

MINUTES

of the

Sixty-Third Annual Session

of the

STONE ASSOCIATION

(Eastern Division)

of the

Freewill Christian Baptist Church

of Christ

held with

Shady Grove Church

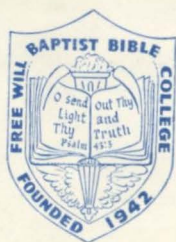
MORGAN COUNTY, TENNESSEE

October 10, 11, 12, 1946



BARNEY COOPER, Moderator ----- Ben Stockton, Tenn.

GEORGE K. OWENS, Clerk ----- Jamestown, Tenn.



FREE WILL BAPTIST
BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented by

Rev. Wilburn Phillips

Proceedings
of the
Sixty-Third Annual Session
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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. Calling the roll of delegates.
7. Calling for and receiving letters from various churches.
8. Report on Temperance.
9. Report on Sunday School.
10. Report on Resolution.
11. Invitation for reception of sister churches.
12. Contribution counted, printing minutes ordered.
13. Invitation for office of elder.
14. Appointment of place of next meeting.
15. Appointment to preach introductory.
16. Expressing thanks.
17. Adjournment.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

George McCowan—Crawford, Tenn., Route 1.
Melvin Cook—Banner Springs, Tenn.
Ras Bilbrey—Monterey, Tenn.
B. A. Moore—Cookville, Tenn.
Archie Blair—Allardt, Tenn.
Daily Norrod—Livingston, Tenn.
Oscar Smith—Allardt, Tenn.
George K. Owens—Jamestown, Tenn.
S. J. Hall—Banner Springs, Tenn.
L. F. Bilbrey—Monterey, Tenn.
V. V. Vaughn—Monterey, Tenn.
H. A. Johnson—Davidson, Tenn.
Logan Tinch—Stockton, Tenn.
Foyster Harris—Monterey, Tenn.
Albert Howard—Lancing, Tenn.
Reid Watson—Lancing, Tenn.
Clay Smith—Deer Lodge, Tenn.
Robert Thompson—
Barney Cooper—Jamestown, Tenn.
John Howard—Deer Lodge, Tenn.
Willie McCowan—Monterey, Tenn.
Willie Norris—Roslin, Tenn.
Hilary Phillips—Monterey, Tenn.
Verlie Phillips—
Boyd Choate—Manson, Tenn.
Omar Allred—Grimsley, Tenn.
Harold Smith—Manson, Tenn.
Jerry Smith—Crawford, Tenn., Route 1.
Melvin Ooten—Allardt, Tenn.
Richard Byars—Manson, Tenn.
Rev. Roberson—Clarkrange, Tenn.
Arvil Brown—Deer Lodge, Tenn.
E. H. Phillips—Monterey, Tenn.
Herman Hooten—Algood, Tenn.
Tommie Vaughn—Crawford, Tenn., Route 1.
Tom Conatser—Jamestown, Tenn.
Ernest O. Howard—Lancing, Tenn., S. R.
Ealis Stephens—Grimsley, Tenn.
Charlie Wright—Grimsley, Tenn., York Route.

CHURCH CLERKS

Cooper Chapel—Ray J. Cooper, Helena, Tenn.
Martha Washington—Mrs. Emma Stepp, Clarkrange, Tenn.
Pleasant Green—Calvin Adams, Deer Lodge, Tenn.
Mt. Pleasant—Frank Tinch, Allardt, Tenn.
Hoover's Chapel—Sarrah Hoover, Jamestown, Tenn.
Rinnie—Virgil Beaty, Crossville, Tenn., York Route.
Shady Grove—Loyd Bonham, Lancing, Tenn.
Stockton Chapel—By Letter—Alma Brannon, Ben Stockton, Tenn.
Sharp's Place—Arthur Duggan, E. Jamestown, Tenn.
Cross Road Chapel—Laura Malone, Jamestown, Tenn.
Highland—Dora Gore, Livingston, Tenn., Route 3.
High Point—Maggio Adams, Deer Lodge, Tenn.
Union Point—A. B. Phillips, Crawford, Tenn., Route 1.
Center Point—Frank Cooper, Monson, Tenn.
Allardt—Anna Mae Hammons, Allardt, Tenn.
Banner Springs—Not represented.
Union Ridge—Not represented.
Columbia Hill—Not represented.

PROCEEDINGS

FIRST DAY—THURSDAY

The association of ministers and delegates composing the Eastern Division of the Free Will Baptist Church of Christ met with the Shady Grove Church, October 10, 1946.

The former Moderator and Assistant Moderator being absent, the Clerk, Bro. Reid Watson, proceeded to organize by electing Bro. Barney Cooper, Moderator; Bro. Herman Hooten, Assistant Moderator; Bro. George K. Owens Clerk; Bro. Daily Norrod, Assistant Clerk.

The Moderator called for enrollment of delegates and the following responded:

High Point—Tommie Adams, Maggie Adams.

Union Point—A. B. Phillips, Bud Vaughn.

Center Point—Clem Whited, Frank Cooper, Omer Allred, Charlie Wright.

Allardt—Cody Homons, Dewey Anderson.

Highland—Daily Norrod, J. C. Smith, I. E. Sheton.

Cross Road Chapel—Jonah Cooper.

Sharp's Place—Represented by letter.

Stockton Chapel—Alma Brannon, Willie Cooper.

Shady Grove—Lloyd Bonham, Odum Howard.

Rinnie—Oscar Smith, Virgil Beaty.

Hoover's Chapel—Joe Hicks, Daniel Hicks.

Mt. Pleasant—Tim Tinch, Frank Tinch.

Pleasant Green—Calvin Adams, Thurmon Lavender.

Martha Washington—Claude Wilson, Dewey Beaty.

Cooper's Chapel—Jacob Cooper, Albert Cooper.

Committee on Devotional reported Thursday night W. H. Stepp and Barney Cooper; Friday, 11 o'clock, Richard Byars and Ernest Howard; Friday night, Ealis Stephens and Tom Conatser; Saturday, 11 o'clock, Geo. Owens and Charlie Wright.

Committee on Prayer Meeting reported—We beg leave to report as follows: We recommend that each pastor and member help to organize prayer meeting in churches and throughout the community.

FIRST DAY—THURSDAY

A committee was appointed on prayer meeting: Chairman, Charlie Wright; Omar Allred, Jacob Cooper.

A committee on Sunday School—Chairman, Frank Cooper; Brother Shelton, Albert Howard.

A committee on Temperance—Hershel Phillips, Ernest Howard, W. C. Whited.

Reading rules of decorum—moved and second that the Rules of Decorum stand as is.

A committee on devotional service—Chairman, Reid Watson; Albert Cooper, Daily Norrod.

A committee on resolutions—Chairman, Richard Byars; W. E. Stepp, Brother Hammonds.

A committee on presbytery—Daily Norrod, W. E. Stepp, Reid Watson.

Motion made and second that the association adjourn until 8 o'clock Friday.

Introductory sermon by Hershel Phillips and Hermon Hooten.

FRIDAY—SECOND DAY.

The association met at 8 o'clock. After singing a congregational song, prayer was led by Bro. Robert Barnes.

Committee on Temperance reported. We agree to stand on and adopt Section 13 in Declaration of Rights and that said Section be strictly enforced.

Committee on Sunday School reported—We urge each member to attend Sunday School and each church to have Sunday School and that the leaders visit your community and encourage the children to attend.

Committee on Resolution reported—We agree that the Rules of Decorum stand as is, and we encourage you to enforce the Rules.

A presbytery was called and reported and ordained Bro. Charlie Wright, Bro. Ealis Stephens and Bro. Ernest O. Howard.

Motion was made and second that the committee on Devotion select the preachers for night service as same as previous to 1944-45.

Letters from the churches were called for and read.

After preaching by Bro. Byars and Bro. Howard the association was dismissed until Saturday, 8 o'clock.

THIRD DAY—SATURDAY

The association met at 8 o'clock. After singing by congregation, prayer was led by Bro. Omer Allred.

Committee on Finance reported \$38.40 for orphans home, \$40.00 be spent for printing minutes and the Clerk have the rest for expenses.

The committee on Resolutions reported. We your committee on Resolutions beg leave to report as follows: Be it Resolved that we stand on the Rules of Decorum in ordaining our ministers and that each church shall have

a Treasurer and Steward and the Steward shall take up a free-will offering each church meeting in order that we may have money to pay our pastors and evangelists and to build more churches to work in. We urge each to send as much as they can to the orphans home.

Signed:

Richard Byars,

W. E. Stepp,

Bro. Hammonds.

Committee on Obituary reported—Sister Lillie Cooper, Bro. William Cooper, Sister Lois Walker, Bro. Ike Dixon, Sister Susie Walker, Sister Sindrella Cooper.

The next association will be held with the Cooper's Chapel Church, Fin-tress County, Tennessee, beginning Friday morning at 8 o'clock before the fourth (4th) Sunday in October, 1947.

Bro. Richard Byars was elected to preach the introductory sermon.

Motion made and second that Rev. Richard Byars and Rev. Herman Hooten serve as evangelists.

Rev. George K. Owens, Reciting Elder.

Quarterly Conference to be held 1 Martha Washington Church, Satur-day morning, 10 o'clock before second Sunday in January, 1947. All min-isters are urged to attend.

PASTORAL LABOR

Cooper Chapel—Richard Byars, pastor; George K. Owens, assistant.

Stockton Chapel—Oscar Smith, pastor; Barney Cooper, assistant.

Mt. Pleasant—Ealis Stephens, pastor; Logan Tinch, assistant.

Rinnie—Barney Cooper, pastor; Charlie Wright, assistant.

Pleasant Green—Ealis Stephens, pastor, Clay Smith, assistant.

Union Point—Melvin Cook, pastor.

Hoover's Chapel—Ealis Stephens, pastor; Logan Tinch, assistant.

Allardt—Oscar Smith, pastor.

High Point—Reid Watson, pastor; Melvin Cook, assistant.

Shady Grove—Reid Watson, pastor.

Highland—Tommie Vaughn, pastor; Daily Norrod and Hershel Phillips, assistants.

Center Point—Richard Byars, pastor; Boyd Choate and Barney Cooper, assistants.

Martha Washington—Daily Norrod, pastor; Herman Hooten, assistant.

Crossroad Chapel—Thomas Conatser, pastor; Barney Cooper, assistant.

Sharp's Place—Thomas Conatser, pastor; Barney Cooper, assistant.

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

Section 2.—It shall be the duty of the deacons of the church 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 church to choose a committee to settle 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 all persons who become members of the Freewill Baptist church who have not been baptised by immersion, and that for the answer of good conscience, to attend the ordinance.

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 question. 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? Are you willing to walk in all His Holy precepts.

Section 5.—It shall be the duty of stewards to advise the church to promote means to sustain the church and preachers.

Section 6.—It shall be the duty of 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 correct minutes of all their church meetings in a book kept for that purpose.

Section 8.—Each church represented in the Annual Association shall be entitled to two delegate votes, 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, washing the saints' feet, the Lord's supper, 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 credential.

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.

Section 12.—No minister shall be ordained in the Freewill Baptist church without first being licensed for a period of 12 months.

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.

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 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 on

ly, and no minister or member should be ex-communicated 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 Association 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—Be It Resolved that no minister be allowed to aid or abet either, direct or indirectly in the manufacture of intoxicating drinks or to indulge in the sale of them. We know by observance that it is a great hindering cause to the upbuilding of God's kingdom on earth.

A—Be It Further Resolved that no minister or member of the Freewill Baptist Church be allowed to dram drink.

B—Be It Further Resolved that no member of this church shall tolerate the sale or manufacture or use or sale of intoxicating drinks, such as liquors, wines or beers in their homes or on the-premises.

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.

MINISTERS REPORT

Rev, Thomas Conatser—Pastored 3 churches; Professions witnessed unknown; Baptized unknown; Added to church 25; Held six revivals; Visited many prayer services; Funeral services unknown; Married one couple; Church offerings: Sharp's Place \$148.46, Martha Washington \$73.31, Cross Roads \$22.98, Other Offerings \$39.13; Total offering, \$263.88.

Rev. Chester Stephens—I have pastored one church; Helped conduct four revivals; Worked in 5 other revivals; Preached 61 sermons; Witnessed 95 professions; Helped conduct 3 funerals; Accepted 5 into the church; Baptized 3; Married one couple; My offerings for the year, \$213.11.

Name of Church	Postoffice and Counties All in Tennessee	Counties	Increase by Letter	Incr. by Recommendation	Increase by Profession	Decrease by Exclusion	Decrease by Letter	Decrease by Death	Total Fellowship	Day of Meeting	Orphan's Home	Contribution
Cooper's Chappel	Manson	Fentress	0	0	0	0	0	2	39	4	\$1.00	\$2.00
Stockton Chappel	Ben Stockton	Fentress	0	0	2	0	0	0	37	1	1.75	2.00
Mt. Pleasant	Jamestown	Fentress	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	2	2.00	1.00
Rinne	Crossville	Cumberland	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	4	3.50	2.00
Columbia Hill	Monterey, R-1	Overton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pleasant Green	Deer Lodge, R-1	Morgan	0	0	0	0	0	0	42	1	4.15	2.00
Union Point	Crawford, R-1	Overton	0	0	5	0	0	0	31	3	0	4.00
Hoovers Chappel	Jamestown	Fentress	0	0	0	0	0	0	34	4	3.50	2.00
Allard	Allardt	Fentress	0	0	5	0	1	0	36	3	3.00	2.00
High Point	Deer Lodge	Morgan	0	0	1	0	0	0	11	3	5.00	2.00
Shady Grove	Lancing	Morgan	0	0	10	0	0	0	70	2	0	3.00
Banner Springs	Banner Springs	Fentress	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Highland	Livingston, R-3	Overton	0	0	0	0	0	0	86	3	3.00	3.40
Center Point	Manson	Fentress	0	0	0	3	0	1	180	2	3.50	2.00
Jonesville	Deer Lodge	Fentress	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Union Ridge	Monterey, R-3	Overton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Martha Washington	Clartrange	Fentress	0	1	2	0	0	0	26	2	2.25	3.00
Crossroads Chappel	Jamestown	Fentress	0	0	22	0	0	0	22	3	1.00	2.00
Sharp's Place	E. Jamestown	Fentress	0	0	7	0	0	0	7	1	1.00	2.00

FORM OF LETTER TO CHURCH MEMBERS

To All Lovers of Jesus Christ: This is to certify that the beloved-----
----- is a member of the Freewill Christian Baptist
Church of Christ at----- County, State of Tenn., and is
hereby dismissed from us in full fellowship. This is done by a voice of the
entire church, the----- day of -----, 194-----
----- Moderator ----- Clerk

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 unanimous voice of the church and signed by order of the
same on the----- day of -----, 194-----

----- Moderator ----- Clerk

