

**MINUTES**  
**OF THE**  
**ONE HUNDRED & SECOND**  
**SEMI-ANNUAL SESSION**  
**OF**  
**STATE LINE**  
**FREE WILL BAPTIST**  
**ASSOCIATION**  
**OF**  
**MISSISSIPPI - ALABAMA**

**HELD WITH:**

**MT. HOPE - APRIL 8, 2006**  
**AND**

**GOOD SPRINGS - OCTOBER 14, 2006**

**OFFICERS**

Moderator .....	<i>Jeff Fleming</i>	Bro. Mark Collier
Assistant Moderator .....	<i>David Saxton</i>	Bro. David Carter
Clerk and Treasurer .....		Bro. Jason Hammontree
Assistant Clerk and Treasurer .....		Sis. Kelly Hammontree
Trustee to Children's Home .....	<i>Lenn Holloway</i>	Bro. Lenn Holloway
Associational Pastor .....		Bro. David Sanderson

The next session will be held with Antioch on April 14, 2007 and with Bethel on October 13, 2007.

## **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 Mississippi and Alabama.
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 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 provisionally hindered.
11. All ministers pastoring the Churches in the Mississippi-Alabama Association shall abide by rules of the same.

## **SPRING 2006**

The Spring Session of the 102nd Alabama State Line Association met on April 8, 2006 at Mt. Hope Freewill Baptist Church in Hamilton, AL.

The session opened with a class song, "Just Little Talk With Jesus", led by Bro. Jeff Fleming and Bro. Jay Sullins. Bro. Flurry Shotts led the opening prayer.

Bro. Mark Collier, the moderator, read the Rules of Decorum. The roll call of delegates was made by the clerk, Bro. Jason Hammontree.

### **CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT**

We, the Credentials Committee make a motion that all delegates be seated.

Bro. Odene Mills  
Bro. Connie Brown  
Bro. Lynn Knight

Seconded. Carried.

Bro. Randall Tice came to welcome everyone to Mt. Hope. He gave directions to the facilities.

### **APPOINTING OF COMMITTEES BY BRO. MARK COLLIER**

**APPRECIATION COMMITTEE:** Sis. Candy Brewer, Bro. Clint Cochran, Sis. Gracie Franks.

**DEVOTION COMMITTEE:** Bro. Curtis Allen, Bro. Wayne Williams, Bro. Lester Isbell.

Bro. Randall Tice was appointed to stand in on the Ordaining Council.

Bro. Mark dismissed committees for business.

Bro. Bill Duncan and Bro. Flurry Shotts led association in a class song, "He Lives". Bro. David Carter came with a special song, "Long Black Train". Bro. Terry Parrish came with a special song, "To the Alter". Sis. Gracie Franks came with a special song, "My Hope is Built". Sis. Candy Brewer, Bro. Edwin Brewer, Sis. Gail Parrish & Bro. Terry Parrish came with a special song, "It Satisfies Me".

### **DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT**

We, the Devotion Committee, move that Bro. Bobby Duncan bring the morning devotion.

Bro. Wayne Williams  
Bro. Curtis Allen  
Bro. Lester Isbell

Seconded. Carried.

Bro. Mark addressed the Association about the churches who have left



the Association and about having some groups of ministers to go and talk to these churches to see why they dropped out. He asked everyone to pray and come up with something to help the churches and the Association to come together and work together. *23 new down to 9*

Bro. Jason Hammontree came with a report from Bro. Rick Cash on the Acts 1:8 program.

### Acts 1:8 Program Report

Alabama Freewill Baptist gave a total of \$149,343 to the Acts 1:8 program during 2005. Acts receipts through March of 2006 total \$159,116. This puts us \$6,704 ahead of schedule to meet budget goals. Due to the faithfulness of our churches all our missionaries' accounts remain in the black. The 2006 budget is \$575,000.

The 2006 budget funds the promotional office, home mission works in Prattville, Huntsville and a work among the Hispanics as well as foreign mission works in Russia, Uruguay, and Spain. We are also helping fund the construction of a church building in Uruguay which is to be dedicated in June, a Camp/Institute/Conference Center in Russia. We are also helping support two Russian Bible Institutes as well as 4 church planters in Russia.

We rejoice in the \$14,547 that has been given toward the church building in Uruguay as well as the \$23,705 that has been given toward the camp renovation in Russia this year.

Please extend my greetings to the Mississippi/Alabama State Line Association. I regret that I am unable to attend.

Thank them for the \$10,266 given in 2005 to the Acts 1:8 program in support of world evangelism.

Reminders:

1. Next Sunday is Roll Call Sunday (April 16). Urge pastors to call in their numbers.
2. April 22 is the Toler Stewardship Seminar in Northport. There is still time to register.
3. April 30 is the World Mission Offering.

<u>Church</u>	<u>Jan. - Dec. 04</u>	<u>Jan. - Dec. 05</u>
Barnesville	\$560.00	\$405.00
Barnesville Auxillary	\$	\$310.00
Fairview	\$1,435.14	\$2,077.63
Pleasant Ridge	\$	\$427.00
<u>Union Ridge</u>	<u>\$874.00</u>	<u>\$7,046.83</u>
Total	\$2,869.14	\$10,266.46

Sincerely,  
Bro. Rick Cash

Seconded. Carried.

Sis. Kelly Hammontree came with a special song, "Precious Memories".  
Bro. Bobby Duncan came with the morning devotion, "Patience".

### **APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Appreciation Committee would like to thank Mt. Hope Church, its pastor, and its members for hosting the 102nd Spring Session of the State Line Association. We would like to thank the Church for the hard work in preparing for the Association meeting and for the lovely meal. We pray that God may richly bless your efforts and make your church a lighthouse in this community.

Sis. Gracie Franks  
Sis. Candy Brewer  
Bro. Clint Cochran

Seconded. Carried.

Bro. Flurry Shotts and Bro. Clint Cochran led a class song, "Blessed Assurance".

Bro. David Carter, assistant moderator, came with the morning message. Text taken from Deuteronomy 15:7-11.

Bro. Mark read from Joshua 6:5-7, 20.

Bro. Randall came with directions for the lunch. Bro. Tom Scott asked the blessing over the food and said the dismissal prayer.

The Association convened until the Fall Session on October 14, 2006 at Good Springs Free Will Baptist Church.

## **FALL SESSION 2006**

The Fall Session of the Mississippi / Alabama State Line Association met at Good Springs Free Will Baptist Church on October 14, 2006. The session opened with a class song, "Living By Faith", led by Bro. Terry Parrish. The opening prayer was led by Bro. Randall Tice.

Bro. Mark Collier, the Moderator, welcomed everyone to the Association. The reading of the Rules of Decorum was done by the moderator, Bro. Mark Collier.

The Roll Call of delegates was made by the assistant clerk, Sis. Kelly Hammontree.

### **CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT**

We, the Credentials Committee, make a motion that all letters be accepted and delegates be seated.

Bro. Odene Mills  
Bro. Grady L. Knight

Seconded Carried.

Bro. Rick Cash came and spoke to the Association about the Acts 1:8 program.

Bro. Edwin Brewer came and welcomed everyone to Good Springs and gave directions to facilities.

### **APPOINTING OF COMMITTEES:**

**By Moderator, Bro. Mark Collier**

**Finance Committee:** Bro. Lynn Holloway, Bro. Cecil Norris, Bro. Dalton Holt.

**Deceased Members Committee:** Bro. Stephen Shotts, Sis. Connie Autry, Sis. Geraldine Green.

**Devotional Committee:** Bro. Clint Cochran, Bro. Homer Watson, Bro. Henry Pierce.

**APPRECIATION COMMITTEE:** Sis. Paula Lewis, Sis. Virginia Duncan, Bro. Albert Carter.

Dismissed Committees.

A Class Song was led by Bro. Terry Parrish, "Love Lifted Me".

Dismissed for morning break. Dismissal prayer led by Bro. Bobby Duncan.

The session reopened with a class song "I'll Fly Away", led by Bro. Terry Parrish and Bro. Clint Cochran. The opening prayer was led by Bro. Dalton Holt.

Bro. David Carter came with a special song, "Three Wooden Crosses". Sis. Candy Brewer came with a special song, "He Knows My Name".

### **APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

We, the Appreciation Committee wish to thank Good Springs Church for hosting the Association. May God bless and prosper you, your pastor, and congregation.

We would also like to express our gratitude and appreciation to Bro. Mark Collier for his 10 years of faithful service.

Sis. Paula Lewis  
Sis. Virginia Duncan  
Bro. Albert Carter

Seconded. Carried.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT 2004**

We looked over the Financial Statement. We also discussed it. Everything is up to date and in order.

Bro. Lynn Holloway



Bro. Cecil Norris  
Bro. Dalton Holt

Seconded. Carried.

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2006

Antioch .....	\$ 175.00
Barnesville .....	335.00
Bethel .....	300.00
Fairview .....	292.25
Good Springs .....	175.00
Mount Hope .....	295.00
Pleasant Ridge .....	400.00
Pleasant Site .....	235.00
Union Ridge .....	200.00
<b>TOTAL OF CONTRIBUTIONS 2006 .....</b>	<b>\$2,407.25</b>
Balance on Hand (Oct. 2005) .....	2,793.58
Deposit on November 8, 2005 .....	2,409.00
Balance as of November 8, 2005 .....	5,202.58
State & National Dues .....	1,215.00
Printing of Minutes .....	654.48
<b>After Expenditures .....</b>	<b>\$3,333.10</b>
<b>Contributions for 2006 .....</b>	<b>2,407.25</b>
<b>TOTAL ON HAND AFTER CONTRIBUTIONS .....</b>	<b>\$5,740.35</b>

### TRUSTEE TO CHILDREN'S HOME REPORT

I greatly appreciate the opportunity to represent the Children's Home this past year. I have received bulletins from the Home about their children, their care, and their needs.

It has been a struggle for the home, but with our continued help and prayers and the support of all the churches, God will use and continue to bless the children, our homes, and our churches.

I haven't spent alot of time this year as I should have, but with the blessings of God and the support of the churches, I will gladly accept the nomination again this year.

Thanks and God Bless,  
Bro. Lenn Holloway

Seconded. Carried.

### DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Devotion Committee suggest that Bro. Bill Duncan bring the message for the Devotional.



Bro. Henry Pierce  
Bro. Homer Lee Watson  
Bro. Clint Cochran

Seconded. Carried.

Bro. Terry Parrish came with a special song "They Stoned Me Down Here".

Bro. Bill Duncan came with the morning devotion. Text taken from Joshua 19.

Bro. Randall Tice came and addressed the Association on the subject of Hamilton becoming a wet city.

## **READING OF DECEASED MEMBERS**

**BY: ASSISTANT CLERK SIS. KELLY HAMMONTREE**

Antioch: None

Barnesville: Sis. Fannie Belle Boyett, Sis. Dora Genell Collins

Bethel: Bro. J.L. Moore, Bro. Joe Rye, Bro. Mack Sexton, Bro. Maxie Gibbs.

Fairview: Bro. Alfred Ballard, Sis. Addie Roberts.

Good Springs: Bro. Roy Humphries.

Mt. Hope: None.

Pleasant Ridge: Sis. Louise Tice, Bro. Charles Howell.

Pleasant Site: Sis. Nadine Latham, Bro. J.R. Kerr.

Union Ridge: None.

## **DECEASED MEMBERS REPORT**

The deceased members committee request that Bro. Larry Davis bring the message on deceased members.

Bro. Steve Shotts  
Sis. Geraldine Green  
Sis. Connie Autrey

Seconded. Carried.

Class song in honor of deceased members led by Bro. Clint Cochran, "Where We'll Never Grow Old".

Bro. Larry Davis came with the Deceased Members Message. Text taken from Hebrews 11:1-2, 33-40, 1 Corinthians 15:51-58, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.

## **ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT**

We, the members of the Ordaining Council make a motion that all ministers on the Roll of Ministers as well as Sis. Sue Collier be issued a Card of Good Standing.

Bro. David R. Sexton  
Bro. J.H. Sullins

Seconded. Carried.

Cards of Good Standing were given to ministers present.

Bro. David Carter along with the Appreciation Committee came to present Bro. Mark Collier with his 10 year pin.

**New Officers Elected:**

Bro. Randall Tice - Moderator  
Bro. Bill Duncan - Assistant Moderator  
Bro. Terry Parrish - Clerk  
Sis. Gail Parrish - Assistant Clerk  
Bro. David Carter - Associational Pastor  
Bro. Lenn Holloway - Trustee to Children's Home

**Appointees for Standing Committees:**

**Sunday School Committee**

Bro. Terry Parrish (Chair)  
Bro. Larry Carter  
Bro. Cecil Norris

**Ordaining Council**

Bro. Jeff Fleming (Chair)  
Bro. J.H. Sullins  
Bro. Edwin Brewer

**Credentials Committee**

Bro. Odean Mills (Chair)  
Bro. Grady Lynn Knight  
Bro. Bill Williams

**Business Committee**

Bro. Randall Tice  
Bro. Bill Duncan  
Bro. Terry Parrish  
Bro. Tom Scott  
Bro. David Sexton

Churches to hold sessions are as follows:

April 14, 2007 Spring Session will be held at Antioch Free Will Baptist Church . October 13, 2007 Fall Session will be held at Bethel Free Will Baptist Church.

Bro. Mark came with morning message. II Timothy 3:1-17.

Bro. Edwin came with direction for lunch. Bro. Randall and Bro. Edwin came with a class song, "Heaven's Jubilee".

Bro. Clint Cochran closed the session with a prayer and the blessing over the food.

Session convened for the Spring Session at Antioch Freewill Baptist Church on April 14, 2007.

### **FALL DELEGATES 2006**

**ANTIOCH:** Sis. Sue Williams, Sis. Sharon Isbell, Bro. Lenn Holloway, Sis. Eumma Jean Barnes, Alt.

**BARNESVILLE:** Sis. Carolyn Norris, Sis. Christene Brown, Sis. Letha Mills, Bro. Cecil Norris, Alt.

**BETHEL:** Sis. Connie Autrey, Sis. Virginia Duncan, Sis. Hazel Rye

**FAIRVIEW:** Bro. Steven Shotts, Bro. Albert Carter, Sis. Flossie Carter

**GOOD SPRINGS:** Bro. Homer Watson, Sis. Candy Brewer, Bro. J.R. Spencer

**MOUNT HOPE:** Bro. Dalton Holt, Sis. Geraldine Green, Bro. Henry Pierce, Sis. Brenda Barnett, Alt.

**PLEASANT RIDGE:** Bro. R.V. Williams, Bro. Hershel Rye, Bro. Clint Cochran, Bro. Britton Holloway, Alt.

**PLEASANT SITE:** Sis. Evelyn Mills, Sis. Martha Roberts, Sis. Paula Lewis, Sis. Betty Sanderson, Sis. Sharon Irvin, Alt.

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

### **DEACONS**

**ANTIOCH:** Bro. William (Bill) Williams, Bro. R.B. Barnes, Bro. Charles Spencer

**BARNESVILLE:** Bro. Hershel Emerson, Bro. Odean Mills, Bro. Hansel Taylor, Bro. Wayne Williams

**BETHEL:** Bro. Henry Hill Franks, Bro. Max Gibbs, Bro. Bobby Benson, Bro. Donnie Franks, Bro. Wendell Jan Franks

**FAIRVIEW:** Bro. Hugh Carter, Bro. Talmadge (Buster) Shotts

**GOOD SPRINGS:** Bro. Edward Holland, Bro. Terry Parrish

**MT. HOPE:** Bro. Gary Yielding, Bro. Flura Shotts

**PLEASANT RIDGE:** Bro. Dewey Crow, Bro. Elma Hue Taylor

**PLEASANT SITE:** None

**UNION RIDGE:** Bro. Grady Lynn Knight



## MINISTERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE FOR FALL SESSION:

Rev. Otis Palmer, Bro. Jeff Fleming, Bro. David Sanderson - they notified Association of not being able to attend.

## ORDAINED MINISTERS

### Addresses and Date of Ordination

#### Antioch:

Rev. Lester Isbell  
811 Co. Hwy. 416, Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-0940 ..... 1999  
Rev. Otis Parmer  
6953 Hwy. 36, Guin, AL 35563, 468-2444 ..... 1957

#### Barnesville:

Rev. Jeff Fleming  
1123 Regency Place, Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-7969 ..... 1985  
Rev. Woodrow Matthews  
403 3rd St. N., Guin, AL 35563, 468-3264 ..... 1941

#### Bethel:

Rev. Bill Duncan  
226 Co. Hwy. 104, Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-4325 ..... 1969  
Rev. David Sexton  
3691 Co. Rd. 63, Brilliant, AL 35548, 465-9289 ..... 1975

#### Fairview:

None *VanDale Hudson*

#### Good Springs:

Rev. ~~Edwin Brewer~~ *Craig McCorley*  
10921 Co. Hwy. 13, Vina, AL 35593, 921-2967 ..... 2000

#### Mt. Hope:

*751 Co. Hwy 90 Vains / Leno, AL.*  
Rev. Randal Tice  
787 2nd Ave. SW, Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-4034 ..... 1973  
Rev. J.H. Sullins  
706 2nd Ave. SW, Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-2851 ..... 1972  
Rev. David Carter  
3202 Huntsville Rd. Apt. 4, Florence, AL 35630, 256-767-8001. 2000

#### Pleasant Ridge:

Rev. Mark Collier  
3247 Military St. N., Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-1701 ..... 1996  
Rev. Bobby Duncan  
515 Rideout Falls Rd., Hamilton, AL 35570, 921-4985 ..... 1974  
Rev. David Sanderson  
415 Co. Hwy. 75, Hamilton, AL 35570, 952-9020 ..... 1990

#### Pleasant Site:

Rev. Larry Davis  
2401 Co. Hwy. 89, Vina, AL 35593, 256-356-4992 ..... 1978

**Union Ridge:**

Rev. Thomas Scott

P.O. Box 184, Red Bay, AL, 256-356-2425 ..... 1955

## **CHURCH CLERKS**

**Antioch:**

Sis. Sue Williams

P.O. Box 2381, Hamilton, AL 35570, 205-921-9244

**Barnesville:**

Sis. Jill Cox

P.O. Box 936, Hamilton, AL 35570, 205-921-9140

**Bethel:**

Sis. Gracie Franks

13766 St. Hwy. 129, Brilliant, AL 35548, 205-465-2321

**Fairview:**

Bro. Steven Shotts

1555 Co. Hwy. 81, Hamilton, AL 35570, 205-921-2043

**Good Springs:**

Sis. Gail Parrish

P.O. Box 917, Red Bay, AL 35582, 256-356-2202

**Mount Hope:**

Sis. Pat Tice

787 2nd Ave. SW, Hamilton, AL 35570, 205-921-4034

**Pleasant Ridge:**

Sis. Linda Crowe

4001 Co. Hwy. 29, Hamilton, AL 35570, 205-921-3730

**Pleasant Site:**

Sis. Evelyn Mills

5052 State Hwy. 19, Detroit, AL 35552, 205-921-3756

**Union Ridge:**

Sis. Karen Northington

277 Hillview Cr., Sulligent, AL 35586, 205-698-9023

## **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 arises 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 October session sermon, the Assistant Moderator preach the April Session sermon.

ITEM 3: That the body decide where the next association shall convene.

ITEM 4: That our Saturday sessions begin at 9:00 a.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 April session and October session 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



[illegible]



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 in October, with the morning session to begin at 9:00 a.m.

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 morning message of the April 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 minister for the morning



devotion.

- (2) For the October session: to select a minister for the morning devotion. The moderator shall preach the Saturday Morning 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 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.

## STANDING COMMITTEES FOR 2006

### SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

Bro. Terry Parrish (Chair)  
Bro. Larry Carter  
Bro. Cecil Norris

### ORDAINING COUNCIL:

Bro. Jeff Fleming (Chair)  
Bro. J.H. Sullins  
Bro. Edwin Brewer

### CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Bro. Odean Mills (Chair)  
Bro. Grady Lynn Knight  
Bro. Bill Williams

### BUSINESS COMMITTEE:

Bro. Randall Tice  
Bro. Bill Duncan  
Bro. Terry Parrish  
Bro. Tom Scott  
Bro. David Sexton

### TRUSTEE TO CHILDREN'S HOME:

Bro. Lynn Holloway

### ASSOCIATIONAL PASTOR:

Bro. David Carter *J. H. Sullins*



**CLERK**

**BRO. TERRY PARRISH**

P.O. Box 917

Red Bay, Alabama 35582

256-356-2202

## 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





(O H's Palmer  
468-2444)



Mt. Hope - Spring

Barnesville - Fall



