

MINUTES

*of the
Eighty-Third Annual Session
of*

STATE LINE

Free Will Baptist Association

of
MISSISSIPPI - ALABAMA

**HELD WITH
Fairview Church, April 11, 1987
and
Bethel Church, October 10, 1987**

OFFICERS

Moderator	Bro. David Sexton
Assistant Moderator	Bro. William Atkins
Clerk & Treasurer	Bro. Jimmy Avery
Assistant Clerk & Treasurer	Sis. Faye Avery
Alternate	Sis. Beatrice Harris
Trustee to Children's Home	Bro. Bobby Duncan
Associational Pastor	Bro. Larry Shotts

The next session will be held with Antioch Church on April 9, 1988 and Pleasant Site Church on October 8, 1988. (Second Saturdays)

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 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.

APRIL 11, 1987
(AM Session)

The 83rd session of the Mississippi-Alabama State Line Association of Free Will Baptist Churches met for the semi-annual Spring session at Fairview Free Will Baptist Church at 9:00 a.m. The session opened with a class hymn lead by Bro. Quineth Haney. Prayer, Bro. Dallas Gilliland.

The meeting was called to order by the Clerk, Bro. Jimmy R. Avery, with introduction of moderator, Bro. Jack Harder.

Welcome to Fairview Church by moderator & pastor Bro. Jack Harder.

List of delegates read by clerk, Bro. Jimmy R. Avery.

Antioch: Bro. Scotty Haney, Bro. Williams Williams, Sis. Pam Avery, Alt. Sis. Sue Williams

Ballard: Sis. Bobbie Kerr, Sis. Amelia Batchelder, Sis. Tena Lovelady, Alt. Sis. Inez Watts

Barnesville: Sis. Carol Taylor, Bro. Grady Carter, Bro. G.O. Karr, Bro. Buddy Ward

Bear Creek: Bro. Troy Mason, Sis. Carolyn Steward, Sis. Iva Lee Jackson, Alt. Bro. Cleburn Gann

Bethel: Sis. Muriel Warren, Sis. Mary Frances Gibbs, Bro. Wendell J. Franks, Sis. Gracie Franks

Fairview: Bro. Alfred Ballard, Sis. Betty Ballard

Love Joy: Sis. Barbara Wright, Sis. Etta Britt, Alt. Sis. Tammy Stults

Mt. Calvary: None (no response)

Mt. Hope: Sis. Vern Hall, Sis. Bonnie Sue Yielding, Bro. Craig McCarley, Alt. Bro. Bobby Yielding

New Center Point: Sis. Wanda Gail Blaylock, Sis. Nell Hawkins

New Hope: None (no response)

New Salem: Bro. Jimmy Lucas, Sis. Jackie Lucas, Sis. Ellie Lindsey, Alt. Sis. Lucille Childers

Pleasant Ridge Church: Bro. Clint Cochran, Bro. Alton Smith, Sis. Liza McCray, Bro. Steve Williford, Alt. Sis. Verna Williams

Pleasant Site Church: Sis. Carolyn Watson, Sis. Delores Watson

Rocky Grove Church: Sis. Grace Skinner, Sis. Carolyn Byrd, Sis. Joyce Myrick, Alt. Bro. Glenn Myrick

Rocky Top Church: Sis. Bonnie Cooper, Sis. Elizabeth Edgar, Sis. Shirley Black, Alt. Sis. Teresa Stidham

Trinity: Sis. Maxine Goodwin, Sis. Marlene Collins, Bro. Cecil May

Good Springs: Sis. Sherry Holland, Sis. Eloise Humphres, Sis. Peggy Myrick, Bro. Dale Glick, Sis. Ona Lee Humphries

Union Ridge: None (no response)

Motion to accept as read. Seconded. Carried.

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We the Credenital Committee have examined the list of delegates and recommend they be seated at this session after roll call.

Bro. Gary Yielding, Bro. Dewey Crow, Bro. Golden Harris
Motion Seconded. Carried. Delegates seated.

DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE

Appointed by Moderator. Bro. David Motes, Bro. Dewey Crow, Bro. Troy Mason.

Recommendation from Pleasant Site Church for ordination at this session of Bro. Danny Millican read by Clerk as follows:

We, the members of Pleasant Site Free Will Baptist Church, do hereby recommend Bro. Danny Millican to be ordained to preach the Gospel of Christ at the April 11, 1987 session of the State Line Free Will Baptist Association of Mississippi-Alabama.

Pleasant Site Church
Clerk, Sis. Evelyn Mills
Route 1, Box 67
Detroit, Alabama 35552

Motion. Second. Carried.

Petition for re-instatement of Bro. Gilley Parrish to association read as follows by clerk:

To: State Line Association of Free Will Baptists.

Rocky Grove FWB Church hereby petitions for the re-instatement of Rev. Gillie Parrish to the State Line Association. We find him to be an exemplary Christian and dedicated Pastor and ask that he be returned to the Association in good standing.

Sincerely,
Sis. Charlotte Rich, Clerk

Motion. Second. Carried.

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We the Credential Committee recommend that Bro. Gillie Parrish go before the ordaining council.

Bro. Gary Yielding, Bro. Dewey Crow, Bro. Golden Harris
Motion to accept. Second. Carried.

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We the Credential Committee recommend that Bro. Danny Millican go before the Ordaining Council.

Bro. Gary Yielding, Bro. Dewey Crow, Bro. Golden Harris

ASSOCIATIONAL PASTOR REPORT

It has been an honor for me to serve our association as Associational Pastor and I want to thank the association for the opportunity to serve.

I have visited 15 of the 18 churches of the association and I want to thank the Pastors and the congregations for their prayers and support.

I am looking forward to serving you the second half of the year with the Lord's help.

Your Servant and Bro. in Christ,

Bro. Roy Humphries

Churches Visited: Antioch, Ballard, Bear Creek, Barnesville, Fairview, Good Springs, Love Joy, Mt. Hope, New Hope, New Salem, Pleasant Ridge, Pleasant Site, Rocky Grove, Rocky Top, Union Ridge.

I have received \$665.00 financial support.

Motion to accept. Second. Carried.

Commendation for his work and care given by Bro. Jack Harder, Moderator.

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE

Appointed by Moderator as follows: Sis. Wanda Blaylock, Sis. Bonnie Cooper, Sis. Bonnie Sue Yielding.

Moderator and Pastor, Bro. Jack Harder announced re-committment of Bro. Dallas Gilliland to preach the Gospel of Christ.

Special Song - "Take My Hand Precious Lord" by Bro. Dallas Gilliland as Fellowshiped with associational body.

Special Devotional held by Bro. Dallas Gilliland. Text Rev. 3:20. *"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."*

Testimonial service by associational body.

Ordaining Council met with Bro. Gillie Parrish and Bro. Danny Millican.

Visiting ministers, deacons and delegates called for. None.

Special song by Sis. Bonnie Cooper and Sis. Shirley Black, "Mother"

DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We your Devotional Committee recommend the following: Morning Devotional: Bro. Jeff Fleming; Morning Message: Bro. Charlie McGee.

Bro. Dewey Crow, Bro. Troy Mason, Bro. David Motes
Motion. Second. Carried.

Moderator expressed need & re-enforcement for letters and delegates to be submitted to clerk 10 days prior to each session as recommended by Item #24. Also expressed need for "every" church in the associational body to consider extra funding for future projects for the association. Encouraged all churches to show extra special concern for "all needs" of the Children's Home at Eldridge.

Children's Home Trustee, Bro. Bobby Duncan ask to speak concerning work being done and needs for ALL ASPECTS of support of Love, financial and spiritual, also to include visits to the home.

Children's Home Trustee Report

To The State Line Free Will Baptist Association of Alabama-Mississippi.

At our first Board meeting in 1987 we had 15 members present. The atmosphere was that of a revival. Bro. Corey is doing a great job with the home. We would like to ask you and your church to make this your Home Mission Project. The Home needs your finances, love and support.

Yours In Christ,
Bro. Bobby Duncan

Motion. Second. Carried.

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We the Ordaining Council have met with Bro. Gillie Parrish and recommend that he be re-instated and given a card of standing at this session.

Bro. Larry Shotts, Bro. David Motes, Bro. Mike Franklin
Motion. Second. Carried. Card Issued.

Morning break for 15 minutes. 10:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

Session re-convened with class songs "His Love Lights The Way". Prayer by Bro. Wayne Williams. 'Gettin' Ready To Leave This World' by Bro. William Atkins and Bro. J.H. Sullins.

Morning Devotional held by Bro. Jeff Fleming. Text: II Timothy 4:6-7.

Class Songs, "Lord Lead Me On", "I've Been A Waitin'", "Glory To His Name", "When He Put A Little Sunshine In", by Bro. J.H. Sullins and Bro. William Atkins.

Morning Message brought by Bro. Charlie McGee. Text taken from scriptures: St. Mark 1:1-8.

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We the Ordaining Council have met with Bro. Danny Millican and recommend that he be ordained to preach the Gospel of our Lord at this session.

Bro. William Atkins to preach the charge.

Bro. Larry Shotts, Bro. David Motes, Bro. Mike Franklin

Motion. Second. Carried.

The 1987 Ordaining Council requested to meet with the 1986 Ordaining Council at lunch.

Recognition of check from Bro. Ronnie Yielding for Children's Home by Moderator Bro. Jack Harder. Offering plates placed for receiving love offering for Children's Home.

Lunch dismissal prayer with Blessing of food by Bro. J.W. Vann.

P.M. SESSION

Class song by Bro. Quineth Haney and Bro. Jimmy Avery. Prayer by Bro. Woodrow Matthews.

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Appreciation Committee wishes to thank Fairview Church for the wonderful lunch and the special friendship and love they've shown the churches this session.

Sis. Bonnie Cooper, Sis. Wanda Blaylock, Sis. Bonnie Sue Yielding
Motion. Second. Carried.

Special song by Bro. Quineth Haney, Sis. Pam Avery and Sis. Michelle Winsett. "He Wrote My Name"

Bro. Quineth Haney expressed deep appreciation to all churches for their financial help, all members for their labor given and for prayers for Antioch new church building program.

Special song "Jesus Rise Me", by Bro. J.W. Vann.

Report of Love offering received for Eldridge Children's Home during lunch hour. Total \$525.00, to be carried to home by trustee Bro. Bobby Duncan.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Business Committee appointed to serve at the fall session by moderator, Bro. Jack Harder as follows: Bro. Maxwell Gibbs, Bro. Gillie Parrish, Bro. Jack Harder, Moderator, Bro. Ottis Parmer, Assistant Moderator, Bro. Jimmy Avery, Clerk.

Ordination charge of Bro. Danny Millican brought by Bro. William Atkins. Bro. Danny and Sis. Sara Millican, wife, given front pew to receive ordination charge. Scripture II Timothy 4:1-2, I Timothy 3:1-7, 11.

Message complete, Preachers and Ordained Deacons of this association, along with Bro. J.W. Vann, deacon from church Bro. Millican assisting with at present, knelt with laying on of hands for united prayer.

Class songs, "I'll Live In Glory & I'll Meet You In The Morning" lead by Bro. Bobby Duncan and Bro. Gary Yielding as the right hand of Christian Fellowship extended.

Certificate of Ordination presented by Bro. William Atkins. Card of good standing presented by Bro. Larry Shotts of the Ordaining Council.

Special recognition of Sis. Sue Collier for her continued presence and devotion to the association by Bro. Jack Harder.

REVISION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Committee for the Revision of Constitution and By-Laws of the State Line Association of Free Will Baptists has concluded its work and presents it's proposal to the association. In addition we offer a motion to the association that the proposal be tabled until the October 1987 session. This will allow each church to fully study the proposal before they must vote.

Bro. William Atkins, Bro. Bobby W. Duncan, Bro. Jack Harder, Bro. David Sexton, Bro. Flura Shotts, Bro. J.H. Sullins
Second. Bro. Quineth Haney. Carried.

Move to dismiss all committees except all Standing Committees.
Move. Second. Carried.

Item #4 from Constitution re-enforced by Moderator.

Announcement of Fall Session to convene at Bethel Church.

State Associational Minutes distributed.

Petition for registration of all ministers to include address, phone

numbers and church pastoring or member of, for compiling of minutes.

Appreciation for cooperation of Associational body and committees.

Announcements.

Petition by Bro. Bobby Duncan for Foster Parents Plan for Eldridge Children's Home.

Ministers Present at Spring Session (25)

Rev. William Atkins, Rev. Edgar Lee Childers, Rev. Larry Davis, Rev. Bobby Duncan, Rev. Ray Edgar, Rev. Jeff Fleming, Rev. Mike Franklin, Rev. Quineth Haney, Rev. Jack Harder, Rev. Bob Howell, Rev. Roy Humphries, Rev. Charles Lindley, Rev. Woodrow Matthews, Rev. David Motes, Rev. Charlie McGee, Rev. Allen Myrick, Rev. Otis Parmer, Rev. W.C. Rayburn, Rev. David Sexton, Rev. Clay Shotts, Rev. Larry Shotts, Rev. Howard Simmons, Rev. J.H. Sullins, Rev. Wonnie Jerry Wilkerson, Rev. Marvin Winsett, Rev. Gillie Parrish, Rev. Danny Millican.

Ministers Absent from the April 11, 1987 Session (7)

Rev. J.E. Cheek, Rev. Jimmy Howell, Rev. Billy Robbins, Rev. Hollie W. Spiller, Rev. Jimmy Reese, Rev. C.C. Berryhill, Rev. Redus Hall (absent due to illness. Clerk notified per phone on 4-11-87 @ 7:10 a.m.)

Motion to adjourn until October 10, 1987 to re-convene at Bethel Church. Second. Carried.

Dismissal Prayer by Bro. Golden Harris.

FALL SESSION

October 10, 1987

The 83rd Fall Session of the Mississippi-Alabama State Line Association of Free Will Baptist Churches opened with a class song led by Bro. William Atkins and Bro. Charlie McGee. Prayer by Bro. Quineth Haney.

The meeting was called to order by the clerk, Jimmy Avery and moderator, Bro. Jack Harder introduced to the body.

The Rules of Decorum was read by moderator.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We the Credentials Committee have examined all letters and found them in order except Barnesville. "Need list of delegates."

Bro. Gary Yielding, Bro. Dewey Crow, Bro. Golden Harris

Credentials Committee and Barnesville delegation met to place delegates on church letter.

Roll Call made of all churches delegates by clerk. Motion made to accept delegates and to have them seated. Second. Carried.

DELEGATES

ANTIOCH: Bro. Scott Haney, Sis. Pam Avery, Sis. Sue Williams

BALLARD: Bro. Clyde Weeks, Sis. Elizabeth Weeks, Sis. Tena Lovelady, Alt. Sis. Betty Lovelady

BARNESVILLE: Sis. Dorothea Whitehead, Sis. Carol Taylor, Sis. Gerthie Woods, Alt. Jean Brown.

BEAR CREEK: Sis. Monell Gann, Sis. Maudie Grissom, Sis. Louise McCarley, Alt. Bro. Cleburn Gann

BETHEL: Sis. Gerline Sexton, Sis. Jeanie Sexton, Bro. Wendell Jan Franks

FAIRVIEW: Sis. Betty Ballard, Bro. Alfred Ballard, Sis. Charlotte Gilliland

GOOD SPRINGS: Sis. Peggy Myrick, Sis. Oma Lee Avery, Sis. Eloise Humphries

LOVE JOY: Sis. Etta Britt, Sis. Tammy Stults, Alt. Sis. Barbara Wright, Alt. Sis. Lucille Pearce

MT. HOPE: Sis. Ivie Collier, Sis. Vern Hall, Bro. Ronnie Yielding, Sis. Bonnie Yielding, Alt. Bro. Bobby Yieidling

NEW CENTER POINT: Sis. Wanda Gail Blaylock, Sis. Mary Lou Ford, Sis. Nell Hawkins

NEW HOPE: Sis. Vona Williams, Sis. Beatrice Delano, Sis. Ada Tice (Alt.)

NEW SALEM: Bro. Jimmy Lucas, Sis. Jackie Lucas, Sis. Ellie Lindsey, Alt. Sis. Lucille Childers

PLEASANT RIDGE: Bro. Alton Smith, Sis. Liza McCray, Bro. Clint Cochran, Bro. Robert Pucket, Alt. Bro. Steve Williford

PLEASANT SITE: Sis. Alma Mills, Sis. Angie Mills, Sis. Evelyn Mills, Alt. Sis. Sarah Millican

ROCKY GROVE: Bro. Glenn Myrick, Sis. Joyce Myrick, Bro. Freddie Haney, Alt. Sis. Marilyn Haney

ROCKY TOP: Bro. James Mitchell, Bro. Ronald Elrod, Bro. Buddy Mason, Alt. Sis. Jennie Elrod

TRINITY: Bro. Cecil May, Bro. Buster Goodwin, Sis. Maelene Collins, Alt. Sis. Maxine Goodwin

UNION RIDGE: Bro. Fred Rushing, Sis. Grace Rushing, Sis. Wynette Knight, Alt. Sis Cynthia Myers

Devotional Committee appointed by Moderator. Bro. Ronnie Yielding, Bro. Chris Rich and Bro. James Mitchell. Committee dismissed at this time.

Visiting delegates recognized and asked to seat with us. Bro. A. Aldridge represented the Jasper Association.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We the Business Committee recommended that we add to the spring proposal for revision of officers to read and include as follows:

We recommend that this associational body empower the moderator to appoint a committee to assemble some guidelines for the qualifications of the following officers and committees who serve in this association: Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk & Treasurer, Assistant Clerk & Treasurer, Trustee to Children's Home, Associational Pastor, Credentials Committee, Finance Committee, Sunday School Committee, Seceased Members Committee, Devotional Committee, Appreciation Committee.

Motion to accept as read. Second. Carried.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We recommend the following items be adopted:

1. All recommendations and requests for ordination shall be made far enough in advance so that the Ordaining Council may have at least 60 days to examine the request before a session of the association.

2. All officers and standing committees of the association shall assume thier duties at the end of the October session during which they were elected or appointed and serve until the end of the next October session.

3. If the proposal of the Review Committee is accepted by the Association, then items #6 and #29 need to be dropped.

4. That the Temperance Committee be eliminated.

5. That the clerk be empowered to purchase materials and supplies for the various committees such as the Sunday School Committee and Deceased Members Committees, etc.

Motion to accept as read. Second. Carried.

Special song by Sis. Jeanie Lindsey and Amanda Sexton.

Ordaining Council requested and dismissed to meet.

Ordained deacons asked to stand by Moderator. Due to absence of Bro. Gary Don Yielding, Bro. Clint Cochran appointed to serve on Credentials Committee by Moderator Bro. Jack Harder.

Special song sung by Bro. Dallas Gilliland "Leaving on My Mind"

DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We recommend that the A.M. Devotional be brought by Bro. Jeff Fleming.

Bro. Ronnie Yielding, Bro. Chris Rich, Bro. James Mitchell

Motion to accept. Second. Carried.

Rules read by moderator, Bro. Jack Harder for procedure of which to vote on the proposed revision of the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association. Opportunity given for any questions. None. Motion made to break each section down Item by Item by Bro. Otis Parmer. Seconded. Opposed by by majority of body. Motion made to try the proposal as written and vote on each section as written at the time. Second. Carried.

Moderator section read. Motion made to accept as read. Second. Carried. (See Document)

Assistant Moderator section read. Motion to accept as read. Second. Carried. (See Document)

Clerk & Treasurer duties read. Motion to accept as read. Second. Carried. (See Document)

Assistant Clerk & Treasurer - duties read. Motion to accept as read. Second. Carried. (See Document)

Trustee to Children's Home read. Motion to accept as read. Second. Carried. (See Document)

Associational Pastor duties read. Motion to accept as read. Second. Carried. (See Document)

A.M. BREAK 10:15 - 10:30

Resumed with class song led by Bro. David Sexton. "His Love Lights The Way For Me."

Apology made by moderator, Bro. Jack Harder to Bro. Clint Cochran and Bro. Cochran removed from Credentials Committee.

Moderator Bro. Jack Harder designated each Committee serving to appoint a Chairman of that committee.

The afore Proposal continued at this time.

Credentials Committee duties read. Motion to accept as read. Second. Carried. (See Document)

Ordaining Council duties read. Motion to accept as read. Second. Carried. (See Document)

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We recommend that Bro. Dallas Gilliland be reinstated in full fellowship with this association and that he be given a card of good standing, and that he have an opportunity to speak to this body.

Bro. Mike Franklin, Bro. David Motes, Bro. Larry Shotts
Motion to accept as read. Second. Carried.

Bro. Dallas Gilliland given opportunity to speak. Expressed his desire to carry God's word and try to live up to God's high calling as to the best of his ability.

A.M. Devotional brought by Bro. Jeff Fleming. Scriptures taken from Phillippians 1:21-26.

Class song led by Bro. Edgar Lee Childers and Bro. J.H. Sullins "Gettin' Ready To Leave This World"

Morning Message brought by Bro. Jack Harder. Scriptures taken from I Samuel 17:39

Invitational song, "Just As I Am" , Altar Prayer.

Bethel pastor, Bro. David Sexton, welcomed associational body to church.

Dismissal prayer for lunch with blessing of food by Bro. J.H. Sullins.

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Afternoon session reconvened with a class song led by Bro. J.H. Sullins. "Everybody Will Be Happy Over There"

Appreciation Committee, Financial Committee and Deceased Members committee read and dismissed to meet.

ASSOCIATIONAL EVANGELIST REPORT

To the State Line Association. It has been a privelege and a special blessing for me to serve as your Associational Pastor for the past year. I have visited all the churches in the association and preached in all but one. I want to thank the Pastors and Churches for their hospitality, their prayers, and financial support. I have received \$925.00 for which I am grateful. May the Grace of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ abide with you for ever.

Churches visited. Antioch, Ballard, Bear Creek, Bethel, Fairview, Good Springs, Love Joy, Mt. Hope, New Center Point, New Hope, New Salem, Pleasant Ridge, Pleasant Site, Rocky Grove, Rocky Top, Trinity, Union Ridge and Barnesville.

Again let me say thanks and God Bless all of you.

Bro. Roy Humphries

Motion made to accept. Second. Carried.

CHILDREN'S HOME TRUSTEE REPORT

Happy, successful, responsible, well-adjusted, moral, upright children are what all of us as parents desire our children to be. We love our children and there is within us the urge to give them gifts, thereby showing our love and appreciation. We all have our dream and ambitions for our children but there are thousands of children that have no parents, like the 29 children at the Eldridge Children's Home.

We are told in James 1:27 that pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction.

As a Christian, a Minister and Trustee to the home, I humbly ask you to support with your prayers and finances monthly. May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all.

Children's Home Trustee

Bro. Bobby Duncan

Motion read to accept. Second. Carried.

Bro. Bobby Duncan spoke on behalf of Children's Home to convey their love to their Christian Brothers and Sisters and solicited every churches continued support.

Letter from Children's Home Superintendent read by clerk.

April 1987

Dear Friends of our Home,

I heard about a New York businessman who dropped a dollar into the cup of a man selling pencils and hurriedly stepped aboard his subway train. Suddenly, he stepped back off the train, approached the beggar

and took several pencils from the cup. Apologetically he explained that in his haste he forgot his pencils. "After all" he said, "You are a businessman just like myself. You have good merchandise and it's fairly priced." Then he stepped back aboard the train.

Some months later at a social function a neatly dressed salesman stepped up to the businessman and introduced himself. "You probably don't remember me, but I will never forget you. You are the man who gave me my self-respect. I was a "beggar" selling pencils until you came along and told me I was a businessman!"

A wise man once said, "A lot of people have gone further than they thought they could because someone else thought they could." We believe in our kids here at the home. We love and respect them. We believe God made them, and sent them to us for a purpose. They can become "Somebody" in life. They count - they matter to God and to us. We have faith to believe in them, that they can and will become the best they can be, for God's glory.

Thank you for believing in them also. I know you do because you invested part of yourself in them this month. Your gift helps keep our program in operation. Without friends like you, this would not be possible. Only eternity will reveal the true outcome of your investment. Thank you again, for giving and investing in our children this month.

May God richly bless you. Thanks for being there.

Sincerely,

Levy Corey, Superintendent

(P.S. This letter written in response to the love offering taken up at the April session of \$514.00 for the Children's Home)

Continuation of Proposal

Business Committee duties read. Motion to accept. Second. Carried. (See document)

Finance Committee duties read. Motion to accept. Second. Carried. (See document)

Sunday School Committee duties read. Motion to accept. Second Carried. (See document)

Deceased Members duties read. Motion to accept. Second. Carried. (See document)

Devotional Committee duties read. Motion to accept. Second. Carried. (See document)

Appreciaiton Committee duties read. Motion to accept. Second. Carried. (See document)

Other motion to accept. Second. Carried. (See document)

DECEASED MEMBERS REPORT

We the Deceased Members Committee have found 12 of our Brothers and Sisters in Christ have departed to be with our Lord. Our loss is Heaven's gain.

We recommend Bro. Gillie Parrish to present the Deceased Members message.

Bro. Ronnie Yielding, Bro. Alfred Ballard, Bro. Glenn Myrick
Motion to accept as read. Second. Carried.

DECEASED MEMBERS LIST

Bro. Victor Ballard, Bro. Grady Carter, Bro. Lowell Thomas, Sis. Dora Page, Bro. D.L. Brown, Bro. Malone Tice, Bro. Thomas Avery, Bro. Jason Jones, Bro. Mathie Satterwhite, Sis. Evie Warren, Bro. Hudson Burleson, Sis. Leva Cantrell

Special song by Bro. Dallas and Sis. Charlotte Gilliland. "Beulah Land"

Deceased members message brought by Bro. Gillie Parrish. Scripture St. John 11:20-26. Prayer by Bro. Marvin Winsett

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We your Finance Committee find a total of \$1135.00 received for the Associational fund with a balance of \$388.00. Grand total of \$1523.00.

Bro. Jimmie Lucas, Bro. James Mitchell
Motion to accept as read. Second. Carried.

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We the Ordaining Council recommend that the findings of the 1986 ordaining council concerning Bro. Hollie Wayne Spiller delayed at the 82nd session page 12 in our minutes be read before this body and accepted.

Bro. Larry Shotts, Bro. David Motes, Bro. Mike Franklin
Motion to accept as read. Second. Carried.

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

In September of 1986 Bro. Hollie Wayne Spiller requested to meet with the Ordaining Council for the purpose of defending himself and explaining charges that had recently been filed against him by the Marion County District Attorney. He was accused of molesting a young girl.

The Ordaining Council along with the moderator, Bro. Jay Sullins, and the Assistant Moderator, Bro. Redus Hall, met with him at Mt. Hope Church.

After a thorough discussion Bro. Spiller stated that he was innocent of the charges. He further stated that he would surrender his credentials if necessary.

The committee reached the decision that until Bro. Spiller was proven guilty, he was deserving of our prayer and support.

Bro. David Sexton, Bro. Ray Edgar, Bro. Charlie McGee
Motion to accept as read by Bro. Bobby Duncan. Second by Bro. Clint Cochran. Carried.

Message delivered to body by clerk from Bro. Richard Cordell for financial aid from the association for the 1988 Free Will Baptist Pastor's and Worker's Conference.

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT

We are thankful for the love of all our fellow christians.

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to Bethel Church for their warm hospitality during this association.

Sis. Jeanie Sexton, Sis. Louise McCarley, Sis. Pam Avery
Motion to accept as read. Second. Carried.

Ordaining Council oldest member to be dropped at this session, Bro. Larry Shotts. Remaining #2 Bro. David Motes, and #3 Bro. Mike Franklin, with new member, Bro. Redus Hall appointed by Moderator, Bro. Jack Harder.

Credentials Committee oldest member to be dropped at this session, Bro. Gary Don Yielding. Remaining # Bro. Golden Harris, and #3 Bro. Dewey Crow, with new member Bro. Royce Cooper appointed by Moderator Bro. Jack Harder.

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We recommend that Sis. Sue Collier be given a card of standing for her devotion to this association.

Bro. Larry Shotts, Bro. David Motes, Bro. Mike Franklin
Motion to accept, Second. Carried.

Card presented by Moderator, Bro. Jack Harder.

Move to dismiss all committees except the standing committees. Second. Carried.

1988 Officers Elected at this time as follows:

Moderator - Bro. David Sexton

Assistant Moderator - Bro. William Atkins
Clerk & Treasurer - Bro. Jimmy R. Avery
Assistant Clerk & Treasurer - Sis. Faye Avery
Alternate - Sis. Beatrice Harris
Associational Pastor - Bro. Larry Shotts
Trustee to Children's Home - Bro. Bobby Duncan

Association to convene at Antioch the 2nd Saturday in April and at Pleasant Site the 2nd Saturday and Saturday night in October.
Motion Second. Carried.

Moderator, Bro. Jack Harder appointed the following committees for this year and to serve at the Spring and Fall Sessions:

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Bro. James Mitchell, Bro. Gillie Parrish, Bro. David Sexton, Bro. William Atkins, Bro. Jimmy Avery

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Bro. Fred Rushing, Bro. Cecil May, Bro. Glenn Myrick

Special songs by the Bethel Quartet, Bro. Maxwell Gibbs, Bro. David Sexton, Sis. Jeanie Sexton, & Sis. Gracie Franks. "When I Get Carried Away" "Mexico", "You Can Walk On The Water", "Christ Made The Way", "When Jesus Passed By" and "Who"

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We the Ordaining Council recommend that Bro. Charlie Spencer's Credentials be cancelled according to Item 10 of our Documents and Order of Business.

Bro. Mike Franklin, Bro. Larry Shotts

Motion to accept as read. Second. Carried.

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We recommend according to scripture Ephesians chapter 6:11-17, and by the example that the apostle Paul set before us in Acts Chapter 25. Also, Acts chapter 26:31-32 that the Credentials of Hollie Wayne Spiller be surrendered and he not be given a card of standing.

Bro. Larry W. Shotts, Bro. Mike Franklin, Bro. David Motes

Motion to accept as read. Second. Carried.

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We recommend that a card of good standing be given to ministers of the association in good standing.

Bro. Larry Shotts, Bro. David Motes, Bro. Mike Franklin

Motion to accept as read. Second. Carried.

MINISTERS RECEIVING CARD

Rev. William Atkins - Rt. 2, Box 205, Guin, AL 35563 468-2423
Rev. C.C. Berryhill - Rt. 1, Greenwood Springs, Ms 38848
Rev. J.E. Cheek - Rt. 3, Box 277, Phil Campbell, AL 35581 993-4407
Rev. Edgar Lee Childers - Rt. 1, Box 177, Vina, AL 35593 356-2734
Rev. Larry Davis - Rt. 1, Box 89, Vina, AL 35593 356-4992
Rev. Bobby Duncan - Rt. 2, Box 208, Hamilton, AL 35570 921-4985
Rev. Ray Edgar - Rt. 3, Box 136, Phil Campbell, AL 35581 993-5578
Rev. Jeff Fleming - Rt. 3, Box 183, Hamilton, AL 35570 921-7969
Rev. Mike Franklin - Rt. 1, Box 258, Vina, AL 35593 356-4815
Rev. Dallas Gilliland - Rt. 5, Box 111 AA, Hamilton, AL 35570
Rev. Redus Hall - P.O. Box 68, Gattman, Ms 38844 601-356-2266
Rev. Quineth Haney - Rt. 1, Box 769, Guin, AL 35563 468-3917
Rev. Jack Harder - P.O. Box 462, Hamilton, AL 35570 921-3711
Rev. Bob Howell - Rt. 2, Box 307C, Hackleburg, AL 35564
Rev. Jimmy Howell - Rt. 2, Box 307C, Hackleburg, AL 35564
Rev. Roy Humphries - Rt. 1, Box 28, Vina, AL 35593 356-2185
Rev. Charles Lindley - Rt. 2, Box 173, Guin, AL 35563 468-3783
Rev. Woodrow Matthews - Rt. 2, Box 715, Guin, AL 35563 468-3264
Rev. Danny Millican - Rt. 1, Detroit, AL 35552 273-4364
Rev. David Motes - Rt. 1, Box 470, Phil Campbell, AL 35581 332-3799
Rev. Charlie McGee - Rt. 5, Box 166, Russellville, AL 35653 332-0091
Rev. Allen Myrick - Rt. 5, Box 46A, Hamilton, AL 35570 921-4380
Rev. Otis Parmer - Rt. 2, Guin, AL 35563 468-2444
Rev. Gillie Parrish - P.O. Box 155, Red Bay, AL 35582 356-2130
Rev. W.C. Rayburn - Rt. 2, Box 273, Guin, AL 35563 468-2223
Rev. Jimmy Reese - P.O. Box 248, Guin, AL 35563 468-2971
Rev. David Sexton - Rt. 1, Box 321A, Brilliant, AL 35548 465-9289
Rev. Larry Shotts - Rt. 3, Box 341AB, Hamilton, AL 35570 921-7215
Rev. W.C. Shotts - Rt. 4, Box 513, Hamilton, AL 35570 921-4682
Rev. Howard Simmons - Rt. 1, Box 186, Detroit, AL 35552 921-3461
Rev. Elmer Lee Steward - Rt. 3, Phil Campbell, AL 35581 993-4994
Rev. J.H. Sullins - Rt. 6, Box 453, Hamilton, AL 35570 921-2851
Rev. Wonnie Jerry Wilkerson - Rt. 3, Box 111, Winfield, AL 35594 465-9284
Rev. Marvin Winsett - Rt. 6, Box 136, Apt. 307, Hamilton, AL 921-3705

Cards of good standing passed out by the Ordaining Council, Bro. Larry Shotts, Bro. David Motes and Bro. Mike Franklin

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CHURCH MEMBERSHIP				PAID PASTORS	PAID EVANGELIST	VALUE OF CHURCH PROPERTY	CHURCH IMPROVEMENTS	MINUTE FUND	ORPHANAGE	LITERATURE	MISSIONS	MISCELLANEOUS	ORDAINED MINISTERS	DEACONS	TEACHERS	NUMBER IN SUNDAY SCHOOL	C.T.S.	PRAYER MEETING	SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT
Antioch	Bro. Quineth Haney	37	4	0	0	2,297.75	280.00	40,000	22,500.00	37.00	455.00	355.55	0	769.92	2	3	4	30	-	✓	Bro. Steve Smith
Ballard	Bro. Mike Franklin	55	8	1	1	5,111.74	460.00	45,000	3,842.93	50.00	100.00	501.08	0	2,747.92	2	3	4	55	-	✓	Bro. Clyde Weeks
Barnesville	Bro. Woodrow Matthews	159	3	8	1	9,600.00	520.00	90,000	1,306.59	125.00	677.00	975.40	3,525.00	5,721.48	3	5	5	49	-	✓	Bro. Hershel Emerson
Bear Creek	Bro. Elmer Lee Steward	76	3	1	1	5,303.38	125.00	50,000	1,707.81	40.00	67.00	350.00	0	825.00	2	3	5	55	-	✓	Bro. Henry Grissom
Bethel	Bro. David Sexton	34	0	1	0	7,800.00	1,675.00	145,000	4,057.80	50.00	960.00	786.44	175.00	7,642.32	0	1	7	25	-	✓	Bro. Wendall Jan Franks
Fairview	Bro. Jack Harder	141	6	0	0	13,207.00	1,000.00	150,000	13,318.28	125.00	781.50	965.87	300.00	2,762.27	4	7	11	95	-	✓	Bro. Terry Lundy
Good Springs	Bro. Allen Myrick	70	0	0	0	3,740.00	-	40,000	225.80	30.00	357.00	257.62	0	3,407.45	2	3	4	35	-	✓	Bro. Terry Humphries
Love Joy	Bro. Charles Yielding	23	7	0	0	2,566.44	107.00	6,000	700.00	25.00	-	136.12	0	350.00	0	2	3	21	✓	-	Bro. Henry Pearce
Mt. Hope	Bro. J.H. Sullins	187	3	6	1	7,167.76	800.00	100,000	1,140.48	125.00	420.73	665.91	0	4,920.28	2	2	6	51	-	✓	Bro. Bobby Yielding
New Center Point	Bro. Redus Hall	66	4	0	1	10,720.00	1,150.00	60,000	5,687.00	66.00	200.00	1,459.55	100.00	1,241.11	2	4	9	55	-	-	Bro. Kenny G. Ford
New Hope	Bro. Jerry Wilkerson	42	2	0	1	538.50	200.00	12,500	857.37	25.00	60.25	-	0	522.18	2	1	1	18	-	-	Bro. Henry Tice
New Salem	Bro. Edgar Lee Childers	27	5	0	0	3,480.04	350.00	25,000	10,227.63	27.00	165.00	6.95	0	993.81	2	1	2	34	-	-	Bro. Steve Sullins
Pleasant Ridge	Bro. Bobby Duncan	135	17	3	2	18,400.00	640.00	150,000	2,544.13	150.00	914.68	2,142.34	675.32	34,999.56	2	5	9	100	-	✓	Bro. Steve Williford
Pleasant Site	Bro. William Atkins	68	7	1	2	8,350.00	350.00	60,000	100.00	70.00	200.00	738.45	0	3,061.28	3	3	4	35	-	-	Bro. Bobby Crow
Rocky Grove	Bro. Gilley Parrish	62	0	0	1	5,525.00	325.00	40,000	0	25.00	97.00	458.85	0	1,034.50	1	3	4	35	-	-	Bro. Chris Rich
Rocky Top	Bro. Ray Edgar	109	6	0	1	5,566.00	526.00	50,000	867.72	50.00	1,507.29	729.46	0	3,513.56	2	4	5	50	✓	-	Bro. Ronald Elrod
Trinity	Bro. Ottis Parmer	41	2	1	0	5,300.00	383.25	85,000	3,534.84	40.00	540.97	281.71	0	3,977.18	3	2	3	28	-	✓	Bro. Scott Box
Union Ridge	Bro. David Motes	70	9	3	0	5,385.84	250.00	35,000	118.68	75.00	114.54	468.05	0	0	1	2	5	25		✓	Bro. Johnny Hulsey

The following letter was read to the association by the moderator, Bro. Jack Harder.

Hollie W. Spiller
Pastor, Mt. Calvary F.W.B.
October 10, 1987

State Line Association
Pulpit Committee

Committee Members and Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Due to the recent events and circumstances that have fallen upon me, I have elected to withdraw from the State Line Association.

I wish to thank you for your prayers and support during the last thirteen months.

We hope to continue to enjoy Christian fellowship with all of you.

Sincerely in brotherly love,

Hollie W. Spiller

Motion made to dismiss meeting until 7:00 p.m. tonight. Second. Carried.

Prayer by Bro. Quineth Haney

7:00 P.M.

Meeting opened with class song led by Bro. David Sexton, "I'll Fly Away"

Altar prayer called for by assistant moderator Bro. Otis Parmer.

Communion and footwashing message brought by the assistant moderator Bro. Otis Parmer. Scripture I Corinthians 11:23-34, Genesis 3, St. John 13:2-17

Deacons asked to prepare the table, Bro. Golden Harris, Bro. Maxwell Gibbs, Bro. Clint Cochran. Prayer and Blessing of Bread by Bro. Clint Cochran, Blessing of Fruit of the Vine by Bro. Golden Harris.

Bread served by Bro. Clint Cochran, Fruit of the Vine served by Bro. Maxwell Gibbs.

Footwashing service followed the sacrament with a total of 20 participants.

Services completed by standing and singing a class song by Bro. Jimmy Avery, "Bless Be The Tie That Binds"

MINISTERS PRESENT AT FALL SESSION

Bro. William Atkins, Bro. C.C. Berryhill, Bro. Edgar Lee Childers, Bro. Larry Davis, Bro. Bobby Duncan, Bro. Ray Edgar, Bro. Jeff Fleming,

Bro. Mike Franklin, Bro. Redus Hall, Bro. Quineth Haney, Bro. Jack Harder, Bro. Roy Humphries, Bro. Charles Lindley, Bro. Woodrow Matthews, Bro. David Motes, Bro. Charlie McGee, Bro. Allen Myrick, Bro. Otis Parmer, Bro. Dallas Gilliland, Bro. Danny Millican, Bro. Gillie Parrish, Bro. David Sexton, Bro. W.C. Shotts, Bro. Larry Shotts, Bro. Howard Simmons, Bro. Hollie W. Spiller, Bro. Elmer Lee Steward, Bro. J.H. Sullins, Bro. Wonnie Jerry Wilkerson, Bro. Marvin Winsett

MINISTERS ABSENT FALL SESSION

Bro. J.E. Cheek, Bro. Bob Howell, Bro. Jimmy Howell, Bro. W.C. Rayburn, Bro. Jimmy Reese

DEACONS 1987

ANTIOCH: Bro. Orvil Winsett, Bro. William Bill Williams, Bro. Steve Smith

BALLARD: Bro. J.R. Kerr, Bro. Iris Mills, Bro. Wendell Giddie

BARNESVILLE: Bro. Fred Stidham, Bro. Exel Brown, Bro. Hansel Taylor, Bro. Wayne Williams, Bro. Freeman Nixon

BEAR CREEK: Bro. Truman Scott, Bro. Henry Grissom, Bro. Clearence Engle

BETHEL: Bro. Maxwell Gibbs

FAIRVIEW: Bro. Flura Shotts, Bro. Jack Lindsey, Bro. Harold Shotts, Bro. Hugh L. Carter, Bro. Bernice Shotts, Bro. Denver Shotts, Bro. Talmadge Shotts

GOOD SPRINGS: Bro. M.M. Warren, Bro. Leeman Humphries, Bro. Edward Holland

LOVE JOY: Bro. Henry Pearce, Bro. Dave Britt

MOUNT HOPE: Bro. O.C. Mitchell, Bro. Gary Don Yielding

NEW CENTER POINT: Bro. C.L. Scott, Bro. Wayne Puckett, Bro. Kenny G. Ford, Bro. Bobby Puckett

NEW HOPE: Bro. Robert Avery

NEW SALEM: Bro. Earnest Brown

PLEASANT RIDGE: Bro. Jimmy Avery, Bro. Dewey Crow, Bro. Golden Harris, Bro. Alfred Jones, Bro. Elmer Hue Taylor

PLEASANT SITE: Bro. Vester Watson, Bro. Marshall Watson, Bro. Odean Mills

ROCKY GROVE: Bro. Travis Hall, Bro. Redus McKay, Bro. Chris Rich

ROCKY TOP: Bro. Burton Frederick, Bro. Leonard Howell, Bro. Royce Cooper, Bro. Bill King

TRINITY: Bro. Luard Kizzire, Bro. Floyd Collins

UNION RIDGE: Bro. Grady Lynn Knight, Bro. Archie Truman

CLERKS

ANTIOCH: Sis. Pam Avery, P.O. Box 201, Hamilton, AL 35570 921-4159
BALLARD: Sis. Betty Roberts, Rt. 1, Box 75, Detroit, AL 35552 273-4523
BARNESVILLE: Sis. Ann McClung, P.O. Box 961, Hamilton, AL 921-2475
BEAR CREEK: Sis. Alma LouBowen, Box 41, Hackleburg, 35564 925-3300
FAIRVIEW: Sis. Pat Stidham, Rt. 4, Box 440, Hamilton 35570 921-7393
GOOD SPRINGS: Sis. Gail Parrish, P.O. Box 917, Red Bay 35582 356-2202
LOVE JOY: Bro. Henry Pearce, Rt. 6, Box 96, Hamilton 921-3031
MT. HOPE: Bro. Ronnie Yielding, Rt. 2, Box 258, Hmailton 921-9406
NEW CENTER POINT: Sis. Johnnie Ford, Rt. 1, Box 221B, Greenwood
Springs, MS 1-601-256-7267
NEW HOPE: Sis. Vickey Williams, Rt. 2, Box 176 Hamilton 921-4064
NEW SALEM: Sis. Virginia Carter, Rt. 5, Box 216, Hamilton 921-4977
PLEASANT RIDGE: Bro. Dewey Crow, Rt. 2, Box 167, Hamilton, 921-3730
PLEASANT SITE: Sis. Evelyn Mills, Rt. 1, Box 95, Hamilton, 921-3756
ROCKY GROVE: Sis. Charlotte Rich, P.O. Box 745, Hamilton 921-7055
ROCKY TOP: Sis. Shirley Black, Rt. 1, Box 30 Hackleburg 935-3596
TRINITY: Sis. Marlene Collins, P.O. Box 604 Winfield, 487-3680
UNION RIDGE: Sis. Grace Ray, Rt. 1, Box 280, Sulligent 38856 698-9311

CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORT

Paid Moderator	\$.00
Paid Assistant Moderator00
Paid Clerk00
Paid Assistant Clerk00
Paid Alternate00
State and National Fees	
19 churches at \$20 per church	\$380.00
Printing of Minutes (est.)	750.00
Expenses (est)	200.00
Balance on Hand	388.00
Received	<u>1135.00</u>
	\$1523.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	<u>1330.00</u>
	BALANCE TOTAL \$ 193.00

1987 FALL SESSION

Associational Minute Fund

Antioch	\$37.00
Ballard	50.00
Barnesville	125.00
Bear Creek	40.00
Bethel	50.00
Fairview	125.00
Good Springs	30.00
Love Joy	25.00
Mount Hope	125.00
New Center Point	66.00
New Hope	25.00
New Salem	27.00
Pleasant Ridge	150.00
Pleasant Site	70.00
Rocky Grove	25.00
Rocky Top	50.00
Trinity	40.00
Union Ridge	75.00
Mount Calvary	no letter

TOTAL \$1135.00

Clerk's Address:

Jimmy R. Avery
Route 2, Box 382-B
Hamilton, AL 35570
921-7955

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 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 meetings 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.

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. Matthew 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 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 accordingly 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.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

(1) *The Bible.* The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

(2) *God.* There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe; and in the scriptures as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; yet as one God; infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore, and obey.

(3) *Christ.* Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified, He is now risen and glorified, and is our ever present Saviour and Lord.

(4) *The Holy Spirit.* The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God.

(5) *The Government of God.* God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of men requires.

(6) *The Sinfulness of Man.* Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherit a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability sin and become guilty before God.

(7) *The Work of Christ.* The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death, and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free, and is the ground of salvation by faith.

(8) *The Terms of Salvation.* The conditions of salvation are: (1) Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. (2) Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Saviour and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith, the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin, and becomes a child of God. (3) Continuance in faith and obedience unto death.

(9) *Election.* God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

(10) *Freedom of the Will.* The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.

(11) *Salvation Free.* God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.

(12) *Perserverance.* All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.

(13) *Gospel Ordinances.* BAPTISM, or the immersion of believers in water, and the LORD'S SUPPER, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel. FEET WASHING, an ordinance teaching humility, is of universal obligation, and is to be ministered to all true believers.

(14) *Tithing.* God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ endorsed it in the Gospel (Matt. 23:23), and the apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay be him in store, as God hath prospered him" (I Cor. 16:2a).

(15) *The Christian Sabbath.* The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works, and activities, and for personal communion with God.

(16) *Resurrection, Judgment, and Final Retribution.* The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done

good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life".

DOCUMENTS AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

ITEM 1: We recommend that the Clerk be paid \$35.00 plus expenses for printing of the 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 Saturday night sermon and Holy Communion service with footwashing in October.

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

ITEM 4: We recommend that our Saturday sessions begin at 9:00 a.m. and Saturday 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 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 Saturday session in April convene at one church of our association and the Saturday and Saturday night session in October 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 we have a standing Ordaining Council to be appointed by the Moderator at the close of each session.

- ITEM 17:** 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 18:** 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.
- ITEM 19:** We recommend that each church send \$1.00 per member for Association and Minute Fund, not to exceed \$125.00.
- ITEM 20:** We recommend that the Articles of Faith read verbatim to the National Treaties Articles of Faith.
- ITEM 21:** We recommend that the Business Committee be retained throughout the entire year for the purpose of preparing any business to come before the association.
- ITEM 22:** We recommend that all churches call no minister for a pastor that is not in full fellowship with some Free Will Baptist Associational body.
- ITEM 23:** We recommend that each church send a list of delegates to the clerk 10 days prior to each session.
- ITEM 24:** We recommend that the reading of the church letters before the associational body be omitted and a roll call of delegates by the clerk be made at each session.
- ITEM 25:** We recommend that all ministers provide the clerk with current addresses and phone numbers at each session.
- ITEM 26:** We recommend that the Credentials Committee, Committee on Committees and Business Committee meet with the Associational Moderator, Assistant Moderator and Clerk, at the designated place on Thursday night prior to each session.
- ITEM 27:** We recommend that this association have a standing ordaining council of three members composed of ministers of this body, with the oldest member to be dropped each year at the fall session and a new member to be appointed by the moderator.
- ITEM 28:** We recommend that the association meet semi-annually with the first session to meet on the second (2nd) Saturday in April and the second session to meet on the second (2nd) Saturday and Saturday night of October, with the morning session to begin at 9:00 a.m. and the evening service to begin at 7:00 p.m. to include communion and feet-washing service.
- ITEM 29:** We recommend that all recommendations and requests for ordination shall be made far enough in advance so that the Ordaining Council may have at least 60 days to examine the request before a session of the association.
- ITEM 30:** We recommend that all officers and standing committees of the association shall assume their duties at the end of the October session during which they were elected or appointed and serve until the end of the next October session.

ITEM 31: We recommend that the clerk be empowered to purchase materials and supplies for the various committees, such as the Sunday School Committee and the Deceased Members Committee, etc.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE STATE LINE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

OFFICERS

The officers of the State Line Free Will Baptist Association of Mississippi-Alabama shall be:

MODERATOR

The moderator shall be elected by the body of the Association during each October session. He shall be elected from among those ordained ministers in good standing with the Association. He shall assume office at the end of the October session during which he is elected and serve until the end of the next October session.

The duties of the moderator shall be as follows:

- (1) Be acknowledgeable of Robert's Rules of Order.
- (2) Call the Association to order at the appointed time.
- (3) Preside over Associational meetings.
- (4) Announce the business before the Association in its proper order.
- (5) To state and put all questions properly brought before the Association.
- (6) To preserve order and decorum.
- (7) Decide all questions of order (subject to an appeal)
- (8) To inform the Association, when necessary or when referred to for the purpose, on a point of order or practice.
- (9) Other duties as outlined in Robert's Rules of Order.
- (10) To preach the Saturday morning message during the October session.

ASSISTANT MODERATOR

The assistant moderator shall be elected by the body of the Association during each October session. He shall be elected from among the ordained ministers in good standing with the Association. He shall assume office at the end of the October session during which he is elected and serve until the end of the next October session.

The duties of the assistant moderator shall be as follows:

- (1) To assume the duties of the moderator, in the absence of the moderator.
- (2) To preach the communion and feet washing message on Saturday night of the October session.

CLERK

The clerk shall be elected by the body of the Association, from members of the Association in good standing with their church, during each October session. The clerk shall assume office at the end of the October session during which he/she is elected and serve until the end of the next October session.

The duties of the clerk shall be as follows:

- (1) Keep a written record of the proceedings of the Association.
- (2) To cause the proceedings of the Association to be published and to distribute the published record to the various churches of the Association within a reasonable time after the October session.
- (3) To retain custody of all papers, reports, requests, items presented to committees belonging to the Association.
- (4) To deposit all monies delivered to him/her by the Association in the bank of his/her choice.
- (5) To make payment, from Association funds, for the standard expenses of the Association such printing minutes, payment of the moderator, assistant moderator, clerk and assistant clerk, clerical supplies and committee expenses.
- (6) To maintain complete, accurate records of all receipts and disbursements.
- (7) To give the reports of all committees to the Associational body.
- (8) To develop and provide forms for all ministers, deacons, delegates and visiting delegates to sign in to each session of the Association. These forms shall be available to the moderator, and such committees as shall need them, during the course of the Association.
- (9) To conduct correspondence as needed.
- (10) To assist the moderator with the order of business.
- (11) To provide the Devotion Committee with a list of ministers used during previous sessions of the Association.
- (12) To sit in on all special meetings of committees and councils for the purpose of keeping a record of the proceedings.
- (13) To make purchases of items on an emergency basis, not to exceed \$250.00 in any one Associational Year.
- (14) Other duties as delegated by the Association.

ASSISTANT CLERK

The assistant clerk shall be selected by the clerk, from members of the Association in good standing with their church, during the October session. The assistant clerk shall assume office at the end of the October session during which he/she is selected and serve until the end of the next October session.

The duties of the assistant clerk shall be as follows:

- (1) To assume the duties of the clerk, in the absence of the clerk.
- (2) To assist the clerk in his/her duties.

ASSOCIATIONAL PASTOR

The Associational Pastor shall be elected during each October session by the body of the Association from those ministers in good standing with the Association. He shall serve until the end of the next October session.

The duties of the Associational Pastor shall be as follows:

- (1) Fill in for pastors, as needed
- (2) Visit each of the churches of the Association and report to the body concerning these visits.
- (3) Serve as pastor to the pastors.
- (4) Promote support for the pastors.
- (5) Organize and coordinate a "Church Day" or similar activity in the churches. The "Church Day" shall be an effort to unite the churches of the Association in a concerted effort to get more people involved in church.
- (6) Work to organize Associational support and recognition for churches that have shown significant growth, a new building, etc.

TRUSTEE TO CHILDREN'S HOME

The trustee to the Children's Home shall be elected during each October session from members of the Association in good standing with their church. He shall assume office at the end of the October session during which he is elected and serve until the end of the next October session.

The duties of the Trustee to the Children's Home shall be as follows:

- (1) Represent the Association on the children's home board.
- (2) Promote the interests of the children's home among the churches and communities of the Association.
- (3) Solicit support for the home for any and all needs.
- (4) Establish a contact person in each church with whom to communicate concerning the needs of the home.
- (5) Report to the body of the Association on the needs and progress of the home.

COMMITTEES

The State Line Free Will Baptist Association of Mississippi-Alabama shall have the following committees:

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

The Credentials Committee shall be a standing committee. It shall be composed of three deacons. The members shall serve 3-year rotating terms with the oldest member leaving the committee at the end of each October session and a new member being appointed by the moderator during each October session.

The duties of the Credentials Committee shall be as follows:

- (1) To examine all church letters, written applications for membership into the association by churches or ministers, and credentials to see that they are in proper order.
- (2) To investigate and resolve, if possible, problems with church letters.
- (3) To make appropriate recommendations to the body of the Association concerning church letters.
- (4) To make appropriate recommendations to the Ordaining Council concerning written applications for membership in the Association by churches or ministers.
- (5) To make its reports to the Association in the form of a motion.

ORDAINING COUNCIL

The Ordaining Council shall be a standing committee. It shall be composed of three ordained ministers who have been in good standing with the Association for a minimum of 3 years. The members shall serve 3 year rotating terms with the oldest member leaving the council at the end of each October session and a new member being appointed by the moderator during each October session.

The duties of the Ordaining Council shall be as follows:

- (1) To examine delegates from each church that has made written application for membership into the Association.
- (2) To examine each minister who has made written application to the Association for membership.
- (3) To examine all ministers who have been recommended, in writing, by their respective churches to be ordained. This examination shall include, but not be limited to:
 - a. The applicant's willingness to adhere to the Free Will Baptist's Articles of Faith.
 - b. The applicants beliefs concerning Free Will Baptist's teachings on baptism, the Lord's Supper, feet washing, alcohol, drugs or any other item regarding Free Will Baptist's doctrine and beliefs.

c. The willingness of the applicant to surrender his card of standing and his certificate of ordination if he is guilty of walking disorderly.

- (4) To investigate any charges that a minister of The Association is walking disorderly or in a manner unbecoming to his high calling.
- (5) To investigate, when requested, grievances within a church.
- (6) To examine ministers who, having been dropped from the Association's list of ministers, wish to be reinstated.
- (7) To make appropriate reports to the Association about all examinations and investigations conducted by the council.
- (8) To distribute cards of standing to those ministers who are granted the cards.
- (9) To require that all ordained ministers and candidates for ordination sign a statement that if they are ever guilty of walking disorderly or of misconduct they will voluntarily surrender their card of standing and their certificate of ordination.
- (10) To provide the clerk with a list of ministers not reporting to the Association each year.
- (11) To make its reports to the Association in the form of a motion.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The Business Committee shall be a standing committee. The committee shall be composed of the moderator, the assistant moderator, the clerk and two members appointed by the moderator during each October session.

The duties of the Business Committee shall be as follows:

- (1) To examine all business items coming before the Association. All items must be submitted to the committee in writing and signed at least ten days prior to the Associational session.
- (2) The committee shall present those items of business that merit consideration by the Associational body, to the body for consideration.
- (3) To make its reports to the Association in the form of a motion.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee shall be composed of ministers, delegates, and deacons appointed by the moderator. The committee shall be appointed at the beginning of the October session of the Association and complete its functions during that session.

The duties of the Finance Committee shall be as follows:

- (1) To examine all letters to the Association and determine the amount of money sent by churches of the Association for Associational funds.

- (2) To examine the clerk's records of receipts and expenditures and report to the Association their findings.
- (3) To report to the Association the balance in the treasury as of October 1, each year.
- (4) To make its reports to the Association in the form of a motion.

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The Sunday School Committee shall be composed of members appointed by the moderator. The committee shall be appointed during each October session and serve until the end of the next October session.

The duties of the Sunday School Committee shall be as follows:

- (1) To examine letters from the churches having Sunday School.
- (2) To conduct and coordinate activities among the churches to promote Sunday School, such as Sunday School Day, recognition of outstanding Sunday Schools, etc.
- (3) To designate a member of the committee to coordinate the activities sponsored by the committee.
- (4) To report to the Association during each October session concerning its findings and activities.
- (5) To make its reports to the Association in the form of a motion.

DECEASED MEMBERS COMMITTEE

The Deceased Members Committee shall be composed of members appointed by the moderator during each October session. The committee shall be appointed at the beginning of each October session and complete its functions during that session.

The duties of the Deceased Members Committee shall be as follows:

- (1) To examine letters to the Association for the names of deceased members.
- (2) To cause the list of deceased members to be read to the Associational body.
- (3) To cause the list of deceased ministers to be read to the Associational body.
- (4) To send greetings to the family of each deceased member.
- (5) To report to the Association prior to the message on deceased members.
- (6) To make its report to the Association in the form of a motion.

DEVOTION COMMITTEE

The Devotion Committee shall be composed of one minister and two deacons appointed by the moderator. The committee shall be appointed at the beginning of the April session and function for both the April and October sessions.

The duties of the Devotion Committee shall be as follows:

- (1) For the April session: To select a list of ministers for the morning

devotion and the morning message.

- (2) For the October session: To select a list of ministers for the morning devotion, the message on deceased members, Saturday night devotion. The moderator shall preach the Saturday morning message, the assistant moderator the Saturday night message.
- (3) The committee shall consider a list of ministers used on previous occasions for the purpose of using as many of the ministers in good standing as possible.
- (4) To make its report to the Association in the form of a motion.

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE

The Appreciation Committee shall be composed of three delegates appointed by the moderator. The committee shall be appointed at the beginning of the April session and serve during both the April and October sessions.

The duties of the Appreciation Committee shall be as follows:

- (1) To express appreciation to the churches that host the Association for the food and hospitality they have provided.
- (2) To recognize any ministers, churches, individuals or committees who, through devoted service to the Association or to the ministry of Christ, deserve special recognition.
 - a. Each minister of the Association shall be recognized for every 10 years of continuous service to the ministry of Christ. (Years in other associations may count so long as they are continuous.) The recognition shall include a pin and an appropriate certificate.

OTHER

- (1) All recommendations and requests for ordination shall be made far enough in advance so that the Ordaining Council may have at least 60 days to examine the request before a session of the Association.
- (2) To add to Rules For Preachers: It shall be required that all ordained ministers of the Association shall sign a statement that if they are proven guilty of walking disorderly they shall willingly surrender their Card of Standing and Certificate of Ordination.

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 self-denial, faith and good works endeavor to "grow in grace the 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, an dall it's benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, an dto 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 an dreputation, 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.