

MINUTES

OF THE

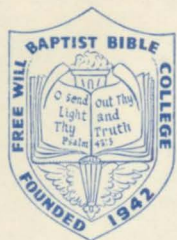
**Stone Association of the Freewill
Christian Baptist Church
of Christ**

FIFTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

HELD WITH THE
PLEASANT GREEN CHURCH

Morgan County, Tenn.

September 9 and 10, 1938



FREE WILL BAPTIST
BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented by

Rev. Wilburn Phillips

MINUTES OF STONE ASSOCIATION

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Fifty-Fifth Annual Session of the Stone Association of the Eastern Division
of the Freewill Christian Baptist Church of Christ Held With
the Pleasant Green Church, Morgan County, Tenn.,
September 9, 10, 11, 1938

The ministers and delegates composing the Eastern Division of the Stone Association of the Free Will Christian Baptist Church of Christ met with the Pleasant Green Church, Morgan County, Tennessee, September 9, 10 and 11, 1938, in the 55th annual session. Called together by singing "Amazing Grace" by Bro. Pratt.

Proceeded to organize by electing Bro. Melvin Cook, Moderator; Bro. Willie Stowers, assistant Moderator; H. M. Harris, Clerk; Calvin Adams, assistant Clerk. Bro. Willie Stowers preached the introductory sermon.

The Moderator called for enrollment of delegates. The following responded:

Shady Grove—Not represented.

Union Ridge—By letter.

Stockton's Chapel—Logan Tinch, Barney Cooper.

Vines Ridge—Tom Smith, Charlie Smith.

Mt. Pleasant—Hobert Tinch, T. G. Tinch.

Pleasant Greer—Alex Adams, Clay Smith.

High Point—Dewey Adams, Tommy Adams.

Cravenstown—Lee Jones, Beecher Sims, Robert Thompson.

Union Point—A. B. Phillips, Johnney McCowans.

Highland—H. M. Harris, Arkley Gore, Cubert Gore.

Columbia Hill—Tommy Vaughn, Verna Vaughn.

Center Point—Clem Whitehead, Frank Cooper, Odus Franklin, Martha Washington, Millard Stepp, Ema Stepp, Golda Key.

Banner Springs—Dimple Hicks, Milford Waters.

Hoover's Chapel—Joe Hicks, Daniel Hicks.

Cooper's Chapel—Albert Cooper, Woodroe Cooper.

The following committee was appointed:

Committee on Devotional Service composed of Bro. Tom Smith, Clem Whitehead and Dewey Adams. Reported as follows:

S. R. Pratt, Friday night. Logan Tinch, Barney Cooper Saturday at 11:00 o'clock. R. S. Hall, Sarah Jane Hall Saturday night. Geo. McCowans, Reed Watson, Robert Thompson, John Howard, Clay Smith, Charley Ramsey, Sunday.

Committee on Resolutions was appointed—Robert Hall, S. R. Pratt and George McCowans.

Committee on Finance was appointed—Amon Key, Reed Watson and Hobert Tinch, and reported that each Church contribute at least \$2.00 next year for expenses.

Committee on Temperance—Milford Waters, Reed Watson and Joe Hicks.

Committee on Sunday Schools—Sarah Jane Hall, Dimple Hicks, and Lily Branstutter.

A Board of Elders was appointed composed of S. R. Pratt, George McCowans and Willie Stowers.

Adjourned to Saturday morning at 8:00 o'clock.

Saturday morning called together by a song and prayer by Bro. Hobert Tinch. Calling for letters of various churches.

On Motion by S. R. Pratt, we have quarterly conferences next year and have the Lord's Supper at each.

Committee on Obituary—Sarah Jane Hall, Tom Smith, Reed Watson.

Our deceased Bro. Gilbert Howard was born May 9, 1887; he died September 8, 1938, age 51 years.

REPORTS

We your committee on Temperance beg leave to report as follows:

Be it resolved that no minister or member of the Freewill Christian Baptist Church of Christ be allowed to aid or abet in any way either directly or indirectly in the manufacture of intoxicating drinks or to indulge in the sale of them. We know by observation that it is a great hindering cause to the upbuilding of God's kingdom on earth.

Be it further resolved that no minister or member of this church be allowed to dram drink.

Be it further resolved that no member of this church shall tolerate the manufacture, sale or use of—intoxicating drinks such as liquors, wines or beers, in their homes or on their premises.

Joe Hicks, Mildred Waters, Reed Watson, Committee.

We your committee on Resolutions beg leave to report as follows:

Every pastor in this Conference should preach the gospel and urge their people to support the ministry and appoint a treasurer and each member give all he can into the treasury for building church houses for we see the time is coming when we will be locked out of the school houses.

Be it resolved that we, as pastors and ministers of the Stone Association, will try with all our might, God being our helper, to repair a house every year until we have a house for every church.

Be it resolved that we will urge our churches to send one dollar to the clerk of this Association this year for the purpose of finishing the church at Banner Springs.

Be it further resolved that we will hold a quarterly conference every three months, and will have foot washings and sacrament every quarterly meeting. We urge all of our ministers to attend these conferences for the upbuilding of the churches in this association. The first conference to be held with the Highland Church on the fourth Saturday and Sunday in October.

Elders S. R. Pratt, G. W. McCowans, Willie Stowers, Committee.

We further resolve that the pastors of each church have the church book straightened up.

On motion, our next association will be held on Friday before the second Sunday in October, 1939, with the Cooper's Chapel Church on the Livingston and Jamestown highway.

Introductory sermon—Rev. S. R. Pratt, Geo. McCowans, alternate.

Adjourned.

On motion, Bro. Willie Stowers and Melvin Cook were appointed to represent us in the Western Division.

PASTORAL LABOR

Union Ridge—Foyster Harris, pastor; Verly Phillips and Willie McCowans, assistants.

Vines Ridge—Melvin Cook, pastor; Claude Smith and Willie Stowers, assistants.

Union Point—Verly Phillips, pastor; L. F. Bilbrey, assistant.

Hoover's Chapel—Hobert Tinch, pastor; Melvin Cook, assistant.

High Point—Reed Watson, pastor; John Howard and Clay Smith, assistants.

Cravenstown—H. A. Johnson, pastor; Robert Thomason, assistant.

Highland—Verly Phillips, pastor; Hilary Phillips, assistant.

Banner Springs—Claude Smith, pastor; Sarah Jane Hall and Willie Norris, assistants.

Martha Washington—Verly Phillips, pastor; Willie Stowers, assistant.

Center Point—C. L. Ramsey, pastor; Barney Cooper, assistant.

Cooper's Chapel—Barney Cooper, pastor; Hobert Tinch, assistant.

Pleasant Green—W. M. Stowers, pastor; Clay Smith and Reed Watson, assistants.

Mt. Pleasant—Melvin Cook, pastor; Hobert Tinch, assistant.

Stockton Chapel—Barney Cooper, pastor; Logan Tinch, assistant.

Columbia Hill—Verly Phillips, pastor; Hilary Phillips, Ras Bilbrey and Willie McCowans, assistants.

MINISTER'S REPORT

I have preached 220 sermons, 46 professions, received \$97.50, 10 memorial sermons, homes visited unknown, miles traveled unknown, funerals preached 1.
S. R. Pratt.

I have preached 40 sermons, 3 funerals, baptized 17, professions 33, homes visited unknown, miles traveled unknown, married 4 couples, received \$9.00.
Hobert Tinch.

I have preached 50 sermons, funerals unknown, professions 18, received \$7.50 from Vines Ridge Church and \$2.00 from Banner Springs Church, baptized 8, miles traveled unknown.

Melvin Cook.

I have preached about 30 sermons, witnessed 29 conversions, helped baptize 17, conducted 2 funerals, received \$14.05 Freewill offerings and thanking the Lord for all that has been done.

R. S. Hall.

I have preached 51 sermons, conducted 1 funeral, 2 revivals and assisted with 3; number of conversions unknown, baptized 4.

Reid Watson.

I have received \$27.00 from Vines Ridge church, \$1.50 from T. Town church and \$14.31 from Pleasant Green church; preached 78 sermons, 11 funerals, married 4 couples, witnessed 36 conversions, conducted 5 revivals and received a total of \$66.24 for the year; pastored 3 churches.

Willie Stowers.

STEWARDS

Pleasant Green—Therman Lavender.
 High Point—Reed Watson.
 Mount Pleasant—Hobert Tinch.
 Highland—Herman Harris.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

George McCowan, Crawford, Tenn., Route 1.
 Melvin Cook, Banner Springs, Tenn.
 W. M. Stowers, Banner Springs, Tenn.
 Claude Smith, Crawford, Tenn.
 Ras Bilbrey, Monterey, Tenn.
 Hobert Tinch, Allardt, Tenn.
 S. J. Hall, Banner Springs, Tenn.
 R. S. Hall, Banner Springs, Tenn.
 C. C. Cooper, Manson, Tenn.
 L. F. Bilbrey, Monterey, Tenn., Route 2.
 V. V. Vaughn, Monterey, Tenn., Route 3.
 H. A. Johnson, Davidson, Tenn.
 Logan Tinch, Stockton, Tenn.
 Foyster Harris, Livingston, Tenn.
 W. L. Thomason, Davidson, Tenn.
 T. H. Hammock, Deer Lodge, Tenn.
 Albert Howard, Lansing, Tenn.
 Gilbert Howard, Lansing, Tenn.
 Clay Smith, Deer Lodge, Tenn.
 Reed Watson, Lansing, Tenn.
 Willie Norris, Roslin, Tenn.
 W. B. Rhum, Manson, Tenn.
 John Howard, Deer Lodge, Tenn.
 Hilliard Howard, Lansing, Tenn.
 Roland Aytes, Frankfort, Tenn.
 Joe Hoover, Manson, Tenn.
 Willie McCowan, Monterey, Tenn.
 Hillary Phillips, Monterey, Tenn.
 Verlie Phillips, Manson, Tenn.
 Barney Cooper.
 Robert Thomason.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

Article 1. We believe in one eternal God, the creator and upholder of all things and in Jesus Christ, His Son, and in the Holy Ghost, and that these three are one.

Article 2. We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and the only rule of Faith and practice.

Article 3. We believe that man is unable to recover himself from the fallen state that he is in, by reason of sin, only by the grace of God through the exercise of faith.

Article 4. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper and the washing of the saints' feet are ordinances of Jesus Christ and that immersion is the only mode of baptism; not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Article 5. We believe that no minister has the right to administer these ordinances except such as are regularly ordained.

Article 6. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, a general judgment, the punishment of the wicked, and the joys of the righteous are eternal.

Article 7. We believe that no persons are members of the Church of Christ only those who have the witness within themselves.

Article 8. We believe that all the members of the Church of Christ have a right to the sacramental table upon the principles of their acceptance with Him for Saint Paul says: "But let a man examine himself, and so let Him eat of that bread and drink of that cup."—I Corinthians 11:28.

RULES OF DECORUM

Section 1. No complaint shall be brought in the church against transgressing members until the aggrieved party complies with the directions given by our Lord in St. Matthew 18:13-17.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the deacons of the churches to go to the transgressing members, talk with them, admonish them and they shall have until the second church meeting to make reconciliation. It may be the duty of the churches to choose a committee to settle questions of aggrieved causes. It also shall be the duty of the deacons of the church to look after the widows in their daily ministrations.

Section 3. It shall be the duty of Stewards to advise the Church to promote means to sustain the church and preachers.

Section 4. We receive members into the Freewill Baptist Church by conversion and by letter and recommendation. It shall be the duty of each minister on receiving members into the church to ask your applicant the following questions: First, Do you feel that you love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength? Second, Are you a believer with all your heart that Jesus Christ is the Son of God? Third, Are you willing to walk in all His Holy precepts.

Section 5. It shall be the duty of all persons who become members of the Freewill Baptist Church who have not been baptized by immersion, and that for the answer of a good conscience, to attend the ordinance of baptism.

Section 6. It shall be the duty of the several churches to organize a church treasury for the purpose of defraying church expenses.

Section 7. It shall be the duty of the different church clerks to keep a correct minute of all their church meetings in a book kept for the purpose.

Section 8. Each church represented in the Annual Association shall be entitled to two delegate voters, whose membership does not exceed 50 and one additional for every 25 over 50.

Section 9. No minister shall be ordained to the office of Elder until having passed a satisfactory examination upon the subject of repentance, faith, justification, the door into the church, water baptism, the Lord's Supper, washing the saints' feet and transaction of the church business in general.

Section 10. That, for the purpose of receiving licentiates or ordained ministers from other denominations who come to us well recommended, we receive them and ratify their license or credentials.

Section 11. It shall be the duty of the Presbytery to give a letter of dismission and recommendation to any ordained minister in good standing wishing to leave our Association.

DECLARATION OF RIGHTS

Section 1. That all power of church government is inherent in the people and the preachers; that is, that they may have a right, through their representatives to establish, alter or amend their form of church government, two-thirds agreeing thereto.

Section 2. That a Christian Church is a society of believers in Christ, and is a divine institution, Jesus Christ being at the head of the church and the Bible the only rule of our faith and practice.

Section 3. That no rule of faith and doctrine shall ever be established in the Freewill Christian Baptist Church contrary to the Bible.

Section 4. No person who loves the Lord Jesus Christ and obeys the Gospel should ever be deprived of church membership.

Section 5. Every person has inalienable rights to private judgment in matters of religion and may speak freely of the same in a way that will not violate the law of God, or their country, or the rights of their fellowmen.

Section 6. All church trials should be conducted on Gospel principles only, and no minister or member should be excommunicated except for immorality, the propagation of un-Christian doctrines, neglect of duty enjoined by the Word of God, or the rules of the church.

Section 7. The church has a right to form and enforce such rules and regulations only as are in accordance with the Holy Scriptures, and may be necessary to carry into effect the great system of Christianity.

Section 8. There may be three grades of Associations established in the Freewill Christian Baptist Church of Christ: First, the Monthly Association; second, the Annual Association; third, the General Association; all of which may be established by the rules of the church.

Section 9. That the church has a right to select their leaders and delegates to the Annual Association.

Section 10. It shall be the duty of every church to elect two Deacons and one clerk.

Section 11. It shall be the duty of each church to send delegates with an order to the Annual Conference.

Section 12. It shall be the duty of the Annual Association to send to the General Association delegates with corresponding letters in order.

Section 13. That no minister or member be allowed to aid or abet, in any way, either directly or indirectly, in the manufacture or sale of intoxicating drinks as a beverage. We know by observation that it is the great hindering cause in the upbuilding of the Lord's kingdom on earth.

Section 14. It shall be the duty of any member wishing to leave the Freewill Christian Baptist Church to call for a letter before leaving.

ADDRESSES OF CHURCH CLERKS

Mt. Pleasant—Frank Tinch, Allardt, Tennessee.
 Indian Creek—Bonnie Cooper, Manson, Tennessee.
 Columbia Hill—McKinley Phillips, Crawford, Tennessee.
 Banner Springs—S. J. Hall, Banner Springs, Tennessee.
 Vines Ridge—Helen Smith, Crawford, Tennessee, Route 1.
 Lucian Chapel—E. P. Dixon, Davidson Tennessee.
 Union Ridge—Floyd Bilbrey, Monterey, Tennessee, Route 3.
 Cravenstown—Alma Robins, Cravens, Tennessee.
 Hoods Chapel—J. M. Hood, Wilder, Tennessee.
 High Point—Annie Barnett, Deer Lodge, Tennessee.
 Union Point—A. B. Phillips, Monterey, Tennessee, Route 1.
 Martha Washington—Mrs. M. P. Stepp, Clarkrange, Tennessee.
 Center Point—Frank Cooper, Manson, Tennessee.
 Union Grove—Mrs. Auda Phillips, Monterey, Tennessee, Route 2.
 Highland—Susie Walker, Bocze, Tennessee.
 Bill's Creek—Nona Smith, Boatland, Tennessee.
 Pleasant Green—Calvin Adams, Deer Lodge, Tennessee.
 Stockton—Sylvia King, Stockton, Tennessee.
 Lansing—Eva Vespie, Lansing, Tennessee.
 Shady Grove—Stobert Nance, Lansing, Tennessee.
 Hoover's Chapel—Sarah Hoover.
 Cooper's Chapel—Corda Cooper.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Calling the delegates to order.
2. Electing a Moderator and Clerk.
3. Enrollment of names of Delegates.
4. Appointment of Committees on Devotional Service and making their report.
5. Reading Rules of Decorum.
6. Adjournment.
7. Calling the Roll of Delegates.
8. Calling for and receiving letters from various churches.
9. Invitation for reception of Sister Churches.
10. Contribution counted, printing of minutes ordered.
11. Invitation for office of Elder.
12. Appointment of place of next meeting.
13. Report on Temperance.
14. Report on Sunday School.
15. Report on Resolutions.
16. Appointment to preach Introductory.
17. Expressing Thanks.

FORM OF LETTER TO CHURCH MEMBERS

To All Lovers of Jesus Christ: This is to certify that the well beloved
 is a member of the Freewill Christian Baptist Church of
 Christ at County, State of Tennessee, and is hereby dis-
 missed from us in full fellowship. This is done by a voice of the entire
 church, the day of, 193....
, Moderator Clerk

MINUTES OF STONE ASSOCIATION

CHURCHES	Postoffice and County (All in Tennessee)							
		Increase by Letter	Increase by Profession	Decrease by Letter	Decrease by Death	Contribution	Day of Meeting	Total Fellowship
Shady Grove	Lansing, Morgan Co.....	Not Represented						
Union Ridge	Monterey, R. 2., Overton Co.	1	1	1	\$1.25	4	1	57
Columbia Hill	Monterey, R. 1., Overton Co.	2	1	1	1.61	1	1	131
Stockton Chapel ...	Ben Stockton, Fentress Co.....	3	3	1	1.00	1	2	24
Mt. Pleasant	Jamestown, Fentress Co.....	1	1	1	1.00	2	1	18
Pleasant Green ...	Deer Lodge, Morgan Co.....	5	1	1	1.15	1	1	31
Cooper's Chapel ...	Manson, Fentress Co.....	5	11	2	2.50	3	1	19
Center Point	Manson, Fentress Co.....	5	11	2	2.55	2	1	162
Martha Washington	Clarkrange, Fentress Co.....	1	1	1	.50	2	1	8
Banner Springs ...	Banner Springs, Fentress Co.	2	2	1	1.25	4	1	47
Highland	Livingston, Overton Co.....	1	26	1	1.05	1	1	103
Cravenstown	Twinton, Overton Co.....	4	24	1	2.00	2	1	80
High Point	Deer Lodge, Morgan Co.....	2	1	1	1.00	3	8	12
Hoover's Chapel ..	Jamestown, Fentress Co.....	5	19	1	1.80	4	1	24
Union Point	Monterey, Overton Co.....	1	7	1	1.00	3	1	204
Vines Ridge	Twinton, Overton Co.....	3	6	1	2.00	3	1	38

FORM OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION

We, the Freewill Baptist Church of Christ at
 County, Tenn., to the Stone Association, when convened with the
 Church, County, Tenn.

Dear Brethren: We have chosen our messengers
 to represent us in your body. The statistics of
 our church are as follows: Increase by profession; by letter;
 by recommendation; by restoration; our decrease by letter
; by exclusion; by death; total fellowship;
 our day of meeting is Sunday; our present pastor is Bro.
; our postoffice is County, Tenn. This done
 by the unanimous voice of the church and signed by order of the same on the
 day of, 193....
, Moderator Clerk

