# **MINUTES**

of the Eightieth Annual Session

STATE LINE
Free Will Baptist Association

of

# MISSISSIPPI - ALABAMA

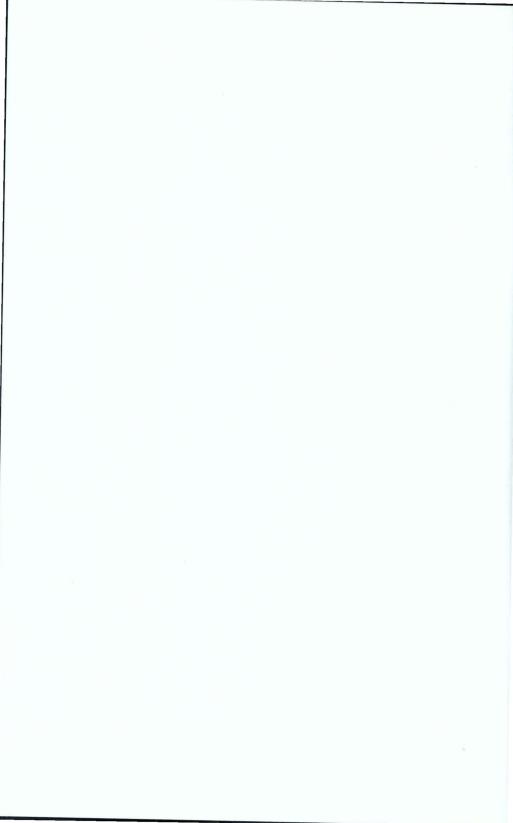
HELD WITH
Bethel Church
Friday, October 12, 1984
and
Fairview Church
Saturday, October 13, 1984

# **OFFICERS**

Moderator Bro. Larry Shotts
Assistant Moderator Bro. Billy Robbins
Clerk & Treasurer Bro. Jimmy Avery
Assistant Clerk & Treasurer Sis. Faye Avery
Alternant Sis. Beatrice Harris
Trustee to Children's Home Bro. Larry Shotts
Associational Pastor Bro. Marvin Winsett

The next session will be held with Pleasant Site on Friday and Friday night and with Mt.

Hope on Saturday before the 2nd Sunday in October, 1985.



## FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

The Eightieth Annual session of the State Line Association of Free Will Baptist Churches opened with a song led by Bro. William Atkins. Prayer by Bro. Gurley Roberts. Welcome given by Moderator, Bro. Hubert Gardner.

Session called to order by Moderator, Bro. Hubert Gardner.

Moderator read Constitution and Rules of Decorum.

Welcomed visiting ministers to sit with association. Bro. Delmus Miller, Vernon Association; Bro. Jerry Plott, Bear Creek Association; Bro. Bobby Duncan, Bear Creek Association; Bro. Edward Puckett, Vernon Association.

Song led by Bro. William Atkins.

Bro. David Sexton, Assistant Moderator; Bro. Jimmy Avery, Clerk; and Sis. Beatrice Harris, Alternate Clerk were introduced by Moderator, Bro. Hubert Gardner.

Appointed Devotional and Finance Committee:

Devotional Committee: Bro. Marvin Winsett, Bro. Quineth Haney and Bro. Ottis Palmer.

Finance Committee: Bro. William Atkins, Bro. Ivan Boyett and Bro. Earnest Brown.

## CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We your Credential Committee have examined all church letters and find them in order with the exception of Bear Creek, Southside, Rocky Grove and Mt. Calvery. Bro. Royce Cooper, Bro. Wayne Williams and Bro. J.R. Kerr.

## READING OF CHURCH LETTERS

By Reading Clerks: Bro. Larry Shotts and Bro. James McCarley

Antioch - Bro. Taylor Peoples, Sis. Jessie Howell, Sis. Delores Holcomb and Alt. Sis. Melissa Shotts.

Ballard - Bro. Paul Roberts, Sis. Reba Roberts, Sis. Bobbie Kerr and Alt. Sis. Betty Giddy.

Barnesville - Bro. Ivan Boyette, Sis. Jean Brown, Sis. JoAnn Williams, Sis. Stella Goggans and Alt. Sis. Manella Brown and Sis. Ress Palmer. Bear Creek - Sis. Monell Gann, Sis. Maudie Grissom, Sis. Lenar Engle and Alt. Sis. Susie McCarley.

Bethel - Sis. Jeanie Sexton, Sis. Gerline Sexton, Sis. Muriel Warren and Alt. Sis. Mary Frances Gibbs.

Fairview - Bro. Alfred Ballard, Sis. Betty Ballard, Sis. Betty Shotts and Sis. Jewel Shotts.

Love Joy - Sis. Annie Lou Miller, Sis. Etta Britt, Sis. Iva Shaw and Alt. Sis. Tammy Stults.

Mt. Hope - Bro. James McCarley, Bro. Randy Atkins, Bro. Bobby

Yielding, Bro. Ronnie Yielding, and Alt. Bro. Charles Cochran.

Mt. Calvery - Bro. Hollie B. Spiller, Sis. Wanda Myrick, Sis. Virginia Hosch, and Alt. Lonnie Barnes.

*New Center Point -* Sis. Mildred Tate, Sis. Lillie Tate and Sis. Beatrice Scott.

*New Hope -* Sis. Reta Cheek, Sis. Beatrice Delano, Sis. Vona Williams and Alt. Sis. Ovalene Avery.

New Salem - Bro. Gaydrell Carter, Sis. Virginia Carter, Sis. Lucille Childers and Alt. Sis. Jewel Stone.

Pleasant Ridge - Sis. Beatrice Harris, Sis. Charlotte Childers, Sis. Nellie Lay, Sis. Wanda Skinner and Alt. Sis. Verna Williams.

Pleasant Site - Sis. Debra Short, Sis. Delores Watson, Sis. Evelyn Mills and Alt. Sis. Gladys Crow.

Rocky Grove - Bro. Glenn Myrick, Sis. Joyce Myrick.

Rocky Top - Sis. Bonnie Cooper, Sis. Viva Frederick, Sis. Shirley Black and Alt. Sis. Elizabeth Edgar.

Southside - Sis. Maxine Goodwin, Sis. Donna Green and Alt. Sis. Velma Moore.

Splunge - Sis. Wanda Guyton, Sis. Gail Taylor, Bro. Donald Hulsey and Alt. Sis. Linda Shields.

*Union Ridge* - Bro. Garvin Taylor, Sis. Wynette Knight, Bro. Ercell Thompson, and Alt. Sis. Grace Rushing.

Motion made by Bro. Jack Harden to accept letters as read and seat delegates. Letters from Bear Creek, Southside, Rocky Grove and Mt. Calvary to be ammended, read and delegates seated. Motion carried

#### **DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT**

Friday Morning Devotional - Bro. Marvin Winsett Friday Morning Message - Bro. Hubert Gardner Friday Night Devotional - Bro. Edgar Lee Childers Friday Night Message - Bro. David Sexton Saturday Morning Devotional - Bro. Mike Franklin Saturday Morning Message - Bro. Redus Hall Deceased Members Message - Bro. W.C. Rayburn

Devotional Committee - Bro. Ottis Palmer, Bro. Marvin Winsett and Bro. Quinety Haney

## FINANCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We your financial committee find on hand a balance of \$435.33 and received from church letters a total of \$1164.67 with the current total of \$1600.00 on hand, Bro. William Atkins, Bro. Earnest Brown and Bro. Ivan Boyette.

## REPORT FROM TRUSTEE TO CHILDREN'S HOME

It has been my pleasure to represent the State Line Association as your trustee to our Children's Home this year.

We have enjoyed a great year with many things being accomplished through the efforts of each of you.

The Home had its first ever college graduate this year, Miss Helen Welch. A car was purchased for her graduation present through donations from each association. I would like to thank each church that responded.

Remember Harvest Drive in November.

Thanks Again,

Your Servant

Bro. Larry Shotts

Move in order to accept. Carried.

## ASSOCIATIONAL PASTOR REPORT

I have visited all the churches in the Association and found them in good shape.

I have been paid \$1988.45. I want to thank all the pastors for the hospitality that they showed me in their churches, and I thank God for the great work that they are doing.

May God Bless You, Gurlie Roberts

Move in order to accept. Carried. Special song by Bro. Hollie W. Spiller

#### APPOINTING OF COMMITTEES

Business Committee: Bro. Charles Lindley, Bro. Ray Edgar, Bro. Jack Harder

Committee on Committees: Bro. Bernice Shotts, Bro. Dwyane Rye,

Bro. Dewey Crowe

Sunday School Committee: Sis. Maxine Goodwin, Bro. Hollie B. Spiller, Bro. James McCarley

Deceased Members - Sis. Shirley Black, Bro. Alfred Ballard,

Sis. Wanda Skinner. Sis. Jeanie Sexton

*Temperance Committee:* Sis. Bobby Kerr, Sis. Maudie Grissom, Sis. Lillie Tate.

Appreciation Committee: Sis. Vona Williams, Bro. Gaydrell Carter, Sis. JoAnn Williams

Prayer by Bro. Elmer Stewart

Intermission

Song by Bro. Jack Harder and Bro. Elmer Lee Stewart. Prayer by Bro. Jay Sullins.

#### DECEASED MEMBER COMMITTEE REPORT

We the Deceased Member Committee have found that 21 of our Brothers and Sisters in Christ have gone on to be with our Lord. We will miss them here, but our loss is heavens gain.

Sis. Shirley Black, Sis. Jeanie Sexton, Sis. Wanda Skinner, Bro. Alfred Ballard

Move in order to accept. Carried.

#### TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We the Committee on Temperance recommend that we read St. John 15:1 - 8 and Galations 5—17 - 21 and apply it to our daily lives.

Sis. Maudie Grissom, Sis. Bobbie Kerr, Sis. Lillie Tate Move in order to accept. Carried.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT

We the Sunday School Committee have checked the church letters and find that each church has Sunday School. We pray that each church will continue having Sunday School and working for the Lord and teaching their children the ways of God.

Sis. Maxine Goodwin, Bro. Hollie B. Spiller, Bro. James McCarley Move in order to accept. Carried.

## APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT

We are thankful for the Christian people and the great interest of Bethel and Fairview churches. We are thankful for the warm welcome and wonderful food. We ask that this be read at Fairview tomorrow.

Sis. Vona Williams, Bro. Gaydrell Carter, Sis. JoAnn Williams Move in order to accept. Carried.

Song led by Bro. Billy Robbins
Devotion by Bro. Marvin Winsett
Song led by Bro. Jack Harder and Bro. Elmer Lee Stewart.
Morning message by Moderator, Bro. Hubert Gardner.
Song led by Bro. Jack Harder and Bro. Elmer Lee Stewart.

Dismissed for Lunch

# ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We the Ordaining Council recommend that this body receive Bro. Bobby Duncan in full fellowship into this association upon the recommendation of Pleasant Ridge Church.

Bro. Edgar Lee Childers, Bro. Jay Sullins, Bro. Larry Shotts Move in order to accept. Carried.

Motion to adjourn until Friday night: Carried.

#### FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Song led by Bro. Randy Atkins and Bro. William Atkins.

Prayer by Bro. W.C. Rayburn

Song led by Sis. Jewell Shotts.

Song led by Bro. Clint Cochran and Bro. Flura Shotts

## CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We your Credential Committee have met with Southside, Mt. Calvery, Rocky Grove and Bear Creek. The necessary corrections have been made to their letters

Bro. J.R. Kerr, Bro. Royce Cooper, Bro. Wayne Williams Move in order to accept. Carried.

## **CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)**

We the Credential Committee recommend Bro. Gurlie Roberts be granted a letter to the Jasper Association; Bro. Danny Ballard to Liberty Association; Bro. Duane Taylor to Cumberland Association.

Bro. Royce Cooper, Bro. J.R. Kerr, Bro. Wayne Williams Move in order to accept. Carried.

Short testimony service conducted by Moderator.

Two special songs by Bro. and Sis. David Sexton.

Special song by Bro. and Sis. Delmus Miller

Clerk requested that any minister having a change of address or telephone number to please contact him.

Song led by Bro. Gary Don Yielding

Prayer by Bro. Jerry Plott

# ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We the Ordaining Council recommend that Bro. Mike Franklin be ordained as a Minister of the Gospel with the charge to be given on Saturday by Bro. Jack Harder.

Bro. Edgar Lee Childers, Bro. Jay Sullins, Bro. Larry Shotts Move in order to accept. Carried.

# FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

Song led by Bro. William Atkins

Prayer by Bro. Golden Harris

Song led by Bro. Williams Atkins and Bro. Charlie McGee.

Welcomed by Bro. David Sexton

Special songs by Bro. David Sexton, Bro. Maxwell Gibbs, Sis. Jeanie Sexton, Sis. Gracie Franks.

Devotional by Bro. Edgar Lee Childers. Hebrews 9:11

Special song by Sis. Gracie Franks, Sis. Susan and Sis. Lindsey Sexton and Sis. Leslie Franks

Song led by Bro. Edgar Lee Childers, Bro. William Atkins and Bro. Jay Sullins

Friday night message by Bro. David Sexton, I Corinthians 11—27 - 30, I Corinthians 6:9, Romans 8:5, 9, 16, Colossians 3:2, I John 3:14 (But let a man examine himself). Thirty-eight took part in Communion Service. Session adjourned with a song led by Bro. David Sexton. "Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

## SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Song led by Bro. William Atkins and Bro. Bobby Duncan Prayer by Bro. Flura Shotts

Song led by Bro. Williams Atkins, Bro. Bobby Duncan, Bro. Randy Atkins

Welcome by Moderator, Bro. Hubert Gardner

Song led by Bro. William Atkins, Bro. Bobby Duncan.

Ordaination service with Bro. Jack Harder giving charge to Bro. Mike Franklin. I Corinthians 1:9-14, Galations 1:15-17, I Timothy 3:1-7, II Timothy 4:1-4

Charge also given to Sis. Susanne Franklin, the wife of Bro. Mike. United prayer with the laying on of hands.

Bro. Jack Harder presented Bro. Mike Franklin with a Bible.

Song led by Bro. David Sexton and the right hand of Christian fellowship given to Bro. Mike Franklin and his wife, Sis. Susanne.

Moderator welcomed visiting Ministers: Bro. Ambers Aldridge, Vernon Association, Bro. George Page & Bro. Ronald Watson, Bear Creek Association and Bro. Howard Simmons, Vernon Association.

#### Intermission

Song led by Bro. Billy Robbins

Prayer by Bro. C.C. Berryhill

Song by Bro. Ronald Watson "Leaving On My Mind"

Message on Deceased Members, Bro. W.C. Rayburn - Job 14:14, Revelations 14:13

Devotion by Bro. Mike Franklin - Matthew 8:23-27.

Song led by Bro. William Atkins and Bro. Bobby Duncan

Saturday Morning Message, Bro. Redus Hall "The Value of a Soul" Psalms 8, John 3:16-17, Luke 22:47-48, Luke 16, Matthew 16:26

Moderator introduced Bro. Jack Harder, pastor of Fairview Church to welcome the people and ask blessing on the noon meal. Prayer by Bro. Jack Harder.

#### SATURDAY EVENING SESSION

Song led by Bro. Charles Lindley and Bro. William Atkins Prayer by Bro. Ottis Parmer

Song led by Bro. Charles Lindley, Bro. William Atkins and Bro. Clint Cochran.

#### APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT

We are thankful for the fellowship of the Christians and the great interest of Bethel and Fairview Churches. We are also thankful for the warm welcome and wonderful food.

Sis. Vona Williams, Bro. Gaydrell Carter, Sis. JoAnn Williams Move to accept and discharge committee. Carried.

## ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We the Ordaining Council highly recommend that this body present Sis. Sue Collier a Card of Good Standing for her faithfulness and love for this Association.

Bro. Larry Shotts, Bro. Edgar Lee Childers, Bro. Jay Sullins Move in order to accept. Carried.

Congregation gave Sis. Sue Collier a standing ovation on receiving card of good standing.

## **BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT**

We your Committee on Documents and Order of Business recommend that we adopt Items 1 - 20 as laid down in our minutes.

Item 20: Ammend to read

We recommend that each church send \$1.00 per member for Association and Minute Fund, not to exceed \$125.00. Move in order to accept. Carried.

## BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

We your Committee on Documents and Order of Business recommend that we drop Item 11 from Constitution. It conflicts with Item 20 in Documents and Order of Business.

Move in order to accept. Carried.

#### BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

We your Committee on Documents and Order of Business present to the Association a tabled motion to be voted on at the next annual session. Motion made for the Association to meet Semi-annually but keeping the fall session Friday, Friday night and Saturday.

# ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We the Ordaining Council recommend that this body drop Bro. Gillie Parrish's name from its list of Ministers based on Item 11 of Documents and Order of Business. Carried.

## ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We the Ordaining Council recommend that this body drop Bro. Mike Lindley's name from its list of Ministers based on Item 7 of Rules for Preachers. Carried.

#### ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We the Ordaining Council recommend that this body drop Bro. Doyle Chandler's name from its list of Ministers based on Item 7 of Rules for Preachers.

Bro. Larry Shotts, Bro. Edgar Lee Childers, Bro. Jay Sullins Carried.

## FINANCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT (Final)

We your Financial Committee received \$50.00 in addition to the previous balance.

Motion made to accept report and discharge all appointed committees. Carried.

### ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We the Ordaining Council recommend that all Ministers in good standing with this association be given a card of good standing based on Item 9 of Documents and Order of Business.

Bro. Larry Shotts, Bro. Jay Sullins, Bro. Edgar Lee Childers Carried.

#### LIST OF MINISTERS RECEIVING CARD OF GOOD STANDING

Rev. William Atkins - Rt. 2, Guin, AL 35563, 468-2423

Rev. C.C. Berryhill - Rt. 1, Greenwood Springs, MS 38848

Rev. J.E. Cheek - Rt. 3, Phil Campbell, AL 35581, 993-5578

Rev. Edgar Lee Childers - Rt. 1, Vina, AL 35593, 356-2734

Rev. Larry Davis - Rt. 1, Vina, AL 35593

Rev. Bobby Duncan - Rt. 2, Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-4985

Rev. Ray Edgar - Phil Campbell, AL 35581, 993-5578

Rev. Mike Franklin - Rt. 1, Box 248, Vina, AL 35593, 356-4815

Rev. Hubert Gardner - Rt. 4, Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-2008

Rev. Redus Hall - P.O. Box 68, Gattman, MS 38844

Rev. Quineth Haney - Guin, AL 35563, 468-3917

Rev. Jack Harder - Rt. 6, Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-3711

Rev. Jimmy Howell - Hackleburg, AL 35564

Rev. Roy Humphries - Rt. 1, Box 28, Vina, AL 35593

Rev. Charles Lindley - Rt. 2, Guin, AL 35563

Rev. Charlie McGee - Rt. 5, Russellville, AL 35653, 332-0091

Rev. Allen Myrick - Rt. 4, Hamilton, AL 35570

Rev. Ottis Palmer - Rt. 2, Guin, AL 35563, 468-2444

Rev. W.C. Rayburn - Rt. 2, Guin, AL 35563, 468-2223

Rev. Jimmy Reese - Box 248, Guin, AL 35563

Rev. Billy Robbins - Rt. 1, Box 387, Herndon Road Fairburn, GA 30213, 404-964-5179

Rev. David Sexton - Box 312, Brilliant, AL 35548, 465-9289

Rev. Clay Shotts - Hamilton, AL 35570

Rev. Larry Shotts - Rt. 3. Hamilton. Al. 35570, 921-7215

Rev. Hollie W. Spiller - Rt. 4, Box 293, Winfield, AL 35594, 465-2319

Rev. Elmer Lee Stewart - Rt. 3, Phil Campbell ,AL 35581, 993-4994

Rev. Jay Sullins - Rt. 6, Box 19B, Hamilton, AL 35570

Rev. Conrad Whitson - Greenwood Springs, MS 38848

Rev. Marvin Winsett - Rt. 6, Box 131, Hamilton, AL 35570 921-3705

Rev. Danny Short - Rt. 1, Marietta, MS 38856

## ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Final)

We the Ordaining Council would like to express our appreciation to this body for letting us serve you this year. Bro. Larry Shotts, Bro. Jay Sullins and Bro. Edgar Lee Childers.

Special Song by Bro. Billy Robbins

Special Song by Bro. & Sis. David Sexton

Special Song by Bro. Mack Stidham

Special Song by Bro. David Sexton, Sis. Shirley Black & Sis. Bonnie Cooper

Move to empower Clerk to write checks for all necessary expenses.

Ordaining Council - Bro. Bobby Duncan, Bro. Elmer Lee Stewart and Bro. Jack Harder

Credential Committee - Bro. Wayne Williams, Bro. J.R. Kerr and Bro. Gary Don Yielding

Election of Officers:

Moderator - Bro. Larry Shotts

Assistant Moderator - Bro. Billy Robbins

Clerk - Bro. Jimmy Ray Avery

Assistant Clerk - Sis. Faye Avery

Alternate Clerk - Sis. Beatrice Harris.

Trustee to Children's Home - Bro. Larry Shotts

Associational Pastor - Bro. Marvin Winsett

Delegates to State Association - None

Committee on Committees:

Bro. Bernice Shotts, Bro. Dwayne Rye and Bro. Dewey Crowe

Body adjourned to meet on Friday and Friday night at Pleasant Site Free Will Baptist Church and Saturday with Mt. Hope Free Will Baptist Church, before the second Sunday in October, 1985. Dismissal prayer by Bro. Jimmy Ray Avery.

#### **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. C.C. Lawrence, Rev. Bobby Jeffreys, Rev. O.S. Gardner

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CHURCHES	/ PE	ME	A AM	3/0	DE	N. A. B.	7	/ E	Man
Antioch	Larry Shotts	27			2	1,943.92	150.00		
Ballard	Roy Humphries	42		1	1	5,418.30	325.00	40,000	450.00
Barnesville	Jay Sullins	170	1		3	8,850.00	500.00	90,000	1,502.74
Bear Creek	Elmer L. Steward	74	3	2	2	5,554,15	620.00	45,000	1,843.92
Bethel	David Sexton	33				7,950.00	1,075.00	125,000	36,285.32
Cobbtown									
Fairview	Jack Harder	181	2	3	1	11,888.00	1,305.00	75,000	12,654.39
Liberty									
Love Joy	Delmus Miller	25				1,154.40	139.00	60,000	
Mt. Hope	Jerry Plott	195	3			11,972.00	525.00	100,000	
Mt. Calvery	Hollie W. Spiller	58	9	8		6,500.00	100.00	85,000 <sup>i</sup>	
New Center Point	Redus Hall	60	2	3	1	10,122.00	785.00	40,000	6,948.24
New Hope	J.E. Cheek	42	1	1		522.91	220.00	12,500	2,000.00
New Salem	Edgar L Childers	26	0	0	0	4,303.58	225.00	20,000	2,500.00
Pleasant Ridge	Bobby Duncan	120	2	3	3	15,620.00	530.00	150,000	2,299.85
Pleasant Site	Danny Short	64	2	2	0	6,950.00	350.00	60,000	
Rocky Grove	Ottis Parmer	55	6	1	0	3,717.40	526.00	40,000	900.00
Rocky Top	Ray Edgar	111	0	5	2	5,234.50	334.50	50,000	
Southside	Quineth Haney	35	0	0	0	2,650.00	422.00	150,000	4,524.93
Splunge	Conrad Whitson	46	16	4	3		1,655.37	50.000	1,364.69
Union Ridge	George Page	71	0	0	0	6,161.80	895.00	26,000	1,383.73

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PRAYE	SIND A SHOOL SIND
	Dick Gilliland
X	Hershell
	Henry Grissom
X	Wendell J. Franks
X	Bernice Shotts
	Henry Pearce
Х	Gary Don Yielding
Х	Hollie B Spiller
X	Jim
	Henry Tice
X	Canduall
X	Robert Cochran
X	Danny Millican
	Chris Rich
X	Odell
X	Koith
X	Toe
	Johnny Hulsey

#### **DECEASED MEMBERS**

Sis. Trixie Arthur, Sis. Lola Williams, Sis. Robbie Humphries, Sis. Leona Emerson, Bro. Gus Fergeson, Sis. Mary Dean Ballard Jackson, Bro. Earl Harris, Bro. Jim Northington, Sis. Flora Stone, Bro. Ralph Gilliland, Sis. Estelle Murriell, Bro. Marlin Avery, Bro. Clement Avery, Bro. Winfred Duke, Bro. Grover Evans, Sis. Ruby Pickle, Bro. Archie Jones, Sis. Bertie Peters, Bro. Lenwood Robinson, Bro. Lon Gunner, Sis. Lelure Steward.

## **CLERKS**

Antioch - Ray Howell, Rt. 3, Hamilton, AL 35570 Ballard - Shelba Gilliland, Rt. 2, Detroit, AL 35553 Barnesville - Jean Brown, Rt. 4, Box 164, Hamilton, AL 35570 Bear Creek - Alma Lou Bowen, Box 41, Hackleburg, AL 35564 Bethel - Gracie Franks, Rt. 1, Box 185, Brilliant, AL 35548 Fairview - Jeanette Carter - Rt. 5, Box 147, Hamilton, AL 35570 Love Joy - Henry Pierce, Rt. 6, Box 96, Hamilton, AL 35570 Mt. Hope - Ronnie Yielding, Rt. 2, Hamilton, AL 35570 Mt. Calvary - Shirley J. Wates, Rt. 4, Winfield, AL 35594 New Centerpoint - Ruth Vann, Rt. 2, Box 12, Sulligent, AL 35586 New Hope - Betty Carter, Rt. 2, Hamilton, AL 35570 New Salem - Virginia Carter, Rt. 5, Hamilton, AL 35570 Pleasant Ridge - Dewey Crow, Rt. 2, Box 167, Hamilton, AL 35570 Pleasant Site - Shirley Millican, Rt. 1, Detroit, AL 35552 Rocky Grove - Charlotte Rich, Box 745, Hamilton, AL 35570 Rocky Top - Linda Kelly, Rt. 1, Box 88, Hackleburg, AL 35564 Southside - Ann Trim, Box 381, Winfield, AL 35594 Splunge - Fave Northington, Rt. 1. Box 237, Greenwood Springs, MS 38848

Union Ridge - Grace Ray, Rt. 1, Box 280, Sulligent, AL 35586

## **DEACONS**

Antioch - Harold Holcomb

Ballard - J.R. Kerr, Iris Mills, Wendell Giddy

Barnesville - Fred Stidham, Exel Brown, Dwayne Rye, Hansel Taylor Wayne Williams, Freeman Nixon

Bear Creek - Henry Grissom, Truman Scott, Clarence Engle

Bethel - Maxwell Gibbs, Earl Smith

Fairview - Jack Lindsey, Bernice Shotts, Flura Shotts, Hugh L. Carter, Harold Shotts, Talmadge Shotts, Denver Shotts.

Love Joy - Henry Pierce, Dave Britt

Mt. Hope - O.C. Mitchell, Gary Don Yielding,

Mt. Calvary -

New Centerpoint - D.L. Brown, C.L. Scott, Lester Ford, Wayne Puckett

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New Hope - Robert Avery

New Salem - Ernest Brown, W.W. Gilliland (inactive), Doug Walton (inactive)

Pleasant Ridge - Elma Hugh Taylor, Golden Harris, Dewey Crow, Jimmy Avery, Alfred Jones

Pleasant Site - Vester Watson, Marshall Watson, Odean Mills, Danny Millican

Rocky Grove - Redus McKay, Travis Hall

Rocky Top - Burton Frederick, Royce Cooper, Leonard Howell, Bill King

Southside -

Splunge - J.C. Palmer, Roger Shields, Jack Dillard Union Ridge - Archie Turman, Grady Lynn Knight

#### CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORT

The state of the s
Paid Moderator \$00.00
Paid Assistant Moderator
Paid Clerk
Paid Assistant Clerk
Paid Alternate
State and National Fees
Printing Minutes (est.)
Expense
Total Disbursements
Balance on Record
Amount Received
BALANCE \$ 560.00

#### CLERK'S ADDRESS:

Jimmy R. Avery Rt. 2, Box 382 B Hamilton, Alabama 35570 921-7955

#### 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 Saviour 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 follows 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 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 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 broguht 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, annointing 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 ressurection 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 case 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 that 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 Associaton.

#### 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 demonimation 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 sufferage of the church in the absence of the Pastor. The moderator shall observe good order and explain all questions before the 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 and reflection on any person, but shall adhere strictly to the subject under consideration.
- 9. No member shall speak twice on the same 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 Associaiton 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 apponted 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. All ministers pastoring the Churches in the Alabama-Mississippi Association shall abide by rules of the same.

# DOCUMENTS & ORDER OF BUSINESS

**Item 1:** We recommend that the clerk be paid \$35.00 plus expenses for printing of minutes and postage for Association mailing; the Moderator \$15.00; Assistant Moderator \$10.00; the Treasurer \$5.00; Assistant Clerk \$30.00 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 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 and Saturday sessions begin at 9 o'clock, and Friday night session at 7:00 p.m.

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 drugs 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 liv-

ing 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' Rules 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 requests to be submitted in writing and signed.

Item 17: We recommend we have a standing Ordaining Council to be ap-

pointed by the Moderator at the close of each session.

Item 18: 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 19:** Any minister whose name has been dropped from the roll of ministers, if he wishes to be reinstated, to make his request to the Or-

daining Council.

Item 20: We recommend that each church send \$1.00 per member for Association and Minute Fund, not to exceed \$125.00.



