

MINUTES
OF THE
NINETY-THIRD
SEMI-ANNUAL SESSION
OF
STATE LINE
FREE WILL BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION
OF
MISSISSIPPI - ALABAMA

HELD WITH:
ROCKY GROVE - APRIL 12, 1997
AND
PLEASANT RIDGE - OCTOBER 11, 1997

OFFICERS

Moderator	Bro. Jeff Fleming
Assistant Moderator	Bro. Ben Franklin
Clerk and Treasurer	Bro. Jimmy R. Avery
Assistant Clerk and Treasurer	Sis. Faye Avery
Trustee to Children's Home	Bro. Dwayne Hammontree
Associational Pastor	Bro. Larry Davis

The next session will be held with Barnesville on April 11, 1998 and Pleasant Ridge on October 10, 1998.

RULES OF DECORUM

1. This Association shall be opened and closed with singing and prayer.
2. Only one person shall speak at a time. He shall arise and address the Moderator and when recognized he shall proceed.
3. 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.
4. The person speaking must adhere to the subject in question, shall not use words of personal reflection.
5. No person shall speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the association and not more than five minutes each time.
6. No member shall laugh or whisper in time of public speaking.
7. No person shall address another except by the appellation of brother or sister.
8. No member shall absent himself without leave of the Moderator. The names of all ministers, deacons, and delegates shall be enrolled by the clerk and called as often as deemed necessary by the Moderator.
9. 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.
10. Any person who shall knowingly break any of these rules shall be reproved by the Moderator according to directions of the Association.

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 the Association shall be entitled to three delegates for the first hundred members or fraction thereof and one delegate for every additional fifty members.
5. This Association shall have a standing Credentials Committee composed of three members, which shall be composed of deacons. The oldest member shall be dropped each year and a new one appointed by the Moderator. Their duty shall be to examine all church letters and applications for membership, both churches and ministers and make report of same to the body.
6. Officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, Assistant Clerk and Treasurer who shall be elected by ballot at each regular session.
7. This Association shall meet on the second Saturday in April and the second Saturday and Saturday night 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 ministers, deacon or delegates 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.

1997 SPRING SESSION

The Ninety-Third Spring Session of the Mississippi-Alabama State Line Association met on April 12, 1997 at Rocky Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Hamilton, Alabama.

The session convened with a class song led by Bro. Clint Cochran and Bro. Flura Shotts. Prayer led by Bro. Doyle Chandler.

Moderator, Bro. Jeff Fleming read the Rules of Decorum.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We, the Credentials Committee of the Ninety-Third Semi-Annual session find all letters in order and we move that delegates from all the churches be seated.

Bro. Jimmie Lucas

Bro. J.R. Kerr

Bro. Dewey Crow

Roll call of Delegates from all churches called per clerk. Motion to seat. Seconded. Carried. Delegates seated.

Bro. Ray Edgar, Pastor of Rocky Grove Free Will Baptist Church welcomed the association members.

Bro. J.H. Sullins was appointed to serve on the Ordaining Council to replace Bro. Allen Myrick, due to absence.

The following were also appointed to serve for both the Spring and Fall Session.

DEVOTION COMMITTEE:

Bro. Flura Shotts, Bro. Hershel Emerson, Bro. Edgar Lee Childers

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE

Sis. Lou Dean Simmons, Sis. Pam Avery, Sis. Carolyn Watson

Bro. Clint Cochran was appointed to serve on the Sunday School Committee in the absence of Sis. Eloise Humphries.

Ordaining Council request and dismissed to meet with delegates of Trinity Church.

Sunday School Committee dismissed.

Class Song: Bro. Bobby Duncan, Bro. Craig McCarley and Bro. Mike Franklin.

Visiting members recognized and welcomed.

Bro. Richard Cordell - State Promotional Director
Bro. Duane Taylor - State Missions
Bro. William Atkins - Pastor, Bethlehem FWB Church, Jasper Assoc.

Bro. Duane Taylor spoke on State Missions and charged each church to try to raise \$2,000.00 each for missions.

Special Song by: Bro. David Sexton and Sis. Jeanie Sexton, "Satisfied With Jesus"

DEVOTION COMMITTEE REPORT

We the Devotion Committee move that Bro. Gilley Parrish bring the morning devotion. Bro. Jack Harder bring the morning message.

Bro. Flura Shotts
Bro. Edgar Lee Childers
Bro. Hershel Emerson

Seconded. Carried.

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT

We find that 17 churches in the Association participate in Sunday School. We would encourage our churches to be more active in promoting Sunday School attendance and to promote programs to enlarge our Sunday School.

Bro. Connie Cantrell
Bro. Clint Cochran

Motion Seconded. Carried.

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We recommend that Bro. Allen Myrick be removed from the roll of ministers due to the absence of any church membership in our association.

Bro. Ottis Parmer
Bro. J.H. Sullins
Bro. Gilley Parrish

Motion Seconded. Carried.

The clerk read the following motion.

March 10, 1997

Mississippi-Alabama State Line Association
Attn: Bro. Jimmy R. Avery
2622 County Highway 103
Hamilton, Alabama, 35570

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ:

We respectfully request that Bro. Barry Cook be ordained early during the association meeting Saturday, April 12. I have already spoken to you regarding the reasons for this request.

Thank You.

Sincerely Yours,
Bro. Jack Harder, Pastor
Mt. Hope FWB Church
Seconded. Carried.

CHILDREN'S HOME REPORT

There are currently 19 children at the Children's Home. The second dorm which is the girls dorm is completed and they are moving in today. The third dorm is approximately 3 weeks away from being completed. They have been landscaping on the grounds also. They have hired 2 new sets of houseparents.

Because of the old building being condemned and dangerous they have had to turn down 4 children this week which were in serious situations. Bro. Corey encourages all pastors that if they know of broken homes in our area where children may be taken out of the home by DHR to notify Bro. Corey or myself and the Children's Home can step in and help with the children while the home is being worked with to be put back together.

Please continue your prayers and support for the home and staff.

Your Brother in Christ
Dwayne Hammontree

Bro. Hammontree encouraged all to read books written by Bro. Corey entitled: "How To Tell If Your Child Is Using Drugs" and "How To Tell If Your Child Is About To Run Away."

Motion Seconded. Carried.

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We the Ordaining Council make a motion that Bro. Jerry Lindsey be dropped from the roll of ministers according to Item 11 of Documents and

Order of Business.

Bro. Ottis Parmer
Bro. J.H. Sullins
Bro. Gilley Parrish

Seconded. Carried.

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We, the Ordaining Council, move that Bro. Larry Davis name be added to New Salem Church letter.

Bro. Ottis Parmer
Bro. J.H. Sullins
Bro. Gilley Parrish

Seconded. Carried.

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We, the Ordaining Council, move that Bro. Donald Kivettes name be added to Trinity Church letter.

Bro. Ottis Parmer
Bro. J.H. Sullins
Bro. Gilley Parrish

Seconded. Carried.

Class song led by: Brothers Clint Cochran and Flura Shotts, with fellowship between Brothers and Sisters of the body. Music - Bro. David Sexton.

MORNING BREAK

Morning Message and Ordination Service of Bro. Barry Cook by Bro. Jack Harder. Scripture Matthew 10. A bible was presented and charge given by the same, with laying on of hands by the Ordaining Councils of both 1996 and 1997.

Class song led by Bro. Jimmy Avery while fellowshiping with Bro. Cook per congregation.

Bro. Barry Cook spoke, followed by a presentation of Ordination Certificate and card of good standing from the Association by the Ordaining Council.

Class song: Bro. Curtis Allen "I Never Shall Forget The Day"

Fall Session placed to convene at Pleasant Ridge Free Will Baptist Church.

State Promotional Director for our area spoke - Bro. Richard Cordell.

All Pastors of Association led class song - "I'm Getting Ready To Leave This World."

Special prayer by Bro. Jeff Fleming for "3" Special People - Bro. Quineth Haney, Bro. Roy Humphries and Bro. Edgar L. Childers.

Morning Devotional by Bro. Gilley Parrish. Text: Exodus 12:21-28; Luke 2:9; I Thessalonians 4:13-18.

Assistant Moderator, Bro. Ben Franklin spoke. Text: Psalms 127:1.

Associational Pastor spoke briefly - gave his appreciation for their support to all churches and encouraged the association to have occasional joint meetings of services.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

We the Business Committee move that we dismiss this session after lunch.

Bro. Jeff Fleming
Bro. Ben Franklin
Bro. David Sexton
Bro. Louie Nix
Bro. Jimmy Avery

Seconded. Carried.

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT

We the Appreciation Committee want to thank the Rocky Grove Church and their Pastor Bro. Ray Edgar, for allowing us to hold our Spring Session of our Association here. We thank God for his love and mercy he has shown us. We want to thank Rocky Grove for the love, fellowship and hospitality they have shown us. We want to thank all the ladies and whoever took a part in preparation of the food we will have for lunch. May God richly bless each of you. Yours in Christ. The Appreciation Committee.

Sis. Lou Dean Simmons
Sis. Carolyn Watson
Sis. Pam Avery

Seconded. Carried.

Announcements.

Bro. Ray Edgar gave lunch instructions. Session dismissed and grace given by Bro. Barry Cook.

Annual National Yearbooks passed out to pastors.

SPRING DELEGATES

- ANTIOCH:** Bro. Kenny Avery, Sis. Pam Avery
BALLARD: Sis. Bobbie Kerr, Sis. Nettie Roberts, Sis. Martha Roberts
Alt. Bro. Joey Sanderson
BARNESVILLE: Bro. James F. Ward, Sis. Cleeta Ward, Bro. Cecil
Norris, Alt. Sis. Agnes Casey
BETHEL: Sis. Kier Vickery, Sis. Connie Autry, Sis. Jeanie Sexton
FAIRVIEW: Sis. Robin Parrish, Sis. Teresa Allen, Sis. Charlotte Hammon-
tree, Alt. Sis. Chanda Brown
FREEDOM: None
GOOD SPRINGS: Sis. Eloise Humphries, Sis. Ann Spencer, Sis. Joan
Humphries
LONE STAR: Bro. James Barrett, Sis. Jane Barrett, Sis. Earnestine
Parrish, Alt. Sis. Norma Bostick
MT. HOPE, HAMILTON: Sis. Pat Watts, Sis. Ivie Collier, Bro. Arvin
Puckett, Alt. Sis. Betty Puckett
MT. HOPE, VINA: Sis. Pattie Cook, Bro. D.W. Franklin
NEW SALEM: Sis. Emogene Bradley, Sis. Faye Humphries
PLEASANT HILL: Sis. Kim Collier, Sis. Betty Rooker, Sis. Sherry Tice,
Sis. Marcia Williams
PLEASANT RIDGE: Bro. Don Collier, Bro. Clint Cochran, Bro. Coy
Tucker, Alt. Bro. L.J. Prestage
PLEASANT SITE: Sis. Carolyn Watson, Sis. Renea Watson, Sis. Tanya
Robinson, Alt. Sis. Debra Watson
ROCKY GROVE: Sis. Elizabeth Edgar, Sis. Annette Blaker, Sis. Sandra
Burleson, Alt. Sis. Georgia Galbreath
ROCKY TOP: Sis. Kathy Deline, Sis. Earnestine Frederick,
Sis. Loventrice Haney, Alt. Bro. Danny Roberts
TRINITY: Sis. Helen Goodwin, Sis. Ruth May, Sis. Lydia Miller,
Alt. Bro. Bobby Miller
UNION RIDGE: Sis. Wynette Knight, Sis. Loudean Simmons, Sis.
Beverly Knight, Alt. Bro. Fred Rushing

DEACONS PRESENT AT SPRING SESSION

Bro. Wayne Williams, Bro. Leeman L. Humphries, Bro. Flura Shotts, Bro.
Hershel Emerson, Bro. Curtis Allen, Bro. J.R. Kerr, Bro. Odean Mills, Bro.
Kenneth Pounders, Bro. Dewey Crow, Bro. Bobby Bostick, Bro. Jimmy
Avery.

MINISTERS PRESENT AT SPRING SESSION

Bro. Richard Cordell, Bro. Ottis Parmer, Bro. Howard Simmons, Bro.
Bobby W. Duncan, Bro. Jeff Fleming, Bro. Ben Franklin, Bro. E.T.
Sargent, Bro. Donald Kivette, Bro. Gillie Parrish, Bro. Jack Harder, Bro.

Doyle Chandler, Bro. Edgar Lee Childers, Bro. J.H. Sullins, Bro. Mike Franklin, Bro. Craig McCarley, Bro. Mark Collier, Bro. William L. Atkins, Bro. David Sexton, Bro. Dwayne Hammontree, Bro. Ambers Aldridge, Bro. Larry Gene Davis, Bro. William E. Atkinson, Bro. Ray Edgar. Bro. Quineth Haney absent, sent work per Bro. Jeff Fleming - health reasons.

CHURCH CLERKS

ANTIOCH: Sis. Pam Avery

123 Rock Cliff Rd., P.O. Box 201, Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-4159

BALLARD: Sis. Shelba Gilliland

1464 Co. Hwy. 23, Detroit, Alabama 35552, 273-4333

BARNESVILLE: Sis. Jay Nell Nixon

1689 Sentry Road, Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-3217

BETHEL: Sis. Gracie Franks

13766 State Highway 129, Brilliant, AL 35548, 465-2321

FAIRVIEW: Sis. Lori Ballard

3191 Co. Hwy. 122, Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-7609

GOOD SPRINGS: Sis. Gail Parrish

P.O. Box 917, Red Bay, AL 35582, 356-2202

HOLLY SPRINGS: Sis. Jimmie Lou Nichols

145 Nix Rd., Hackleburg, AL 35564, 935-3891

LONE STAR: Sis. Norma Bostick

5270 Hwy. 363, Mantachie, MS 38855, 601-282-7220

MT. HOPE (H): Sis. Pat Watts

28714 U.S. Hwy. 43 N., Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-4384

MT. HOPE (V): Sis. Anna Kay Holland

76 Tyler St., Russellville, AL 35653, 331-7462

NEW SALEM: Sis. Virginia Carter

1074 Gas Plant Rd., Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-4977

PLEASANT HILL: Bro. Billy Rucker

24726 State Hwy. 253, Hackleburg, AL 35564, 935-3739

PLEASANT RIDGE: Sis. Linda Crow

4001 Co. Hwy. 29, Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-3730

PLEASANT SITE: Sis. Evelyn Mills

5052 State Hwy. 19, Detroit, AL 35552, 921-3756

ROCKY GROVE: Sis. Betty Shotts

1555 Co. Hwy. 81, Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-2043

ROCKY TOP: Sis. Martha Mitchell

415 Davis Rd., Hackleburg, AL 35564, 935-5249

TRINITY: Sis. Ann Trimm

P.O. Box 381, Winfield, AL 35594, 487-6828

UNION RIDGE: Sis. Karen Northington

5223 Hwy. 278, Sulligent, AL 35586, 698-9023

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Addresses and Date of Ordination

Rev. Ambers Aldridge	
Rt. 1, Box 675, Brilliant, AL 35548, 465-9121	1968
Rev. Doyle Chandler	
371 Burnt House Rd., Hamilton, 35570, 921-5532	1994
Rev. Edgar Lee Childers	
12350 Hwy. 19, Vina, AL 35593, 356-2734	1971
Rev. Barry Cook	
1402 Boardtree Road, Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-9138	1997
Rev. Mark Collier	
3247 Military St. N., Hamilton 35570, 921-3245	1996
Rev. Larry Davis	
2401 Co. Rd. 89, Vina, AL 35593, 356-4992	1978
Rev. Bobby Duncan	
515 Rideout Falls Rd., Hamilton, 35570, 921-4985	1974
Rev. Ray Edgar	
177 Wade Rd., Phil Campbell, AL 35581, 993-5578	1976
Rev. Jeff Fleming	
1123 Regency Place, Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-7969	1985
Rev. Ben Franklin	
781 Pap Franklin Rd., Vina, AL 35593, 356-4370	1993
Rev. Mike Franklin	
4491 State Hwy. 187, Hamilton, AL, 935-3335	1984
Rev. Dwayne Hammontree	
9110 Co. Hwy. 42, Guin, AL 35563, 468-3178	1991
Rev. Quineth Haney	
885 Co. Hwy. 88, Guin, AL 35563, 468-8010	1976
Rev. Jack Harder	
P.O. Box 462, Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-3711	1970
Rev. R.C. Humphres	
1575, Hwy. 19 Red Bay, AL 356-4206	1983
Rev. Roy Humphries	
2305 Hwy. 23, Vina, AL 35593, 356-2185	1969
Rev. Donald Kivette	
870 Hwy. 74, Guin, AL 35563, 468-2657	1981
Rev. Charles Lindley	
P.O. Box 1286, Hamilton, AL 35570, 952-9020	1974
Rev. Woodrow Matthews	
403 3rd St., N., Guin, AL 35563, 468-3264	1941
Rev. Craig McCarley	
302 Dogwood Drive, Phil Campbell, AL 35563, 993-5713	1996

Rev. Louie Nix	
5355 Co. Hwy. 11, Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-9120	1964
Rev. Ottis Parmer	
Rt. 1, Box 769, Guin, AL 35563, 468-2444	1957
Rev. Gilley Parrish	
P.O. Box 155, Red Bay, AL 35582, 356-2130	1967
Rev. E.T. Sargent	
324 Tuscaloosa Ave., Berry, AL 35546, 689-4644	1969
Rev. David Sexton	
3691 Co. Rd. 63, Brilliant, AL 35548, 465-9289	1975
Rev. W.C. Shotts	
Rt. 4, Box 513, Hamilton, AL 35570	1934
Rev. Howard Simmons	
171 Co. Hwy. 22, Detroit, AL 35552, 921-3461	1962
Rev. J.H. Sullins	
706 2nd Ave. SW, Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-2851	1972

DEACONS

ANTIOCH: Bro. Steve Smith, Bro. William Williams	
BALLARD: Bro. Wendell Giddy, Bro. J.R. Kerr	
BARNESVILLE: Bro. Exel Brown, Bro. Hershel Emerson, Bro. Freemon Nixon, Bro. Fred Stidham, Bro. Hansel Taylor, Bro. Wayne Williams	
BETHEL: Bro. Max Gibbs, Bro. Mack Sexton, Bro. Henry Franks, Bro. Harold Tidwell	
FAIRVIEW: Bro. Curtis Allen, Bro. Harold Shotts, Bro. Hugh L. Carter	
GOOD SPRINGS: Bro. Edward Holland, Bro. Leeman Humphries, Bro. Terry Humphries, Bro. Charles E. Spencer, Sr.	
HOLLY SPRINGS: Bro. James O. Childers, Bro. Jerry Hasting, Bro. Billy Paul Nichols	
LONE STAR: Bro. Bobby Bostick, Bro. Bill Pitts, Bro. Kenneth Pounders, Bro. Bobby Spearman,	
MT. HOPE (H): Bro. O.C. Mitchell, Bro. Flura Shotts, Bro. Gary Don Yielding	
MT. HOPE (V): None	
NEW SALEM: Bro. Jimmy Lucas, Bro. Bernice Shotts	
PLEASANT HILL: Bro. Billy Pierce, Bro. Billy Rucker	
PLEASANT RIDGE: Bro. Jimmy Avery, Bro. Dewey Crow, Bro. Elma Hugh Taylor,	
PLEASANT SITE: Bro. Odean Mills, Bro. Marshall Watson	
ROCKY GROVE: Bro. Robert Burleson, Bro. Redus McKay, Bro. Talmadge (Buster) Shotts	
ROCKY TOP: Bro. Burton Frederick	
TRINITY: None	
UNION RIDGE: Bro. Grady Lynn Knight	

FALL SESSION

OCTOBER 11, 1997

The Ninety-Third Fall Session of the Mississippi-Alabama State Line Association convened at Pleasant Ridge FWB Church at 9:00 a.m.

Class song: Bro. Clint Cochran and Bro. Flura Shotts

Prayer: Bro. Bobby Duncan - also welcomed associational body to Pleasant Ridge Church.

Call to order and Rules of Decorum read per Bro. Jeff Fleming.

Roll call of delegates read by the clerk, Bro. Jimmy Avery with motion to accept and seat as read with the exception of Mt. Hope (V) and Rocky Top, who were excused to meet with the Credentials Committee. See Committee Report.

Motion Seconded. Carried.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We the Credentials Committee of the Ninety-Third Semi-Annual Session find all letters in order except Mt. Hope (V) and Rocky Top did not have a moderator signature. We move that delegates from all other churches be seated.

Bro. Jimmie Lucas, Bro. J.R. Kerr, Bro. Dewey Crow
Seconded. Carried.

Credentials Committee, Ordaining Council, Appreciation Committee and Devotion Committee all dismissed to conduct business.

Class song by: Bro. Craig McCarley and Bro. Bobby Duncan

The moderator, Bro. Jeff Fleming appointed the following committees:

DECEASED MEMBERS COMMITTEE

Bro. Mark Vickery, Bro. Mike Franklin and Bro. Fred Rushing

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Bro. Odean Mills, Bro. Roy Humphries and Sis. Chanda Brown

Both committees were dismissed to conduct business.

Bro. Duane Taylor spoke concerning Missions and challenged all churches for their support.

All visitors welcomed to Association with special welcome to the Holly Springs Church, pastor and delegation.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We make a motion that Mt. Hope (V) and Rocky Top delegates be seated upon receiving their signatures.

Bro. Jimmie Lucas, Bro. J.R. Kerr, Bro. Dewey Crow

Seconded. Carried.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We the Credentials Committee recommend that the letter for Bro. Clay Shotts go before the Ordaining Council to be re-instated and given a card of good standing.

Bro. Jimmie Lucas, Bro. J.R. Kerr, Bro. Dewey Crow

Motion Seconded. Carried.

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Mississippi - Alabama State Line Association

Dear Sirs:

The Fairview FWB Church respectfully ask that the Ordaining Council re-instate Bro. Clay Shotts to their Ordained Ministers List. Bro. Clay Shotts has not been able to attend any of the association meetings due to bad health. We, the Church, feel that his name should be re-instated because of his many years of hard work and service to the Lord. Please grant a card of good standing to Bro. Shotts.

Thank You,

Fairview Free Will Baptist Church

Sis. Lori Ballard, Clerk

MINISTERS PRESENT - FALL SESSION

Bro. Edgar Lee Childers, Bro. Barry Cook, Bro. Larry Gene Davis, Bro. Bobby Duncan, Bro. Ray Edgar, Bro. Jeff Fleming, Bro. Ben Franklin, Bro. Mike Franklin, Bro. Dwayne Hammontree, Bro. Jack Harder, Bro. R.C. Humphries, Bro. Roy Humphries, Bro. Woodrow Matthews, Bro. Craig McCarley, Bro. Louie Nix, Bro. Ottis Parmer, Bro. Gilley Parrish, Bro. E.T. Sargent, Bro. David R. Sexton, Bro. Howard Simmons, Bro. J.H. Sullins

MINISTERS ABSENT, BUT SENT WORD: Bro. Charles Lindley per Bro. Ray Edgar - health; Bro. Doyle Chandler per Bro. Ray Edgar; Bro. Quineth Haney per Bro. Jeff Fleming - health

DEACONS PRESENT - FALL SESSION

Bros. Hershel Emerson, Billy Rucker, Billy Pierce, Jimmie Lucas, Jerry Hastings, Billy Paul Nichols, Curtis Allen, Flura Shotts, Dewey Crow, J.R. Kerr, Odean Mills, James O. Childers, Grady L. Knight, Jimmy Avery

Dismissal Prayer: Bro. Craig McCarley

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We the Credentials Committee reviewed the letter from Holly Springs Church and found everything in order except the time limit. We recommend they go before the Ordaining Council.

Bro. Jimmie Lucas, Bro. J.R. Kerr, Bro. Dewey Crow
Motion Seconded. Carried.

HOLLY SPRINGS FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Holly Springs Church of the order of Faith, Doctrine and Practice of the Free Will Baptist.

We the Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church met in conference on September the seventh (7th), 1997. The purpose of the meeting was for presenting a letter to the State Line Free Will Baptist Association, requesting Church membership into the association.

This being done by the wishes and consent of the entire membership of The Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

Moderator: Bro., Michael Frederick - Phone: 935-5197

Clerk: Sis. Jimmie Lou Nichols - Phone: 935-3891

Church Clerk Address: 145 Nix Road, Hackleburg, AL 35564

Delegates: Bro. John and Sis. Jamie Scott, Sis. Bobby Hastings, Sis. Jimmie Lou Nichols, Sis. Betty J. Childers, Alt.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We make a motion, that the Church letter be changed to add an additional area to read as follows: Amount enclosed for the State and National dues: _____ Amount enclosed for the Minute Fund:

Bro. Jeff Fleming, Bro. Jimmy Avery,
Bro. Dwayne Hammontree and Bro. Ben Franklin
Seconded. Carried.

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We the Ordaining Council move that the Association re-instate Bro. Clay Shotts and grant him a card of good standing and that his name be added to the list of ministers.

Bro. David Sexton, Bro. Gillie Parrish, Bro. Ottis Parmer
Seconded. Carried.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We move for the Ordaining Council duties to have added to their duties under #3-D to read as follows:

D. To examine the written responses to the Guidelines Questionnaire

as adopted by the association when returned by a candidate for ordination, or for a minister coming in from another association, prior to his examination per the Ordaining Council.

Bro. Jeff Fleming, Bro. Jimmy Avery
Bro. Dwayne Hammontree, Bro. Ben Franklin

Seconded. Carried.

DEVOTION COMMITTEE REPORT

We the Devotion Committee move that Bro. Barry Cook bring the Morning Devotion and Bro. Bobby Duncan bring the Saturday Night Devotion.

Bro. Flura Shotts, Bro. Edgar Lee Childers, Bro. Hershel Emerson
Seconded. Carried.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We move that #12 in the Ordaining Council duties be revised to read as follows:

#12. It shall be the responsibility of the Ordaining Council to investigate any minister who is absent for the Spring and Fall Consecutive Sessions and to report their findings at the next scheduled session, and to include a list of all disabled ministers of the Association.

Bro. Jeff Fleming, Bro. Ben Franklin
Bro. Dwayne Hammontree, Bro. Jimmy Avery

Seconded. Carried.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We move that Items & Documents of Business have an additional Item #36 added to read:

Item 36: That all ministers found to be disabled to attend the association continue in full fellowship and receive a card of good standing.

Bro. Jeff Fleming, Bro. Jimmy Avery
Bro. Ben Franklin and Bro. Dwayne Hammontree

Seconded. Carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We the finance committee report a balance on October 11, 1997 of \$2,144.26. Beginning balance was \$1135.57. Postage paid out was \$40.30. Printing of minutes for the 92nd Session was \$706.01. The total of the 93rd Session Minute Fund was \$1,755.00. This brings the present total to \$2,144.26 for today.

Bro. Odean Mills, Bro. Roy Humphries, Sis. Chandra Brown
Motion Seconded. Carried.

MINUTE FUND 1997 FALL CHECKS

ANTIOCH	\$ 60.00
BALLARD	100.00
BARNESVILLE	175.00
BETHEL	150.00
FAIRVIEW	150.00
GOOD SPRINGS	50.00
LONE STAR	45.00
MT. HOPE (H)	125.00
MT. HOPE (V)	200.00
NEW SALEM	50.00
PLEASANT HILL	100.00
PLEASANT RIDGE	200.00
PLEASANT SITE	100.00
ROCKY GROVE	75.00
ROCKY TOP.....	50.00
TRINITY	50.00
UNION RIDGE	75.00
TOTAL	\$1755.00

HOLLY SPRINGS 00

TREASURY

Balance on Hand	\$1,135.57
Printing of Minutes	706.01
Postage	40.30
Balance on hand October 11, 1997	\$ 389.26
Deposit	1,755.00
TOTAL	\$2,144.26

DECEASED MEMBERS COMMITTEE REPORT

We the Deceased Members Committee have examined the church letters and have found 15 Brothers and Sisters who have left us to be with the Lord. Our prayers are with these families. We recommend that Bro. E.T. Sargent bring the deceased message.

Bro. Mike Franklin, Bro. Fred Rushing, Bro. Mark Vickery
Motion Seconded. Carried.

MORNING BREAK

Bro. David Sexton, Sis. Jeanie Sexton and Sis. Amanda Sexton sang special songs; "Farther Along" and "Satisfied."

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We the Ordaining Council make a motion that Holly Springs FWB Church be accepted into the Mississippi-Alabama State Line Association in full fellowship and that they be given all rights and privileges afforded by the association.

Bro. Ottis Parmer, Bro. J.H. Sullins, Bro. Gilley Parrish
Seconded. Carried.

Right hand of Christian fellowship given to the Holly Springs Church Pastor and delegation as they welcomed the church into the Associational Body. Piano music furnished by Sis. Teresa Allen.

Class Song: Bro. Clint Cochran, Bro. Flura Shotts

Bro. Barry Cook held the morning Devotional.

ASSOCIATIONAL PASTOR REPORT

I appreciate the opportunity to have served as your Associational Pastor this year. I have visited all of the churches and received a very warm and friendly welcome from everyone. I received \$1,402.85 in financial support. Thank You for your prayers, fellowship and every kind word or deed you have expressed toward me.

Yours in Christ,

Bro. Larry Gene Davis

Motion Seconded. Carried.

Ordaining Council met with Rocky Top and Union Hill delegates.

TRUSTEE TO CHILDREN'S HOME REPORT

Brothers and Sisters in Christ;

I would like to thank the Association for the privilege to serve as your Trustee to the Children's Home at Eldridge and also to thank each church and individual for their prayers and financial support to the Home. Bro. Corey and Staff are excited about celebrating 50 years of Ministry. Celebration Banquets will be held in various locations. More information will be forthcoming in the Village Voice Newsletter.

We are very thankful for the new staff consisting of three married couples. The home is well represented this year in the Carbon Hill football program. Three cottages are now complete and being occupied. Our prayer is that the old structure will be vacated completely as soon as the

all purpose building is completed.

Please continue to pray and support Bro. Corey, the Staff and the Children at your Free Will Baptist Children's Home.

Bro. Dwayne Hammontree

Motion Seconded. Carried.

Special prayer for Sis. Carrie Crow by Bro. Jeff Fleming.

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We the Ordaining Council make a motion that Sis. Sue Collier be granted a card of good standing with our gratefulness for her support.

Bro. Ottis Parmer, Bro. J.H. Sullins, Bro. Gilley Parrish
Seconded. Carried.

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT

We the Sunday School Committee would like to report that all churches in our Association are having Sunday School. In an effort to promote Sunday School we tried a promotional campaign this past year but did not receive responses from all churches. We encourage and challenge all churches to promote Sunday School because it is vital to church growth.

In Brotherly Love,

Sis. Charlotte Hammontree and Bro. Clint Cochran.

Motion Seconded. Carried.

BREAK

Special piano music by Sis. Amanda Sexton.

Visiting ministers welcomed. Bro. Jerry Taylor - Calvary FWB Church, Mississippi; Bro. Duane Taylor - South Highlands FWB Church, Muscle Shoals, AL.; Bro. J.B. Tice, Pleasant Hill FWB Church; Bro. Michael Frederick, Holly Springs FWB Church.

Bro. Ben Franklin, Assistant Moderator introduced Moderator Bro. Jeff Fleming for the Morning Message. Text: Be Aware; Be Prepared. Scripture: II Timothy 3:1-9; 1:6-7 & Ephesians 5:1-2.

Invitational song: Bro. Clint Cochran

Bro. Jimmy Avery gave meal directions and invited all to fellowship. Dismissal prayer and grace by Bro. Billy Rucker.

NOON BREAK

1 - new Trm \$15,000

CHURCHES	PASTORS	Church Membership	Received	Dismissed	Deceased	PAID PASTORS	Paid Evangelists	Value of Church Property	Church Improvements	Minute
ANTIOCH	Bro. Edgar Lee Childers	36	0	2	1	5,300.00	\$50.00	\$110,000		60.00
BALLARD	Bro. Mike Franklin	86	1	0	1	9,800.00	450.00	\$80,000	35.00	100.00
BARNESVILLE	Bro. Woodrow Matthews	167	3	0	3	13,600.00	700.00	\$100,000	11,353.91	175.00
BETHEL	Bro. David Sexton	41	2	0	0	7,800.00	1600.00	\$150,000	12492.65	150.00
FAIRVIEW	Bro. Dwayne Hammontree	139	0	4	2	13,825.00	1400.00	\$175,000	7,213.64	150.00
GOOD SPRINGS	Bro. Ottis Farmer		1	0	0	4,310.00	295.00	\$65,000	4,645.24	50.00
HOLLY SPRINGS	Bro. Michael Frederick									
LONE STAR	Bro. Gilley Parrish	60		6	2	10,394.50	450.00	\$100,000	1,426.70	45.00
MT. HOPE (H)	Bro. Roy Humphries	183	6	1	0	14,666.41	1030.00	\$120,000	15180.00	125.00
MT. HOPE (V)	Bro. Jack Harder	70	0	0	0	11,820.75	1100.00	\$200,000	12000.00	200.00
NEW SALEM	Bro. Ben Franklin	23	1	5	1	2,600.00	200.00		9,136.00	50.00
PLEASANT HILL	Bro. J.B. Tice	60	8	0	1	10,450.00	850.00	\$140,000	17757.14	100.00
PLEASANT RIDGE	Bro. Bobby Duncan	166	6	0	1	18,550.00	700.00	\$150,000	3,419.87	200.00
PLEASANT SITE	Bro. Barry Cook	51	0	2	4	6,700.00	200.00	\$120,000	72.23	100.00
ROCKY GROVE	Bro. Ray Edgar	49	9	1	0	7,700.00	650.50	\$100,000	365.00	75.00
ROCKY TOP										50.00
TRINITY	Bro. E.T. Sargent	40	0	0	0	3,900.00	800.00	\$80,000	150.00	50.00
UNION RIDGE	Bro. Louie Nix	68	0	0	1	11,260.28	860.00	\$25,000	623.86	75.00

und	Orphanage	Literature	Missions	Miscellaneous	Ordained Ministers	Deacons	Teachers	# In Sunday School	C.T.S.	Prayer Mtg/ Bible Study	SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT
306.50			316.11	2	2	2	36				Bro. R.B. Barnes
	603.52			0	2	4	30				Bro. Mike Shotts
147.00	1247.15	2,088.50	7,137.96	0	6	5	43	✓	✓		Bro. Hershel Emerson
600.00	1,549.80		404.24	0	4	7	30	✓	✓		Bro. Wendell Jan Franks
885.00	1,305.55	150.00	5,893.45	1	3	10	50		✓		Bro. Terry Lundy
235.00	288.15	150.00	381.21	2	4	4	15		✓		Bro. Terry Humphries
				0	3						
150.00	767.37		3,171.82	0	4	5	41		✓		Bro. Charles Pitts
069.14	1028.72		4,369.89	2	3	4	41		✓		Bro. Flora Shotts
0	1,502.14		1,990.00	3	0	7	68		✓		Bro. Johnny Shotts
420.00			1,219.00	2	2	2	23				Bro. Jimmy Lucas
	162.54		300.00	1	2	4	50				Bro. Randy Wooten
1170.57	2,433.57	217.00	32,421.40	2	3	8	100	✓	✓		Bro. Harry Williams
500.00	591.47		5,417.85	0	2	2	21				Bro. Rodney Watson
70.00	859.74		3,251.98	3	3	4	53		✓		Bro. Talmadge (Buster) Shotts
				1	1	3	34				Bro. James Mitchell
480.00	146.00	85.00	3,948.00	2	0	2	24		✓		Bro. Bobby Benson
600.00	624.28	987.60	306.65	2	1	7	30		✓		Bro. Johnny Hulsey

Class Song: Bro. Clint Cochran, Bro. Ray Edgar. Prayer by: Bro. Jack Harder

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We the Appreciation Committee want to thank Pleasant Ridge Church and their Pastor Bro. Bobby Duncan for allowing us to hold the Fall Session of our Association here. We thank God for his love and mercy he has shown us. We want to thank Pleasant Ridge for the love and fellowship and hospitality they have shown us. We thank everyone for the food we had at lunch. May God bless you all.

Yours in Christ

The Appreciation Committee

Sis. Lou Dean Simmons and Sis. Carolyn Watson

Motion Seconded. Carried.

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We the Ordaining Council make a motion that Freedom Church be dropped from the roll of Churches due to failure of representation at the Association for two years.

Bro. Ottis Parmer, Bro. J.H. Sullins, Bro. Gilley Parrish

Seconded. Carried.

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT (Partial)

We, the Ordaining Council, make a motion that all ministers on the roll call with the exception of those deleted or dropped receive a card of good standing.

Bro. Ottis Parmer, Bro. J.H. Sullins, Bro. Gilley Parrish

Seconded. Carried.

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT (Partial)

We the Appreciation Committee recommend that Bro. Ottis Parmer receive a pin and certificate for his 40 years of faithful service to the Lord.

We recommend that Bro. Gilley Parrish receive a pin and certificate for his 30 years of faithful service to the Lord.

Sis. Lou Dean Simmons, Sis. Carolyn Watson

Seconded. Carried.

Both were presented with their certificates and pins were pinned on each lapel by the Appreciation Committee, followed with a round of applause per the body.

Bro. Jimmie Lucas spoke to the body concerning the Abortion Agenda.

Deceased Members Message brought by Bro. E.T. Sargent with a list read as follows:

New Salem: Sis. Minnie Mae Gilliland

Pleasant Ridge: Sis. Grace Wiginton

Antioch: Sis. Leslie Holcomb

Pleasant Site: Sis. Alma Mills, Sis. Gerlee Taylor, Bro. Max Mills,
Bro. D. Latham

Fairview: Bro. Ralph Crompton, Sis. Bertha Chandler

Barnesville: Bro. Emmitt Hall, Sis. Mae Carter, Sis. Susie Carter

Union Ridge: Sis. Llewellyn Myers

Pleasant Hill: Bro. Jerry Lolley

Lone Star: Sis. Bessie Lominick

SATURDAY NIGHT

Class song: Bro. Jeff Fleming, Bro. David Gilliland

Prayer: Bro. Roy Humphries

Bro. Jeff Fleming opened service and introduced Pastor Bro. Bobby Duncan for evening devotional.

Special song: Sis. Gwen Duncan, followed by continuation of evening devotional. Scripture Acts 16:9.

Special song: Bro. David & Sis. Regina Gilliland. "Outside the Gate"

Moderator Bro. Jeff Fleming introduced Assistant Moderator Bro. Ben Franklin for the evening message. Scripture: John 13:1-10. Phillipians 2:8-9. Prayer by Bro. Ben Franklin.

Deacons prepared table and served. Bro. Jimmy Avery, Prayer - Breaking of Bread; Bro. Dewey Crow, Prayer - Fruit of the Vine.

Footwashing Service - 30 participants: 15 men of which were (5) five ministers and (3) three deacons. Twelve women and three children.

The service concluded with standing and singing Amazing Grace, acapela. Dismissed.

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 written 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.
- (8) 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.
- (9) This association will not accept for ordination or membership any minister who has remarried after having been divorced or whose wife has been previously married or divorced.

CHURCH RULES

- (1) We agree, as members of the State Line Association of Free Will Baptists, to cooperate in every move for the extension of God's Kingdom throughout the world and for the betterment of our denomination.
- (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 vote 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 Testament 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) **PERSEVERANCE.** 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 by 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 and the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto 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: 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: 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: That the body decide where the next association shall convene.

ITEM 4: That our Saturday sessions begin at 9:00 a.m. and Saturday night sessions at 7:00 p.m.

ITEM 5: That no money be paid out of any fund except by order of the Association.

ITEM 6: That all pastors explain the value of tithing to various churches.

ITEM 7: We go on record opposing all drugs and liquor traffic and legalization of intoxicating beverages, the ERA, Abortion on Demand and homosexuality.

ITEM 8: That our pastors adhere strictly to Biblical doctrine and Free Will Baptist belief and practices as set forth in our National Treatise.

ITEM 9. That the Association grant each ordained minister a card of good standing each year.

ITEM 10. This Association will not accept for ordination or membership, any minister who has remarried after having been divorced or whose wife has been previously married or divorced.

ITEM 11: That any minister for two years failing to represent himself in person, by letter, or when providentially hindered, by verbal report, his

name be dropped from the roll of ministers and he not receive a Card of Standing.

ITEM 12: That each church letter to the association remain the same as was adopted in church conference.

ITEM 13: That our Saturday and Saturday night session in October convene at another church of our association.

ITEM 14: We abide by the National Treaties.

ITEM 15: We adopt the Roberts' Rules of Order as parliamentary procedure of this association.

ITEM 16: (Deleted Spring 1996)

ITEM 17: 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: Each church send \$1.50 per member for the minute fund and associational expense. This total to be re-evaluated and/or adjusted on even years.

ITEM 19: That the Article of Faith read verbatim to the National Treaties Articles of Faith.

ITEM 20: That the Business Committee be retained throughout the entire year for the purpose of preparing any business to come before the association.

ITEM 21: 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 22: That each church send a list of delegates to the clerk 10 days prior to each session.

ITEM 23: 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 24: That all ministers provide the clerk with current addresses and phone numbers at each session.

ITEM 25: That the Credentials Committee, the Ordaining Council and the Business Committee meet with the Associational Moderator, Assistant Moderator, and Clerk at the designated place on Thursday Night prior to each session.

ITEM 26: 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 27: 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 in 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 28: That all requests for ordination and membership into this

Association be made at least 60 days prior to a session of the Association in order to provide time for examination.

ITEM 29: 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 30: 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.

ITEM 31: That any church changing pastors and/or clerks, please notify the clerk in writing by August 1st each year.

ITEM 32: That the Moderator be given the power to appoint members to all standing committees if someone is unable to serve. Credential Committee, Ordaining Council, Business Committee and Sunday School Committee.

ITEM 33: The Moderator be given the power to appoint someone to serve if for some reason the Associational Pastor or the Trustee to the Children's Home can't perform their duties. This to be done anytime during their term.

ITEM 34: All officers and committees elected and appointed to serve the following year meet within 30 days after the Fall Session at the designated place per the moderator, to review the duties of each member and to prepare for that associational year.

ITEM 35: Any church wishing to become a member of this Association must petition in writing to the clerk 60 days before said associational meeting.

ITEM 36: That all ministers found to be disabled to attend the association continue in full fellowship and receive a card of good standing.

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 for (2) years. 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 knowledgeable of Roberts' 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 Roberts' 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 as 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 report 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 this 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 a 3 year rotating term 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 the 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 to the Association for membership.
- (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 limited to:
 - a. The applicants 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.
 - d. To examine the written responses to the Guideline Questionnaire as adopted by the Association when returned by a candidate for ordination, or for a minister coming in from another association, prior to his examination per the Ordaining Council.
- (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, which 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 report to the Association in the form of a motion.
- (12) It shall be the responsibility of the ordaining council to investigate any minister who is absent for the Spring and Fall Consecutive Sessions and to report their findings at the next scheduled session and to include a list of all disabled ministers of the association.

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 clerk in writing and signed at least ten days prior to the Associational session.
- (2) The committee shall represent those items of business that merit consideration by the Associational body, to the body for consideration.
- (3) To make its report 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 function 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 report to the Association in the form of a motion.

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The Sunday School Committee shall be composed of 3 members appointed by the moderator to serve on a rotating basis with the oldest member to be dropped at the end of each October session and a new member appointed. Each member will serve 3 year terms.

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 function 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 select a minister to bring the message on deceased members.
- (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, and Saturday Night devotion. The moderator shall preach the Saturday Morning message, and the Assistant moderator shall preach

the Saturday Night message with communion and feet washing to follow.

- (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 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 as long as they are continuous). The recognition shall include a pin and an appropriate certificate.

GUIDELINES TO BE USED FOR ANY MINISTER PRIOR TO ACCEPTANCE INTO THIS ASSOCIATION

WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON THE FOLLOWING?

1. Eternal Security?
2. The Trinity?
3. The Virgin Birth?
4. Saved, Sanctified and Filled with the Holy Ghost?
5. Speaking in Tongues?
6. Heaven and Hell?
7. Liquor and Drugs?
8. ERA?
9. Tithing?
10. Baptism?
11. The Lord's Supper?
12. Fruit of the Vine?
13. Footwashing?
14. Abortion?

15. Homosexuality?
16. Women Preacher?
17. Support of the Association?
18. Articles of Faith?
19. How long have you been licensed by a church to preach the Gospel?
20. Have you ever been Ordained before?
21. Have you been married more than once?

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 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.

ASSOCIATION PLACED FOR 1998

Spring: Barnesville FWB Church - April
Fall: Pleasant Ridge FWB Church - October

OFFICERS ELECTED FOR 1998

Moderator Bro. Woodrow Matthews
Assistant Moderator Bro. Bobby W. Duncan
Clerk & Treasurer Bro. Jimmy R. Avery
Assistant Clerk & Treasurer Sis. Faye Avery
Trustee to Children's Home Bro. Dwayne Hammontree
Associational Pastor Bro. Larry Gene Davis

STANDING COMMITTEES 1998

Credentials Committee

Bro. J.R. Kerr, Bro. Dewey Crow, Bro. Herschel Emerson

Ordaining Council

Bro. J.H. Sullins, Bro. Gilley Parrish, Bro. Ray Edgar

Sunday School Committee

Bro. Connie Cantrell, Bro. Clint Cochran, Bro. Billy Rucker

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

