

*MINUTES*  
*of the*  
*Seventy Seventh Annual Session*  
*of*  
STATE LINE  
FREE WILL BAPTIST  
ASSOCIATION

*of*  
MISSISSIPPI - ALABAMA

Held With

Rocky Top Church  
Friday, October 9, 1981  
and  
Barnesville Church  
Saturday, October 10, 1981

OFFICERS

Moderator ..... Bro. Jack Harder  
Assistant Moderator ..... Bro. Doyle Chandler  
Clerk & Treasurer ..... Bro. J.C. Hood  
Assistant Clerk & Treasurer ..... Sis. Ann Collier  
Trustee To Children's Home ..... Bro. James McCarley  
Associational Pastor ..... Bro. Oscar Gardner

The next session will be held with Splunge on Friday and Friday night and with Pleasant Ridge on Saturday before the 2nd Sunday in October, 1982.

## PROCEEDINGS

Session opened with song led by Bro. Conrad Whitson and Bro. Jack Harder. Prayer by Bro. Hubert Gardner.

### FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

The clerk welcomed and declared the 77th Annual Association in session and introduced Moderator, Bro. E.T. Sargent. Reading of Church Covenant, Rules of Decorum and Church Rules by Moderator.

### CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We your Credential Committee have examined all church letters except Antioch, Liberty, New Center Point and Love Joy and found them in order except Mt. Calvary, Bear Creek and Splunge; found that the dates of annual session was listed wrong. Cobbtown does not have the name of the Superintendent and Rocky Grove not signed.

We recommend the letters be read and delegates seated when these letters are in order.

Move in order to accept as read and proceed with reading. Carried.

We have examined New Center Point, Antioch, Love Joy and Liberty Church letters and found them in order and recommend they be read and delegates seated.

Move to accept and seat delegates. Carried.

### READING OF CHURCH LETTERS AND SEATING OF DELEGATES

ANTIOCH - Bro. Taylor Peoples, Sis. Jessie Howell, Sis. Melissa Shotts, Alt. Sis. Deloris Holcomb.

BALLARD - Sis. Inez Watts, Bro. Dick Gilliland, Sis. Bobbie Kerr, Alt. Sis. Louise Mills.

BARNESVILLE - Bro. Ivon Boyett, Bro. James Ward, Bro. Braxton Collins, Sis. Muriell Collins, Alt. Sis. Cleeta Ward, Bro. Quince Boyett.

BEAR CREEK - Sis. Maudie Grissom, Sis. Monelle Gann, Sis. Susie McCarley, Sis. Lenar Engle.

BETHEL - Sis. Muriel Warren, Sis. Gerline Sexton, Sis. Mary Francis Gibbs, Sis. Tessie Smith.

COBBTOWN - Sis. Maudean Hall, Sis. Johnnie May, Sis. Glenda Head, Sis. Trince May.

FAIRVIEW - Bro. Alfred Ballard, Sis. Betty Ballard, Sis. Pat Stidham, Sis. Sarah Shotts.

LIBERTY - Bro. Odis Childers, Sis. Birtha Childers, Sis. Lillian Childers.

LOVE JOY - Sis. Etta Britt, Sis. Lucille Pearce, Sis. Annie Miller, Alt. Sis. Tammy Pearce.

MT. Calvary - Bro. Lonnie Barnes, Bro. Keith Parmer, Sis. Wanda Galbreath.

MT. HOPE - Bro. Charles Cochran, Bro. Rex McCarley, Bro. Herman Warren, Sis. Cleo Rayburn, Alt. Sis. Iva Collier.

## NEW CENTERPOINT -

NEW HOPE - Sis. Bea Delano, Sis. Oveline Avery, Sis. Ada Tice, Alt. Sis. Reta Cheek.

NEW SALEM - Sis. Jewel Stone, Sis. Ellie Lindsey, Sis. Ethlene Brown, Alt. Sis. Vida Gilliland.

PLEASANT RIDGE - Sis. Beatrice Harris, Sis. Charlotte Childers, Sis. Hazel Cox, Sis. Louise Winsett, Alt. Bro. Robert Cochran.

PLEASANT SITE - Sis. Gladys Mills, Sis. Shirley Millican, Sis. Evelyn Mills, Alt. Bro. Bobby Crow.

ROCKY GROVE - Br. Redus McKay, Sis. Redus McKay, Sis. Ramie Thompson, Alt. Sis. Tommie Hall.

ROCKY TOP - Sis. Shirley Black, Sis. Viva Frederick, Bro. Allen Davis, Alt. Sis. Bonnie Cooper.

SOUTHSIDE - Bro. Velmon Carter, Sis. Velmon Carter, Sis. Ruby Kirkley, Alt. Sis. Pam Kirkley, Sis. Cassie Burgess.

SPLUNGE - Sis. Linda Shields, Sis. Gail Taylor, Sis. Aileen Byrd, Alt. Sis. Addie Harris.

UNION RIDGE - Sis. Wynetta Knight, Sis. Grace Rushing, Bro. David Knight, Alt. Sis. Rushie Boyette.

## DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We the Devotional Committee recommend the following ministers for the following devotions and messages: Friday Morning Devotional - Bro. Randy Bonds; Friday Morning Message - Moderator, Bro. E.T. Sargent; Friday Night Devotional - Bro. Gurley Roberts; Friday Night Message - Assistant Moderator, Bro. Dale Ford; Saturday Morning Devotional - Bro. Marvin Winsett, Saturday Morning Message - Bro. Charlie McGee, Deceased Members Message - Bro. Hubert Gardner. Move to accept as read. Carried.

SEATING VISITING MINISTERS - Bro. Edgar Lee Childers, Jasper Association - Bro. Redus Hall, Vernon Association.

## APPOINTING OF COMMITTEES

FINANCE COMMITTEE - Bro. Alfred Ballard, Bro. Taylor Peoples, Bro. Ivan Boyett.

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE - Bro. James Ward, Sis. Maudie Grissom, Sis. Mary Frances Gibbs.

DECEASED MEMBERS - Bro. Lynn Knight, Bro. Keith Parmer, Bro. Charles Cochran.

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE - Sis. Bea Delano, Sis. Ethlene Brown, Sis. Charlotte Childers.

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE - Bro. Redus McKay, Sis. Viva Frederick, Sis. Velma Carter, Sis. Wynetta Knight.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE - Moderator, Bro. E.T. Sargent, Clerk, Bro. J.C. Hood, Bro. Allen Davis, Bro. D.L. Brown, Bro. Golden Harris.

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES - Bro. Iris Mills, Bro. Jack Lindsey, Bro. Marshall Watson.

Song led by Bro. Dale Ford. Prayer by Bro. Charlie McGee.

### INTERMISSION

Song led by Bro. Conrad Whitson.

### CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We recommend that Bro. Loyd Danny Ballard and Bro. James A. Burgess go before the Ordaining Council. Move to accept. Carried.

Friday Morning Devotional by Bro. Randy Bonds; Scripture - Matthew 5. Song by Bro. Billy Robbins - "Thanks to Calvary". Friday Morning Message by Bro. E.T. Sargent - I Thess. 4:16 & 17, "God's Space Program for His Believers". Song led by Bro. Conrad Whitson.

Dismissed for lunch by Bro. Dale Ford.

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Session opened with a song led by Bro. David Sexton. Prayer by Bro. Quineth Haney.

### ASSOCIATIONAL PASTOR REPORT

As your Associational Pastor, I would like to thank the Association for giving me the opportunity to visit the churches again. I have enjoyed visiting the churches. The churches and pastors have been nice to us and welcomed us freely. I thank God for our Association and for all the churches. I have received \$539.94 this year. Thank you again for the opportunity to preach and worship with all of you. May God bless you all.

Your Associational Pastor,

Rev. O.S. Gardner

Move to accept. Carried.

### ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We have examined Bro. Michael Lindley's request to be reinstated in fellowship to this Association. We recommend that he be reinstated and given a card of standing according to Item 20 in our Document and Order of Business. Move to Accept. Carried.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT

We the Sunday School Committee have checked all the letters from the 21 different churches of this Association and have found they all have active Sunday Schools. We urge all churches to continue this work for our Lord and Saviour. Move to accept as read and discharge committee. Carried.

### TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We the committee on Temperance realizing that the end of time is near, deem it necessary that every Christian stress the importance of temperance as



we find in Galatians 5:22-23 and in II Peter 1:5-7. Move to accept as read and discharge committee. Carried.

### APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT

We are thankful for the good food, fellowship and excellent hospitality of the Rocky Top and Barnesville Churches. Move to accept as read, table and re-read at Barnesville Church on Saturday. Carried.

Song led by Bro. David Sexton.

SEATING VISITING MINISTERS - Bro. Clovis Tucker, Jasper Association.

### ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We have examined Bro. Loyd Danny Ballard and find him worthy of Ordination. We offer the motion that he be ordained at this session on Friday. Bro. Jack Harder to give the charge. Carried.

We have examined Bro. James A. Burgess for Ordination. We offer a motion to the Body that he be Ordained at this session on Saturday at his request. Bro. Hubert Gardner to give the charge. Carried.

### FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We the Finance Committee have checked the Association Minute Fund of the Churches and find:

Amount in Bank	67.77
Association Minute Fund	600.00
Total	667.77

Move to accept and discharge committee. Carried.

### DECEASED MEMBERS REPORT

We the Deceased Members Committee have found that 17 of our brothers and sisters in Christ have gone on to be with God. For sure we will miss them, but our loss is Heaven's gain. Move to accept as read and discharge committee. Carried.

### DECEASED MEMBERS

PLEASANT SITE - Sis. Exie Ray Hanson, Bro. Leon Ferguson, Bro. Victor Wright.

FAIRVIEW - Bro. Clyde Williams, Bro. Hulet Chandler, Sis. Cleo Ozbirn.

UNION RIDGE - Bro. Troy Clifton.

NEW SALEM - Bro. Charles Loden, Sis. Rosie Shotts.

ROCKY GROVE - Sis. Mattie Thomas, Sis. Lessie Winsett.

SPLUNGE - Sis. Joann Guyton.

BETHEL - Sis. Nancy Adeline Cooper.

PLEASANT RIDGE - Bro. Pope Smith, Bro. Alvin Wiginton, Bro. Leonard Lay.

MT. HOPE - Sis. Marvie Kelly, Sis. Dicie Anglin.

Ordination of Bro. Loyd Danny Ballard. Charge by Bro. Jack Harder.  
Right hand of fellowship given by Congregation. Song led by Bro. David Sexton.

### ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We have examined Bro. Larry Shotts for membership to this Association.  
We offer a motion that he be received in full fellowship. Carried.  
Session dismissed by Bro. Gurlie Roberts.

### FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

Song led by Bro. Conrad Whitson. Prayer by Bro. Special  
song by Bro. David Sexton and his group. Devotion by Bro. Gurlie  
Roberts. Message by Bro. Dale Ford - Scripture: I Cor. 11 Chapter.

### SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Song led by Bro. William Atkins and Bro. Duane Taylor. Prayer by Bro.  
Ottis Parmer.

SEATING VISITING MINISTERS - Bro. Robert Crawford, Nashville Bible  
College; Bro. Redus Hall, Vernon Association.

### BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

We your Committee on Documents and Order of Business recommend we  
adopt Items 1 through 15, ammend "and signed" to Item 16, and adopt  
Items 17 through 20 as laid down in our minutes. Carried.

- ITEM 1: We recommend that the clerk be paid \$35 plus expenses for  
printing of minutes and postage for Association mailing; the  
Moderator \$15; Asst. Moderator \$10; the Treasurer \$5; Asst.  
Clerk \$30 for their services. The clerk to superintend the printing  
of the minutes and distribute them.
- ITEM 2: We recommend that the Moderator preach the introductory  
sermon, the asst. 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 and Saturday sessions begin 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 we go on record opposing all drug and liquor  
traffic and legalizing of intoxicating beverages, the ERA,  
Abortion on Demand, and Homosexuality.
- ITEM 8: We recommend that our pastors 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 do not ordain any minister with two living wives nor his wife with two living husbands.
- ITEM 11: We recommend that any minister for two years failing to represent himself in person or by letter to the association, his name be dropped from the roll of ministers in the minutes and he not receive a card of standing.
- ITEM 12: We recommend that each church letter to the association remain the same as was adopted in church conference.
- ITEM 13: We recommend that our Friday and Friday night association service convene at one church of our association and the Saturday service convene at another church of our association.
- ITEM 14: We recommend we abide by the National Treaties.
- ITEM 15: We recommend we adopt the Roberts Rule's of Order as parliamentary procedure of this association.
- ITEM 16: We recommend that any new business coming before this body must come through the Business Committee. All request to be submitted in writing, and signed.
- ITEM 17: We recommend we have a standing Ordaining Council to be appointed by the Moderator at the close of each session.
- ITEM 18: We recommend that a youth director be appointed to establish a young peoples program in our association.
- ITEM 19: We recommend we close our church year the 1st Sunday in September and that all church letters be received by the association at least 15 days before the association convenes.
- ITEM 20: Any minister whose name has been dropped from the roll of ministers, if he wishes to be reinstated, to make his request to the Ordaining Council.

### BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

We recommend that we take an offering for Association and Minute Funds. Move to accept and discharge committee. Carried.

Song by Bro. Duane Taylor. Prayer by Bro. Hubert Gardner. Special song by Bro. Jimmy Burgess.

Offering for Association Minute Fund - \$192.67

Morning Devotional by Bro. Marvin Winsett, Col. 3.

Short talk by Bro. Robert Crawford of Nashville Bible College.

### INTERMISSION

Song led by Bro. William Atkins.

### ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT

We offer a motion to the Body that Bro. Randall Tice be given a letter of recommendation to the Bear Creek Association. Carried.

We have examined Bro. Redus Hall. We offer a motion that he be

received in full fellowship to this Association upon the promise of a letter from the Northeast Association. Carried.

We have examined Bro. Edgar Lee Childers. We offer a motion that he be accepted in full fellowship to this Association upon the promise of a letter from the Jasper Association. Carried.

We offer a motion that Bro. Jimmy Compton's request of resignation be accepted. Carried.

Special song by Bro. J.C. Hood and Sis. Bonnie Cooper.

SEATING VISITING MINISTERS - Bro. Miller, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee; Bro. Edward Puckett, Vernon Association; Bro. Ambers Aldridge, Vernon Association; Bro. Lamar Cox, Jasper Association; Bro. Donnie Gunnin, Jasper Association.

Morning Message - Bro. Charlie McGee; Scripture Matthew 24:3.

Dismissed for lunch by Bro. Edward Puckett.

### SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Song led by Bro. G.O. Karr. Prayer by Bro. Randall Tice.

Move to remove from the table, re-read Appreciation Committee Report and discharge committee. Carried.

### ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT

We offer a motion that Bro. Dale Ford be given a letter of recommendation to the Vernon Association. Carried.

Message by Bro. Hubert Gardner in honor of Deceased Members. Song led by Bro. G.O. Karr.

Special song by Bro. Dale Ford, Bro. Don Collier, Bro. William Atkins and Bro. David Sexton - "Beulah Land". Special by Bro. Don Collier, - "The Sun Will Still Be Shining". Special by Sis. Sue Whitson - "Love Will Roll the Clouds Away". Special by Bro. Randy Bonds - "That's the Man I'm Looking For".

Ordination of Bro. James A. Burgess. Charge by Bro. Hubert Gardner. Right hand of fellowship given by Congregation. Song led by Bro. G.O. Karr.

### ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Final)

We recommend that all ministers of this Association be given a card of standing. Those absent this session:

Bro. J.E. Cheek, Bro. Harlan Johnson, Bro. E.C. Kelton, Bro. Elmer Lee Steward

Move to accept as read. Carried.

Appointed Bro. Royce Cooper - Credential Committee.

ORDAINING COUNCIL - Bro. David Sexton, Bro. Duane Taylor, Bro. Conrad Whitson.

Move in order to finish our business without any more delay. Carried.

ASSOCIATIONAL PASTOR - Bro. Oscar Gardner.

Move to grant card of good standing to Sis. Sue Collier. Carried.



Move to empower Clerk to write all necessary checks for the expenses of the Association. Carried.

Trustee to Children's Home - Bro. James McCarley.  
DELEGATES TO VERNON ASSOCIATION - Bro. W.C. Rayburn, Bro. Ottis Parmer.

Next Association to be held with Splunge on Friday and Friday night and Pleasant Ridge on Saturday.

OFFICERS

Moderator .....Bro. Jack Harder  
Assistant Moderator .....Bro. Doyle Chandler  
Clark & Treasurer .....Bro. J.C. Hood  
Assistant Clerk & Treasurer .....Sis. Ann Collier  
Trustee to Children's Home .....Bro. James McCarley  
Associational Pastor .....Bro. Oscar Gardner

Move in order to adjourn until Friday before the Second Sunday in October, 1982.

CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORT

Paid Moderator .....	\$15.00
Paid Assistant Moderator (given to Minute Fund) .....	00.00
Paid Clerk .....	40.00
Paid Assistant Clerk .....	30.00
State Fees .....	210.00
Expense .....	50.00
Printing Minutes .....	Est. 450.00
	Total \$795.00
	Amount in Treasury 860.44
	Balance 65.44

J.C. Hood  
Rt. 1, Box 85  
Hackleburg, Alabama 35564

NAME OF DEACONS

ANTIOCH - Bro. J.M. Howell, Bro. Harold Holcomb  
BALLARD - Bro. J.R. Kerr, Bro. Iris Mills, Bro. Wendell Giddy  
BARNESVILLE - Bro. Gus Ferguson, Bro. Fred Stidham, Bro. Exel Brown,  
Bro. Dwayne Rye, Bro. Hansel Taylor, Bro. Wayne Williams.  
BEAR CREEK - Bro. Tryman Scott, Bro. Henry Grissom, Bro. Lon Gunnin, Bro. Clarence Engle.  
BETHEL - Bro. Earl Smith, Bro. Maxwell Gibbs.  
COBBTOWN -  
FAIRVIEW - Bro. Jack Lindsey, Bro. Bernice Shotts, Bro. Flura Shotts,  
Bro. Hugh L. Carter, Bro. Harold Shotts, Bro. Talmadge Shotts, Bro. Denver Shotts.  
LIBERTY - Bro. Odis Childers.  
LOVE JOY - Bro. Henry Pearce, Bro. Dave Britt.

MT. CALVARY - Bro. Luard Kizzire  
 MT. HOPE - Bro. J.D. Kelly, Bro. O.C. Mitchell, Bro. Gary Yeilding.  
 NEW CENTER POINT - Bro. C.L. Scott, Bro. D.L. Brown, Bro. Wayne Puckett, Bro. Lester Ford.  
 NEW HOPE - Bro. Robert Avery  
 NEW SALEM - Bro. W.W. Gilliland, Bro. W.D. Walton, Bro. D.E. Brown.  
 PLEASANT RIDGE - Bro. Elma Hugh Taylor, Bro. Golden Harris, Bro. Dewey Crowe, Bro. Jimmy Avery, Bro. Alfred Jones.  
 PLEASANT SITE - Bro. Sam Nix, Bro. Vester Watson, Bro. Marshall Watson, Bro. Danny Millican, Bro. Odean Mills.  
 ROCKY GROVE - Bro. Robert Burleson, Bro. Travis Hall, Bro. Redus McKay.  
 ROCKY TOP - Bro. Royce Cooper, Bro. Burton Frederick, Bro. Leonard Howell, Bro. Billy King.  
 SOUTHSIDE - Bro. Joe Rye, Bro. Ray Weeks  
 SPLUNGE Bro. Roger Shields, Bro. Clovis Blaylock, Bro. J.C. Palmer.  
 UNION RIDGE - Bro. Lynn Knight, Bro. Archie Turman.

#### CLERKS

ANTIOCH - Ray Howell, Rt. 3, Hamilton, AL 35570  
 BALLARD - Shelba Gilliland, Rt. 1, Detroit, AL 35552  
 BARNESVILLE - Agnes Casey, Rt. 4, Hamilton, AL 35570  
 BEAR CREEK - Alma Lou Bowen, Box 41, Hackleburg, AL 35564  
 BETHEL - Gracie Franks, Rt. 1, Box 185, Brilliant, AL 35548  
 COBBTOWN - Ola Mae Norris, Guin, AL 35563  
 FAIRVIEW - Jeanette Carter, Rt. 5, Hamilton, AL 35570  
 LIBERTY - Lillian Childers, Rt. 1, Vina, AL 35593  
 LOVE JOY - Henry Pearce, Rt. 6, Box 96, Hamilton, AL 35570  
 MT. CALVARY - Wanda Galbreath, Rt. 1, Box 244A, Guin, AL 35563  
 MT. HOPE - Billy Yielding, Rt. 2, Hamilton, AL 35570  
 NEW CENTER POINT - Ruth Vann, Rt. 2, Box 12, Sulligent, AL 35586  
 NEW HOPE - Gary Carter, Rt. 2, Hamilton, AL 35570  
 NEW SALEM - Virginia Carter, Rt. 5, Hamilton, AL 35570  
 PLEASANT RIDGE - Dewey Crowe, Rt. 1, Hamilton, AL 35570  
 PLEASANT SITE - Shirley Millican, Rt. 2, Box 32, Detroit, AL 35552  
 ROCKY GROVE - Charlotte Rich, Box 745, Hamilton, AL 35570  
 ROCKY TOP - Bobbie King, Box 127, Hodges, AL 35571  
 SOUTHSIDE - Randy Bonds, Rt. 1, Winfield, AL 35594  
 SPLUNGE - Faye Northington, Greenwood Springs, MS 38848  
 UNION RIDGE - Grace Ray, Rt. 1, Box 280, Sulligent, AL 35586

#### MINISTERS NAMES & ADDRESSES

William Atkins	468-2423	Rt. 2, Guin, AL 35563
Loyd Danny Ballard	921-9353	511 Bexar Ave. W, Hamilton, AL 35570
C.C. Berryhill	601-256-8225	Rt. 1, Greenwood Springs, MS 38848

[illegible]



Randy Bonds	487-2525	Rt. 1, Winfield, AL 35594
James A. Burgess		
Doyle Chandler		Hamilton, AL 35570
J.E. Cheek	993-4350	Rt. 3, Phil Campbell, AL 35581
Edgar Lee Childers	356-2734	Rt. 1, Vina, AL 35592
Larry Davis		Rt. 1, Vina, AL 35592
Hubert Gardner	921-2008	Rt. 4, Hamilton, AL 35570
Oscar Gardner		Rt. 2, Hackleburg, AL 35564
Redus Hall		
Quineth Haney	468-3917	Rt. 1, Guin, AL 35563
Jack Harder	921-3711	Hamilton, AL 35570
Jimmy Howell		Box 214, Hackleburg, AL 35564
Harlon Johnson		Hamilton, AL 35570
E.C. Kelton	601-475-8617	Box 382, Escataupa, MS
Michael Lindley		Rt. 1, Box 135, Hamilton, AL 35570
Charlie McGee	332-0091	Rt. 5, Russellville, AL 35653
Ottis Parmer		Rt. 2, Guin, AL 35563
Gillie Parrish	356-2130	Box 155, Red Bay, AL 35582
W.C. Rayburn	468-2223	Rt. 2, Guin, AL 35563
Jimmy Reese	468-2971	Box 248, Guin, AL 35563
Billy Robbins		7140 Hobgood Rd., Fairburn, GA 30213
Gurlie Roberts	935-3789	Rt. 1, Hackleburg, AL 35564
E.T. Sargent	483-7962	Rt. 1, Box 36, Cordova, AL 35550
David Sexton		Box 312, Brilliant, AL 35548
Clay Shotts		Hamilton, AL 35570
Larry Shotts		Hamilton, AL 35570
Oscar Smith		Rt. 2, Hamilton, AL 35570
Elmer Lee Stewart		Rt. 3, Phil Campbell, AL 35581
Duane Taylor	921-2602	Rt. 4, Box 271, Hamilton, AL 35570
Willard Westbrook	797-1348	438 49th St., Moline, ILL 61265
Marvin Winsett	921-3705	Rt. 1, Hamilton, AL 35570
Conrad Whitson	932-6077	Fayette, AL 35555

#### DECEASED MINISTERS

Rev Noah Robertson, Rev. J.C. 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, Rev. Herdis Sullins, Rev. G.C. Lawrence, Rev. Bobby Jeffreys.

#### CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, 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 appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to 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 the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith and good works endeavor to “grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, 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 its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to 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, and 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 Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises 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 educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday Schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation 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.

### 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 wherewith he loved the world. Christ has freely gave himself as ransom for all tasting death for every man, who was buried and rose again the third day and ascended into heaven, from where 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 use why the just and righteous God of Heaven will condemn the children of men, it follow against all contradictions that all men at one time or another, are found in such a capacity, as that through 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 Time 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 owe 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; Jer. 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 up on 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 therefore, 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. Judges 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 not that any one of them dying in the state shall suffer punishment in hell by the guilt of Adam's sin for such the Kingdom of God. I Cor. 15:22; Matt. 18:2,5; Mark 9:36-37; Matt. 19:26.

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 that 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 fruit of the vine, 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 2:38-39; Luke 22:19; John 13:5; James 5:14.

16. We believe the gospel mode 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; Co. 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.

### RULES FOR THE PREACHERS

1. All ministers wishing to become a member of the Association will be required to go before the Ordaining Council with a recommendation from the church of which they are a member 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 meeting unless providentially hindered.



3. Any minister who behaves himself unbecomingly to his high and exalted calling shall be reported by the Ordaining Council to the Association, who shall deal with him.
4. All ministers will be required to strictly adhere to the teaching of the Free Will Baptist, according to the Articles of Faith.
5. All ministers shall be required to support and stand by 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.

### 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 reproved by the Moderator according to directions of the Association.

### CHURCH RULES

1. We agree as members of 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 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 and shall have the liberty of speech as any other, but not vote unless there is 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. 18:15-17.
  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 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 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 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. 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.

## CONSTITUTION

1. The Association shall be known 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 fraction 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 member 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 the Association shall be required to bring annually 5 per cent per capita as an Association Fund for the purpose of printing the minutes and associational expense.
12. All ministers pastoring the Churches in the Alabama-Mississippi Association shall abide by rules of the same.

## NOTES

# NOTES