

ERNEST R. BOWEN
3606 WEST END AVENUE
NASHVILLE, TENN. 37205

MINUTES
OF THE
Eighty-First Annual Session
OF
TENNESSEE RIVER ASSOCIATION
OF
Free Will Baptists

† † †

Convened with
BUMPUS CREEK CHURCH
Waterloo, Alabama
Friday Before the Third Sunday in September, 1959

† † †

OFFICERS

Rev. V. H. Gean, Moderator.....Cloverdale, Alabama
Rev. W. M. Briley, Assistant Moderator, Rt. 2, Leighton, Alabama
Bro. W. W. Berry, Clerk, 409 W. Clark Blvd., Murfreesboro, Tenn.

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The next association will convene with New Chapel Church, Counce,
Tennessee, on Friday before the third Sunday in September, 1960, at 11
o'clock a. m.

ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

Rev. V. H. Gean, Moderator.....Cloverdale, Alabama
Rev. Edward Smith, Assistant Moderator.....Stantonville, Tennessee
Bro. W. W. Berry, Clerk.....409 W. Clark, Murfreesboro, Tenn.

HOME MISSION BOARD

Bro. Roy L. Harper, Secretary and Treasurer.....Cypress Inn, Tennessee
Bro. Ira Gillis.....Cypress Inn, Tennessee
Bro. Joe Bailey.....Iron City, Tennessee

ASSOCIATIONAL PASTOR

Rev. J. C. McClanahan.....Florence, Alabama

EXAMINING COMMITTEE

Rev. J. C. McClanahan, Florence, Alabama; Rev. B. H. Southerland,
Savannah, Tennessee; Rev. Elton Cotner, Adamsville, Tennessee

OFFICERS OF FIFTH SUNDAY MEETINGS

Rev. J. B. Harper, Moderator.....Cypress Inn, Tennessee
Rev. Earl Dixon, Assistant Moderator.....Waterloo, Alabama
Brother Paul Weaver, Clerk.....412 Tennessee St., Savannah, Tennessee

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rev. V. H. Gean, Cloverdale, Alabama
Rev. B. H. Southerland, Savannah, Tennessee
Rev. Lige Dickey, Cypress Inn, Tennessee

CHURCH CLERKS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

Bumpas Creek—Mrs. Robert Benson, Waterloo, Alabama, Route 1
 Fairview—Mrs. Thelma M. Dixon, Iron City, Tennessee, Route 1
 Harmony—Claude T. Lowery, Leighton, Alabama, Route 1
 Jones Chapel—Mrs. Artie Jones, Florence, Alabama, Route 6
 Liberty—Sister Stella Warren, Waynesboro, Tennessee
 Maple Grove—Miss Fleta Lowery, Madison, Alabama, Route 3
 McGlamery—Mrs. Arlie Hanback, Collinwood, Tennessee
 Meeks' Grove—Bro. Austin Kemp, Savannah, Tennessee
 Midway—Sister Lela Hall, Leighton, Alabama, Route 2
 Mt. Olivet—Absent
 Mt. Zion—Sister Lucille Frost, Town Creek, Alabama, Route 1
 Murphy's Chapel—Mrs. Nora Vaughn, Waterloo, Alabama, Route 2
 New Chapel—Mrs. Irene Robinson, Counce, Tennessee
 New Home—Mrs. Ethel Davidson, Henderson, Tennessee, Route 4
 New Pleasant Grove—Mrs. Gwen Weaver, Savannah, Tennessee, 412
 Tennessee Street
 Piney Grove—Frank Wright, Cypress Inn, Tennessee, Route 1
 Pleasant Hill—Bro. G. C. Bobo, Cherokee, Alabama, Route 1
 Popular Springs—Ethel Smith, Iuka, Mississippi, Route 2
 Rayborn Chapel—Mrs. Myrtle Bratcher, Waynesboro, Tennessee, Route 2
 Scott's Chapel—Roy L. Harper, Cypress Inn, Tennessee
 Second Creek—Mrs. Vernon Scott, Waterloo, Alabama, Box 35
 Shady Grove—Mrs. Clairce Franks, Olive Hill, Tennessee, Route 2
 Solitude—Mrs. Troy Massengill, Adamsville, Tennessee
 White's Creek—Mrs. Ora Stricklin, Lutts, Tennessee

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND ADDRESSES

G. W. Arnold, Address Unknown	L. L. Moore, Adamsville, Tennessee,
Emerald Bailey, Iron City, Tennessee	Route 2
W. M. Briley, Leighton, Alabama,	R. P. Owen, Deceased
Route 2	B. H. Southerland, 206 E. Canby
Elton Cotner, Adamsville, Tennessee	Circle, Savannah, Tennessee
Lige Dickey, Cypress Inn, Tennessee	L. J. Vandiver, Leighton, Alabama
Earl Dixon, Waterloo, Alabama	Nick White, Lutts, Tennessee, Route
V. H. Gean, Cloverdale, Alabama,	3
Route 1	Jamie Wicker, Stantonville, Tennessee
J. B. Harper, Cypress Inn, Tennessee	Ernest Wood, Iuka, Mississippi
Burlon Jones, Florence, Alabama,	Edward Smith, Stantonville, Tennes-
Route 6	see
J. C. McClanahan, Florence, Ala-	Travis Johnson, Tishamingo, Missis-
bama, Route 4	sippi, Route 1

LICENSED MINISTER

William Kendrick, Savannah, Tennessee

PASTORS OF EACH CHURCH AND THEIR ADDRESS

Bumpas Creek—Rev. Edward Smith, Stantonville, Tennessee
Fairview—Rev. Earl Dixon, Waterloo, Alabama
Harmony—Rev. Thomas Lee, Columbia, Tennessee
Jones Chapel—Rev. Burlon Jones, Florence, Alabama, Route 6
Liberty—
Maple Grove—Rev. H. C. Killen, 431 Chestnut, Florence, Alabama
McGlamery—Rev. Emerald Bailey, Iron City, Tennessee
Meeks' Grove—Rev. Emerald Bailey, Iron City, Tennessee
Midway—Rev. V. H. Gean, Cloverdale, Alabama, Route 1
Mt. Olivet—
Mt. Zion—Rev. J. B. Harper, Cypress Inn, Tennessee
Murphy's Chapel—Rev. Earl Dixon, Waterloo, Alabama, Route 2
New Chapel—Rev. Jamie Wicker, Stantonville, Tennessee
New Home—Rev. V. H. Gean, Cloverdale, Alabama
New Pleasant Grove—Rev. B. H. Southerland, Savannah, Tennessee
Piney Grove—Rev. Nick White, Lutts, Tennessee, Route 3
Pleasant Hill—Rev. Grady Johnson, Iuka, Mississippi, Route 4
Popular Springs—Rev. Travis Johnson, Tishamingo, Mississippi
Rayborn Chapel—Rev. Elton Cotner, Adamsville, Tennessee
Scott's Chapel—Rev. Emerald Bailey, Iron City, Tennessee
Second Creek—Rev. Jamie Wicker, Stantonville, Tennessee
Shady Grove—Rev. Edward Smith, Stantonville, Tennessee
Solitude—Rev. B. H. Southerland, 206 E. Canby Circle, Savannah, Tennessee
White's Creek—Rev. Elton Cotner, Adamsville, Tennessee

Proceedings

Introductory sermon was delivered by Rev. V. H. Gean, reading from the eighth chapter of 1 Corinthians, subject, "But to Us There Is but One God." Adjourned to meet at one o'clock.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Met according to previous adjournment with singing and prayer by Brother W. C. Jones and Scripture reading by Rev. W. M. Briley, reading second chapter of 2 Timothy.

After reading the names of the associational officers, visitors were invited to sit with us.

The body was assembled in order of preachers and deacons and the delegation.

Rev. Jamie Wicker and Brother Paul Weaver were appointed reading clerks.

The finance committee composed of Bro. Ira Gillis, Bro. Joe Bailey and Bro. Travis Johnson.

The Sunday school committee composed of Bro. V. G. Lowry, Bro. J. T. Martin and Rev. Elton Cotner.

Called for letters from various churches.

The delegation from each church was asked to stand as their letter was read and remain standing until the letter was accepted.

Bumpus Creek—By letter and delegates: Bro. Ollie White, Bro. Homer Scott, Bro. James White and Bro. Ross Ward.

Fairview—By letter and delegates: Bro. Joe Bailey and Bro. Thirmon Stults.

Harmony—By letter and delegates: Bro. Earnest Jefferys and Bro. Andrew McCaig.

Jones Chapel—By letter and delegates: Sister Carrie Seaton and Sister Josie Jones.

Liberty—By letter and delegate: Bro. Mack Franks.

Maple Grove—By letter and delegates: Sister Helen Lowery, Sister Mary Lowery, and Sister Mable Lowery.

McGlamery—By letter and delegate: Bro. Edgar Robertson.

Meeks' Grove—By letter and delegates: Bro. Anderson Jones and Bro. George Noxon.

Midway—By letter and delegates: Sister Ruth Bendall and Sister Aslee Robbins.

Mt. Olivet—Absent.

Mt. Zion—By letter.

Murphy's Chapel—By letter and delegates: Bro. Larry Dixon and Bro. Ernest Morrow.

New Chapel—By letter and delegates: Bro. Bill Mayhall and Sister Lillian Mayhall.

New Home—By letter and delegates: Sister Myrtie Crouse and Sister Alice Weaver.

New Pleasant Grove—By letter and delegates: Bro. Paul Weaver, Bro. Odell Franks and Bro. Floyd Michael.

Piney Grove—By letter and delegates: Bro. Jimmie Gillis, Bro. Ira Gillis, Bro. Mat Horton and Bro. Lonzo Wright.

Pleasant Hill—By letter and delegate: Bro. G. C. Bobo.

Popular Springs—By letter and delegates: Bro. Milton Arnold and Bro. Frank Smith.

Rayborn Chapel—By letter and delegate: Bro. Thomas Earl Reathiford.

Scott's Chapel—By letter and delegates: Bro. Alvin Gilchrist and Bro. Elzo Smith.

Second Creek—By letter and delegate: Bro. Virgil Hinton.

Shady Grove—By letter and delegates: Bro. Elmer Hubbard and Bro. Carl McLin.

Solitude—By letter and delegates: Sister Etta Farrell, Bro. Hallie Finley and Sister Alvie Finley.

White's Creek—By letter and delegates: Bro. Earl Morris and Bro. Parker Murray.

Called for petitionary letters.

APPOINTING OF VARIOUS COMMITTEES

General Business—Rev. Burlon Jones, Rev. Lige Dickey, Rev. Earl Dixon, Rev. William Kendrick and Rev. B. H. Southerland.

Educational—Bro. Jimmie Gillis, Bro. Edgar Robertson, Rev. Edward Smith and Rev. J. C. McClanahan.

Temperance—Bro. Stancel Robbins, Bro. John Jones, Bro. Luther White and Bro. Andrew McCaig.

Obituary—Rev. J. B. Harper, Bro. Will Seaton, Bro. W. T. Banks and Bro. Elmer Hubbard.

Resolution of Thanks—Bro. Ernest Morrow, Bro. Bill Mayhall, Bro. Homer Scott and Bro. Carl McLin.

Benevolence—Bro. Elzo Smith, Bro. Odell Franks, Bro. Virgil Hinton and Bro. Lonzo Wright.

Business adjourned until Saturday morning at 8:30 o'clock.

Dismissed by Bro. J. B. Harper.

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Met with singing and prayer by Sister Myrtie Crouse, preaching by Rev. Earl Dixon and Rev. J. B. Harper. Dismissed by Rev. W. M. Briley.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Met according to previous adjournment by singing and Scripture reading by Bro. W. C. Jones and prayer by Bro. J. C. McClanahan.

GENERAL BUSINESS REPORT

We, your committee on general business, recommend that each church send \$25.00 or more to the home mission board. We also recommend that it be sent in by the first of January. We recommend that each preacher pay the tenth out of money he receives for ministerial work to home missions board. We also recommend that it be paid quarterly.

We recommend that we continue the election of an associational pastor each year and that we get behind him with our finances and with our prayers. We also recommend that he make an effort to visit each church in the association during the year for which he is elected.

We recommend that any that is recommended by his home church to preach, be licensed for twelve months, then if his home church further recommends him to the ordaining council at the end of twelve months, and if he be qualified, then he be ordained as a minister.

We recommend that deacons to be ordained be appointed for one year, then be recommended to the ordaining council for ordination.

We also recommend that they be granted a certificate of ordination when ordained.

We recommend that we retain an examining committee and place their names in the minutes.

We also recommend that any ordained minister with a quorum organize churches as he sees fit by the authority of the Tennessee River Association.

We recommend that each church get its letter in the Association on Friday. We also recommend that the letter be read to the church and approved by it before being sent to the association.

We also recommend that officers of the fifth Sunday meeting be elected, and the meeting place of each fifth Sunday meeting be selected at the last fifth Sunday meeting prior to the association.

We recommend that we pay our fifth Sunday meeting clerk \$25.00 for service and pay him out of the home mission treasury.

We also recommend that each church call their pastor thirty days before the association.

Lige Dickey, Chairman

Report adopted.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

We, your committee on Sunday school, wish to submit the following:

We have 23 churches present, 22 of which have a Sunday school.

The total enrollment in Sunday school was 1,110 with regular attendance of 810, which is an average attendance of 38 for each church.

We are glad to report some increase in the average attendance of the Sunday school from last year.

We recommend that all leaders of the Sunday school be devout Christians, sound in faith, apt to teach.

We recommend that parents go to Sunday school and carry their children that they may be more attentive to the word of God.

We should pray earnestly for the uplifting of God's Kingdom while in this world.

Rev. Elton Cotner, *Chairman*

Report adopted.

EDUCATIONAL REPORT

We, your committee on education, wish to recommend the following:

We recommend that Christians study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15).

As parents we should be Christians and be able to start the training at home while they are young, for 2 Timothy 3:15 says: "And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

We also recommend that the parents co-operate with the teachers in school as long as it is not against the teaching of the Bible, and stand against that which is evil; for Proverbs 22:15 says that foolishness is bound in the heart of a child, but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.

Rev. Edward Smith, *Chairman*

Report adopted.

TEMPERANCE REPORT

We submit the following report:

We find the word temperance in regards to beer, wine and whiskey to mean total abstinence from use or sale of any kind.

We should be temperate at home, in church and at business. We find the Bible says in 1 Corinthians 9:25, "And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things." We find temperance adds to the things that are unto Godliness. In 2 Peter 1:5, 6 we find: "And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness."

We also recommend that each pastor use temperance in his sermon at least twice a year.

Bro. Andrew McCaig, *Chairman*

Report adopted.

OBITUARY REPORT

We, your committee on obituaries, beg leave to report with sadness that death has taken 20 of our members since the last association: Bumpus Creek—1, Bro. Eli White; Harmony—6, Sister Ellen Lowery, Sister Ann Lowery,

Sister Columbia Landers, Sister Edna Kirby, Bro. Edgar McCarnack and Bro. B. P. Hatton; White's Creek—2, Bro. John Cox and Sister Mary Gean; Midway—1, Bro. Coleman Logan; New Home—2, Bro. Isaiah Weaver and Sister Margaret Tucker; Popular Springs—1, Sister Blanche McMasters, Scott's Chapel—2, Sister Virgie Rich and Sister Zora Gilchrist; Meeks' Grove—2, Bro. John Sharron and Sister Pearl Flatt; Murphy's Chapel—1, Sister Suzie Witt; Maple Grove—1, Sister Margaret Craig; Solitude—1, Rev. R. P. Owen.

We hope they have laid down the cross to receive the crown for the Scripture teaches in Psalms 116:15, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."

Rev. J. B. Harper, *Chairman*

Report adopted.

REPORT OF BENEVOLENCE

We, your committee on benevolence, recommend that each Christian give liberally to the support of the church according to his ability, and also to all people in need. According to Scripture do good to everyone. Visit the sick and afflicted and keep yourself unspotted from the world. This is pure and undefiled religion before God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Bro. Odell Franks, *Chairman*

Report adopted.

CLERK'S REPORT

Received

Amount Paid In by Churches	\$143.08
Amount Brought Forward from 1957	2.11
Total Received	\$145.19

Disbursed

Printing Minutes	\$114.00
Paid Clerk	25.00
Mailing Expenses	6.19
Total Paid Out	\$145.19

Bro. W. W. Berry, *Clerk*

Report adopted.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Bumpus Creek	\$ 9.50
Fairview	7.50
Harmony	5.00
Jones Chapel	5.50
Liberty	3.50
Maple Grove	6.62
McGlamery	4.75

Meeks' Grove	4.90
Midway	5.00
Mt. Olivet	
Mt. Zion	10.77
Murphy's Chapel	8.70
New Chapel	11.00
New Home	5.25
New Pleasant Grove	10.35
Piney Grove	5.00
Pleasant Hill	7.00
Popular Springs	3.00
Rayborn Chapel	4.32
Scott's Chapel	7.50
Second Creek	7.00
Shady Grove	4.00
Solitude	9.95
White's Creek	4.55

Total	\$150.66
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Brother Ira Gillis, Chairman

Report adopted.

HOME MISSION BOARD REPORT

September 1, 1948 - September 1, 1959

Amount Brought Forward	\$929.54
Freewill Offering at Association for Children's Home	114.20
Maple Grove Church	25.00
Bumpas Creek	50.00
New Chapel	25.00
Fairview	28.00
Midway	12.00
New Home	25.00
Murphy's Chapel	25.00
Second Creek	25.00
Mt. Zion	17.00
Piney Grove	28.25
White's Creek	25.00
New Pleasant Grove	25.00
Scott's Chapel	25.00
McGlamery	25.00

Total	\$1,403.99
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Names of ministers who paid the tenth of what they received for ministerial work:

Rev. Earl Dixon	\$ 43.00
Rev. V. H. Gean	71.25

Rev. B. H. Southerland	97.15
Rev. Emerald Bailey	53.00
Rev. J. B. Harper	90.00
Rev. Nick White	30.00
Rev. Edward Smith	42.00
Rev. J. C. McClanahan	12.50
	438.90
Total Paid In	
	\$1,842.89
Amount Paid Out	
Paid to Children's Home	\$150.00
Paid Associational Pastor	325.00
Paid Fifth Sunday Meeting Clerk	25.00
Paid Treasurer Fee	10.00
Total Paid Out	\$ 510.00
Balance in Treasury	\$1,332.89

Bro. Roy L. Harper, Treasurer

Report adopted.

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR REPORTS

Rev. G. W. Arnold—Absent.

Rev. Curtis Briley—Absent.

Rev. W. M. Briley—Pastored 1 church, held 2 revivals, assisted in 1 revival, witnessed 14 conversions, held 1 communion service, conducted 2 funerals, married 1 couple, received 3 in the church, money received \$672.77, preached 118 sermons, miles traveled unknown, expense unknown.

Rev. Emerald Bailey—Pastored 3 churches, 1 half time, conducted 3 revivals, assisted in 4, witnessed 24 conversions, baptized 7, received 5 into the church, conducted 2 conferences, conducted 2 funerals, assisted in 2, money received \$597.64, expenses unknown.

Rev. Elton Cotner—Pastored 3 churches, conducted 3 revivals, conducted 2 communion services, conducted 1 conference, conducted 3 funerals, married 2 couples, received 1 into church, money received \$419.28, miles traveled unknown, expenses unknown.

Rev. Lige Dickey—Verbal.

Rev. Earl Dixon—Pastored one church half time, conducted 1 revival, assisted in 1 revival, received 3 in church, baptized 2, conducted 1 conference, conducted 1 communion service, money received \$431.00.

Rev. V. H. Gean—Pastored 2 churches, conducted 2 revivals, assisted in 3 revivals, received into church 1, held 2 communion services, 1 conference, conducted 8 funerals, money received \$716.38.

Rev. J. B. Harper—Pastored 3 churches, pastored 1 church half time,

held 3 revivals, received into church 7, baptized 5, held 1 communion service, held 2 conferences, conducted 4 funerals, assisted in 3 funerals, money received \$1,064.35, expense unknown.

Rev. Burlon Jones—Absent.

Rev. J. C. McClanahan—Conducted 1 revival, assisted in 3 revivals, conducted 1 funeral, assisted in 1 funeral, money received \$135.00.

Rev. L. L. Moore—Absent.

Rev. R. P. Owen—Deceased.

Rev. Edward Smith—Pastored two churches, conducted 2 revivals, assisted in 1 revival, baptized 6, received into church 6, held 2 communion services, held 3 conferences, conducted 1 funeral, money received \$424.66, expenses unknown.

Rev. B. H. Southerland—Pastored 2 churches, conducted 2 revivals, assisted in 6 revivals, witnessed 25 conversions, received 14 into church, baptized 7, married 2 couples, conducted 7 funerals, assisted in 3 funerals, conducted 1 conference, held 2 communion services, money received \$1,278.47, expenses unknown.

Rev. L. J. Vandiver—Absent.

Rev. Nick White—Pastored 1 church, held 4 revivals, assisted in 1 revival, witnessed 1 conversion, received 1 into church, held 2 funerals, held 2 conferences, money received \$464.50.

Rev. J. L. Wicker—Pastored 3 churches, conducted 3 revivals, assisted in 4 revivals, held 3 conferences, held 3 communion services, conducted 1 funeral, received \$742.79, miles traveled unknown, expenses unknown.

Rev. Ernest Wood—Absent.

Rev. Travis Johnson—Number of sermons preached approximately 75, held 2 revivals, assisted in 3, assisted in 2 baptismal services, received \$250.02, miles traveled unknown, expense unknown.

Minutes of the fifth Sunday meeting were read by the clerk, Bro. Paul Weaver, and turned in to go in the minutes of the association.

Moved and seconded to elect a home mission board. Moved to retain Bro. Roy Harper as Secretary and Treasurer, elected Bro. Ira Gillis and Bro. Joe Bailey.

Moved and seconded to retain the same examining committee.

Moved to elect moderator and assistant moderator of the association. Moved to retain Rev. V. H. Gean as moderator, elected Rev. Edward Smith, assistant moderator. Moved to retain Bro. W. W. Berry as associational clerk.

Votes were taken and the association was placed for 1960.

Moved and seconded to adjourn the session until Saturday afternoon.

Rev. William Kendrick and Rev. Lige Dickey brought the Saturday morning messages at the eleven o'clock hour.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Met according to previous adjournment by singing and prayer by Bro. Joe Bailey, and Scripture reading by Rev. J. C. McClanahan, reading fifth chapter of 1 Thessalonians.

Moderator of the fifth Sunday meeting, Rev. J. B. Harper, took charge of the presbyterial session.

There were 13 ministers present, 15 deacons and 2 visiting ministers.

Pleasant Hill Church recommended Bro. G. C. Bobo be ordained as deacon.

New Pleasant Grove Church recommended Bro. William Kendrick be licensed to preach.

Popular Springs Church recommended Rev. Travis Johnson be ordained to preach the gospel.

After going before the examining committee, Bro. Kendrick and Bro. Johnson were found qualified. Bro. G. C. Bobo had not been on trial for a year therefore couldn't be ordained.

Rev. Earl Dixon read the qualification from 1 Timothy, Chapter 3.

Rev. Travis Johnson was ordained to the full-time ministry.

Ministers' cards granted. Revs. G. W. Arnold, W. M. Briley, Emerald Bailey, Elton Cotner, Lige Dickey, Earl Dixon, V. H. Gean, J. B. Harper, Burlon Jones, J. C. McClanahan, L. L. Moore, Edward Smith, B. H. Southerland, Nick White, J. L. Wicker, Ernest Wood, L. J. Vandiver and Travis Johnson.

No further business came before the body.

Moved and seconded to close the session.

FIFTH SUNDAY MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

November, 1959—Midway

January, 1960—Piney Grove

May, 1960—Jones Chapel

July, 1960—Fairview

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Opened with singing and prayer by Brother Floyd Michael and Brother Joe Bailey. Preaching by Rev. Emerald Bailey and Rev. J. C. McClanahan.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

We, your committee on resolution of thanks, beg leave to report to this body assembled together with Bumpas Creek Church:

We realize it has been one great gathering together. We wish to express our thanks for the hospitality shown us while we have been here.

It is hard to find words to express the thanks due the good people of Bumpas Creek Church and its community. We wish to thank everyone who

has had a part in this great gathering. We thank everyone for the good cooperation which we have had.

We thank God for the privilege of gathering here and praising the Lord with the children of God.

We pray God's blessings upon your church, your community and all the other churches of our association.

Brother Ernest L. Morrow, *Chairman*

Report adopted.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened with singing and prayer by Rev. Nick White and Brother Benton Brown.

Offering for Free Will Baptist Children's Home taken, received \$210.00.

Preaching by Rev. Elton Cotner and Rev. B. H. Southerland. Dismissed by Rev. J. C. McClanahan.

Minutes of the Fifth Sunday Meeting

AT WHITE'S CREEK CHURCH, NOVEMBER, 1958

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened with singing and prayer by Rev. Buchanan. The opening message was delivered by Rev. J. B. Harper, reading 1 Samuel, Chapter 17, with a subject of "Experience." Followed with a song and Christian handshake. Dismissed by Rev. Burlon Jones.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Called together with singing and prayer by Rev. L. L. Moore. Preaching by Rev. Nick White, followed by Rev. Earl Dixon, reading 1 Peter, second chapter.

BUSINESS SESSION

Going into business session, there were 10 churches represented, with 3 deacons, 10 preachers and 2 visiting preachers present.

Motion made and seconded to contact Rev. L. J. Vandiver by next fifth Sunday meeting in order to find out if he had left the association to go to another so we would know whether to send him a card.

A committee was appointed to arrange the program for the next fifth Sunday meeting, with the following being placed on the committee: Bro. Luke White, Rev. Jamie Wicker and Bro. Roy Harper.

There being no further business to come before the body, the session was closed by move and seconded. Dismissed by Rev. Dewey Stults.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Called together with singing and prayer by Rev. Edward Smith. De-

votional by Rev. Emerald Bailey, reading the twenty-third Psalm. Following with preaching by Rev. L. L. Wilson. Dismissed by Rev. V. H. Gean.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Called together with singing and prayer by Rev. B. H. Southerland. Preaching by Rev. Burlon Jones with a subject of "In the Valley of Decision." Followed with message Rev. Jamie Wicker reading from the second chapter of Hebrews. Dismissed by Bro. Ira Gillis.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Called together with wonderful singing and prayer by Rev. Elton Cotner. Message delivered by Rev. V. H. Gean, reading Hebrews 12:12-21, using as his subject, "Heaven," leaving many encouraging thoughts with the people.

Minutes of the Fifth Sunday Meeting

AT PICKWICK CHURCH, MARCH, 1959

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened with singing and prayer by Rev. J. C. McClanahan and Rev. L. L. Moore. Opening message delivered by Rev. Earl Dixon, reading from the eighteenth chapter of Matthew, using a subject of "Humbleness." Followed by song and handshake. Dismissed by Rev. V. H. Gean.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Called together with singing and prayer by Bro. Wayford Berry and Rev. Travis Johnson. Preaching by Rev. Emerald Bailey reading fifteenth Chapter of St. John, and bringing a wonderful message. Followed with message by Rev. L. L. Moore.

Going into business session we had 12 churches represented, 4 deacons, 12 preachers and 1 visiting preacher present. We were unable to contact Rev. L. J. Vander from the past fifth Sunday meeting so we had a move and second to go ahead and send his card which was held from the past association.

A committee was appointed to arrange the program for the next fifth Sunday meeting. The following were selected for the committee: Rev. V. H. Gean, Bro. Alf Layton and Bro. Wayford Berry.

Business session closed by a move and second. Dismissed by Bro. J. B. Harper.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Called together with singing directed by Mrs. Roy Harper. Prayers by Rev. Emerald Bailey and Bro. Roy Harper. Devotional by Rev. Edward Smith, reading Psalm 32. Preaching by Rev. B. H. Southerland, reading Psalm 26:8 and Psalm 27:4, with a thought of "Habitation of God's House."

One soul was saved and everyone made to rejoice. Dismissed by Bro. William Kendrick.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened with singing and prayer by Bro. Dickey, Bro. Wilson, and Bro. Briley. Message delivered by Bro. J. B. Harper reading Psalm 40:1, using a subject of "Wait." Followed by Rev. V. H. Gean, reading from the eighth chapter of Romans. Dismissed by Rev. Burlon Jones.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Called together with singing and prayer by Sister Jackson. Message by Rev. Elton Cotner, reading from Isaiah the sixth chapter. Dismissed by Bro. William Kendrick.

Minutes of the Fifth Sunday Meeting

AT MURPHY'S CHAPEL CHURCH, MAY, 1959

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened with singing by Rev. Virgil Gean and prayer by Bro. Buchanan. Opening message delivered by Rev. W. M. Briley, reading Matthew 22:36, "The Greatest Commandment." Song and Christian handshake. Dismissed by Bro. L. L. Moore.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Called together with singing by Bro. Ben Brown and Rev. Burlon Jones. Prayer by Bro. Dickey. Message delivered by Rev. Travis Johnson reading from the eleventh chapter of Hebrews, using a subject of "Faith." Followed with preaching by Rev. Nick White, reading Psalm 15.

Going into business session we had 14 churches represented, 3 deacons, 14 preachers and 1 visiting preacher present.

Reading of minutes of previous fifth Sunday meeting. Minutes were approved as read.

There was no unfinished business. Taking up new business, a committee was appointed to arrange a program for the next fifth Sunday meeting. Those appointed were Bro. A. B. Howell, Bro. Ben Brown and Bro. Burlon Jones.

A letter was received from McGlamery Church recommending that Bro. A. B. Howell be ordained as deacon. After being examined by the examining committee and being found qualified, Bro. Howell was ordained. The Scripture was read by Rev. Emerald Bailey.

Bro. Wicker sent word that he wouldn't be able to be present on Saturday night, and since he was to be on the program a committee was appointed to select someone to fill in for him. The committee, composed of Bro. John Martin and Bro. Roy Harper, selected Bro. Hollis Southerland to fill Bro. Wicker's place.

There being no further business to come before the body the session was adjourned.

Short message delivered by Rev. L. L. Moore. Dismissed by Rev. B. H. Southerland.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Called together by singing and prayer by Rev. Nick White and Bro. John Martin. Devotional conducted by Rev. Edward Smith reading Galatians, second chapter, Verses 1 through 9, with a thought of "Steadfast." Followed by preaching by Rev. B. H. Southerland, reading Psalm 78, using as a subject, "Limited." Dismissed by Bro. Byrd.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Called together with singing and prayer by Bro. G. W. Arnold and Bro. Benton Brown. Message delivered by Bro. Lige Dickey reading Matthew 18:1-6, with a thought of "Convert." Followed by song and message by Rev. J. C. McClanahan reading from 2 Peter 3 and Isaiah 35:8. Dismissed by Rev. Edward Smith.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Called together with singing and prayer by Rev. B. H. Southerland. Preaching by Rev. Burlon Jones reading Matthew 25:46. Using as his subject, "The Final Separation." Dismissed by prayer.

Minutes of the Fifth Sunday Meeting

AT McGLAMERY CHURCH, AUGUST, 1959

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened with singing by Bro. Butler. Prayer by Bro. McClanahan and Bro. Lige Dickey. Opening message delivered by Rev. Earl Dixon, reading Proverbs, the sixteenth chapter, and using as his subject, "If a Man's Ways Please the Lord, He Maketh Even His Enemies to Be at Peace with Him," and bringing a wonderful message. Followed by a short message by Bro. Lige Dickey. Song and Christian handshake. Dismissed by Rev. B. H. Southerland.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Called together with singing by Bro. Butler. Prayer by Bro. Ernest Rich and Bro. William Kendrick. Message delivered by Rev. V. H. Gean reading St. Luke 6:21-49, using as his text, "And why call ye me Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say." Dismissed for short recess before business session.

Going into business session 15 churches were represented, one church represented by letter. Seven deacons present, 13 preachers present.

Minutes of the last fifth Sunday meeting read and approved.

Rev. Earl Dixon, assistant moderator, appointed a committee to place

the fifth Sunday meetings for the coming year. Those appointed were Bro. Roy Harper, Rev. Edward Smith and Rev. L. L. Moore. Fifth Sunday meetings were placed as follows:

November, 1959—Midway

January, 1960—Piney Grove

May, 1960—Jones Chapel

July, 1960—Fairview.

Re-elected Rev. J. B. Harper, moderator.

Re-elected Rev. Earl Dixon, assistant moderator.

Re-elected Bro. Paul Weaver, clerk.

Elected Rev. J. C. McClanahan as associational pastor.

Committee appointed by Bro. Earl Dixon to arrange program for next fifth Sunday meeting. Those appointed were: Rev. V. H. Cean, Bro. Clarence Stricklin and Bro. A. B. Howell.

There being no further business to come before the body, the session was adjourned. Dismissed by Bro. W. M. Briley.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Called together by singing. Prayer by Rev. L. L. Wilson and Rev. Emerald Bailey. Devotional by Bro. William Kendrick reading from the fifteenth chapter of St. John. Message delivered by Rev. L. L. Moore reading from the third chapter of Genesis. Dismissed by Rev. Burlon Jones.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened with singing and prayer by Bro. Jackson and Rev. Elton Cotner. Message delivered by Rev. J. B. Harper, reading St. John 1:19-36, using a subject of "Who Art Thou?" Followed by message by Rev. B. H. Southerland using a subject of "You and the Lord." Song and Christian handshake, everyone made to rejoice in the Lord. Dismissed by Bro. Buddy Bailey.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Called together with singing and prayer by Bro. Nick White. Message delivered by Bro. Wilson, followed by Bro. Lige Dickey. Dismissed by Bro. Ira Gillis.

FORM OF CHURCH CONFERENCE

- 1—Call church to order.
- 2—Call for peace of church.
- 3—Invite visiting brethren and sisters to take seats with us.
- 4—An opportunity to reception of members.
- 5—Reading minutes of previous conferences.
- 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 Baptists*, 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 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 the compact, and expel 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 bylaws necessary to its regulations, not repugnant to this constitution.

Article 6. The session of this association shall be on Friday before the third Sunday in September when it shall be the duty of all 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 association.

Bylaws

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 member 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 authorized to act in all respects according to the provisions of constitution and bylaws 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 overruled.

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 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, providing 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. The "yeas" and "nays" may be taken on any question by request of one fifth of the members present.

14. 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.

15. 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.

16. These bylaws 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 Testament 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 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.

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 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 a 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 affected 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 the purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith, the soul is unrenewed 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 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 is an ordinance teaching humility or universal obligation, and they 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 to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away into 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 principles sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society, constantly praying and toiling 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 education and de-

nominal 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 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 membership _____, number of students enrolled in Sunday school _____, average attendance _____, number of deacons _____, number of ordained 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 _____

CHURCHES

CHURCHES	Membership	Deacons	Ordained Ministers	Licensed Ministers	Received by Letter	By Restoration	By Experience	By Baptism	Withdrawals	Expelled	Dismissed by Letter	S. S. Enrollment	Average Attendance	Church Value	Amount Paid Pastor	Pastoral Help	Amount Given Children's Home	Home Mission Funds	Minute Funds	Meeting Days
Bumpas Creek	93	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	1	1	1	147	35	\$2,000.00	\$268.37	\$ 67.15	.....	\$50.00	9.50	1st & 3rd Sundays
Fairview	39	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	1	1	1	60	50	4,600.00	327.00	60.00	.....	28.00	7.50	2nd & 4th Sundays
Harmony	105	3	1	1	1	1	4	4	1	1	1	62	45	5,000.00	750.00	141.00	126.91	5.00	5.00	Each Sunday
Jones Chapel	21	3	1	1	1	1	4	4	1	1	1	35	30	6,000.00	578.00	52.25	.....	5.00	5.00	.....
Liberty	34	3	1	1	1	1	4	4	1	1	1	40	30	1,100.00	337.55	288.74	.....	25.00	6.62	.....
Maple Grove	76	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	50	30	7,000.00	337.55	288.74	.....	25.00	4.75	.....
McClamery	27	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	50	36	3,125.00	235.25	40.00	.....	25.00	4.90	.....
Meeks' Grove	50	1	1	1	1	1	2	7	1	1	1	25	20	1,000.00	110.54	33.54	.....	21.00	5.00	.....
Midway	83	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	160	50	8,000.00	254.50	46.71	.....	12.00	5.00	4th Sunday
Mt. Zion	139	6	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	4	4	66	35	5,000.00	267.25	50.00	24.00	17.24	10.77	1st & 3rd Sundays
Murphy's Chapel	71	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	69	50	6,000.00	185.19	39.80	.....	25.00	8.70	.....
New Chapel	57	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	28	25	2,000.00	296.64	52.03	.....	25.00	11.00	.....
New Home	56	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	35	25	3,000.00	538.55	176.85	.....	25.00	5.25	.....
New Pleasant Grove	73	2	1	1	1	5	8	8	1	2	2	35	44	3,000.00	538.55	176.85	.....	25.00	10.35	.....
Pinney Grove	131	1	1	1	1	1	6	6	6	1	1	36	36	800.00	149.50	45.00	.....	28.25	7.00	.....
Pleasant Hill	14	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	1	1	32	30	2,500.00	138.50	21.00	.....	3.00	3.00	.....
Popular Springs	35	1	1	1	1	1	6	6	1	1	1	58	25	2,500.00	157.53	21.00	7.26	.....	7.00	.....
Rayborn Chapel	17	2	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	30	20	1,500.00	210.18	25.68	.....	4.32	4.32	.....
Scott's Chapel	104	7	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	36	57	1,250.00	225.00	76.00	.....	25.00	7.50	1st & 3rd Sundays
Second Creek	24	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	30	25	2,000.00	272.00	36.47	.....	25.00	7.00	2nd & 4th Sundays
Shady Grove	83	3	4	4	4	4	1	1	1	1	1	175	60	1,000.00	98.47	13.50	.....	4.00	4.00	.....
Solitude	150	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1	1	1	175	60	2,500.00	385.80	26.00	.....	9.95	9.95	.....
White's Creek	32	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	260	40	1,000.00	100.50	26.00	.....	25.00	4.55	.....

