

Bill Ayers.

MINUTES

Minutes
of the

Fifty-Ninth Annual Session

Fifty Ninth Annual Session
of the

**Tennessee River Association
of Free Will Baptists**

Convened With

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Bumpas Creek Church

Lauderdale County, Alabama

On Thursday, Before the Third
Sunday in September, 1937, at 11 A. M.

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OFFICERS

J. W. Phillips	Moderator
W. C. Jones	Assistant Moderator
Mrs. C. G. Keenum	Clerk



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Wayne County, Tennessee, on Thursday before the Third
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PROCEEDINGS

The fifty-ninth annual session of the Tennessee River Association of the Free Will Baptist convened with Bumpas Creek church, in Lauderdale County, Alabama, on Thursday before the third Sunday in September, 1937--11 A. M.

The introductory sermon was delivered by Elder J. M. Kelsey and was followed by Elder H. M. Richardson. Adjourned to meet at 2:30 P.M.

Thursday Afternoon Session

Met according to adjournment with singing, Scripture reading, and prayer by Moderator J. W. Phillips.

Clerk being absent, move carried for the moderator to appoint a clerk substitute. Sula Hale appointed. *J. W. Phillips*

Move carried to perpetuate the union. *Sula Hale*

Visiting brothers and sisters from other denominations and associations invited to sit with us.

Bro. Roy Dickery and Bro. J. E. Martin were appointed reading clerks.

Called for letters from various churches.

Bumpas Creek—By letter and delegates, Bro. Johnnie Tune, Bro. Robert Benson, and Sister Mary Scott. *Bro. Roy Dickery*

Piney Grove—By letter and delegates, Bro. J. W. Sherfil, Bro. J. T. Gillis, and Bro. Dewey Hammock. *Bro. J. E. Martin*

Midway Chapel—By letter and delegates, Bro. Percy Hallmark, Bro. Howard Pace, and Sister Jennie Waldrep.

Harmony—By letter and delegates, Bro. Guy Grissom, Bro. W. Z. Valentine, Sister Sula Hale.

Abbey—Absent. *Johnnie Tune*

Mt. Zion—By letter and delegates, Bro. J. N. Parvin and Bro. H. C. Jeffreys. *A. A. Phillips*

Scott's Chapel—By letter and delegates, Bro. Tom Dickery, Bro. Leige Dickey, and Bro. Clyde Berry.

Poplar Springs—By letter and delegates, Bro. H. L. Smith, Bro. Dean Lambert, and Sister Mary Smith.

Solitude—Represented by Bro. J. E. Martin.

Beach Grove—Absent. *H. L. Smith*

Oak Grove—Gone to another association.

Murphy's Chapel—By letter and delegates, Bro. G. W. Scott and Sister G. W. Scott.

White's Creek—By letter and delegates, Bro. Bill White and Bro. Arthur Cassey.

Maple Grove—By letter and delegate, Bro. U. H. Bridges.

Mt. Olivet—By letter and delegates, Bro. J. T. Jones, Sister J. T. Jones, and Sister Minnie Webb.

Panther Creek—Defunct.

Community—By letter and delegates, Bro. H. L. Vickery, Bro. Frank Valentine, and Bro. J. W. Hall.

New Chapel—By letter and delegate, Elder J. E. Hueit.

Second Creek—By letter and delegates, Bro. Virgil Gean and Sister Virgil Gean.

Called for petitionary letters. Received none. *Virgil Gean*

Committees Appointed

Devotional Committee: Bro. Henry Scott, Bro. Luther Mansell, Bro. Alfred Austin, and Sister Mary Scott.

Finance Committee: Bro. G. W. Scott and Bro. J. T. Gillis.

General Business Committee: Elder B. A. Hale, Elder J. A. Moyer, and Bro. J. E. Martin.

Sunday School Committee: Bro. Henry Scott, Bro. W. A. Pool, and Bro. Howard Pace.

Committee on Education: Rev. L. R. Craig, Bro. J. H. Tune, and Bro. J. H. Gillis.

Temperance Committee: Bro. Robert Benson, Sister Jennie Waldrep, Sister H. L. Smith, and Sister Howard Pace.

Obituary Committee: Elder H. L. Smith, Elder H. M. Richardson, and Bro. Percy Hallmark.

Committee of Thanks: Bro. J. W. Sherril, Bro. Guy Grissom, and Bro. Liege Dickey.

Move carried to adjourn until 8:30 Friday morning.

The stand was filled Thursday night by Rev. L. R. Craig, and followed by Elder J. W. Phillips.

Friday Morning Session

Met according to adjournment by singing and Scripture reading by Moderator J. W. Phillips and prayer by Elder W. C. Jones.

Proceed to business by retiring for committee work.

Called to order by singing.

Lecture on Temperance—W. A. Pool.

Move carried to adjourn until 2:30 P.M.

The stand was filled by Elder J. A. Moyer, Friday, 11:00 A.M.

Friday Afternoon Session

Met according to adjournment by singing and Scripture reading by Moderator J. W. Phillips and prayer by Elder J. E. Hueit.

Proceed to business.

Various committee reports.

1. Committee Report on Treatise—

After carefully examining and comparing the Treatise of Faith adopted by the National Association at Nashville in 1935, with the original Treatise of Faith used by the Free Will Baptist, before the Division of the Free Will Baptist and the Free Baptist faction, we find them to be the same, except a few minor revisions. We therefore recommend the adoption of the above named Treatise by this Association. Elder W. C. Jones, Chairman.

Move carried to adopt the report.

2. Report of Trustees—

We have sold lot known as Mascedonia Church, on Brush Creek, for the sum of \$20.00, less \$7.00 expense, leaving a total of \$13.00 turned into the treasury. Bro. J. H. Gillis, Chairman.

Move carried to adopt report.

3. Report of Investigation of Oak Grove Church—

Move carried to receive Bro. Roy Dickery's report, and the Tennessee River Association drop Oak Grove church.

4. Report of Home Mission Board—

On the account of not having sufficient funds to begin and maintain a definite program in the field, we have, therefore decided it best to wait until more fund accumulated. Elder B. A. Hale, Chairman.

Move carried to adopt report.

5. Treasurer's Report—

The following amounts were contributed to the treasury by

Abbey Church	\$ 5.05
Bumpas Creek Church	5.00
Harmony Church	5.00
Midway Chapel	5.00
Scott's Chapel	5.00
Church Lot	13.00
Public Offering	6.75

\$44 80

AMOUNTS DISBURSED.

Writing of Bond	\$ 2 50
Treasurer's Book	.25
Supplement to Minutes	1.35
Money Order Fee	.13
Minute Record Book	1.83

\$ 6.06

Balance in Treasury..... \$38.74

EDGAR MCCORMACK, Treasurer, Leighton, Ala. Route 1.

Move carried to adopt the report.

6. General Business Committee—

(1) We recommend that we retain in our minutes the present resolution on Finance, with an urgent request that our churches, as a whole, be more closely conformed to all financial duties of the churches. As the need of finance grows more urgent every day, and our ministers apparently overlook the importance of the duty of the finance to the church, Be it resolved, That we request all of our pastors to preach at least one message a year to each of their churches on the duty of finance, and urge the adoption of some system, preferably the budget system, as a base on which to work.

(2) We also recommend the retention of resolution No. 2 on finance as in the 1936 minutes for the support of Home Mission work, as follows :

"Be it resolved, That each church be requested to raise an Associational Fund or Budget of \$5.00 to be placed in the treasury to take care of such incidental expenses as may be legally incurred, with such Home Mission work as may be directed by the Board."

(3) We recommend the adoption of this resolution, seeing the need of definite preaching program for each session of our association. Be it resolved That we make it a rule to elect or appoint a committee at each association in advance, to arrange a suitable program for Devotional and Preaching service—a committee of at least three to arrange this program.

(4) We recommend the election of an associational pastor, instead of an associational evangelist, to take care of the churches of our association which are without pastors, and to work with and under the Home Mission Board. And we further recommend that we retain our present Home Mission Board.

(5) We furthermore recommend that it be resolved, That the clerks of all our churches include in their letters the names of all deaths, with the number of deaths. Elder B. A. Hale, chairman.

Move carried to adopt report as read.

7. Sunday School Committee—

We, your committee on Sunday Schools, submit the report that we find a decrease in the number of church schools. We find sixteen churches with over 1200 members, with only five Sunday schools, with a total of 33 membership.

We recommend that the clerk of this association add another column to the table of statistics showing number of members of Sunday schools in their churches.

We also recommend that the pastor, together with the messengers sitting in this body, organize a Sunday school, on return home, at the church of churches having no school.

Elder H. L. Smith, Chairman.

Move carried to adopt the report.

8. Temperance Committee—

We submit the following: We recommend that all of our members abstain from all strong drinks, and that we do all we can against this great evil. Teach our children to abstain from strong drinks and be temperate in all things. We recommend that our ministers preach against this evil. We are all bitterly against strong drink, because it has wrecked many a sweet home.

Sister Jennie Pace, Chairman.

Move carried to adopt the report.

9 Education Committee—

We, the committee, beg to submit that the entire membership read the Bible daily, and any other good literature. Be sure that the literature to be read does not mislead anyone, for much of it seems to compare with the Bible, but when carefully studied it does not compare with the Bible. We urge our membership to be careful what they read. Rev. L. R. Craig, Chairman.

Move carried to adopt report.

Move carried to adjourn until 8:00 A.M. Saturday.

The stand was filled Friday night by Rev. J. B. Harper, followed by Elder W. C. Jones.

Saturday Morning Session

Met according to adjournment with singing and Scripture reading by Moderator J. W. Phillips and prayer by Elder H. L. Smith.

Resumed hearing of committee reports.

10 Obituary Committee—

We, the committee on obituary, beg to submit with sadness the following report: We find, since our last association, death has taken from our midst nine of our beloved members. We realize that our loss is Heaven's gain. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, sayeth the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them." Rev. 14:13. Elder H. L. Smith, Chairman.

Move carried to adopt report.

11. Finance Committee—

Bumpas Creek	\$ 3.10
Piney Grove <i>J. H. Cooper</i>	3.10
Midway Chapel	2.20
Harmony	5.00
Scott's Chapel	3.30
Mt. Zion	4.25
Poplar Springs	1.50
Murphy's Chapel	1.00
White's Creek	2.40
Maple Grove	1.00
Mt. Olivet	1.75
Second Creek	2.85
Community	2.65
New Chapel	2.00
Free Will Offering	6.63
Offering for Ministers' Cards	3.50

Total \$46.23

We, the committee on finance, recommend that the clerk send minutes to each church according to contribution paid by each church.

J. T. Gillis, Chairman.

Move carried to adopt report.

12. Resolution of Thanks—

We, the committee on thanks, beg to submit our heart-felt thanks to the people of Bumpas Creek, and its surroundings, for their hospitality and kindness shown us during this association. May God's richest blessings rest and abide with these people until we meet in Heaven.

Bro. Leige Dickey, Chairman.

Move carried to take up free will offering. Received \$6.48 for minute funds.

Election of Associational Pastor—Rev. J. A. Staggs.

Move carried to strike out Article No. 3 in the new constitution and insert Article No. 5 of the old constitution.

Election of Moderator—Elder B. A. Hale. Assistant Moderator—Rev. J. New A. Moyer, for a term of two years, beginning next association.

Election of Clerk—Sula Hale, for a term of two years, beginning next association. Assistant Clerk—Edgar McCormack.

Election of committee to arrange the devotional program for the next association—Bro. J. E. Martin, Bro. J. N. Parvin, and Bro. R. T. Dickey.

Move carried to adjourn until 2:00 P. M.

The stand was filled by Rev. J. A. Staggs Saturday at 11:00 A. M.

Saturday Afternoon Session

Met according to adjournment by singing. Scripture reading by Moderator J. W. Phillips and prayer by Elder W. Baggett.

Proceed to business. Called for ministers' reports.

Elder B. A. Hale—

Pastor of 2 churches; held 3 revivals; received into church, 22; baptized 19; marriages performed, 4; funerals held, 4; preached to 3 sister churches; received to date for ministerial service, \$92 76.

Elder H. L. Smith—

Sermons preached, 10; public prayers, 25; funerals held, 3; visited sick, 20; baptized, received into church, 2; community sermons, 2.

Elder J. A. Moyer—

Sermons preached, 200; public prayers, 400; traveled, 1,500 miles; received into church, 12; baptized, 7; visited sick, 25; lessons to children, 100; pastor of 4 churches; received for pastoral care, \$138.60; expense, \$40.00; held revivals, 12; organized 2 Sunday schools; helped ordain 2 deacons; conference held, 8; communion services held, 7; prayers and short talks over W. M. S. D., 8.

Elder J. M. Kelsey—

Sermons preached, 52; visited sick, 21; miles traveled, 81; ministerial service, \$11.10; expenses, \$6.10; conversions, 3; baptized, 1.

Elder W. Baggett—

Sermons preached, 24; public prayers, 40; received into church, 10; visited sick homes, 14; conducted prayer meetings, 20; attended Sunday schools, 18; miles traveled, 500; money received, \$20.00; married couples, 3.

Move carried to take up free will offering to print cards of standing for ministers. Received \$3 50.

The next association will convene with White's Creek church, Wayne county, Tennessee, on Thursday A. M. before the third Sunday in September.

Move carried to adjourn to the Presbytery session.

Presbytery Session.

Move carried to retain the Ordaining Council.

Unfinished Business—

Granted Bro. Jake Sweeney Free Will Baptist credentials.

—Rev. J. New Business—

ing next Move carried that Bro. J. B. Harper, Bro. J. Staggs, and Bro. L. R. Craig be ordained for the ministry.

the next Move carried for the body to grant Bro. Geo. Tingle license to preach for twelve months.

Ministers Granted Card of Standing

y Moder-	W. C. Jones	Card granted
	B. A. Hale	Card granted
	Mrs. L. T. Lowery.....	Card granted
	J. W. Phillips	Card granted
	R. A. Johnson	Card granted
	J. A. Moyer	Card granted
	L. T. Tillman	Card granted
	J. M. Kelsey	Card granted
baptized churches;	J. C. McClannahan.....	Card granted
	J. H. Sweeney.....	Card granted
	L. R. Craig.....	Card granted
	J. A. Staggs	Card granted
ted sick,	J. B. Harper	Card granted
	H. M. Richardson.....	Card granted
	W. Baggett	Card granted
	H. L. Smith	Life-time card
es; receiv-	L. M. Mansell	Life-time card
ren. 100;	R. P. Owens	Gone
, \$40.00;	E. L. Peeples	Card held
deacons;	C. L. Montgomery	Card held
talks over		

Move carried to adjourn until next association at White's Creek church.

ministerial The stand was filled by Rev. J. C. McClannahan and followed by J. W. Phillips Saturday night.

Sunday morning at 9:30 Rev. J. A. Moyer gave a lecture on Sunday school.

The stand was filled Sunday 11:00 A.M. by Elder B. A. Hale.

Church Clerks and Their Addresses

io; vis-	Harmony	Claude Lowery, Leighton, Ala., R. 1.
y schools,	Mt. Zion.....	Earleen Jeffreys, Town Creek, Ala., R. 1.
nding for	White's Creek	Flora Weatherford, Gillis Mills, Tenn.
	Maple Grove	U. H. Bridges, Madison, Ala., R. 3.
	Second Creek	Dora Hinton, Waterloo, Ala., R. 1.
1, Wayne	Scott's Chapel.....	Ethel Jackson, Cypress Inn, Tenn.
ptember.	Murphy's Chapel.....	Maudie Young, Cloverdale, Ala.
	Piney Grove	W. T. Banks, Lutts, Tenn., R. 2.
	Bumpas Creek.....	Mary Scott, Waterloo, Ala., R. 1.
	Midway Chapel.....	L. T. Kidd, Leighton, Ala., R. 1.
	Poplar Springs.....	Dean Lambert, Iuka, Miss., R. 4.
	Mt. Olivet.....	W. C. Jones, Waterloo, Ala., R. 3.
	New Chapel.....	Irene Robinson, Counce, Tenn.
	Community.....	J. W. Hall, Florence, Ala., R. 3.

Church Pastors and Their Addresses

Harmony.....	B. A. Hale, Leighton, Ala., R. 1.
Mt. Zion.....	J. A. Moyer, Town Creek, Ala., R. 1.
White's Creek.....	J. B. McGee, Florence, Ala., R. 4.
Maple Grove.....	J. A. Staggs, Waynesboro, Tenn.
Second Creek.....	J. B. McGee, Florence, Ala., R. 4.
Scott's Chapel.....	Willie Daniels.
Murphy's Chapel.....	
Piney Grove.....	J. C. McClannahan, Florence, Ala., R. 4.
Bumpas Creek.....	B. A. Hale, Leighton, Ala., R. 1.
Midway Chapel.....	J. A. Staggs, Waynesboro, Tenn.
Poplar Springs.....	H. L. Smith, Iuka, Miss., R. 4.
Mt. Olivet.....	W. C. Jones, Waterloo, Ala., R. 3.
New Chapel.....	
Community.....	J. C. McClannahan, Florence, Ala., R. 4.

Ordained Ministers and Addresses

W. C. Jones.....	Waterloo, Ala.
B. A. Hale.....	Leighton, Ala.
J. W. Phillips.....	Iuka, Miss.
H. L. Smith.....	Iuka, Miss.
Mrs. L. T. Lowery.....	Leighton, Ala.
L. M. Mansell.....	Waterloo, Ala.
R. A. Johnson.....	Iuka, Miss.
H. M. Richardson.....	Cloverdale, Ala.
J. A. Moyer.....	Town Creek, Ala.
L. T. Tillman.....	Stanville, Tenn.
J. M. Kelsey.....	Waterloo, Ala.
J. C. McClannahan.....	Florence, Ala.
J. B. Harper.....	Cypress Inn, Tenn.
J. A. Staggs.....	Waynesboro, Tenn.
L. R. Craig.....	Leighton, Ala.
C. L. Montgomery.....	Sheffield, Ala.
E. L. Peebles.....	Wheeler, Ala.
J. H. Sweeney.....	Canaan, Miss.

Licensed Ministers and Addresses

Geo. Tingle.....	Florence, Ala.
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BY-LAWS

- R. 1. 1. The clerk or assistant clerk, or in their absence the senior minister in
R. 1. years, should call the Association into conference, and if a quorum is present
R. 4. the moderator, or in his absence the assistant moderator, shall take charge ;
enn. and if neither of them is present the senior minister in years shall act as
R. 4. moderator.
iels.
- R. 4. 2. All persons declared by a committee on credentials to be duly entitled
R. 1. to a seat in this Association are hereby made constituted members of this
enn. Body, and are authorized to act in all respects according to the provisions of
R. 4. constitution and by-laws under which this Association is organized.
- R. 1. 3. It shall be the duty of every Body belonging to this Association to
enn. send a letter to the annual session of this Association, reporting to the same
R. 4. its spiritual condition, benevolent work, and its statistics. Any Body which
R. 3. belongs to this Association, which fails to report for two successive sessions,
R. 4. may be dismissed from the Association by a two-thirds vote of all members
present.
4. Each meeting shall be opened by reading a portion of the Bible and by
prayer, and shall be closed with prayer.
5. By a two-thirds vote of all members present, a ruling of the moderator
can be over ruled.
6. This Association may correspond by messengers or otherwise with
other religious bodies.
7. The Association shall sit with open doors, except when it shall go into
a committee of the whole.
8. Any person not a member of this Association may be allowed to take
part in its discussions by obtaining permission from the moderator.
9. It shall be the duty of all the members of this Association to be present
at the time appointed for each meeting, and anyone wishing to retire shall
first obtain leave of the moderator.
10. No member shall absent himself from the Association during its meet-
ing without first obtaining permission from the moderator.
11. No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any
committee. provided the person nominated be elected.
12. The moderator shall not allow discussion when not carried on in
Christian spirit or when he thinks it will cause discord or division.
13. Anyone desiring to speak shall rise to his feet and address the mod-
erator by appellation, "Bro. Moderator," but shall not speak further until
recognized by the moderator.
14. The "Yeas" and "Nays" may be taken on any question by request
of one-fifth of the members present.
15. No member of this Association shall be allowed to speak more than
ten minutes, nor twice on the same subject without permission of the moderator.
16. It shall be the duty of the moderator to seat the delegates in a body
in a designated section of the assembly room at the beginning of each bus-
iness session.
17. These by-laws may be altered or amended at any regular or adjourned
session of this Association by a two-third's vote of the members present.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. The Bible—

The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments 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 a 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. He is the Reprover, Comforter, Guide and Sanctifier of men.

5. The Government of God—

God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performed special Acts of Grace, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of man requires.

6. The Sinfulness of Man—

Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into the 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 until 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 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, of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.

14. 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.

15. Resurrection, Judgment, and Final Retribution—

The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the same time. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation: then the wicked will "go away into the eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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 by self-denial, faith and good works endeavor "to grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

We will not forget 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 every where 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 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.

Form of Letter of Dismission

This certifies that 19
 is a regular member of the
 Free Will Baptist Church at in good standing as such.
 We recommend to the fellowship of God's people, and when we are
 informed that has united with some other evangelical church, we
 shall consider regularly dismissed from this church. In behalf of
 the Free Will Baptist Church at

..... Pastor.
 Clerk.

Form of Church Letter to the Association

We, the Free Will Baptist Church at send greetings to
 the ministers and messengers composing the Tennessee River Association of
 the Free Will Baptists, when convened with church. We
 send our beloved, to-wit: to sit with you in your
 deliberations, and help to transact any legal business that may come before
 your honorable Body. The statistics of our church are as follows :

Received by profession of faith and baptism ; by letter
 ; by experience ; restored by confession
 ; dismissed by letter ; expelled ;
 dead ; total membership ; contribution
 \$; number of students in Sunday school ;
 number of classes in Sunday school

We have elected Elder to the pastoral care of our
 church for the ensuing year; number of deacons ; number of
 licentiates ; church property \$; amount
 given pastor \$; amount given evangelist \$;
 amount given home missions \$; meeting days :
 pastor ; clerk

Form of Church Conference

- 1.—Call church to order.
- 2.—Call for the peace of the church.
- 3.—Invite visiting brethren and sisters to seats with us.
- 4.—An opportunity for reception of members.
- 5.—Reading minutes of previous conference.
- 6.—Call for unfinished business.
- 7.—Call for new business.

THE CONSTITUTION

Article 1.—This Association shall be called The Tennessee River Association of the Free Will Baptist, and shall be composed of such consistent, well-regulated Free Will Baptist churches as shall unite in this compact, and agree to this constitution.

Article 2.—The acting members of this Association shall be such as are chosen by several churches of which the Association is composed, to represent them in this Association, every church being entitled to one delegate, every church containing fifty members to two delegates, and one additional delegate for every additional twenty-five members.

Article 3.—The officers of this Body shall be a moderator, a treasurer, corresponding and recording secretary, who shall be elected for a term of two years, and said election to take place one year prior to their entering upon the duties of said office.

Article 4.—Any regularly organized Free Will Baptist Church, maintaining Gospel order, agreeing with the denomination in doctrines and practices, and in favor of the benevolent enterprises, as Sunday schools, missions, temperance and education, may be received into their Association on application, by the vote of the Association to which such application is made or referred.

Article 5.—This Association shall have power to discipline its churches for unchristian conduct, a want of conformity to Gospel order, or a violation of the conditions of this compact, and expell them in case of unsuccessful labor; to license and ordain ministers such as give evidence of being qualified and called of God, by request of churches to which such persons belong; to settle such questions of discipline and doctrine as the churches may refer to them, and transact such other business as may be necessary for the benefit of religion, consistent with the liberty and independence of the churches, according to the usage of the Free Will Baptist denomination, and not repugnant to the regulations of the yearly meeting, with which this Association may be connected; and to make any by-laws necessary to its regulation not repugnant to this constitution.

Article 6.—The session of this Association shall be on the, when it shall be the duty of all the churches of which it is composed to represent themselves by letter and delegates.

Article 7.—This constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of any session of this Association, notice of such intended alteration having been given in writing at the next previous session of the Association.

Tennessee River Association of Free Will Baptists--Table of Statistics

CHURCHES

	MEETING DAYS	CHURCH VALUE	DEATHS	DISMISSED BY LETTER	EXPELLED	RECEIVED BY BAPTISM	RECEIVED BY CONFESSION	BY LETTER	RECLAIMED	TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	SUNDAY SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP	ORDAINED MINISTERS	DEACONS	AMOUNT PAID PASTOR	ASSOCIATIONAL FUNDS
Murphey's Chapel	1	\$ 700.00								28				\$ 15.52	
Piney Grove	3	500.00				8				105		2	4	23.00	
Poplar Springs	1	500.00	2			1		1		84		3	3	1.50	
Midway	4	800.00						1		48	30		3	16.85	5.00
New Chapel	3									35					
Community	1	1,000.00	1			1	1			57	75	2		33.00	8.10
Maple Grove	1			2			2	1		15	85		1	17.00	
Scott's Chapel	2	750.00	2				8			179	75		5	70.35	17.13
Bumpas Creek	1	1,000.00	1			4				58	86		3	45.75	5.00
Second Creek	4	800.00				2				19		1	1	16.77	
Mt. Olivet	3	500.00	1			4				100		4	4	53.50	
Harmony	3	1,000.00	1			14		2		245		2	5	30.00	
White's Creek	1					9		1		45	50	1	2	17.85	
Mt Zion	2	500.00	2	1		7	2			108	25	2	4	55.00	

