meets with Springhill Church for one day only, on  
Thursday at 10:00 o'clock before the Second Sunday in October, 1953  
and is located 2½ miles south of Gordon on the Dothan-Donalsonville  
Highway, and meets with Union Springs Church on the Second Day on  
Friday. This Church is located 3 miles North of W. E. Holland's Store  
on the Dothan-Donaldsonville Highway.

**MINUTES**  
OF THE  
Sixty-Seventh Annual Session  
OF THE  
**STATE LINE ASSOCIATION  
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

HELD WITH  
**HOWARD'S GROVE CHURCH**  
Houston County, Alabama

AND  
**COWART'S CREEK CHURCH**  
Houston County, Alabama  
OCTOBER 9th and 10th, 1952

●  
**OFFICERS -**

REV. G. H. JORDAN, *Moderator* ..... Cottonwood, Ala.  
MRS. MARY EDNA COOK, *Clerk* ..... Dothan, Ala.  
REV. D. W. POOLE, *Treasurer* ..... Dothan, Ala.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Ralph L. Bell, Ashford, Ala.; E. S. Jones, Ashford, Ala.; Ulas Granger,  
Cottonwood, Ala.; G. W. Jeffcoat, Gordon, Ala.;  
William H. Stephens, Dothan, Ala.

**HOME MISSION BOARD**

Georgia Trawick, Dothan, Ala.; James Calloway, Cottonwood, Ala.;  
Dewey Jones, Cottonwood, Ala.; Leona Granger, Cottonwood,  
Alabama; John Lewis Womack, Cottonwood, Ala.

●  
The next session meets with Springhill Church for one day only, on  
Thursday at 10:00 o'clock before the Second Sunday in October, 1953,  
and is located 2½ miles south of Gordon on the Dothan-Donalsonville  
Highway, and meets with Union Springs Church on the Second Day on  
Friday. This Church is located 3 miles North of W. E. Holland's Store  
on the Dothan-Donaldsonville Highway.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Organize
2. Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.
3. Call for letters from different churches.
4. Call for petitionary letters.
5. Elect officers.
6. Call for correspondents 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 Treasurer's report.
12. Call for Miscellaneous Business.
13. Adjournment.

## ORDAINED MINISTERS

A. H. Retherford, Pleasant Ridge.....	Chipley, Fla.
A. C. Tolar, Hickory Hill .....	Center Hill, Fla.
G. W. Nobles, Howard's Grove .....	Cottonwood, Ala.
L. C. Mixon, Pleasant Home .....	Geneva, Ala.
W. T. Hutto, Corinth .....	Newton, Ala.
P. A. Brackin, Shiloh .....	Newville, Ala.
D. W. Poole, Pleasant Ridge .....	Dothan, Ala.
Faul Mallory, Corinth .....	Midland City, Ala.
Kenneth Phillips, Springfield .....	Cottonwood, Ala.
Lester T. Suttles, Hickory Hill .....	Plant City, Fla.

## LICENTIATES

W. P. Merrette, Union Springs .....	Ashford, Ala.
Mrs. Georgia West, Grangerburg .....	Gordon, Ala., R-1
Huey Long, Springhill .....	Columbus, Ga.
Hubert Henderson, Shiloh .....	Columbia, Ala.

# PROCEEDINGS

The State Line Association of Free Will Baptist met with Howard's Grove Church, Houston County, Alabama, in its sixty-seventh annual session, Friday, October 9, 1952.

## THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

The body was called to order by the moderator, Rev. G. H. Jordan, who read for the morning lesson II Timothy 2:19-26. Prayer was offered by Rev. T. B. Mellette. The congregation sang "Blessed Be the Name."

Visiting Brethren were invited to seats with us.

Letters were called for from the different churches.

## NAMES OF CHURCHES AND DELEGATES

*Spring Hill*—Mrs. Hugh Jeffcoats, Madison Taylor.

*Prospect*—Mrs. Dollie Scott, Mrs. Sara J. Stephens, Mrs. Docia Allen, Mr. Ed Battle, Mrs. Rosa Cherry.

*New Harmony*—Mr. J. A. Calloway, Mr. Ulas Granger, Mrs. Leona Granger, Mrs. James Calloway.

*Howard's Grove*—E. S. Jones, Dewey Jones, J. L. Womack, J. D. Carr, Maggie Adams, Christine Carr, Nina M. Jones.

*Hickory Hill*—Mattie Tolar, Emma White, Lester Shuttles.

*Shiloh*—C. J. Duke, Jack Woodham.

*Grangerburg*—Mrs. B. W. West, W. L. Granger, Joan West.

*Pittman's Creek*—Earl Sowell, D. W. Retherford, Lois Sowell, Renea Paul.

*Union Springs*: E. J. Henderson, Georgia McNeil, Eva White.

*New Hope*: Harvey Sewell, Byrd Smathers, Rex Stephens, Z. A. Ammons.

*Cowart's Creek*: H. D. Atkins, Mrs. H. D. Atkins, Mrs. Ralph Bell, Mrs. Dessie Anderson, Shelley Fowler.

*Corinth*: R. B. Outlaw, Mrs. R. B. Outlaw, Mr. and Mrs. Synthia Jackson.

By motion the letters were received and the delegates.

Renewed the call for letters from the different churches. Two were received.

*Pleasant Ridge*: Ralph Monday, Doris Monday, E. W. Granger.

*Magnolia*: Mrs. John Parramore, Roy Parramore, Elorine Weed.

By motion these letters were received and the delegates seated.

Called for petitionary letters, none received.

The moderator appointed an Ordaining Committee for the purpose of ordaining Brother G. H. Jordan, licensed minister at Howard's Grove, and Brother Lester Suttles, licensed minister at Hickory Hill. This committee consists of E. S. Jones, Rev. P. A. Brackin, and Rev. Kenneth Phillips.

By motion ten minutes were given for recess before preaching.

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. Kenneth Phillips. His Scripture was Jonah 1:1-3, and his subject was "The Price of Sin."

Dismissed for noon, prayer by Rev. T. B. Mellete, association to reconvene at 1:30 p. m.

#### THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The body was called to order by the moderator, Rev. G. H. Jordan.

Prayer was offered by Rev. J. L. Tedder.

The call for letters from the churches was renewed, one received.

*Pleasant Home*: Joe E. Bottoms, D. R. Hicks, Arthur Owens, Loyd Bottoms, Trie Owens, Matha Hicks.

By motion the letter was received and the delegates seated.

Officers of the association were elected by nomination and acclamation: Rev. G. H. Jordan re-elected moderator, Rev. George W. Nobles elected assistant moderator, and Mrs. Mary Cook re-elected clerk.

The moderator appointed Rev. T. B. Mellete to serve on the Ordaining Committee.

Correspondents from the different associations were called for. The following were present:

*Liberty*—Rev. A. B. Cook.

*Midway*—Rev. John Barnes, Rev. T. B. Mellette, Rev. J. L. Tedder, Rev. E. C. Williams.

*Chattahoochee*—Rev. Coy Watson.

*Union Hill*—Rev. Rufus Hyman.

*Salem*—J. W. D. Stephens, C. B. Greene.

*Liberty*—Rev. John M. Rich.

The moderator appointed the following committees:

*Divine Service*—Delegates of Howard's Grove and Cowart's Creek Churches.

*Education*—Ed Battle, Mrs. James Calloway, C. J. Duke.

*Suggestions*—Mrs. B. W. West, D. W. Retherford, Ralph Monday.

*Auxiliaries*—E. J. Henderson, Harvey Sewell, Mrs. John Parramore.

*Nominations*—Mrs. Ralph Bell, R. B. Outlaw, Dewey Jones.

*Finance*—Ulas Granger, John Lewis Granger, Mrs. Hugh Jeffcoats.

*Home Missions*—Georgia McNeal, D. R. Hicks, Sara J. Stephens.

*Obituaries*—Rex Stephens, Maggie Adams, Mattie Tolar.

*Temperance*—Mrs. Docia Allen, Mrs. Ulas Granger, Jack Woodham.

*State of Churches and Character of Ministers*—E. S. Jones, James Calloway, Joe Bottoms.

By motion the visiting delegates from the different associations were invited to seats in the body.

By motion the reading of the Decorum and the roll call was omitted.

The committee on Divine service was asked to retire to make their report.

By motion the body recessed for the Divine Service Committee to meet so that no delegates would miss any part of the proceedings.



The moderator made a change in the Home Mission Committee—Mrs. Dollie Scott was replaced by D. R. Hicks.

The moderator appointed the following correspondents to Sister Associations:

*Southeastern:* Rev. P. A. Brackin, Rev. Kenneth Phillips.

*Liberty:* Rev. George Nobles, Rev. G. H. Jordan, D. R. Hicks, E. S. Jones.

*Midway:* Rev. George Nobles, E. S. Jones, Mrs. Ulas Granger.

*Martin:* E. S. Jones, Rev. George Nobles, Rev. G. H. Jordan.

*Salem:* Mrs. Ruby Nobles, Rev. George Nobles, Rev. G. H. Jordan.

The committee of Divine Services made their report which was adopted.

At this time, Rev. John M. Rich spoke briefly on foreign missions. He stated that there were ninety churches in Cuba with forty-five native preachers.

At 2:30 p. m. the Ordaining Committee took charge of the service for the purpose of ordaining Brothers G. H. Jordan, and Lester Suttles. Rev. T. B. Mellete was in charge of the service. Rev. P. A. Brackin read the Scripture, I Timothy 1:1-7. After the service the congregation gave the right hand of fellowship to these brethren.

By motion a free will offering was received for the Children's Home at Eldridge, Alabama. This offering amounted to \$51.33.

Rev. D. W. Poole gave a report of the Training Camp at Cottondale, Florida.

By motion the association adjourned until 10 a. m. Friday at Cowart's Creek Church.

Benediction by Rev. George W. Nobles.

#### THURSDAY NIGHT SERVICE

The services were held at Howard's Grove Church. Rev. G. W. Nobles was in charge of the song service. Rev. Rufus Hyman read Luke 21:25-28 and brought a message on "Looking Up."

#### FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

The Association reassembled at 10 a. m. at Cowart's Creek Church. The body was called to order by the moderator, Rev. G. H. Jordan. Congregational singing was led by Rev. George W. Nobles.

The moderator read as a morning lesson, Matthew 6:24-34. He spoke briefly on "Putting First Things First." Brother Lester Suttles offered prayer, and the congregation sung "Hand in Hand with Jesus."

Visiting brethren were invited to seats with us.

The call for church letters was renewed, one received:

*Springfield:* Will Roney, John Singletary, Mrs. Fulton.

Motion made and carried that the letter be received and the delegates seated.

The call for correspondents from Sister Associations was renewed. The following were present:

*Southeastern:* C. A. Arnold, Mrs. Eloise Commander, Mrs. Minnie Leroy, Mr. and Mrs. Will Beasley.

*Liberty:* Rev. C. A. Huckaby. Brother Huckaby spoke briefly on superannuation and home missions.

*Union Hill:* Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Bolin.

*Midway:* Rev. J. B. Lovering.

By motion these delegates were seated in the body.

Rev. C. A. Huckaby was asked to explain more fully the superannuation program, which he did very efficiently.

Motion made and carried that we recess until 1:15 p. m.

Recessed for ten minutes before the morning service, prayer by Rev. J. B. Lovering.

#### THE ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

After congregation singing, prayer was offered by Rev. E. C. Williams. Rev. G. H. Jordan then brought the morning message. He spoke on "Thirty Years of Progress in the State Line Association." In his message, Rev. Jordan showed how the finances have increased in thirty years, and how the membership of the association has grown. He said that all excuses given by people might be summed up under three heads: (1) Too busy—"I just haven't got time." (2) Too powerless—"There is no use to try, we can't do that." (3) Too stingy—"We can't do that, we are not able." Rev. Jordan urged the support of every phase of our denominational work.

We were dismissed for lunch by Rev. C. A. Huckaby.

#### FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The body was called to order by the moderator, Rev. G. H. Jordan. Rev. George W. Nobles was in charge of the song service.

Rev. J. B. Lovering was in charge of the devotional service. His Scripture was taken from Exodus 13:14-15. His subject was "That They Go Forward." He brought out the following points: (1) The Forward Look (2) The Forward Desire (3) The Forward Step. Prayer was offered by Rev. J. L. Tedder.

A memorial service for all our deceased members and Rev. W. T. Wiley of Hilton, Georgia, was conducted with Rev. George W. Nobles in charge.

Called for report of committees:

Report on Education was read and adopted.

Report on Suggestions was read and adopted.

Report on Auxiliaries was read and adopted.

Report on Nominations was read and adopted.

Report on Finances was read and adopted.

Report on Home Missions was read and adopted.

Report on Obituaries was read and adopted.

Report on Temperance was read and adopted.

Rev. J. B. Lovering made comments on the temperance report and suggested that it be read in every church in one of their meetings.

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

Report of Treasurer was read and adopted.

## MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

By motion we finish election of officers. Rev. D. W. Poole was re-elected treasurer.

By motion the moderator appoint someone to fill the vacancy on the Home Mission Board left by Whitman Lynn who moved away from our association. John Lewis Womack was appointed to fill this vacancy. By motion we retain our same Home Mission Board.

It was moved and carried that we contribute \$100 to the Grangerburg Church to help in their building program as their membership is so small. This was to be done through the Home Mission Board.

Moved and carried that the association adjourn.

A rising vote of thanks was extended to Howard's Grove and Cowart's Creek Churches for their hospitality during this association.

REV. G. H. JORDAN, *Moderator*

MARY EDNA COOK, *Clerk*

## REPORT OF COMMITTEES

### COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

We, your committee on nominations, nominate Springhill Church for the 1st day in 1953 and Union Springs Church the 2nd day. We also nominate Rev. C. A. Huckaby to bring the Introductory Sermon.

Dewey Jones

Mrs. Ralph Bell

### DIVINE SERVICE COMMITTEE

We, your committee on Divine service, make the following report:

We nominate Rev. Refus Hyman to preach Thursday night at 6:30 o'clock, and Rev. G. H. Jordan to preach Friday at 11 o'clock.

Delegates of

Howard's Grove & Cowart's Creek Churches

### AUXILIARIES COMMITTEE

We find that of the 16 churches represented in this association:

16 Sunday Schools with 776 enrolled and 87 teachers

6 Free Will Baptist Leagues with 245 enrolled

3 Woman's Auxiliaries with 71 enrolled.

Reported by Assoc. Clerk

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

We, your committee on education, make the following report:

We see a great need of a better educational program in each church.

We suggest that each church improve the program by having Sunday School and F. W. B. Leagues.

We suggest that each church help support the Youth Camp.



May we, as Free Will Baptists, support our Bible College with our prayers and contributions.

We also suggest that we, as fathers and mothers, teach Christian education in our homes.

Ed. Battles

C. J. Duke

Mrs. James Calloway

#### SUGGESTIONS COMMITTEE

We, your committee on suggestions:

Suggest that each pastor promote the budget system in their churches.

We suggest that all church leaders study God's Word more so they will be more able to teach and live more Christ-like.

We suggest that our church members be more concerned about the ones who have fallen. Be more willing to help them by fervent prayers and encouraging words and setting the examples before them.

Mrs. B. W. West

Ralph Monday

D. W. Retherford

#### HOME MISSION COMMITTEE

We, your committee on Home Missions, make the following report:

That our ministers endeavor to get the people to see the need of missions and, be more liberal in helping some by financing the cause of Christ.

The Spirit of the Home Missions is to "Help where help is needed." We recommend that in churches where no Sunday School is organized that the pastor encourage the organization of one. The field is white unto harvest, the doors are wide open for the entrance of the gospel, enter these doors at once.

Mrs. Georgia McNiel

Mrs. Sarah Stephens

D. R. Hicks

#### TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

We, your committee on Temperance, recommend Temperance in our daily living of thought and actions for a happier and better world to live in and to rear our younger generation in. One of the things we need temperance in most is strong drink. The sin of drunkenness has come down through the ages. There is every indication from both sacred and profane history that the making of strong drink is almost as old as the human race itself. The drunkards were among the first of the sinners. The Bible utters the most threatening warnings against drunkenness, promising punishment to those who fall into its snare. Drunkenness back in the time of our Saviour as it is now was to be guarded against, as serious sin, since it brings to the surface all the most brutal and most degraded instincts in a person.

Let us remember Romans 12:3, "For I say, through the grace given unto me

to every man that is among you, not to think himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith." And Titus 1:8, "But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate."

Mrs. Ulas Granger

Mrs. Docia Allen

#### STATE OF CHURCHES AND CHARACTER OF MINISTERS COMMITTEE

We, your committee on State of Churches and Character of Ministers, submit the following:

All the churches are in good standing and are making good progress. Several churches have built Sunday School rooms and some have built new churches and have added new members.

We think we have a wonderful group of ministers and think they are doing a mighty good work and we are praying that the program will continue.

Joe Ed. Bottoms

E. S. Jones

J. A. Calloway

#### OBITUARIES COMMITTEE

We, your committee on obituaries, find from the various church letters that there have been 19 deaths during the past associational year, namely:

Oscar Lanton, Mrs. Nellie Womack, Mrs. Bell Knowls, Mrs. Ella Frith, Mrs. Gladys Howell, Reuben Adams, James Tindell, Jr., Wallace Sellers, Luther Battles, Allen Charry, Cornelia Hayes, E. E. Hutto, Mrs. J. O. Boxely, Mrs. Mary Bagwell, Otis McNeal, Ruby Mae Gardner, Para Lee Gardner, J. F. Nowell, J. A. Carnes.

Mrs. Maggie Adams

Mrs. Mattie Toler

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE

We, your committee on finance, make the following report:

We find that \$174.25 has been sent in for associational purposes.

Ulas Granger

John L. Womack

Mrs. Hugh Jeffcoat

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash on hand beginning Oct. 11, 1951	\$204.31
Received at 1951 Session	182.00
Total Receipts .....	\$386.31

#### *Disbursements*

G. H. Jordan, Moderator—cash .....	\$ 10.00
Mary Edna Cook, Clerk—cash .....	15.00
D. W. Poole, Treasurer—cash .....	10.00
F. W. B. Children's Home—check .....	25.00
F. W. B. Children's Home—check .....	6.00

F. W. B. College—check .....	18.20	
Florida State Association—check .....	10.00	
C. B. Green, Postage—check .....	2.98	
Fowler Printing Co.—check .....	77.25	
Mary Edna Cook, Postage for both the State Line and Florida State Minutes—check .....	5.62	
Total Disbursements .....		\$180.05
Balance on hand beginning 1952 session .....		\$206.26

Respectfully,

REV. D. W. POOLE, *Treasurer*

## OBITUARIES

HAYES—In loving memory of our beloved friend and sister Cornelia Hayes, who departed from this life on December 29, 1951.

In her ealy life she joined Prospect Church. She was a faithful member, doing whatever she could for her Master.

Sister Hayes had an accident about a year and a half before her death, which left her an invalid. She bore her afflictions with patience and smiles, always trusting God.

A Rose once climbed up the side of a wall, found its way through a crevice and bloomed on the other side. That is just what is happening today. Part of the bush is here and part there but blooming on both sides. As the fragrance of the rose remains in the petal long after it has fallen, so will Sister Hayes life. The words she spoke, the things she did remain with us a blessed heritage of friendship.

Time can teach us submission, but not to forget. Life and its demands fill our hearts but does not still the pain caused by her going from us.

Written by a friend,

*Grady Scott*

CHERRY—On October 31, 1951, Brother Allen Hart Cherry, age 68 years, was called from this world.

He was a member of Prospect Church for several years. He was in feeble health the last few years of his life, but was very patient with his afflictions. He was faithful to his church, always filling his place and doing what ever he could for God's Kingdom.

It is sad to be called upon by the grim reaper to part with those we love and have known so long, and to have to give up their sweet smiling faces but God doeth all things for the best.

Brother Cherry was married 49 years to Miss Rosa Annie Watford. To this union were born nine children of which seven survive, three girls and four boys.

Brother Cherry left a vacancy in his home, his church, and in his community that cannot be filled. Relatives and friends let us all strive to meet him in the Great Beyond where parting will be no more.

Written by a friend,

*Grady Scott*

TINDELL—In memory of James Junior Tindell, who gave his all on the Korean Battle Field February 11, 1952, that peace and sweet fellowship could be had with mankind regardless of color and creed.

He was a member of New Harmony Church. He is missed and mourned by a great many relatives and a multitude of friends.

Written by an uncle,

*Sidney Tindell*

GARDNER—In memory of mother and daughter, Parelee and Ruby Mae Gardner. They passed from this life in early spring 1952 to be united in the Heavenly Kingdom. They were members of Pleasant Ridge Church. They were loved by many relatives and friends.

Written by Church Clerk,

*Sidney Tindell*

## CHURCH COVENANT

Having been brought, as we believe, by the divine grace to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Preserved, we do now solemnly and joyfully covenant and agree, by God's help, to walk together in brotherly love.

We therefore enter into covenant as members of this church and as Christians, that we will watch over each other in love, sharing together each others joys and sorrows; that we will not forsage the assembling of ourselves and others; that by divine assistance we will endeavor to bring up those under our care in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; that in all things we will strive to exemplify our profession by a corresponding practice to abstain from all sinful conformity to the world, to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements and exemplary in all our deportment; that we will abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage; that we will sustain the worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrine of this church, that we will contribute cheerfully, according to our ability, to the support of the ministry, the expense of the church, the relief of the poor and the general spread of the Gospel.

In keeping this solemn Covenant may we enjoy the blessing and presence of the great Head of the Church.

## CONSTITUTION

Art. 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 delegate for the fractional part of twenty-five. Providing any church having less than 25 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 year, amount of all contributions, the time of the monthly meeting,



the membership, ordained and licentiated ministers with their post office 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 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 without assigning reason.

Art. 6. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, Executive Committee and Home Mission Board. The Executive Committee and the 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. The constitution may be altered or amended by a majority of the delegates present during any season.

## DECORUM

Art. 1. The Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, Executive Committee and Home Mission Board shall be elected any way that the association shall determine.

Art. 2. Moderator shall preside over the deliberations of the 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 right to 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 however, any brother may address the Moderator to a point of order.

Art. 5. The clerk shall record the proceeding of the body when in session and superintend the publication of the same and all other writing pertaining to business of the Association. He shall also preserve a file of the minutes of this 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 the 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 to the Constitution or Decorum 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 others for the necessary funds when the Association is not in session. The Board makes rules and regulations for their government that are not in conflict with the Constitution or Decorum of this Association.

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

Art. 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 the connection.

2. When it becomes necessary a pastor may be chosen at any other time, than at the last regular conference of the associational year.

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 ordained ministers who make application to our order, shall be set apart in rank but not reordained.

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, 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 relatives 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, disciplines 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 the rule if necessary.

13. Conference after prayer and divine service shall be opened as follows, and conducted (1) Inviting brethren to seats. (2) Opening door of church for reception of members. (3) Calling for the reading of the minutes of last conference. (4) Calling for absentees. (5) Acknowledgements. (6) For reference of 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 shall be allowed to speak and make motions but not 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 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 for three consecutive conferences and 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 until 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 good reasons 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 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 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 permission.

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 anyone 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 members present at any two successive monthly conferences.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. OF GOD—We believe that there is none and only one living true God, infinite in His attributes, the Creator, Preserver, and Governor of the universe, revealed to us in the Scripture 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 inspirations 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; Pet. 1:18-21.

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 persons 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, 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 posterity will sin and come short of the Glory of God except that they receive Salvation through

the Lord Jesus Christ--Genesis 3:6; 1:26; 5:1 and 9:6; 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.--1 Cor. 1:7; Eph. 5:2; Heb. 29; Rom. 3:5; 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; Deut. 11:26-28.

9. OF PERSEVERENCE--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 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, 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 represent His Body and the 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. 7:10; Rom. 4:3.

12. THE RESURRECTION--We believe when resurrection 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 will be driven into everlasting darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.--John 5:29; Acts 14:16; Isa. 17; Heb. 9:27.



# Statistics of the Association

The State Line Association was organized at Howard's Grove Church, November 20, 1886.

YEAR	MODERATOR	CLERK	CHURCH	MEM.
1886	D. L. Chandler,	Calvin Dykes,	Howard Grove	449
1887	D. L. Chandler,	Calvin Dykes,	Beulah	557
1888	R. M. Groy,	Calvin Dykes,	Macedonia	403
1889	R. M. Gray,	Calvin Dykes,	Friendship	516
1890	R. M. Gray,	Calvin Dykes,	Loveweed	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	456
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. W. 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
1911	D. L. Chandler,	J. W. D. Stephens,	New Life	1442
1912	D. L. Chandler,	J. W. D. Stephens,	Pittman Creek	1447
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
1926	G. W. Cherry,	C. B. Green,	Springfield	2302
1927	J. J. Burdeshaw,	J. W. D. Stephens,	Hickory Grove	2344



YEAR	MODERATOR	CLERK	CHURCH	MEM.
1928	W. S. Cook	J. W. D. Stephens	Prospect	2229
1929	J. W. Stephens	C. B. Green	Rocky Grove	2875
1930	J. W. D. Stephens	C. B. Green	Union Springs	2450
1931	J. W. D. Stephens	C. B. Green	Howard Grove	2323
1932	J. W. D. Stephens	C. B. Green	Free Will Rest	2374
1933	A. H. Godfrey	C. B. Green	Spring Hill	2360
1934	A. H. Godfrey	C. B. Green	Shiloh	2539
1935	W. S. Cook	C. B. Green	Pleasant Home	2495
1936	A. H. Godfrey	C. B. Green	New Harmony	2479
1937	G. W. Nobles	C. B. Green	Corinth	2447
1938	G. W. Nobles	C. B. Green	Prospect	2536
1939	G. W. Nobles	C. B. Green	Pleasant Ridge	2661
1940	G. W. Nobles	C. B. Green	Hickory Grove	2619
1941	G. W. Nobles	C. B. Green	Rocky Grove	2853
1942	J. C. Howell	C. B. Green	Pleasant Home	2672
1943	G. W. Nobles	C. B. Green	Pittman Creek	2727
1944	G. W. Nobles	C. B. Green	Howards Grove	2788
1945	G. H. Jordan	C. B. Green	Union Springs	2717
1946	G. H. Jordan	C. B. Green	Sedar Grove	2756
1947	G. H. Jordan	C. B. Green	Springfield	2756
1948	G. H. Jordan	C. B. Green	Spring Hill	2743
1949	G. H. Jordan	C. B. Green	New Harmony	2760
1950	G. H. Jordan	C. B. Green	Prospect and Pleasant Ridge	3083
1951	G. H. Jordan	Mary E. Cook	Home and Pittman Creek	2761
1952	G. H. Jordan	Mary E. Cook	Howard's Grove and Cowart's Creek	2747

Churches	Pastors	Clerks & Post Office	F.W.B.L. Presidents & Post Offices	Meeting Days	Inc. by Baptism	Inc. by Confession	Inc. by Letter	Inc. by Restoration	Dec. by Letter	Dec. by Death	Dec. by Expulsion	Total Membership
Spring Hill	John M. Rich	Mrs. Hugh Jeffcoat, Gordon, Ala.	Ted Davis, Pansey, Ala.	1st	16	0	0	1	4	1	1	304
Prospect	T. B. Mellette	Mrs. Ruby Hicks, 404 S. St. Andrews, Dothan, Ala.	Glenda Smith, Rt. 3, Dothan, Ala.	Full Time	2	1	8	0	0	3	0	225
New Harmony	John M. Rich	Mrs. James Calloway, Cottonwood, Ala.		2nd & 4th	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	133
Howard's Grove	G. H. Jordan	A. C. Womack, Rt. 1, Cottonwood, Ala.	John D. Carr, Rt. 1, Ashford, Ala.	2nd & 4th	5	0	0	0	6	3	0	460
Pleasant Home	L. C. Mixon	Loyd Bottoms, Black, Ala.	Ray Ogbern, Rt. 1, Geneva, Ala.	3rd	26	0	3	1	3	0	1	314
Hickory Hill	A. C. Tolar	Emma White, Center Hill, Fla.		1st	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	69
Shiloh	Jimmy Pelt	Hubert Henderson, Rt. 1, Columbia, Ala.		2nd & 4th	9	2	0	0	3	1	0	193
Corinth	W. T. Hutto	S. Jackson, Midland City, Ala.		3rd	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	130
Grangerburg	L. C. Mixon	Boyce Askew, Gordon, Ala.		2nd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19
Pittman's Creek	L. C. Mixon	Earl Sowell, Rt. 1, Black, Ala.		1st	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	97
Springfield	John M. Rich	Billy Rabon, Rt. 2, Ashford, Ala.	John Singletary, Rt. 1, Webb, Ala.	3rd	4	0	3	0	0	2	0	114
Pleasant Ridge	A. H. Retherford	Sidney Tindell, Cottondale, Ala.		2nd & 4th	1	0	3	0	1	2	0	114
Union Springs	W. F. McDuffie	E. J. Henderson, Columbia, Ala.		2nd	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	277
New Hope	P. A. Brackins	Z. A. Ammons, Rt. 1, Midland City, Ala.		4th	4	0	7	0	3	0	1	18
Magnolia	Paul Mallory	Nell Rose Paramore Rt. 2, Midland City, Ala.		4th	4	0	2	0	2	0	0	110
Cowart's Creek	Coy Watson	Mrs. Ralph Bell, Rt. 1, Ashford, Ala.	Max Anderson, Rt. 1, Ashford, Ala.	3rd	17	0	3	0	4	0	0	170
					99	3	32	3	33	19	4	2747

Churches	Sunday School Supt.'s & Post Offices	Woman's Auxiliary Presidents and Post Office	Associational Purposes	Paid Pastor	Value Church Bldg.	Value Other Church Property	No in Sunday School	No. in F.W.B. League	No. in Wom. Aux.
Spring Hill.....	Jimmy Whitaker, Gordon, Ala.		\$ 10.00	357.69	\$ 2,500	\$ 500	76	39	
Prospect.....	W. A. Brown, Rt. 5, Dothan, Ala.	Mrs. Docia Allen, Rt. 4, Dothan, Ala.	25.00	1,200.00	15,000	5,000	65	36	14
New Harmony.....	Mrs. James Calloway, Cottonwood, Ala.		5.00	720.00	4,000	400	38		
Howard's Grove.....	E. S. Jones, Rt. 1, Ashford, Ala.	Evelyn Womack, Cottonwood, Ala.	20.00	420.00	12,000	2,000	90	52	41
Pleasant Home.....	Charlie Mixon, Rt. 1, Geneva, Ala.		20.00	215.00	1,500	500	100	60	
Hickory Hill.....	A. C. Tolar, Center Hill, Fla.		3.00	24.73	3,500	200	25		
Shiloh.....	C. J. Duke, Rt. 2, Columbia, Ala.		8.00	433.96	1,500	1,000	59		
Corinth.....	George Mallory, Midland City, Ala.		10.00	235.00	2,000	300	44		
Grangerburg.....	B. W. West, Cottonwood, Ala.		2.25	167.31	300	1,450	25		
Pittman's Creek.....	Jeff Hawthorne, Rt. 1, Black Ala.		8.00	150.08	1,000	400	89		
Springfield.....	Billy Rabon, Rt. 2, Ashford, Ala.	Mrs. Hubert Johnston, Rt. 1, Webb, Ala.	10.00	230.00	2,000	500	47	22	16
Pleasant Ridge.....	Mrs. J. D. Brown, Marianna, Fla.		10.00	567.00	3,000	750	20		
Union Springs.....	Maxwell Sims, Pansey, Ala.		10.00	417.00	3,000	500	38		
New Hope.....	Rex Stevens, Rt. 1, Midland City, Ala.		8.00	158.76	1,000	500	23		
Magnolia.....	John Paramore, Rt. 2, Midland City, Ala.		10.00	250.00	3,000	800	86		
Cowart's Creek.....	Joe Ben Pilcher, 1302 S. Bell St., Dothan, Ala.		15.00	499.96	3,000		50	36	
			\$174.25	\$6,046.49					