

*Minutes*  
of the  
*Sixty-Sixth Annual Session*  
of the  
*Mississippi-Alabama*  
*State Line Free Will Baptist*  
*Association*

Held With  
New Hope Church  
Friday, October 9, 1970  
and  
Cooper Church  
Saturday, October 10, 1970

OFFICERS

Rev. Edward Puckett  
Rev. Hubert Gardner  
Bro. J. C. Hood  
Sis. Shirley Black  
Rev. Herdis Sullins  
Bro. Wendell Giddy

Moderator  
Assistant Moderator  
Clerk and Treasurer  
Assistant Clerk and Treasurer  
Associational Pastor  
Trustee to Children's Home

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The next session of the State Line Free Will Baptist Association will convene with Rocky Top Church on Friday and Friday night before the second Sunday in October and with Cooper on Saturday, October 1971.



## STATE LINE FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

### PROCEEDINGS

The Sixty-sixth Annual Session of the Mississippi-Alabama State Line Association met with New Hope on Friday October 9, 1970 and with Cooper Church on Saturday October 10, 1970.

Session was opened with song led by Rev. L. V. Collier. Prayer was led by Rev. Edward Puckett.

### FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Association called to order by Moderator, Rev. Gurley Roberts.

Reading of Constitution and Rules of Decorum by Moderator.

Appointing of Devotional Committee: Bro. Ordie Lewis, Bro. Calvin Pearce, Bro. Troy Clifton.

Seating of Visiting Ministers: Rev. Jimmy Reese, Jasper; Rev. Cecil Hood, Bear Creek Association.

Appointing Reading Clerks: Rev. L. V. Collier, Rev. Clay Shotts.

Appointing Finance Committee: Rev. C. D. Paden, Bro. William Frederick, Rev. Edward Puckett.

### INTERMISSION

Song led by Rev. L. V. Collier, prayer by Rev. Cecil Hood.

### REPORT OF DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE

Friday morning devotional Rev. Clay Shotts; 11 o'clock message Rev. Gurley Roberts. Friday night devotional Rev. C. D. Paden; Message Rev. Hertis Sullins. Saturday morning devotional Rev. William Atkins; message Rev. Hubert Gardner. Alternate for Saturday session Rev. Clay Shotts, devotional. Message Rev. Howard Simmons.

### INTERMISSION

Friday morning devotional Rev. Clay Shotts, scripture James 5:7. 11 o'clock message Rev. Gurley Roberts, scripture Heb. 6:1, Phil. 3:13, 14. Text — "Reaching for Things Which Are Before."

Dismissed for Lunch by Bro. Miller.

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Seating Visiting Ministers: Rev. Miller of Jasper Association.

### CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your committee on credentials, have examined church letters except Sulligent. We recommend they all be read and seat the delegates.

Move in order to receive report and retain committee. Carried.

READING OF CHURCH LETTERS  
AND  
SEATING OF DELEGATES

- ANTIOCH — Sis. Susan Templeton, Sis. Jessie Howell, Sis. Lusie Holcomb, Alt. Sis. Julie Terrell.
- BARNESVILLE — Bro. Dwayne Rye, Bro. Ivan Boyett, Sis. Brown, Sis. Weeks, Sis. Rea Palmer.
- COOPER — Sis. Patricia Peoples, Sis. Annette Lamb, Sis. Ruby Finch, Alt. Bro. Oscar L. Jeffreys.
- FAIRVIEW — Sis. Eva Triplett, Sis. Alice Carter, Sis. Verlon Lindsey.
- FREE WILL CHAPEL — Bro. Belton Smith, Bro. Murray Jackson, Bro. William Pennington, Sis. Mary Crossley.
- LIBERTY — Sis. Betty Jean Childers, Bro. R. C. Childers, Sis. Ermarie Childers.
- LOVE JOY — Sis. Lucille Pearce, Sis. Verta Giddie, Bro. Wendell Giddie, Alt. Sis. Rosa Gardner.
- MT. HOPE — Sis. Marvie Kelly, Bro. Charles Cochran, Sis. Lizzie Cochran, Alt. Sis. Verdie Purser.
- NEW CENTER POINT — Sis. Wanda Puckett, Sis. Wanda Blaylock, Bro. Ray Blaylock, Sis. Pearl Brown, Sis. Beatrice Scott.
- NEW HOPE — Bro. Robert Avery, Sis. Ovaline Avery, Sis. Jean Godsey.
- NEW SALEM — Bro. Paul Gilliland, Sis. Elie Lindsey, Bro. Earnest Brown, Sis. Inez Walton, Alt.
- PLEASANT RIDGE — Bro. Arlie Green, Bro. Jimmy Ray Avery, Bro. Donald Collier, Sis. Winnie Green, Alt.
- PLEASANT SITE — Sis. Louise Mills, Sis. Eva Lou Watson, Sis. Lurah Mae Mills, Alt. Sis. Bobbie Kerr.
- ROCKY GROVE — Sis. Ann Stidham, Bro. Bud Pugh, Sis. Flora Stidham, Sis. Clayborn Thomas.
- ROCKY TOP — Sis. Bonnie Cooper, Sis. Christeen Hood, Sis. Nora Robinson, Sis. Marvalene Robinson, Alt. Lydia Howell.
- SPLUNGE — Sis. Fay Blaylock, Sis. Patsy Puckett, Sis. Cara Irvin, Alts. Sis. Carolyn Vann, Sis. Nell Thompson.
- FWB OF SULLIGENT —
- UNION RIDGE — Bro. Mathis Franklin, Sis. Lillie Mae Franklin, Sis. Rosie Nell Hill, Alts. Sis. Grace Rushing, Sis. Elmer Brown.
- COBB TOWN — Sis. Jeanette Vann, Sis. Maudine Head, Sis. Omega Stivener, Alt. Jo Ann Stidham.

Move in order to receive Cobb Town Church into this Association. Carried.

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We recommend Bro. Stidham and Bro. Reese be examined by Ordaining Council.  
Move in order to receive report. Carried.

INTERMISSION

Song led by Bro. Mun Howell.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We find on hand \$473.09, received in Church letters for Associational and minute fund \$277.77, for Children's Home \$11.00.

Move in order to accept report as read.

## STATE LINE FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

### APPOINTING OF COMMITTEES

ORDAINING COUNCIL    Rev. L. V. Collier, Rev. Edward Puckett, Rev. C. D. Paden.

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE    Sis. Manila Brown, Sis. Christeen Hood, Sis. Puckett.

DECEASED MEMBERS    Sis. Lucille Pearce, Sis. Ruby Finch, Bro. Ivan Boyett.

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE    Rev. Howard Simmons, Bro. Wayne Rye, Sis. Dukes, Sis. Weeks.

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE    Bro. Mun Howell, Bro. Edgar Childers, Bro. Bobby Duncan.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE    Rev. Collier, Rev. Holcomb, Rev. Shotts, Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk.

### REPORT OF ORDAINING COUNCIL

We, your Ordaining Council, have examined Bro. Jimmy D. Reece and recommend he be accepted as a minister of this Association. Carried.

We have also examined Bro. Arvin Wayne Stidham and recommend he be ordained. Carried.

The Association ordained Bro. Stidham. The charge was given by Rev. Gurlie Roberts, prayer by Rev. Herdis Sullins. Fellowship and handshake were given Bro. Stidham and Bro. Reece.

### APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT

We thank God for the many blessings and the wonderful fellowship of this day and the good food prepared.

Move in order to accept report, reread tomorrow and discharge Committee. Carried.

Dismissed by Bro. Jimmy Reece.

### FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

Song led by Bro. Bobby Duncan, prayer by Oneal Childers. Devotional by Rev. C. D. Paden, Scripture, Psalms 105. After devotional Bro. Paden gave an altar call. One came and accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as her Saviour.

Message by Rev. Herdis Sullins, Scripture, Romans 6:8, John 13. Text: "This is a Complete Christian Service."

### SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Song led by Bro. Calvin Pearce, prayer by Rev. Rayburn. Service opened by Scripture reading by Rev. Gurlie Roberts, Psalms 118.

### REPORT OF SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

We, the Sunday School Committee, wish to stress the importance of Bible study in the home and in the Church. Our Nation was founded on the teachings of God's Holy Word and it should remain so. So we feel Sunday School should be one of the central themes in our Religious life. And too, we think each Church should use the literature of our Free Will Church. We notice all the Churches have Sunday School except the First Free Will Baptist Church of Sulligent.

Move in order to accept report as read and discharge committee. Carried.



convene at one church of our association and the Saturday service convene at another church of our association.

Item 15. We recommend we abide by the National Treaties.

### INTERMISSION

Song led by Rev. L. V. Collier, prayer by Rev. Ottis Palmer.

Move in order to grant Rev. Larry Nix a letter in full fellowship to the Jasper Association. Carried.

Special songs by Bro. J. C. Hood, Bonnie Cooper and Shirley Black.

### SEATING OF VISITING MINISTERS

Rev. Ottis Palmer, Vernon Association; Rev. Jim Godsey, Jasper Association.

Song led by Rev. L. V. Collier.

Morning devotional by Rev. William Atkins, Scripture II Cor. 5.

Saturday morning message by Rev. Hubert Gardner, Scripture James 12: "The last mile of the way."

Song led by Rev. Collier, congregation engaged in handshake.

Dismissed for lunch by Rev. Shotts.

### SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Song led by Rev. Hubert Gardner, prayer by Bro. Ivan Boyette.

Song "The Great Physician" was sung in memory of Bro. Russ Cooper, a deceased member of Cooper church.

Special songs by J. C. Hood, Bonnie Cooper and Shirley Black.

Rereading of Appreciation Committee report.

### CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your credential committee, find all ministers in good standing. All present except Rev. Roy Franks. We recommend all be given a card of good standing.

Move in order to accept report as read. Carried.

### STANDING CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Bro. Clovis Blaylock, Bro. Burton Frederick, Bro. Bobby Duncan.

Move in order to discharge ordaining council and finance committee. Carried.

### NEXT ASSOCIATIONAL SESSION

The next session of the State Line Free Will Baptist Association will convene with Rocky Top Church on Friday and Friday night before the second Sunday in October 1971 and with Mt. Hope on Saturday October 1971.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Rev. Edward Puckett

Moderator

Rev. Hubert Gardner

Assistant Moderator

Bro. J. C. Hood

Clerk and Treasurer

Sis. Shirley Black

Assistant Clerk and Treasurer

Rev. Herdis Sullins

Associational Pastor

Bro. Wendell Giddy

Trustee to Children's Home

Move in order to receive an offering to be shared by Rev. C. C. Berryhill and Rev. O. S. Gardner. Carried. Received \$133.60 - \$66.80 ea.

Move in order to receive an offering for the Children's Home Foster Parent plan. Carried. Received \$63.61.

Move in order to empower clerk to write all necessary checks for the expense of the association. Carried.

Move in order to adjourn this session of the Association until we meet again next October with Rocky Top Church on Friday at 9:00 o'clock a.m. Carried.

#### CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORT

Paid Rev. Gurlie Roberts (Moderator)	15.00
Paid Rev. Herdis Sullins (Assistant Moderator)	10.00
Paid J. C. Hood (Clerk and Treasurer)	35.00
Paid Shirley Black (Assistant Clerk and Treasurer)	15.00
Printing of Minutes (Est.)	100.00
State Associational Fees	95.00
Expense (Est.)	15.00
Orphanage (offering)	63.61
Offering for Bro. Gardner and Bro. Berryhill	133.60
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	477.21
Amount in Bank Oct. 1970	473.09
Amount in Church letters and offerings	484.98
TOTAL	958.07
Less Disbursements	477.21
BALANCE	480.86

#### PREACHING DAYS OF THE CHURCHES

ANTIOCH: 2nd and 4th; BARNESVILLE: Full Time; COOPER: Full Time; FAIRVIEW: 2nd and 4th; FREE WILL CHAPEL: 2nd and 4th; LOVE JOY: 2nd and 4th; MT. HOPE: 2nd and 4th; NEW BETHLEHEM: 3rd; NEW HOPE: 1st and 3rd; PLEASANT RIDGE: Full Time; PLEASANT SITE: Full Time; ROCKY GROVE: 2nd and 4th; ROCKY TOP: 1st and 3rd; SPLUNGE: Full Time; UNION RIDGE: 1st and 3rd; NEW CENTER POINT: 2nd and 4th; LIBERTY: 2nd and 4th; SULLIGENT: Wednesday Night.

#### STATE LINE FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

##### NAMES OF DEACONS

ANTIOCH: Bro. J. M. Howell, Bro. Charles Howell, Bro. Ray Stidham.  
 BARNESVILLE: Bro. Exel Brown, Bro. Else Avis, Bro. Charles Palmer, Bro. Lynwood Clark, Bro. Gus Fergeson, Bro. Fred Stidham.  
 COOPER: Bro. Burley Finch, Bro. Ordie Lewis, Bro. Olan Rye.  
 COBB TOWN: Bro. Hicks Hester, Bro. Troy Duncan, Bro. Lyndon Vann.  
 FAIRVIEW: Bro. Sam Carter, Bro. Ira Triplett, Bro. Jack Lindsey.  
 FREE WILL CHAPEL: Bro. Roy Franks, Bro. Edward Barnes, Bro. Edsil Gedion.  
 LIBERTY: Bro. Oneal Childers, Bro. Odis Childers.  
 LOVE JOY: Bro. Delton Giddie, Bro. Marvin Pearce, Bro. Veto Emerson.  
 MT. HOPE: Bro. J. D. Kelly, Bro. Odis Mitchell, Bro. Hubert Cochran.  
 NEW SALEM: Bro. C. D. Stone, Bro. W. D. Walton.  
 PLEASANT RIDGE: Bro. Cal Pearce, Bro. Claude Winsett, Bro. Elma Hue Taylor, Bro. Golden Harris, Bro. Dewey Crowe.  
 PLEASANT SITE: Bro. Archie Satterwhite, Bro. Vester Watson, Bro. J. R. Karr, Bro. Marshall Watson, Bro. Sam Nix.  
 ROCKY GROVE: Bro. J. G. Sanderson, Bro. Claborn Thomas, Bro. Larkin Townley, Bro. Travis Hall, Bro. Robert Burselon.  
 ROCKY TOP: Bro. Burton Frederick, Bro. William Frederick, Bro. Leonard Howell.  
 SPLUNGE: Bro. Delmo Thompson, Bro. J. C. Palmer, Bro. Clovis Blaylock, Bro.

Dulith Irvin, Bro. J. W. Vann,  
 UNION RIDGE: Bro. Johnnie Myers, Bro. Archie Turman, Bro. Troy Clifton.

### CHURCH CLERKS AND ADDRESSES

#### ANTIOCH

Ray Howell Rt. 3, Hamilton, Ala.

#### BARNESVILLE

Ezma Hall Rt. 4, Box 98, Hamilton, Ala.

#### COOPER

Burley Finch Rt. 1, Detroit, Ala.

#### COBB TOWN

Jeanette Vann Rt. 1, Detroit, Ala.

#### FAIRVIEW

Jack Lindsey Rt. 1, Bexar, Ala.

#### FREEWILL CHAPEL

Chloe Otts Rt. 3, Box 6-B, Sulligent, Ala.

#### LIBERTY

Erma Chlders Rt. 1, Vina, Ala.

#### LOVE JOY

Wendell Giddie Rt. 2, Box 307, Hamilton, Ala.

#### MT. HOPE

Dorothy Ballard Rt. 2, Hamilton, Ala.

#### NEW CENTER POINT

Bobby Puckett Greenwood Springs, Miss.

#### NEW HOPE

Calvin Pearce Rt. 2, Hamilton, Ala.

#### NEW SALEM

Ethelene Brown Bexar, Ala.

#### PLEASANT RIDGE

Golden Harris Rt. 2, Hamilton, Ala.

#### PLEASANT SITE

Alma Mills Rt. 1, Detroit, Ala.

#### ROCKY GROVE

Robert H. Burleson Rt. 3, Hamilton, Ala.

#### ROCKY TOP

Marvalene Robinson Rt. 1, Hackleburg, Ala.

#### SPLUNGE

J. W. Vann Smithville, Miss.

#### UNION RIDGE

Billie Joyce Clifton P. O. Box 97, Sulligent, Ala.

### MINISTERS' NAMES AND ADDRESSES

Rev. William Atkins	468-2423	Rt. 2, Guin, Ala.
Rev. C. C. Berryhill	601-256-8225	Greenwood Springs, Miss.
Rev. Hudson Burleson	921-2473	Rt. 3, Hamilton, Ala.
Rev. L. V. Collier	921-2612	Rt. 2, Hamilton, Ala.
Rev. Roy Franks		Guin, Ala.
Rev. Hubert Gardner	921-2008	Rt. 4, Hamilton, Ala.
Rev. Oscar Gardner		Rt. 2, Hackleburg, Ala.
Rev. Wise Holcomb	468-3910	Rt. 2, Guin, Ala.



Churches	Pastor	Church Membership	Received	Dismissed	Deceased	Paid Pastor	Paid Evangelist	Value of Church Property
ANTIOCH	Wise Holcomb	54	0	0	1	\$ 722.83	\$ 85.50	0
BARNESVILLE	Gurlie Roberts	140	9	2	0	2,310.00	250.00	18,000.00
COOPER	Edward Puckett	126	2	0	1	2,093.78	180.00	11,000.00
COBB TOWN	A. W. Stidham	17	11	0	1	55.00	55.94	2,000.00
FAIRVIEW	W. C. Rayburn	100	0	0	0	695.45	172.13	7,000.00
FREEWILL CHAPEL	G. C. Lawrence	89	5	0	1	3,109.43	150.85	20,000.00
LIBERTY	Edgar Childers	28	1	0	0	397.00	143.50	4,065.00
LOVE JOY	O. S. Gardner	31	0	3	0	587.74	83.00	6,500.00
MT. HOPE	C. D. Paden	69	10	5	0	699.64	114.73	8,000.00
NEW CENTER POINT	Howard Simmons	77	3	0	1	829.65	177.50	8,000.00
NEW HOPE	C. D. Paden	78	1	1	1	1,068.98	100.00	4,600.00
NEW SALEM	O. S. Gardner	61	9	0	1	555.81	85.60	4,000.00
PLEASANT RIDGE	L. V. Collier	69	19	1	2	2,621.00	101.00	28,000.00
PLEASANT SITE	Hubert Gardner	72	2	2	2	4,438.80	383.60	16,000.00
ROCKY GROVE	B. D. Tice	58	9	4	3	1,378.00	245.00	10,000.00
ROCKY TOP	Cecil Hood	102	1	2	0	1,085.70	177.00	16,000.00
SPLUNGE	Jimmy Reese	55	7	2	1	1,535.00	260.00	12,000.00
SULLIGENT								
UNION RIDGE	Howard Simmons	141	2	0	0	554.12	94.00	2,500.00
TOTALS						\$24,729.93	\$2,859.35	\$177,665.00

Church Improvement	Association and Minute Fund	Missions	Children's Home	Literature	Ordained Ministers	Ordained Deacons	No. in League	No. in Sunday School	Teachers	Miscellaneous	Sunday School Superintendent
0	10.00	0	38.00	42.87	1	3	0	20	2	30.44	J. M. Howell
6,700.00	30.00	0	70.00	259.60	2	6	50	100	6	355.94	Wayne Williams
0	26.57	0	250.48	181.18	1	3	25	58	5		Edward Gilmore
0	5.00	0		15.40		3	0	0	3		Ann Stidham
0	10.00	0	60.36	74.27	2	3	0	40	4	730.00	Hugh Carter
3,400.00	15.00	0	60.00	93.30	0	3	0	53	4	0	Jerry Smith
65.13	10.00	0	13.00	40.00	1	2	0	33	2		Oneal Childers
0	15.00	0	30.00	55.39	1	3	0	30	4	159.39	Veto Emerson
391.85	10.00	0	77.00	72.04		3	0	60	4		Charles Cochran
1,050.86	20.00	0	22.12	73.60	1	3		45	4		Wade Vann
0	15.00	0	118.91			4		47	4		Calvin Pearce
150.00	16.00	0				2		40	4		C. D. Stone
4,814.87	24.20	0		142.81	1	5		80	5	669.10	Golden Harris
716.45	10.00	0	101.00	159.12	1	5	50	66	3	257.40	Vester Watson
0	15.00	0		16.00	2	7		45	4		Bud Pugh
808.35	15.00	0	117.12	91.16	2	3		54	4	414.71	Ronald Hood
0	15.00	0	35.00	160.00	2	5	30	40	4	425.00	Roger Shields
	15.00	0	15.00	54.00	0	3		40	3		Troy Clifton
\$18,097.51	\$276.77	0	\$1,007.99	\$1,520.74						\$3,041.98	

Rev. Bobbie Jeffreys		Rt. 1, Detroit, Ala.
Rev. C. D. Paden	356-4360	Rt. 1, Red Bay, Ala.
Rev. Edward Puckett	601-256-3374	Greenwood, Miss.
Rev. W. C. Rayburn		Rt. 3, Kennedy, Ala.
Rev. Jimmy Reece	698-8361	Box 271, Sulligent, Ala.
Rev. Gurley Roberts	273-4360	Hamilton, Ala.
Rev. Clay Shotts		Hamilton, Ala.
Rev. Howard Simmons	921-3461	Hamilton, Ala.
Rev. Arvin Wayne Stidham		Hamilton, Ala.
Rev. Herdis Sullins	935-3500	Hackleburg, Ala.
Rev. Williard Westbrooks		5122 8th Ave., Moline, Ill.
Rev. Marvin Winsett	921-3705	Rt. 3, Hamilton, Ala.

#### DECEASED MEMBERS

Bro. John Bannister, Bro. Russell Cooper, Bro. Crowley Elliot, Sis. Ella Tidwell, Sis. Virgie Wiginton, Bro. Jessie Barnette, Bro. J. H. Sanderson, Sis. Kincie W. Abbott, Bro. Fred Knight, Sis. Mollie Sanderson.

#### DECEASED MINISTERS

Rev. Noah Robertson, Rev. J. D. Love, Rev. W. G. Howell, Rev. C. R. Puckett, Rev. J. B. Watts, Rev. I. K. Boyette, Rev. M. L. Nichols, Rev. U. G. Howell, Rev. Walter Colburn.

Move in order to have a plaque made with names of deceased ministers, to be carried to each association and hung in each church that hosts the association. Carried. Move that association officers decide what the plaque be made of. Carried.

#### CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves by faith in Christ and adopted the word of God as our rules of faith and practices, we now give ourselves to one another, by the will of God in this solemn covenant, we promise by his grace to love and obey him in all things, to avoid all appearances of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity in the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages and to provide things honest in the sight of all men.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of scripture, secret prayers, family doctrines and social worship and by self denial, faith and good works, endeavor to grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

We will not forget the assembling together for church conference, public worship and the observance of the ordinances of the gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor and all of its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness and watch over one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit, in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, promote the success of the church and of the gospel.

We will everywhere hold the Christian principles sacred and Christian obligations supreme, counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society, constantly praying and toiling that the kingdom of God may come and his will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of education and denominational enterprise, support the mission, the success of the Sabbath School and evangelistic effort for salvation of souls and conversion of the world, and may the God of Peace sanctify us wholly and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.



## FORM OF CHURCH CONFERENCE

1. Call the Church to order by the Moderator
2. Call for the Peace of the Church
3. Opportunity for members
4. Inviting Brothers and Sisters to seat with us
5. Reading of the minutes of the last Conference
6. Is there any reference?
7. Appointing of committees
8. Any acknowledgements?
9. Report of committee
10. Unfinished business
11. New business
12. Distressed members
13. Adjournment

## RULES FOR THE PREACHERS

1. All ministers wishing to become a member of the Association will be required to go before the Credentials Committee with a recommendation from the church of which they are a member, and also be called upon to present their credentials for examination and answer satisfactorily such questions as they may ask of them.
2. All preachers shall attend all business meetings unless providentially hindered.
3. Any minister who behaves himself unbecomingly to his high and exalted calling shall be reported by the credentials committee to the Association, who shall deal with him.
4. All ministers will be required to strictly adhere to the teachings of the Free Will Baptist, according to the Articles of Faith.
5. All ministers shall be required to support and stand by all boards and committees appointed by this Association and do their utmost to make them a success.
6. No minister shall speak slanderously or cast personal reflections upon another minister that will hurt his influence or ministerial standing.
7. Any minister who draws his letter from the church to which he belongs automatically cancels his credentials until he joins some other church of the same faith and order and he is not allowed to minister any rights that is allowed the minister of the gospel to perform.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe that there is but one true Eternal God, the Father of whom are all things, from everlasting, glorious and immutable to all his attributes. 1 Cor. 8:6; Isa. 40:28.
2. We believe that there is one Lord Jesus Christ by whom are all things, the only begotten son of God, born of the Virgin Mary, whom God freely sent into the world, because of the great love where with he loved the world, Christ as freely gave himself as ransom for all lasting death for every man, who was buried and rose again the third day, and ascended into Heaven, from when we look for him the second time in the clouds of Heaven at the last day, to judge the quick and the dead. 1 Tim. 2:5, 6; Heb. 2; John 3: 16; Rev. 1:7; Acts 24:15; 1 John 2:2.
3. We believe that there is one Holy Ghost, the Precious gift of the Father through his dear son, unto the world, who quickeneth and draweth sinners home to God. St. John 16:7, 8; Acts 2:4; Eph. 2:1; Eph. 4:4, 6.
4. We believe that in the beginning God made man upright, and placed him in a state of glory without the least mixture of misery, from which he voluntarily, by transgression, fell and by that means brought on himself a miserable and moral

state subject to death. Gen. 2:17; 3:19.

5. We believe that God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance and the knowledge of truth, that they might be saved, for which end Christ has commanded the gospel to be preached among all nations and to every creature. Mark 16:15; John 3:15, 17; Tim. 2:4.
6. We believe that no man shall suffer in hell for want of a Christ, who died for him, but as the scripture has said, for denying the Lord that brought them, because they believe not in the name of the holy begotten Son of God, unbelief, therefore, being the cause why the just and righteous God of Heaven will condemn the children of men, it follows against all contradictions that all men at one time or another, are found in such a capacity, as that thought the Grace of God they may be saved. Acts 17:30; Mark 6:6; Hebrews 3:10; 1 John 5:10.
7. We believe the whole scripture is infallibly true, and that they are the only rules of faith and practice. 2 Tim. 3:16, 17.
8. We believe in the doctrine of general provisions made of God in Christ, for the benefit of all mankind who repent and believe the gospel. Luke 14:16, 20; Matt. 28:19, 20; Luke 13:3, 5; Luke 24:47; Acts 3:19, Mark 1:15.
9. We believe that sinners are drawn to God, the Father, by the Holy Ghost, through Christ, his son, and that the Holy Ghost offers his divine aid to all the human family, so as they all might be happy, would they give place to his divine teaching, whereas such as do not receive the divine impressions of his Holy Spirit shall at a future day own their condemnation just, and charge themselves with their own damnation for willfully rejecting the offers of sovereign grace. Matt. 11:27; St. John 6:44, 65; Psalms 1:1; Tit. 2:11, 12; Jef. 22:29.
10. We believe that men, not considered simply as men, but ungodly men, were of old ordained to condemnation, considered such who turn the grace of God into lasciviousness, denying the only Lord God, Jesus Christ, who brought them, and therefore, shall bring upon themselves swift destruction, but we observe that they are and such the Apostles sayeth because they receive not the love of the truth. That they might be saved herefore, the indignation and wrath of God is upon every son of man that doeth evil, living and dying therein, for there is no respect of person with God. Jude 1:4; 2 Peter 2:1-2; 2 Thes. 2:11-12; Rom. 2:9-11.
11. We believe that all children dying in infancy, having not actually transgressed against the law of God, in their own persons, are only subject to the first death, which was brought on them by the fall of the Adam and not that any one of them dying in the state shall suffer punishment in hell by the guilt of Adam's sin, for such is the Kingdom of God. 1 Cor. 15:22; Matt. 18:2, 5; Mark 9:36, 37; Matt. 19:16.
12. We believe that good works are the fruits of saving faith and that in the use of the means of the grace and not out of the use of those means, eternal life is promised to men. Rev. 22:14, 15; Isa. 1:19, 20; Matt. 7:8; Jer. 6:16; Luke 13:34, 35.
13. We believe that no man has any warrant in the holy scripture for justification before God through his own works, power or ability which he has in and of himself, only by the grace is made able to come to God through Jesus Christ, believing the righteousness of Jesus Christ to be imputed to all believers for their eternal acceptance with God. Rom. 4:24; Acts 8:20, 21.
14. We believe that all things are foreseen in the wisdom of God so that God knoweth whatever can or cannot come to pass upon all supposed conditions, but not having decreed any person to everlasting life, out of respect or mere choice, rather than he hath appointed the Godly unto life, and the ungodly, who died in sin unto death. Heb. 4:13; Prov. 8:22, 31; Matt. 25:31, 46.
15. We believe as touching gospel ordinances, in believers, baptism, laying on the hands, receiving of the sacrament, in bread and wine, washing the saint's feet,



anointing the sick with oil in the name of the Lord, fasting prayer, singing praise to God, and the public ministry of the word, with every institution of the Lord we shall find in the New Testament. Mark 16:15, 16; Acts 8:17; Acts 19:6; Luke 22:19; John 13:5; James 5:14.

16. We believe the gospel made of water baptism is by immersion, and that believers are the only subjects for baptism. Matt. 3:16; Mark 1:9, 10; Acts 2:38, 39; Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12.
17. We believe in a general resurrection of the dead and a final judgment at the last day. John 5:28, 29; 2 Cor. 5:10.
18. We believe the happiness of the righteous is eternal and the torments of the wicked are endless. Matt. 25:46.

### CONSTITUTION

1. The Association shall be known as the State Line Free Will Baptist Association of Alabama and Mississippi.
2. This Association shall be composed of ministers, deacons and delegates of different churches forming the same.
3. All ministers and churches wishing to become members of this body must willingly submit to the Articles of Faith, Constitution and Rules of the same.
4. Each church in this Association shall be entitled to three delegates for the first hundred members or fractions thereof and one delegate for every additional fifty members.
5. This Association shall have a standing Credentials Committee composed of three members, which shall be composed of deacons. The oldest members shall be dropped each year and a new one appointed by the Moderator. Their duty shall be to examine all church letters and applications for membership, both churches and ministers, and make report of same to the body.
6. Officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer, Assistant Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot at each regular session.
7. This Association shall meet on Friday and Saturday before the second Sunday in October of each Year and shall not adjourn until all business is transacted.
8. The Association shall vote on where the next Association shall be held until one church gets the majority vote.
9. The Constitution by-laws may be altered or amended at any regular session of this Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present.
10. No minister, deacon or delegate shall be seated in this body unless they agree to stay throughout the session unless they are providentially hindered.
11. Each church represented in this Association shall be required to bring annually 5 per capita as an Association Fund for the purpose of printing the minutes and associational expense.
12. All ministers pastoring churches in the Mississippi-Alabama Association shall abide by the Rules of the same.

### CHURCH RULES

1. We agree as members for the State Line Association of the Free Will Baptist to cooperate in every move for the betterment of our denomination and the extension of God's Kingdom throughout the world.
2. We agree to meet in conference quarterly, or oftener, if necessary, to transact the business of the church.
3. The Moderator shall be chosen by the suffrage of the church in the absence of the pastor. The Moderator shall observe good order and explain all questions before he takes the voice of the church on them, and shall have the liberty of

speech as any other, but not vote unless there be a tie, when he shall give the deciding vote.

4. It shall be the duty of all members to fill their seats in conference and bear their part of the expense.
5. No member shall leave their seat during conference without permission from the Moderator.
6. No member shall arraign another before the Church for any grievance without taking gospel steps. Matt. 18:15, 16, 17.
7. All business brought before the church by motion and second, and in gospel-like order, shall be attended to by the church, unless withdrawn by mover.
8. Any person wishing to speak shall arise and address the Moderator, and if two arises at the same time, the Moderator shall decide who shall speak first, and no member while speaking shall cast any reflection on any person, but shall adhere strictly to the subject under consideration.
9. No member shall speak twice on any subject without permission from the church and not more than five minutes at the time.
10. It shall be the duty of all churches members to be present at all church meetings, to vote on all questions that come before the church when called on by the Moderator, or any member of the church who desires to obtain the mind of the whole church.
11. If any member shall remain silent during the transaction of any business of the church, and afterward complain of what was done the same shall be deemed disorderly, and the member so offending shall be dealt with accordingly.
12. The members of the church shall not talk about one another slanderously, nor shall give any report of circulation that may arise again at any church meeting but shall make it known to the one the report is against and to no one else, and any member doing otherwise, shall be dealt with accordingly.
13. We agree to do all business by a majority of the members present, at any regular or called conference, providing a quorum is present, said quorum being seven (7) members or more.
14. Any member or minister of the church who talks about his brother or sister slanderously shall be dealt with according as the church sees fit.
15. No business can be transacted in a church as long as there are members out of fellowship in the church until an effort has been made in that conference to bring it to peace.
16. These rules shall be read at the opening of each conference, and strictly enforced by the Moderator.
17. Any member desiring to move his membership from one church to another in the Association must have a letter. Failing to do so he is taken under the watch care of the church until he presents the letter.

#### RULES OF DECORUM

1. This Association shall be opened and closed with singing and prayer.
2. The officers elect at the previous session shall begin their administration at the opening of each regular session.
3. Only one person shall speak at a time. He shall arise and address the Moderator and when recognized he shall proceed.
4. No person shall be interrupted while speaking by anyone except by the Moderator and not by the Moderator unless he breaks the rules of order.
5. The person speaking must adhere to the subject in question and shall not use words of personal reflection.
6. No person shall speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the

- Association, and not more than five minutes each time.
7. No member shall laugh or whisper in time of public speaking.
  8. No person shall address another except by the appellation of brother or sister.
  9. No member shall absent himself without leave of the Moderator.
  10. The names of all ministers, deacons, and delegates shall be enrolled by the clerk, and called as often as deemed necessary by the Moderator.
  11. Every member of this body shall vote for or against every move that comes before it, those failing to do so shall be reprimanded by the Moderator.
  12. Any person who shall knowingly break any of these rules shall be reproved by the Moderator, according to directions of the Association.
  13. We recommend that each church in this Association have as many as two Sunday services each month.

#### FORM OF CHURCH LETTER

State of ..... , County of .....

This is to certify that our beloved ..... is in full fellowship with us and is thereby dismissed from us when joined in some other church.

This done by order of the church in conference at .....

This ..... day of ..... 19 .....

..... Moderator

..... Clerk



Pro. Hood



