

MINUTES
of the
SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
TENNESSEE RIVER ASSOCIATION
Of The Free Will Baptists

Convened With

FAIRVIEW CHURCH

Wayne County, Tennessee, on Friday before the third
Sunday in September, 1947

OFFICERS

Rev. J. W. Phillips Moderator
Rev. W. M. Briley Assistant Moderator
Mrs. Thomas Lowery Clerk

The next Association will convene with Bumpas Creek
Church, Lauderdale County, Alabama, on Friday, before
the third Sunday in September, 1948, at 11 o'clock a.m.

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ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS

Rev. J. W. Phillips	Moderator
Rev. W. M. Briley	Assistant Moderator
Mrs. Thomas Lowery	Clerk

HOME MISSION BOARD

Rev. L. R. Craig	Chairman
Anderson Jones	Secretary
Rev. L. L. Moore	Treasurer

ASSOCIATIONAL PASTOR

Rev. V. H. Geans	Waterloo, Ala.
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ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. J. W. Phillips	Corinth, Miss.
Rev. W. C. Jones	Waterloo, Ala.
Rev. J. B. Harper	Cypress Inn, Tenn.
Rev. V. H. Geans	Waterloo, Ala.
Rev. J. C. McClannahan	Florence, Ala.

MODERATOR OF FIFTH SUNDAY MEETINGS

Rev. Emmett Grissom	Moderator
Rev. L. R. Craig	Assistant Moderator

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rev. W. C. Jones	Waterloo, Ala.
Rev. V. H. Geans	Waterloo, Ala.

CHURCH CLERKS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

Harmony—Mrs. Edgar McCormack	Sheffield, Ala.
Mt. Zion—R. E. Parvin	Town Creek, Ala.
Midway Chapel—Aslee Robbins	Leighton, Ala.
Maple Grove—J. M. Craig	Madison, Ala.
Second Creek—Edgar Keele	Waterloo, Ala.
Murpheys Creek—Vernette Ford	Waterloo, Ala.
Bumpas Creek—Mrs. Robert Benson	Waterloo, Ala.
Piney Grove—Frank Wright	Lutts, Tenn.
Poplar Springs—Mrs. Ethel Smith	Iuka, Miss.
Mt. Olivet—W. C. Jones	Waterloo, Ala.
New Chapel—Irene Robinson	Counce, Tenn.
Community—J. W. Hall	Florence, Ala., Route 3
Solitude—Hattie Hanna	Enville, Tenn.
Meeks Grove—Austin Kemp	Stantonville, Tenn.
Shady Grove—Rosalee Clay	Savannah, Tenn.
Scotts Chapel—R. L. Harper	Cypress Inn, Tenn.
Fair View—Thelma May Dixon	Iron City, Tenn.
Rayburns Chapel—Hartey McGee	Lutts, Tenn.
Blowing Springs—Pearl Gobble	Lawrenceburg, Tenn.
Whites Creek—Millard White	Lutts, Tenn.
McFalls Chapel—Dewey Stults	Lutts, Tenn.

PASTORS OF EACH CHURCH AND THEIR ADDRESSES

Harmony—Rev. W. M. Briley, Hillsboro, Ala.
 Mt. Zion—Rev. W. M. Briley, Hillsboro, Ala.
 Midway Chapel—Rev. Emmett Grissom, Leighton, Ala.
 Maple Grove—Rev. W. M. Briley, Hillsboro, Ala.
 Second Creek—Rev. L. R. Craig, Stantonville, Tenn.
 Murpheys Chapel—Rev. D. A. Lindsey, 311 Highland Ave., Florence, Ala.
 Bumpas Creek—Rev. J. B. Harper, Cypress Inn, Tenn.
 Piney Grove—Rev. V. H. Geans, Waterloo, Ala.
 Popular Springs—Rev. J. W. Phillips, Corinth, Miss.
 Mt. Olivet—Rev. L. J. Vandiver, Leighton, Ala.
 New Chapel—Rev. J. B. Harper, Cypress Inn, Tenn.
 Community—Rev. Dewey Stults, Lutts, Tenn.
 Solitude—Rev. J. B. Harper, Cypress Inn, Tenn.
 Meeks Grove—Rev. J. B. Harper, Cypress Inn, Tenn.
 Shady Grove—Rev. Elton Cotner, Adamsville, Tenn.
 Scotts Chapel—Rev. Dewey Stults, Lutts, Tenn.
 Fair View—Rev. Dewey Stults, Lutts, Tenn.
 Rayburn's Chapel—Rev. Dewey Stults, Lutts, Tenn.
 Blowing Springs—Rev. Ottis Dixon, Collinwood, Tenn.
 Whites Creek—Rev. Oscar Foster, Selmer, Tenn.
 McFall's Chapel—Rev. V. H. Geans, Waterloo, Ala.

PETITIONARY LETTERS

McFalls Chapel

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

L. R. Craig	Stantonville, Tenn.
J. W. Phillips	Corinth, Miss.
W. C. Jones	Waterloo, Ala.
R. A. Johnson	Tishomingo, Miss.
J. C. McClannahan	Florence, Ala.
J. B. Harper	Cypress Inn, Tenn.
W. M. Briley	Hillsboro, Ala.
V. H. Geans	Waterloo, Ala.
Emmett Grissom	Leighton, Ala.
L. J. Vandiver	Leighton, Ala.
R. L. Berry	Deceased
O. D. Foster	Selma, Ala.
G. W. Arnold	Russellville, Ala.
L. L. Moore	Adamsville, Tenn.
Elton Cotner	Adamsville, Tenn.
Floyd Michael	Cypress Inn, Tenn.
Dewey Stults	Lutts, Tenn.

LICENSED MINISTERS

Eargen Warren

MINISTERS PRESENT AT ASSOCIATION

L. L. Moore	O. D. Foster
W. M. Briley	L. R. Craig
J. W. Phillips	Eargen Warren
V. H. Geans	L. J. Vandiver
Emmett Grissom	Elton Cotner
Dewey Stults	J. C. McClannahan

J. B. Harper

VISITING MINISTERS PRESENT

T. P. Barnett

Edgar Davis

J. L. Mcinotch

DEACONS PRESENT

U. G. Lowery
J. M. Craig
L. L. Wilson
L. W. Crowder
D. F. Stockton
W. F. Banks
Dougal McFalls

Nip Martin
Joe Holt
H. C. Jefferys
J. M. Parvin
Anderson Jones
Alford Austin
Nick White

J. E. Martin

PROCEEDINGS

The introductory sermon was delivered by Moderator J. W. Phillips and prayer by Bro. Geans.

Adjourned to meet at 1:00 o'clock p.m.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Met according to previous adjournment with singing. Scripture reading by Moderator J. W. Phillips and prayer by Rev. W. M. Briley.

Read names of Associational Officers.

Invited visiting Brethren and Sisters from other Associations and Denominations to sit with us.

Moderator J. W. Phillips appointed reading clerks: Bro. L. L. Moore, Sister Emma Gean Craig.

Appointed Finance Committee: Rev. J. B. Harper, Rev. J. C. McClannahan, Bro. Austin Kemp.

Called for letters from various churches.

Harmony—By letter and delegates. Bro. Roy Quinn, Bro. Andrew McCraig and Bro. Derwood Posey.

Mt. Zion—By letter and delegates. Bro. Herman Jefferys, Bro. Curtis Briley and Bro. Walter Thomas Lowery.

Maple Grove—By letter and delegates. Bro. U. G. Lowery and Bro. J. M. Craig.

Midway Chapel—By letter and delegates. Bro. Richard Poston, Bro. Author Smith and Bro. James Stagg.

Solitude—By letter and delegates. Bro. Welbert Weeks, Sister Fay Weeks and Bro. Ed Martin.

Second Creek—By letter and delegates. Bro. Ancil Hinton and Bro. Ed Keele.

Murpheys Chapel—By letter and delegates. Bro. Clifford Ford, and Bro. Ben Brown.

Bumpas Creek—By letter and delegates. Bro. Sam Faulkner and Bro. Homer Scott.

Piney Grove—By letter and delegates. Bro. Ira Gillis, Bro. J. T. Gillis and Bro. J. T. Rich.

Mt. Olivet—By letter and delegates. Bro. Vergal Mansell, and Bro. Larence Hainell.

New Chapel—By letter and delegates. Bro. D. F. Stockton, Bro. Alf Layton, Bro. J. M. Price and Beatrice Layton.

Community—By letter and delegates. Bro. James Horton, Bro. W. F. Valentine and Bro. Frank Smith.

Scotts Chapel—By letter and delegates. Bro. Roy Harper and Bro. Frank Pigg.

Shady Grove—By letter and delegates. Bro. Berl Shepard and Bro. Herbert Clay.

Meeks Grove—By letter and delegates. Bro. Gibb Barnes and Bro. Vard Hall.

Whites Creek—By letter and delegates. Bro. John Cox, Bro. Charlie Geans and Bro. Clifford Goodman.

Popular Springs—By letter and delegates. Rev. J. W. Phillips.

Blowing Springs—By letter and delegates. Bro. Tom Brewer.

Rayburn Chapel—By letter and delegates. Bro. Harley McGee, and Bro.

Joe Sherriell.

Fair View—By letter and delegates. Bro. Tom O'Bryant, Bro. Jimmie Wilson and Sister Thelma Dixon.

McFalls Chapel—By letter and delegates. Bro. Roy Warren, Bro. Floyd Patterson and Bro. Charlie McFall.

Called for Petitionary Letters—McFalls Chapel.

Appointing of various committees by Assistant Moderator.

General Business Committee—Rev. L. L. Moore, Rev. Elton Cotner, Rev. J. C. McClannahan, Rev. L. R. Craig, Rev. J. B. Harper.

Sunday School Committee—Bro. Curtis Briley, Bro. Charles Berryman, Sister John Parvin.

Educational Committee—Bro. U. G. Lowery, Bro. Clifford Ford, Bro. Floyd Michael, Bro. J. E. Martin.

Temperance Committee—Bro. John Parvin, Bro. Jake Craig, Bro. Herman Jefferys, Bro. Author Smith, and Bro. Leroy Watkins.

Obituary Committee—Bro. Andrew McCraig, Bro. James Staggs and Bro. Wilbert Weeks.

Resolution of Thanks—Rev. W. C. Jones, Bro. Willard Rich, Bro. Alford Austin.

Move carried to print 600 Minutes and send 500 to churches as they paid and 100 to Associational Pastor.

Moved to adjourn until Saturday morning session at 8:00 a.m.

Stand was filled Saturday night by Rev. Floyd Michael, devotional and Rev. W. C. Jones and V. H. Geans

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Met according to adjournment by singing. Scripture and prayer by Moderator Rev. J. W. Phillips.

Proceeded to business.

General Business Report

We, you rcommittee on General Business, reecommend that each church send \$15.00 to the Home Mission Board.

We recommend that we elect or select our Home Mission Board.

Be it resolved that we allow each church the right to ordain its own Deacons and that they be men of good standing. Also men who can qualify with First Timothy, chapter 3, and Acts, 6th chapter, 3rd verse.

We require our church to send delegates to the Association that stands by the Bible and the Free Will Baptist Doctrine.

Be it resolved that we allow our Associational Pastor the right to organize and re-organize churches as he sees fit, by the authority of The Tennessee River Association.

L. R. Craig, Chairman.

Move carried to adopt report.

Sunday School Report

We, your committee on Sunday School beg to submit the following report:

We find 10 Sunday Schools with 580 members, an increase of 183 members from last year.

We recommend that the Pastors and Deacons of each church encourage a Sunday School and organize a Bible Class.

We also recommend that fathers and mothers go and carry the children to Sunday School that they might be more attentive to the Word of God.

We recommend that the leaders and teachers be true Christians.

We should pray earnestly about the conditions of our church and Sunday Schools, and encourage the up building of God's cause and kingdom, while here in this world.

Charles J. Berryman, Chairman.

Move carried to adopt report.

Educational Committee

We wish to submit the following: That each service be started by kneeling in prayer. We should be at all times humble in the sight of God.

That each member read the Bible daily in preference to any type of literature. The ministers speak boldly against things that aren't pleasing in the sight of God.

Clifford Ford, Chairman.

Move carried to adopt report.

Temperance Report

We submit the following: We find a great need of temperance in our church, among our people, as we see the increase of whiskey and wine. We recommend that our preachers and deacons and church members take a firm stand against the sale of intoxicating drinks. We recommend that our churches take a firm stand against alcohol. and a firm stand for the Bible and what it means. We find alcohol is one of the greatest sins in the world today. We should live soberly, righteously and Godly in this present world and be on the watch for the end of the world and the coming of Jesus Christ for it seems to be drawing near.

J. L. Watkins, Chairman.

Move carried to adopt report.

Obituary Report

We, your committee, beg leave to report with sadness that death has taken 14 of our beloved members since our last Association.

Harmony—J. S. Lowery.

Second Creek—One, unknown.

Midway Chapel—John Logan and Mrs. Grady Brutton

Bumpas Creek—Eluzura Austin Fullner.

Piney Grove—Mrs. Pearl Rich.

Mt. Olivet—Clifford Franks.

Blowing Springs—Annie Fraley.

Mt. Zion—J. M. Crowden.

Scotts Chapel—Rev. R. T. Berry, Mary Rich, Nancy Stults and Roxie Moore.

New Chapel—T. J. Fields.

We wish to extend our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved. We realize our loss is Heaven's gain.

Move carried to adopt report.

Report Of Home Mission Board

Balance brought forward		Meeks Grove	20.00
from last year	\$192.13	Scotts Chapel	10.00
Amount paid in this year		Fair View	7.60
as follows:			
Harmony	10.50	Total paid in	\$120.34
Mt. Zion	10.00		192.13
Maple Grove	10.00		
Piney Grove	10.00		\$312.47
Bumpas Creek	10.14	Disbursements	
Midway Chapel	7.00	For community transportation	20.00
New Chapel	7.50	Associational Pastor	125.00
Community	10.00		
Solitude	8.10		\$145.00

We have now in treasury \$167.47.

L. L. Moore, Chairman.

Move carried to adopt report.

Finance Committee Report

We find the amount paid in for minutties funds from each church as follows:

Left over from 1946	\$ 23.00	Communilty	6.00
Harmony	5.00	Solitude	4.35
Mt. Zion	5.32	Meeks Grove	5.50
Midway Chapel	4.00	Shady Grove	4.05
Maple Grove	5.81	Scotts Chapel	5.00
Second Creek	3.00	Fair View	2.00
Murpheys Chapel	3.00	Rayburns Chapel	4.05
Bumpas Creek	4.00	Blowing Springs	2.00
Piney Grove	4.25	Whites Creek	4.10
Popular Springs	2.00	McFall's Chapel	5.36
Mt. Olivet	2.00		
New Chapel	3.63		
			\$107.42

Ordained Ministers And Their Report

Rev. Emmett Grissom—Pastored 2 churches. Married 1 couple. Sermons preached, unknown. Funeral services 3. Communion services 1. Baptized 24. Money received \$200.00.

Rev. W. M. Briley—Pastored 3 churches. Sermons preached 67. Communion services 2. Funeral services 2. Married couples 1. Received in church 21. Baptized 21. Held 3 revivals. Assisted in 1 revival. Money received \$584.36.

Rev. J. W. Phillips—Verbal report.

Rev. L. J. Vandiver—Verbal report.

Rev. V. H. Geans—Pastored 2 churches. Assist 2. Communion services 3. Funeral services 4. Married 3 couples. Held 6 revivals. Assisted in 3. Received in church 64. Baptized 31. Street services 21. 31 broadcast services. Money received from the Home Mission Board \$125.00. Expenses unknown. Organized 1 church with 51 members.

Rev. R. A. Johnson—Absent.

Rev. W. C. Jones—Verbal report.

Rev. J. C. McClannahan—Verbal report.

Rev. Elton Cotner—Verbal report.

Rev. L. R. Craig—Verbal report.

Rev. O. D. Foster—Pastored 1 church. Communion services 1. Received in church 4. Baptized 3. Revivals 2. Heelped in 4 revivals. Money received \$317.93. Prayer services 3 times weekly.

Rev. R. T. Berry—Deceased.

Rev. G. W. Arnold—Absent.

Rev. L. L. Moore—Verbal report.

Rev. J. B. Harper—Verbal report.

Moved to retain Rev. V. H. Geans as Associational Pastor.

Moved to retain Moderator of 5th Sunday meeting, Rev. Emmett Grissom. Assistant Moderator, Rev. L. R. Craig.

Report Of 5th Sunday Meetnigs

Fifth Sunday in September, 1946, met at Mt. Zion Church. Saturday morning no services. Prayer by Moderator. Saturday night session, Moderator absent. Preaching by Rev. W. M. Briley. Scripture reading Psalms 14th chapter. Stand was filled by Rev. V. H. Geans. Sunday morning servcies opened by Moderator, singing, scripture reading, Hebrews 2nd chapter. Prayer by Bro. Jake Craig. The stand was filled Sunday a.m. by L. J. Vandiver. Sunday evening services were opened by Moderator. Scripture reading St. John 15th chapter, and preaching by Rev. Killin.

Fifth Sunday in December, 1946, met at White's Creek Church. Saturday morning services, prayer by Rev. J. B. Harper. The body was called together in conference for the purpose of investigating the Home Mission Board and to make a report on the next fifth Sunday meeting at Piney Grove in March, 1947. The committee consisted of Hollis Southerland, Roy Harper and Doyal Michael. The ordination of Floyd Michael was postponed because ordaining

council was not present. Saturday night services, devotional by Rev. L. J. Vandiver, preaching by Rev. L. L. Moore and Rev. Emmett Grissom. Sunday morning services, devotional by Bro. Martin, preaching by Rev. W. M. Briley and Rev. Floyd Michael.

Fifth Sunday in March, 1947, met at Piney Grove Church. The committee that was appointed at White's Creek gave their report. The committee was dismissed. B. H. Southerland was appointed to take charge of Rev. L. L. Moore's bond, as there wasn't any member of the trustees present and one of the members had passed away.

Fifth Sunday in June, 1947, met at Bumpas Creek. Saturday morning services, preaching by Rev. L. L. Moore. Saturday night, preaching by Rev. J. B. Harper and Rev. W. M. Briley. Bro. Floyd Michael's ordination was postponed until the Association. Sunday morning services. Sunday evening services, preaching by Rev. Arnold and Bro. Martin.

Fifth Sunday in August, 1947, met at Scotts Chapel Church. Opened by Moderator. Saturday morning services by Rev. Oscar Foster. Dismissed by B. H. Southerland. Saturday night services, devotional by V. H. Geans and preaching by Rev. L. L. Moore and Rev. Edgar Davis. Sunday morning services by Rev. L. R. Craig and Rev. V. H. Geans. Sunday evening services, Several good talks by different ministers.

Rev. Emmett Grissom, Moderator.

Move carried to adopt report.

Through error, Bro. Floyd Michael was not ordained as 1946 Minutes stated. But to be ordained this session at the Association, 1947.

Moved to adjourn until 1:00 p.m.

The stand was filled Saturday morning by Rev. J. C. McClannahan.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Met according to singing and scripture reading by Moderator J. W. Phillips and prayer by Bro. Alford Austin.

Proceeded with business.

Fifth Sunday meetings will be at the following places the ensuing year: Nov. 30, 1947, at Whites Creek; February 29, 1948, at Meeks Grove; May 30, 1948 at Mt. Zion; Aug. 29, 1948, Shady Grove.

Moved and seconded to retain Home Mission Board: Rev. L. R. Craig, Anderson Jones, and Rev. L. L. Moore.

Moved to elect Clerk, Mrs. Thomas Lowery. Elected assistant clerk, Emma Gean Craig.

Moved to retain Moderator, Rev. J. W. Phillips. Assistant Moderator, Rev. W. M. Briley.

PRESBYTERIA SESSION

Moved to grant Dewey Stults ordination papers.

Ministers' Cards

L. R. Craig	Card granted
J. W. Phillips	Card granted
W. C. Jones	Card granted
R. A. Johnson	Card granted
J. C. McClannahan	Card granted
J. B. Harper	Card granted
W. M. Briley	Card granted
V. H. Geans	Card granted
Emmett Grissom	Card granted
L. J. Vandiver	Card granted
O. D. Foster	Card granted
G. W. Arnold	Card granted
L. L. Moore	Card granted
Elton Cotner	Card granted
Dewey Stults	Card granted

The next Association will convene with Bumpas Creek Church, Lauderdale County, Alabama, on Friday before the third Sunday in September, 1948, at 11 o'clock.

Recommendation from Fairview Church for ordination of Deacons Bro. C. I. Dixon and Bro. Jasper Scott. Ordination carried out.

Recommendation from Bumpas Creek Church for ordination of Bro. Floyd Michael to ministry. Ordination carried out.

Recommendation from McFalls Church for Bro. Eargen Warren to be licensed for 1 year to the ministry. License granted.

Moved to adjourn until next Association at Bumpas Creek Church.

The stand was filled Saturday night by Rev. Edgar Davis and Rev. O. D. Foster. Devotional by Bro. Dewey Stults.

Resolution Of Thanks

We, the committee, offer our heart-felt thanks to the people of Fairview Church and surroundings for their hospitality and their kindness during this Association. May God's richest blessings rest upon them and may their harvest be reaped in Heaven when this life is over.

Rev. W. C. Jones, Chairman.

The stand was filled Sunday by Rev. L. J. Vandiver and Rev. W. M. Briley at 11 o'clock.

FORM OF CHURCH CONFERENCE

- 1.—Call church to order.
- 2.—Call for 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 Free Will Baptist, and shall be composed to 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 regular organized Free Will Baptist church, maintaining Gospel order, agreeing with the denomination in doctrine and practices, and in favor of the benevolent enterprise, 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 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 by-laws necessary to its regulations not repugnant to this Constitution.

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

Article 7. 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 Association.

BY-LAWS

1. The clerk and assistant clerk, or in their absence, the senior minister in years, should call the Association into conference, and if a quorum is present, the moderator, or in his absence, the assistant moderator, shall take charge and if neither of them is present the senior minister in years shall act as moderator.

2. All persons declared by a committee on credentials to be duly entitled to a seat in this Association are hereby made constituted members of this body and are authorized to act in all respects according to the provisions of Constitution and by-laws under which this Association is organized.

3. It shall be the duty of every body belonging to this Association to send a letter to the annual session of this Association, reporting to the same its spiritual condition, benevolent work, and its statistics. Any body which belongs to this Association, which fails to report for two successive sessions, 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 by 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 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 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 meeting 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 now allow discussion when not carried on in Christian spirit or when he thinks it will cause discord or division.

12. The moderator shall not allow discussion when not carried on in Christian spirit or when he thinks it will cause discord or division. ognized 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 business session.

17. These by-laws may be altered or amended at any regular or adjourned session of this Association by a two-thirds 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 him human nature truly man. The Mediator between God and man; once crucified, He is now risen and glorified, and is our ever-present Saviour.

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 performs 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, suffering, death and resurrection effected for all 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 of 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 it, 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 Last Day. They that have done good will come forth 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 Ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "Keep the unity of the Spirit," in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme, counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society; constantly praying 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 LETTER OF DISMISSION

.....19....

This certifies that 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 of Christ, at
send greetings to the ministers and messengers composing the Tennessee River
Association, when convened with Church.

We send our beloved to-wit to sit with you
in your deliberations and to help 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
.....; withdrawn.....; expelled.....; dead.....; Total mem-
bership..... . Number of students to enroll in Sunday School.....;
average attendance.....; number of Deacons.....; number of Ordain-
ed Ministers.....; number of Licensed Ministers..... We have
elected Rev. Address
..... to pastor our church for the ensuing year. Valuation of
church house and property \$..... Contribution paid pastor \$.....;
pastoral help \$.....; given to Home Missions \$.....; Minute funds
\$.....

Moderator Address.....

Clerk Address.....

THE TENNESSEE RIVER ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST

Table of Statistics

Churches	Meeting Days	Church Value	Deaths	Dismissed by Letter	Expelled	Withdrawn	Rec'd by Baptism	Rec'd by Experience	Rec'd by Letter	By Restoration	Total Membership	S. S. Enrollment	Avg. Attendance	Ordained Ministers	Licensed Minister	Deacons	Amount Paid Pastor	Home Mission Funds	Pastoral Help	Minute Funds
Harmony		\$10,000.00	1	1	1	10	1	1	1	.....	250	.....	.....	1	1	4	\$171.31	\$10.50	\$24.00	\$5.00
Mt. Zion		850.00	1	1	.....	5	1	1	1	.....	124	.....	.....	1	.....	3	145.87	10.00	38.50	5.34
Midway Chapel		900.00	.....	.....	.....	4	2	1	1	.....	69	75	60	.....	2	3	93.16	7.00	43.16	4.00
Maple Grove		1,000.00	.....	.....	.....	5	1	1	1	.....	89	80	35	.....	.....	4	250.36	10.00	67.50	5.81
Second Creek		800.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	28	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	23.00	.....	.....	3.00
Murphy Chapel		1,500.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31	24	18	.....	.....	3	56.90	.....	52.27	3.00
Bumpas Creek		1,000.00	.....	.....	.....	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	91	59	35	.....	1	3	66.78	10.14	33.56	4.00
Piney Grove		750.00	1	.....	.....	4	2	2	.....	.....	123	.....	27	.....	.....	2	.....	10.00	.....	4.25
Popular Springs											89	.....	.....	2	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	2.00
Mt. Olivet		1,000.00	1	.....	.....	9	1	1	.....	.....	110	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	60.00	2.00	30.00	.....
New Chapel		800.00	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	47	50	35	.....	2	2	200.14	7.50	36.59	3.63
Community		1,000.00	.....	.....	.....	2	1	1	.....	.....	70	60	30	.....	2	2	83.00	10.00	35.00	6.00
Solitude		750.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	123	70	50	.....	2	4	95.50	8.10	24.36	4.35
Meeks Grove		800.00	.....	.....	.....	8	2	2	.....	.....	58	60	30	.....	2	2	135.00	20.00	18.00	5.50
Shady Grove								1	.....	.....	61	60	45	.....	.....	2	72.33	.....	15.00	4.05
Scotts Chapel		750.00	4	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	106	.....	.....	1	.....	2	90.55	10.00	.....	5.00
Fairview											12	65	35	.....	.....	.....	124.40	7.60	.....	2.00
Rayburns Chapel						1	.....	.....	.....	.....	18	25	.....	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	4.05
Blowing Spring			1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.00
Whites Creek						8	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	4.10
McFall's Chapel											51	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5.36

