

MINUTES
OF THE
Forty Seventh Annual Session
OF THE
WESTERN DIVISION
OF THE
Stone Association
OF THE
FREEWILL CHRISTIAN BAPTIST CHURCH OF
CHRIST
CONVENED WITH
ALLEN'S CHAPEL CHURCH
PUTNAM COUNTY, TENN.

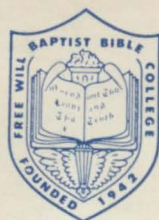
OCTOBER 17-18-19

1912



From Rev. Critt Helman 979 West Broad Cookeville Tenn
Rev. G. B. Brown.....Moderator,
Rev. L. F. Smith.....Clerk.

Baxter Print Baxter, Tenn.



FREE WILL BAPTIST
BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented by

Rev. Critt Holman

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Rev. G. B. Brown
Sparta, Tenn.
Moderator of Stone
Association



Rev. L. F. Smith
Pleasant Hill, Tenn.
Home Missionary and Clerk
of Stone Association

MINUTES

The Ministers and Delegates composing the Western Division of Stone Association of Freewill Christian Baptist Church of Carist, met with Allen's Chapel, P. C. Tenn., on Thursday before the third Sunday in October, 1912, the forty-seventh Annual session. After singing and prayer by Rev. G. D. McReynolds, the Introductory sermon was preached by Rev. W. B. Gentry. After which the Association was called to order by Rev. J. W. Stone, Moderator, and proceeded to organize by electing Rev. G. B. Brown, Moderator, and Rev. W. E. Richardson, Assistant Moderator; and Rev. L. F. Smith, Clerk, and Mrs. H. P. Smith, Assistant Clerk. J. W. Stone retired and G. B. Brown took the chair and the regular order of business was followed.

The roll was then called by churches and delegate's names enrolled as follows:

Allen's Chapel P. C.—J. D. Brewington, B. M. Vinson
Allen's Chapel O. C.—Marion Loftis
Board Valley—G. W. Randolph
Baker's Cross Roads—by letter
Bear Cove—R. F. Baker
Cane Creek—R. D. Ellis, J. F. Gentry, N. B. Bussell
Caney Fork—G. W. Mansell, Benton Phifer
Dotson's Branch—S. H. Henley, Sidney Hicks
De Rossett—C. C. De Rossett
Flat Rock—James Vanwinkle
Free Union—John L. Presley, Calvin Putty, Charley Brown
Glade Creek—J. N. Emery
Highland—O. V. Billbrey, D. B. Hammond, J. A. Ramsey
Hensley's Chapel—
Johnson's Church—Rush England, G. T. Whiterker
Johnson's Chapel—J. L. Johnson
Johnson's Stand—P. W. Hill
Laurel Creek—by letter
Loan Oak—J. N. Bryant, Cord Mackey
Laurel Springs—
Lost Creek—Enoch Hale
Mt. Pleasant—

Meridian—John Pugh
 Macedonia—J. B. Walker, Burl Jones
 Mt. Union—L. S. Roberson
 New Era—by letter
 New Harmony—
 Pleasant Ridge—T. M. Mackey, George Baker
 Poplar Springs—John Ray
 Post Oak Shade—O. H. Kirby, H. W. Kirby
 Poplar Grove—C. Bohanon
 Rocky Point—James Officer
 Shady Grove—by letter
 Smith's Chapel—Lee Page, A. A. Hill
 Watson's Chapel—
 Walker's Creek—
 Union Hill—
 Zion Hill—W. H. Judd, James Lafever, Andrew Lafever
 Sister Churches
 Eastland—M. L. Wilson
 Zion Hill C. C.—H. J. Vanwinkle, P. H. Norris

Order of business was suspended and committee on devotional services appointed viz: Pastor and delegates of this church.

Rules of decorum read and approved.

Delegates assigned homes.

Report of committee on devotional exercises received and read and approved.

On motion we adjourned to meet at 8 o'clock Friday morning.

FRIDAY MORNING

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. After singing and prayer by L. F. Smith the roll was called and minutes of Thursday read and approved.

The appointment of committees was taken up and the following were appointed: Home Missions—A. R. Massa, ch. J. J. Swift, R. F. Baker.

Sabbath School—H. P. Smith, ch. G. W. Randolph, O. H. Kirby.

Obituaries—B. M. Vinson, ch. J. N. Emery, L. S. Robinson.

Temperance—J. J. Swift, ch. J. F. Gentry, A. A. Hill.

Resolutions—J. F. Gentry, ch. W. N. Selby, G. D. McReynolds

Finance—W. C. Swift, ch. Benton Phifer, R. D. Ellis.

Publication and Education—E. W. Stone, J. F. Gentry. R. F. Baker.

The reading of church letters begun and all read that were on hand

Petitionary letters called for and none received

Corresponding letters from Sister Associations called for and one received and read from Cumberland Association.

On motion Rev. E. S. Pruitt and Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Smith were invited to sit in council with us.

On call for special committees two answered.

The committee on Manual held until Manual published.

On motion the Presbytery was appointed to pass on work of Manual before publication.

On motion the committee on Zion Hill church be discharged as per report.

On motion we adjourned to meet at 1.30 o'clock.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The Association met pursuant adjournment. After singing and prayer by W. E. Richardson, on motion a committee be appointed to convey the title of a piece of land, on which Clouse's Chapel was built, back to C. S. Clouse. The following were appointed on said committee: G. W. Foster, W. M. Shirley, T. M. Macky

On motion we adopt the church letter form to the Association gotten up and printed by Mrs. H. P. Smith, and expenses be taken out of minute money, and a form be sent to each church.

On motion we adjourned to meet Saturday morning, 8 o'clock.

SATURDAY MORNING

The Association met pursuant adjournment and after singing and prayer by E. S. Pruitt, on motion W. S. Clouse and J. F. Gentry were appointed as delegates to write and bear a letter to Cumberland Association.

On motion L. A. Allen and M. S. Wheeler go as delegates to Eastern division of Stone Association and bear a letter.

On motion the committee on Pastorial labor was appointed.

On motion the \$10 that A. R. Massa owes on missions go to the Publishing Company.

On motion we adjourned until 1 o'clock, p. m.

The Association pursuant to adjournment and singing and prayer by G. D. McReynolds the roll was called. On motion a board of Treasure was elected which consisted of W. S. Clouse as ch., W. N. Selby sec., and G. D. McReynolds treas.

On motion we tender thanks of Association to Bro. and Sister H. P. Smith for their assistance during this sitting of Association.

On motion Johnsons church was selected, by acclimation, as the next sitting of Association and Eli Richardson preach the Introductory sermon and J. W. Stone Alternate.

The following committees handed in their reports.
MISSIONS---We your committee on Home Missions submit the following report: We have chosen Bro. L. F. Smith, Pleasant Hill, Tenn., to serve 12 months as our Evangelist and make reports quarterly to the Board and monthly to the Press and we solicit a hearty co-operation with him in this great work.

A. R. Massa

J. J. Swift

R. F. Baker

Sabbath School---We your committee on Sabbath School work would most respectfully submit the following report: Believing as we do and is often said, that the Sunday School is the nursery of the church, where the children are taught and their young minds and hearts are impressed with wholesome Scriptural lessons tending to lead them to the thought that they are immortal beings and that such impressions in Sunday School often brings abundant fruit in the early life, and further, statistics show that a very small percentage of persons who are brought up in Sunday School with due care are ever arraigned before the Courts of the State on criminal charges or incarcerated in prisons for crime. We would recommend that every church in the Stone Association make every effort possible to organize Sunday Schools in every church and that the parents not only send their children but go with them and show that the Sunday School is not a place of recreation but a place where they are to learn lessons for time and Eternity, and God will bless the parents, the children and the church. Let every pastor preach at least one sermon each year at each of his churches on the good of Sunday Schools.

H. P. Smith ch.

G. W. Randolph

O. H. Kirby

Obituaries—We your committee on Obituaries submit the following report: whereas we find the last enemy, "death" has visited our churches and taken from our ranks 19 of our beloved members. We trust they have all joined the great Assembly above and our loss is their gain. We extend our prayers and sympathies to their bereaved families.

B. M. Vinson

J. N. Emery

L. S. Roberson

Temperance—We your committee on Temperance beg leave to submit the following report. The time for discussing the evils of intemperance has passed; as they have been so great and burdensome that all are now aware that the cause of Temperance in all things is a question of great importance, not only to our denomination but the world at large. While the people of our Nation, both Christian and sinner are being aroused to the need of the hour and are joining the reform procession.

We as Freewill Baptist should take a front rank and proclaim that we are opposed to the liquor traffic in all its attendant evils, and that we will never cease to war against it until they are driven from the world.

Resolved, that we help our pastors urge upon their members the great injury to the cause of Christ by visiting saloons or using liquor as a beverage.

Resolved, that we help temperance societies and the anti-saloon league in their efforts to exterminate the liquor from our land.

Jas. J. Swift

J. F. Gentry

A. A. Hill

Finance—We your committee on Finance submit the following Where as we find \$27.26 paid in for minutes, we recommend that 1000 copies be printed and the remainder of said sum be allowed Mrs. H. P. Smith for her services as assistant clerk.

W. C. Swift

R. D. Ellis

Benton Phifer

Publication and Education—We your committee on Publication and Education submit the following report. Where as a new era has dawned upon the Stone Association, as well as the Freewill Baptist in general, when in July 1912 the "Freewill Baptist Messenger", a splendid religious paper was published by the Freewill Baptist Publishing Co. at Baxter Tenn. and sent out among the people and in as much as it is a thoroughly religious paper worthy of the support of not only the Freewill Baptist but all people who are religiously inclined. Therefore be it resolved that the Western Division of Stone Association adopt the "Freewill Baptist Messenger" as its official organ and that they pledge their support in the way of subscriptions and co-operation in every way possible.

Be it further resolved that each Minister having charge of churches take at least two public collections during the year for purpose of promoting the cause of the paper and that same contribution be sent to Treasurer of the Publishing Co. and let the first contribution be sent in by the first of January and the second by the first of June respectively and we recommend that each Minister see that the "Freewill Baptist Messenger" is a regular visitor in each home of his congregation.

R. F. Baker
E. W. Stone
J. F. Gentry

Devotional Exercises—We your committee on Devotional exercises beg leave to submit the following report:

Thursday night—J. W. Stone, Friday 11 o'clock—J. P. Chastain
Friday night—E. S. Pruitt, Saturday 11 o'clock—L. F. Smith
Saturday night—J. J. Swift, Sunday 11 o'clock—G. B. Brown.

W. S. Clouse
J. D. Brewington
B. M. Vinson

Special committee—We your committee to dispose of Zion Hill ask leave to report that the property has not been disposed of and we ask that we be discharged as the property is to be used for building a church again.

R. F. Baker
L. F. Smith

Resolutions—We your committee on Resolutions submit the following: Be it resolved each Minister appoint two agents in each church under his charge to take subscriptions for the Freewill Baptist Messenger, and also one correspondent,

Resolved that this Association at its present sitting create a Treasury board and establish a system whereby we can receive donations to our church for the purpose of extending our church in desolate places and for the promotion of other enterprises that are for the upbuilding of our church and its people.

Resolved that this Association at its present sitting call a short Ministerial Conference for the special benefit of the young ministers, but all are invited to attend. The Editor of the Messenger will have power to call this Conference together through the paper. Churches desiring to entertain this Conference will solicit it by corresponding with the Editor of Messenger

Resolved that we tender thanks to Cumberland Association for their hearty co-operation in behalf of paper.

Resolved that we tender thanks to the Board of Trustees and Publishers of Messenger for their faithful work in starting and running our paper.

Resolved that, as we have spent the period of this Association with the good people of Allen's Chapel P. C., we tender them our sincere and heart felt thanks for their courtesy and hospitality during our stay in their homes and community.

LETTER FROM CUMBERLAND ASSOCIATION

We the Freewill Christian Baptist in Cumberland Association send greeting to the Brethren composing the Stone Association. We send our beloved Bro. E. S. Pruitt to represent our Cumberland Association at Stone Association when convened with the Allen's Chapel P. C. Tenn. on Thursday before the 3rd Sunday in Oct. 1912. The Cumberland Association met with Mt. Zion churches Cheatham Co. Tenn. on Wednesday before the 1st Sunday in Oct. 1912. Was represented 36 churches, about 125 delegates and preachers. We had the most progressive Association we have ever had. We organized a school for

Ministers with Rev. J. L. Welch as President. This school is especially for our Preachers to become instructed on the Bible teachings. We want your hearty co-operation in this work. We certainly appreciate your paper, the Freewill Baptist Messenger, and will do all in our power to make it a success.

Our next Association meets with Shady Grove, Montgomery County Tenn. on Wednesday before the 1st Sunday in Oct. 1913

Any information desired may be had by addressing Rev. J. L. Welch, Moderator 1615 Arthur Ave. Nashville, Tenn. or Mrs. H.P. Smith Clerk, Baxter, Tenn.

Report of Sec, Treas. of Freewill Baptist Pub. Co.—

Ammount in Treas. at beginning of year	\$15.03
Ammount collected by contributions	83.32
Ammount collected by subscriptions for paper	121.00
Ammount collected by job work	143.76
Total	\$363.11

Ammount paid out for commission, supplies, notes, etc.	\$360.15
Ammount in Treas.	2.96

Total \$363.11

E. W. Stone, Sec. Treas.

PASORAL LABOR

Allen's Chapel, P. C.—W. S. Clouse, Elisha Henry

Allen's Chapel, O. C.—L. A. Allen

Board Valley—J. P. Chastain

Baker's Cross Roads—E. W. Stone

Bear Cove—E. W. Stone

Cane Creek—J. W. Stone, G. D. McReynolds

Caney Fork—G. E. Pennington

Dodtson's Branch—W. E. Richardson

DeRossett—W. C. Swift, Isaac Todd

Flat Rock—Isaac Todd, R. G. Lewis

Free Union—W. S. Clouse, Elisha Henry

Glade Creek—J. J. Swift

Highland—D. T. Cantrell, Elisha Henry

Hensley's Chapel—J. L. Hensley
Johnson's Church—J. J. Swift, John McCulley
Johnson's Chapel—G. D. McReynolds, V. W. Deweese
Johnson's Stand—W. B. Gentry
Laur Creek—R. G. Lewis
Lone Oak—G. W. Foster
Laurel Springs—S. E. Knox
Lost Creek—J. P. Chastain
Mt. Pleasant—J. W. Crane
Meridian—G. M. Green
Macedonia—D. T. Cantrell
Mt. Union—W. B. Gentry
New Era—R. G. Lewis
New Harmony—J. W. Crane
Pleasant Ridge—G. W. Foster
Poplar Springs—L. A. Allen
Post Oak Shade—W. S. Clouse, G. D. McReynolds
Poplar Grove—G. D. McReynolds
Rocky Point—J. W. Stone
Shady Grove—C. M. Billbrey
Smith's Chapel—G. W. Foster, J. E. Onsby
Watson's Chapel---
Walker's Creek—
Union Hill--G. L. Garrison
Zion Hill, P. C. J. L.-Myres, V. W. Deweese
Eastlaand---J. E. Onesby, Isaac Todd
Zion Hill---J. P. Chastain, Isaac Todd

MINISTERS' REPORTS

Ministers	No of churches	Serius preached	Exortations	No confesions	No received	No baptized	Contributions	Post Office
								All in Tenn.
J. P. Chastain	1	00	00	00	36	17	\$ 51,73	Ravenscroft
J. L.-Myres	3	68	00	00	38	33	74,18	Baxter R 2
W. B. Gentry	1	41	00	00	13	9	28,18	Cookeville R9
W. S. Clouse	3	47	00	00	10	7	95.55	„ „,2
G. B. Brown	3	85	24	00	12	8	85,06	Sparta „,8
M. Judd	2	58	23	7	13	6	4,40	Cookeville „,2
G. W. Foster	1	45	00	00	18	14	30,05	Monterey „,1
J. W. Stone	3	82	00	00	13	11	171,13	Bloom'n Sprs
R. G. Lewis	2	50	00	00	25	00	4,08	Clify
G. F. Henry	1	20	00	4	00	00	7,00	Monterey R1
Isaac Todd	0	18	00	00	00	00		Clifty
Elisha Henry	0	17	00	00	00	00		Cookeville
M. S. Wheeler	0	49	00	00	00	00		Bloom'n Sprs
L. A. Allen	2	00	00	00	25	18	21,10	Hillham R1
J. J. Swift	2	89	00	00	25	24	85,18	Sparta
W. C. Swift	2	45	00	00	16	26	57,31	„
L. F. Smith	2	107	0000	10	6		95,65	Pleasant Hil

STATISTICAL TABLE

Churches	Increase		Decrease		Total Fellowship	Paid Pastor	Days of meeting	Post Office		
	By Profession	By Letter	By Restor'd'n	By Exclusion						
Allen's Chapel O C	15	00	00	00	00	95	20.00	1 Hitham, Overton Co.		
Allen's Chapel P C	00	00	00	00	00	97	40.00	1 Baxter, Putnam Co.		
Board Valley	14	00	00	4	2	00	234	30.05	2 Sparta, White Co. R.8	
Baker's X Roads	8	00	1	00	2	00	61	74.15	2 Creston, Cumber'd Co	
Bear Cove	6	00	00	00	00	00	146	62.10	4 Sparta, White Co.	
Cane Creek	11	00	2	00	1	00	207	34.23	4 Cookeville Putnam Co	
Caney Fork	00	00	00	00	1	1	134	00.00	3 " " "	
Dobson's Branch	11	1	2	00	00	1	218	28.18	1 " " "	
De Rossett	00	00	00	2	00	00	38	7.13	2 De Rossett White " "	
Eastland	9	12	3	00	00	00	24	8.25	4 Eastland " "	
Flat Rock	19	1	2	00	16	00	91	50.00	1 Erasmus Gumb'l'd " "	
Glide Creek	8	00	2	00	00	00	59	30.00	2 Ravenscroft Put'n " "	
Free Union	00	00	00	00	00	1	68	32.05	2 Bloom'n Sprgs " "	
Highland	5	00	00	2	00	00	44	4.95	1 Booz Overton " "	
Johnson's Church	00	2	00	00	2	00	60	25.00	0 Monterey Putman " "	
Johnson's Chapel	00	00	00	00	00	1	24	8.40	1 Silverpoint " "	
Johnson's stand	00	00	00	00	1	00	47	7.05	3 Mayland Cumb'l'd " "	
Laurel Creek	00	00	00	00	00	3	35	3.88	1 Winesap " "	
Lone Oak	9	00	3	00	00	00	61	8.00	1 Cookeville Putman " "	
Lost Creek	5	00	00	3	4	00	73	45.83	2 Greentree White " "	
Meridian	2	00	00	00	00	00	48	32.50	2 Crab Orch'd Cum. " "	
Macedonia	00	00	00	00	00	00	66	41.00	2 Broth'n Putman " "	
Mt. Union	7	00	00	00	00	00	170	52.49	1 Monterey " "	
New Era	00	00	00	00	00	00	45	1.00	2 Grapevine " "	
Pleasant Ridge	10	00	2	1	00	00	160	17.00	3 Sparta White " "	
Poplar Springs	9	00	00	00	00	2	113	11.00	3 Cookeville Put'n " "	
Poplar Grove	00	00	00	00	00	1	37	12.30	1 " " " "	
Post Oak Shade	6	2	3	00	3	5	00	116	22.50	3 " " " "
Rocky Point	6	00	1	00	2	00	00	126	45.45	3 " " " "
Shady Grove	1	0	00	00	3	00	00	85	6.85	4 Monterey " "
Smith's Chapel	00	2	1	00	0	00	8	114	43.06	1 Ravenscroft " "
Zion Hill P C	15	0	00	00	00	00	77	18.15	3 Silverpoint " "	
Zion Hill C C	10	18	00	00	0	00	28	11.06	3 Erasmus Cumb 'd " "	

Report of Presbytery

The Presbytery of the Western Division of Stone Association met Oct. 18th 1912 and proceeded to organize by electing Rev. L. F. Smith Moderator and Rev. W. N. Selby Clerk.

Whereupon Bros. C. M. Billbrey, R. G. Lewis, Isaac Todd M. S. Wheeler, Elisha Henry came before the Presbytery for Ordination. Upon examination we decided to Ordain the above named applicants.

Also Bros. J. E. Onesby, John McCulley, V. W. Deweese came before the Presbytery and License were granted them.

The License of B. L. Garrison and B. Sherrel were extended another year.

On motion the Presbytery adjourned for the time being.

L. F. Smith Moderator

W. N. Selby Clerk

W. B. Gentry

J. W. Stone

E. W. Stone

L. A. Allen

W. S. Clouse

Order of Business

1 Introductory Sermon. 2 Organization. 3 Enrollment of Delegates. 4 Door opened for Sister churches. 5 Rules of Decorum. 6 Committee on Devotional exercises. 7 Delegates Assigned homes. 8 Adjournment.

Second day—1 Calling the roll and reading minutes. 2 Appointment of committees. 3 Reading letters from various churches. 4 Calling for corresponding letters from Sister Associations. 5 Hearing reports from special committees. 6 Miscellaneous business. 7 Adjournment.

Third day—1 Calling roll and reading minutes. 2 Hearing reports of standing committees. 3 Reports of Ministers called. 4 Report of Treas. of Home mission board. 5 Appointment of Home mission Board. 6 Appointment of Corresponding delegates. 7 Appointment of Committee on Pastoral labor. 8 Receiving report of committee on Pastoral labor. 9 Place of meeting of next Association. 10 Thanks to church and vicinity for kindness. 11 Minutes of the day read. 12 Adjournment.

DECLARATION OF RIGHTS

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

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

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

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

Sec. 5. Every member has an inalienable right 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 the law of their country; or the rights of their fellowman.

Sec. 6. Church trials should be conducted on gospel principles only, and no minister or member should be excommunicated except for immorality, the propagation of unchristian doctrine, neglect of duty enjoined by the word of God or rules of the church.

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

Sec. 8. There may be three grades of associations established in the Freewill Baptist Church, 1st, the Monthly Association; 2nd, Annual Association; 3rd, General Association; all of which may be established by the rules of the church.

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

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

Sec. 11. It shall be the duty of each church to send up their delegates, with letters in order, to the Annual Association,

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

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 to the upbuilding of Christ's kingdom.

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. Mathew 18:13-17.

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of the Deacons of the churches to go to the transgressing members, talk to them, admonish them, and they shall have until the second church meeting to make reconciliation. It may be the duty of churches to choose a committee to settle questions of aggrieved causes.

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

Sec. 4. It shall be the duty of each minister, on receiving members into the church, to ask the 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 precepts?"

Sec. 5. 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 a good conscience, to attend to the ordinance of baptism.

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

Sec. 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 that purpose.

Sec. 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.

Sec. 9. That, for the purpose of ordaining Elders there shall convene a Presbytery. Said Presbytery shall consist of three or more ordained Elders and they shall elect a moderator and Clerk from among themselves for the present session. It shall be the duty of said Presbytery to examine all applicants that may come

before them for license and ordination, and if found competent shall ordain them or set them apart for the work by prayer and laying on of hands. Said Presbytery shall have full power to try ministers and deacons, composing this Association, for immorality, propagation of unchristian doctrine, neglect of duty enjoined by the Word of God or the rules of the church, on proper testimony: their decision to be final. Any member of the Presbytery shall have full power to convene a Presbytery in extraordinary session at any time for purpose of transacting any official business.

Sec. 10. 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 saint's feet and transacting of church business in general.

Sec. 11. Any one who desires the office of an Elder shall take the following steps before presenting himself for ordination. They shall be liberated by their churches to hold prayer meeting and comment on the Scripture for one year; at the expiration of twelve months, or any time thereafter; he shall go before a Presbytery for examination, and if found competent, they shall issue license for him, after he has had license for one year he shall go before a Presbytery for a second examination, and if found worthy, they shall ordain him to the office of Elder.

Sec. 12. 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.

Sec. 13. It shall be the duty of the Presbytery to give a letter of dismissal and recommendation to any ordained minister if in good standing wishing to leave our Association.

Sec. 14. It shall be the duty of each church on sending delegates to the annual Association, to furnish them with a stated amount that they will pay their pastor for his services. Any church or pastor failing to comply with said resolution shall be reported to the Association and such failure shall appear in the report of Committee on Support of Pastors.

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.

Art. 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.

Art. 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.

Art. 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 the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God by the resurrection of Jesus Christ

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

Art. 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.

Art. 7. We believe according to the Scriptures—Paul's letter to Hebrews 6:1-7—that after a man has been made partaker of the Holy Ghost, if he shall fall from grace, it is impossible ever to renew him again unto repentance, or restore him unto the favor of God.

Art. 8. We receive no person into the Freewill Christian Baptist Church of Christ only on the principle of their conversion.

Art. 9. We believe that no persons are members of the church of Christ only those who have the witness within themselves.

Art. 10. We believe that all the members of the church of Christ have a right to the sacramental table upon the principle of their acceptance with him, for St. Paul says: "But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup." (1 Cor, 11:28.)

