

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

Held with
Cobb Town Church
Friday, October 12, 1973
and
Fairview Church
Saturday, October 13, 1973

OFFICERS

Rev. Hubert Gardner	Moderator
Rev. Edward Puckett	Assistant Moderator
Bro. J. C. Hood	Clerk and Treasurer
Sis. Shirley Black	Assistant Clerk and Treasurer
Rev. Larry Shotts	Associational Pastor
Bro. James McCarley	Trustee to Children's Home.

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The next session of the State Line Free Will Baptist Association will convene with New Salem on Friday and Friday night before the second Sunday in October and with Barnesville on Saturday, October 1974.



STATE LINE FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

PROCEEDINGS

The Sixty-ninth Annual Session of the Mississippi-Alabama State Line Association met with Cobb Town on Friday, October 12, 1973 and with Fairview on Saturday, October 13, 1973.

Session was opened with a song led by Rev. Bobby Duncan. Prayer by Rev. William Atkins.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Third Chapter, I John read by Rev. C.D. Paden outgoing moderator.

Due to Rev. Gurley Roberts, our elected moderator leaving this Association, Rev. Jack Harder, elected Asst. Moderator will assume the duties of Moderator.

Association called to order by Moderator Rev. Jack Harder.

Reading of Constitution and Rules of Decorum by Moderator.

Appointing of Devotional Committee: Bro. Calvin Pearce, Bro. Dwayne Rye, Bro. Mon Howell.

Finance Committee: Rev. Wise Holcomb, Rev. Redus Hall, Bro. Vester Watson.

Reading Clerks: Sis. Beatrice Harris, Sis. Deloris Watson.

Seating Visiting Ministers: Rev. James Godsey, Jasper; Rev. G. C. Lawrence, Vernon; Rev. Paul Ketterman, Free Will Baptist College, Nashville; Rev. Roy Barnes, Vernon.

Song led by Rev. William Atkins. Short message by Rev. Edward Puckett. "Suffering as a Christian" 2 Tim. 3:12.

REPORT OF DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE

Friday morning devotional, Rev. Bobby Duncan, message, Rev. Jack Harder; Friday night devotional, Rev. Jerry Smith, Message Assistant Moderator; Saturday morning devotional, Rev. Redus Hall; Message, Rev. G.C. Lawrence.

Move in order to accept as a partial report. Carried.

Song led by Rev. William Atkins. Short message by Rev. Marvin Winsett. Heb. 4:1.

Short message by Rev. Larry Shotts. Isaiah 66:19. Rev. Gary Gardner. "Pleasing God."

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We find in Associational minute fund \$275.50, on hand \$182.52. Total \$458.02. Move in order to accept report as read and discharge committee. Carried.

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

We your credential committee report all church letters are in order. We recommend that they be read and delegates seated. Move in order to accept as a partial report and proceed with reading of letters. Carried.

Song led by Rev. Edgar Childers, prayer by Rev. Ketterman. Friday morning devotional by Rev. Bobby Duncan. Psalm 23. Friday morning message, Rev. Jack Harder. Dismissed for lunch.

READING OF CHURCH LETTERS AND SEATING OF DELEGATES

ANTIOCH — Bro. Taylor Peoples, Sis. Jessie Howell, Sis. Julie Terrell,
Alt. Bro. Joe Howell.
BARNESVILLE — Bro. Ivon Boyett, Sis. Carolyn Rye, Sis. Jean Brown,
Sis. Manilla Brown.
COBB TOWN — Bro. Fred Bayrd, Sis. Shirley Bayrd, Sis. Jean Colburn,
Alt. Sis. Mary Lois Compton, Sis. Johnnie Lou May.
COOPER — Bro. Harvey Otts, Sis. Lena Mae Rye, Sis. Lillian Stringer,
Sis. Etna Clark, Sis. Ruby Finch, Alt. Sis. Patsy Puckett, Bro.
Oscar Jeffreys.
FAIRVIEW — Bro. Alfred Ballard, Sis. Betty Ballard, Sis. Alice Carter,
Bro. & Sis. Abbott, Sis. Betty Shotts.
FREEWILL CHAPEL — Bro. L.D. Hall, Bro. Roy Crossley, Bro. Leon
Sizemore, Alt. Bro. Billy Joe Tunner.
LIBERTY — Sis. Lil Childers, Sis. Emma Lee Childers.
LOVE JOY — Sis. Lucille Pearce, Sis. Cleo Rayburn, Sis. Rosa Gardner,
Sis. Verta Giddie
MT. HOPE — Sis. Vernie Hall, Bro. Charles Cochran, Bro. Billy Yeilding,
Alt. Bro. James McCarley.
NEW CENTER POINT — Bro. C.L. Scott, Sis. Beatrice Scott, Bro. D.L.
Brown, Sis. Pearl Brown, Bro. Auzie Tate, Sis. Lily Tate.
NEW HOPE — Bro. Robert Avery, Sis. Ovaline Avery, Sis. Mary Dean
Avery, Sis. Doris Pearce.
NEW SALEM — Bro. Ernest Brown, Sis. Jewel Stone, Sis. Ethelene
Brown, Sis. Eloise Loden, Alt.
PLEASANT RIDGE — Sis. Beatrice Harris, Sis. Lois Pearce, Sis. Verdine
Dobbs, Sis. Lavada Jones.
PLEASANT SITE — Sis. Delores Watson, Sis. Bonnie Karr, Sis. Flora
Nix, Alt. Sis. Carolyn Watson.
ROCKY GROVE — Sis. Pat Reece, Sis. Carter, Sis. Winsett, Alt. Sis.
Townley, Sis. Couburn.
ROCKY TOP — Sis. Bonnie Cooper, Sis. Nora Robinson, Sis. Shirley
Black, Sis. Christeen Hood, Alt. Sis. Lydia Howell.
SPLUNGE — Sis. Faye Blaylock, Sis. Joann Guyton, Sis. Faye Northington,
Bro. Gary Gardner.

UNION RIDGE — Sis. Dorothy Turman, Sis. Elmer Brown, Bro. Mathis Franklin, Sis. Lillie Mae Franklin, Bro. Erschel Thompson, Sis. Emily Gibbs.

The Association Delegates elected Bro. Herdis Sullins as Assistant Moderator.

APPOINTING OF COMMITTEES

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE — Sis. Calvin Pearce, Bro. William Frederick, Sis. Jimmy Reece

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE — Bro. Ivon Boyett, Bro. O.C. Mitchell, Bro. Charles Cochran.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE — Bro. Fred Stidham, Bro. Herdis Brown, Moderator, Asst. Moderator, Clerk

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE — Sis. Manilla Brown, Sis. Jean Brown, Sis. Christeen Hood.

DECEASED MEMBERS — Bro. Howard Simmons, Bro. Larry Shotts, Sis. Sam Carter.

Short talk by Rev. Paul Ketterman from the Bible College.

ORDAINING COUNCIL — Rev. Edgar Lee Childers, Rev. William Atkins, Rev. Marvin Winsett.

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We your Credential Committee have examined Bro. Eugene Seales and recommend that this Association ordain him.

Move in order to accept report as read. Carried.

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT

We thank God for all blessings of life. The warm fellowship, the good food and most of all the sweet Holy Spirit which has been with us. May it continue to abide with us through the remainder of this Association and in our hearts always.

Move in order to accept report and retain to be read tomorrow. Carried.

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We your Credential Committee recommend that we grant Rev. Gurley Roberts a letter to the Jasper Association.

Move in order to grant letter. Carried.

We your Credential Committee recommend that we grant Rev. James W. Cutts a letter to the Jasper Association.

Move in order to grant letter. Carried.

We your Credential Committee have examined Rev. Jimmy Howell

and recommend he be accepted into this Association on the recommendation of Rocky Top Church.

Move in order to accept. Carried.

We your Credential Committee have examined Rev. Gibb Lacey and recommend he be accepted into this Association on a forthcoming letter from Metropolitan Association of Adrian, Mich.

Move in order to accept. Carried.

We your Credential Committee have examined Rev. G.C. Lawrence and recommend he be accepted into this Association on a forthcoming letter from the Vernon Association.

Move in order to accept. Carried.

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT

We your Ordaining Council have examined Bro. Eugene Seales and recommend that we proceed with ordination and that he be received as a minister of this Association. Charge to be given by Rev. Childers

Move to accept report as read and proceed with ordination. Carried.

The Association ordained Bro. Seales. Charge given by Rev. Childers, prayer by Rev. Atkins.

Song led by Rev. Atkins. Dismissed by right hand of Christian fellowship for Bro. Seales and his wife.

FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

Devotional by Rev. Redus Hall. Message by Rev. Howard Simmons. Scripture: Gen. 43:24, 2nd Kings 5:1-13, John 13:1-17. Thirty-five took part in communion and feet washing.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Song led by Rev. William Atkins, prayer by Rev. RAYBURN.
SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Song led by Rev. William Atkins, prayer by Rev. Rayburn.

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT

We your Sunday School Committee find that all churches in the Association have Sunday School. We feel this is the best way to teach our children the ways of Good, that will be beneficial through out their lives.

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

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We the committee on temperance find it more commanding and necessary

that our preachers preach more on temperance, Gal. 5:22-23. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, faith, meekness, temperance against such there is no law."

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

BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

We recommend that we adopt Items 1 thru 17 as laid down in our minutes.

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

Item 1. We recommend that the clerk be paid \$30.00 plus all expenses for printing of minutes and postage for associational mailing; the moderator, \$15.00; assistant moderator, \$10.00; treasurer, \$5.00; assistant clerk, \$10.00; for their services. The clerk will superintend the printing of the minutes and distribute them.

Item 2. We recommend that the moderator preach the introductory sermon, the assistant moderator preach the Friday night sermon and holy communion service with feet washing.

Item 3. We recommend that the body decide where the next association shall convene.

Item 4. We recommend that our Friday session convene at 9 o'clock.

Item 5. We recommend that no money be paid out of any fund except by order of the association.

Item 6. We recommend that all pastors explain the value of tithing to various churches.

Item 7. We recommend that we go on record opposing all liquor traffic and legalizing of intoxicating beverages.

Item 8. We recommend that our pastore preach one doctrinal sermon a year in each church.

Item 9. We recommend that the Association grant each ordained minister a card of good standing each year.

Item 10. We recommend that we go on record against the integration of the races in our churches and association.

Item 11. We recommend that we do not ordain any minister with two living wives nor his wife with two living husbands.

Item 12. We recommend that any minister for two years failing to represent himself in person or by letter to the association, his credentials will be cancelled.

Item 13. We recommend that each church letter to the association remain the same as was adopted in church conference.

Item 14. We recommend our Friday and Friday night associational services 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.

Item 16. We recommend we adopt the Roberts Rules of Order as parliamentary procedure of this association.

Item 17. We recommend that all churches separate their finance and

church letter to the association and hand finance in to the finance committee and the church letter be handed to credential committee and mark their finance the same as their church letter but separately.

DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Rev. Howard Simmons to bring a short message in honor of our deceased members.

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

ASSOCIATIONAL PASTOR REPORT

I have visited and preached at all the churches in the association once and some of them twice. I have collected \$368.85. All the pastors and churches were very cooperative.

Move in order to accept report as read. Carried.

DECEASED MEMBERS COMMITTEE REPORT

We the committee of deceased members have checked the records and find that there are 20 members from our association that have moved on to a land of Promise. They are missed here in this world but their lives live on here in this world of sorrow in the lives of their loved ones.

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

Song led by Rev. Edward Puckett. Short message by Rev. William Atkins, "Spiritual Striving".

Seating Visiting Ministers: Rev. Booker Tice.

Short message by Bro. Bobby Cook. Luke 15:11.

INTERMISSION

Song led by Bro. Holcomb. Prayer by Bro. Booker Tice.

Morning devotional by Bro. Jerry Smith. Eph. 6:10. Message by Bro. G.C. Lawrence, scripture Ezek. 22:30, Gal. 6:14.

Dismissed for lunch by Bro. Wayne Williams.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Song led by Bro. Childers, prayer by Bro. Hubert Gardner. Special songs by Sherry Carter, and others.

Move in order to accept an offering for the Children's Home Foster Parent Plan. Carried. Received \$216.96.

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We your Credential Committee have examined all ministers and find them in good standing. We recommend they be granted a card of good

standing. Bro. C.C. Berryhill sick, Bro. Bobby Jeffreys sick, Bro. Roy Franks and Bro. Williard Westbrooks not here.

Move in order to accept report. Carried.

We your Credential Committee recommend that Bro. Floy Glenn not be granted credentials because of difference in belief in Free Will Baptist Doctrine.

Move in order to accept report as read. Carried.

Move in order to discharge Business Committee. Carried.

Move in order to discharge Ordaining Council. Carried.

Move in order to discharge Reading Clerks. Carried.

Move in order to discharge Devotional Committee. Carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Rev. Hubert Gardner	Moderator
Rev. Edward Puckett	Assistant Moderator
Bro. J.C. Hood	Clerk and Treasurer
Sis. Shirley Black	Assistant Clerk and Treasurer
Rev. Larry Shotts	Associational Pastor
Bro. James McCarley	Trustee to Children's Home
Delegates to Vernon Association: Bro. Jerry Smith, Bro. William Atkins, Bro. Edward Puckett.	
Delegates to State Association: Bro. James McCarley, Sis. Verdie Dobbs.	

STANDING CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Bro. J.R. Kerr, Bro. Edsel Gideon, Bro. Calvin Pearce.

NEXT ASSOCIATION SESSION

The next association session will convene with New Salem on Friday and with Barnesville on Saturday before the second Sunday in October 1974.

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 with New Salem next year. Carried.

CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORT

Paid Rev. Jack Harder (Moderator)	\$ 15.00
Paid Rev. Herdis Sullins (Asst. Moderator)	10.00
Paid J.C. Hood (Clerk & Treasurer)	35.00
Paid Shirley Black (Asst. Clerk & Treasurer)	10.00
Printing of minutes (Est.)	145.00
State Association Fees	90.00
Expense	20.00
Printing Disciplin	<u>243.32</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	568.32

Amount in Bank Oct. 1973	398.19
Association & Minute Fund	275.50
TOTAL	673.69
Less Disbursements	* 568.32
BALANCE	105.37

J.C. Hood, Clerk
Rt. 1

Hackleburt, Ala. 35564

PREACHING DAYS OF THE CHURCHES

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

NAMES OF DEACONS

ANTIOCH: Bro. J.M. Howell, Bro. Charles Howell, Bro. Ray Stidham.
BARNESVILLE: Bro. Exel Brown, Bro. Else Alvis, Bro. Charles Palmer,
Bro. Lynwood Clark, Bro. Gus Ferguson, Bro. Fred Stidham, Bro.
Dwayne Rye, Bro. Wayne Williams, Bro. Hansel Taylor.
COOPER: Bro. Burley Finch, Bro. Edward Gilmore.
COBBTOWN: Bro. Hicks Hester, Bro. Bill Colburn.
FAIRVIEW: Bro. Sam Carter, Bro. Ira Triplett, Bro. Jack Lindsey,
Bro. Benice Shotts, Bro. Hugh Carter.
FREE WILL CHAPEL: Bro. Roy Franks, Bro. Edward Barnes, Bro.
Edsil Gedion, Bro. Charlie Elliott.
LOVE JOY: Bro. Marvin Pearce, Bro. Veto Emerson, Bro. Wendell
Giddy.
MT. HOPE: Bro. J.D. Kelly, Bro. O.C. Mitchell, Bro. Hubert Cochran,
Bro. Thomas Wooten.
NEW CENTER POINT: Bro. C.L. Scott, Bro. D.L. Brown, Bro. Ausie
Tate.
NEW HOPE: Bro. Malone Tice, Bro. Bobby Duncan, Bro. Calvin Pearce.
NEW SALEM: Bro. C.D. Stone, Bro. W. Walton, Bro. W.W. Gilliland.
PLEASANT RIDGE: Bro. Elma Hue Taylor, Bro. Golden Harris, Bro.
Dewey Crowe.
PLEASANT SITE: Bro. Archie Satterwhite, Bro. Vester Watson, Bro.
Marshall Watson, Bro. Sam Nix.
ROCKY GROVE: Bro. J.G. Sanderson, Bro. Bud Pugh, Bro. Larkin
Townley, Bro. Travis Hall, Bro. Robert Burleson, Bro. Redus McKay.
ROCKY TOP: Bro. Burton Frederick, Bro. William Frederick, Bro.
Leonard Howell, Bro. Royce Cooper.

SPLUNGE: Bro. Delmo Thompson, Bro. J.C. Palmer, Bro. Clovis Blaylock, Bro. J.W. Vann, Bro. J.R. Kerr.

UNION RIDGE: Bro. Johnnie Myers, Bro. Archie Turman, Bro. Troy Clifton.

CHURCH CLERKS AND ADDRESSES

ANTIOCH

~~Ray Howell~~

Rt. 3, Hamilton, Ala.

BARNESVILLE

~~Becky Stidham~~

Box 265, Hamilton, Ala.

COOPER

~~Burley Finch~~

~~Rt. 1, Detroit, Ala.~~

COBBTOWN

~~Mary Lois Compton~~

~~et. 1 Box
Detroit Guin, Ala.~~

~~FAIRVIEW~~

~~Jack Lindsey~~

Rt. 5, Hamilton, Ala.

FREE WILL CHAPEL

~~Redus Wheat~~

~~Rt. 2, Sulligent, Ala.~~

LIBERTY

~~Emma Lee Childers~~

~~Rt. 1, Vina, Ala.~~

LOVE JOY

~~Wendell Giddie~~

~~Rt. 2, Hamilton, Ala.~~

MT. HOPE

~~Max Howell~~

Rt. 2, Hamilton, Ala.

NEW CENTER POINT

~~Audine Puckett~~

Rt. 1, Greenwood Springs, Miss.

NEW HOPE

~~Calvin Pearce~~

~~Rt. 2, Hamilton, Ala.~~

NEW SALEM

~~Ethelene Brown~~

~~Rt. 5, Hamilton, Ala.~~

PLEASANT RIDGE

~~Dewey Crowe~~

~~Rt. 2, Hamilton, Ala.~~

PLEASANT SITE

~~Shirley Millican~~

~~Rt. 1, Detroit, Ala.~~

ROCKY GROVE

~~Charles Lindley~~

~~Rt. 1, Detroit, Ala.~~

ROCKY TOP

~~Christeen Hood~~

Rt. 1, Hackleburg, Ala.

SPLUNGE

~~Fay Northington~~

Greenwood Springs, 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. 35563

Rev. C.C. Berryhill

256-8225

Greenwood Springs, Miss. 38848

Rev. Hudson Burleson

921-2473

Rt. 3, Hamilton, Ala. 35570

Improvement	Minute Fund	Orphanage	Literature	Ordained Ministers	Deacons	League	No in Sunday School	No. Teachers	Missions	Miscellaneous	Sunday School Superintendent
	\$ 10.00	\$ 37.50	\$ 25.80	3			24	2	\$ 0	\$ 41.15	J. M. Howell
221.54	25.00	75.00	242.40	3	9		80	6		1,375.36	Wayne Williams
131.86	25.00	277.46	277.46	2	2		125	6	19.00	321.00	Edward Gilmore
150.00	6.00	18.50	33.00	1	2		32	3			
500.00	10.00	21.00	129.20	2	5	55	55	4		1,848.46	Buster Shotts
	15.00	60.00	304.31	3	4	1	114	5			Billy Joe Turner
	10.00	50.00		1	1		20	1			
300.00	10.00	15.00	58.00	2	3		32	4		368.30	Veto Emerson
92.51	20.00	217.67	219.34		4		125	4		253.93	David Tice
513.70	24.00	64.00	158.17	1	3		50	5		357.24	Charles Clifton
	15.00			1	3		49	3			Kenneth Avery
400.00	10.00	27.00	88.00		3		30	4		64.00	W. W. Gilliland
21.67	19.50	50.00	204.02	1	3		66	5		3,674.87	Billy Compton
90.77	10.00		150.00	1	4		60	3			Sam Nix
100.00	15.00	15.00	175.60	2	6		60	4			Robert Burleson
348.80	26.00	188.26	144.39	2	4		54	5		439.50	Ronald Hood
337.57	20.00	101.94	178.60	1	5	35	35	4		259.31	J. R. Kerr
100.00	15.00	21.00	106.52		3		54	3			Troy Clifton

Rev. Edgar Childers		Rt. 1, Vina, Ala. 35593
Rev. Roy Franks		Guin, Ala. 35563
Rev. Hubert Gardner	921-2008	Rt. 4, Hamilton, Ala. 35570
Rev. Oscar Gardner		Rt. 2, Hackleburg, Ala. 35564
Rev. Redus Hall		Rt. 2, Sulligent, Ala. 35586
Rev. Jack Harder	921-3711	Hamilton, Ala. 35570
Rev. Wise Holcomb	468-3910	Rt. 2, Guin, Ala. 35563
Rev. Jimmy Howell	935-3130	Hackleburg, Ala. 35564
Rev. Bobbie Jeffreys	921-3346	Rt. 1, Detroit, Ala. 35552
Rev. Gilbert Lacey		Hamilton, Ala. 35570
Rev. G.C. Lawrence		Winfield, Ala.
Rev. Joe B. Ledlow		Rt. 1, Vernon, Ala. 35592
Rev. C.D. Paden	356-4360	Rt. 1, Red Bay, Ala.

Rev. W.C. Rayburn	465-2433	Rt. 1, Brilliant, Ala. 35548
Rev. Jimmy Reese		Box 221, Guin, Ala. 35563
Rev. Clay Shotts		Rt. 4, Hamilton, Ala. 35570
Rev. Howard Simmons	921-3461	Hamilton, Ala. 35570
Rev. Jerry Smith	695-7418	Vernon, Ala. 35592
Rev. Arvin Stidham	921-2684	Adrian, Mich.
Rev. Herdis Sullins	935-3500	Hackleburg, Ala. 35564
Rev. Williard Westbrooks	797-1348	1450 1st St., Moline, Ill. 61265
Rev. Marvin Winsett	921-3705	Rt. 3, Hamilton, Ala. 35570

DECEASED MEMBERS

Sis. Gloe Fergeson, Sis. Jesmer Ledbetter, Bro. Cal Pearce, Sis. Dessis Pipkins, Bro. Mack Reynolds, Bro. Luther Robinson, Bro. Dempsey Loggins.

DECEASED MINISTERS

Rev. Noah Robertson, Rev. J.D. Dove, 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, Rev. L.V. Collier.

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. I 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. I Tim. 2:5, 6; Heb. 2; John 3:16; Rev. 1:7; Acts 24:15; I 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; 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; 3:10.
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; Heb. 3:10; I John 5:10.

7. We believe the whole scripture is infallibly true, and that they are the only rules of faith and practice. II Tim. 3:16, 17.
8. We believe in the doctrine of general provisions made by 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 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; II Peter 2:1-2; II 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 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. I 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.
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 2:38, 39; 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 judgement at the last day. John 5:28, 29; II 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 know as the State Line Free Will Baptist Association of Alabama and Mississippi.
2. The 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 majority 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 expences.
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 denonination and the extension of God's Kingdom throughout the world.
2. We agree to meet in conference as often as 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 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 expence.
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 notion 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 arise 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 report of circulation that may arise again at any church metting, 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. We recommend that each church in this Association have as many as two Sunday services each month.
16. These rules shall be read at the opening of each conference and strictly enforced by the Moderator.

RULES OF DECORUM

1. This Association shall be opened and closed with singing and prayer.
2. The officers elected 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 reprobved by the Moderator according to directions of the Association.

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



Dana drew this





