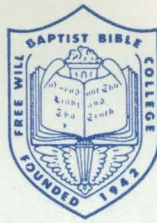


MINUTES
OF THE
Eighty-seventh Annual Session
OF
TENNESSEE RIVER
ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
CONVENED WITH
MIDWAY CHAPEL CHURCH
LEIGHTON, ALABAMA

Friday September 17, 1965

The next association will convene with Fairview Church, Wayne County Tennessee on
Friday September 16, 1966 at 11 o'clock a.m.



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented by

Mr. W. W. Berry

CHURCHES

Recd. by Baptism

By Letter

By Experience

Restored

Dismissed

Withdrawn

Deceased

Membership

Sunday School

Enrollment

Average Attendance

Deacons

Ordained Ministers

Licensed Ministers

Church Value

Adamsville.....	0	1	1	1	1	1	34	50	35	2	3	1	\$ 12,000
Bumpas Creek.....	0	2	1	1	1	0	102	50	35	2	3	1	2,000
Fairview.....	7	1	1	1	1	0	66	80	65	1	2	3	7,352
Harmony.....	1	6	1	1	1	1	127	87	95	2	3	3	13,000
Huntsville.....	4	10	1	1	1	1	116	90	90	2	1	3	100,000
Jones Chapel.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	24	35	20	2	1	1	6,000
McGlamery.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	21	23	18	1	1	1	4,000
Meeks Grove.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	25	55	35	1	1	1	1,000
Midway.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	45	63	30	3	1	1	10,000
Mt. Olivet.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	50	30	1	1	1	8,500
Mt. Zion.....	8	2	2	2	2	1	40	50	63	1	1	1	20,000
Murphy's Chapel.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	61	80	50	2	3	1	2,000
Yew Chapel.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	55	45	30	1	1	1	3,000
New Home.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	54	34	34	1	1	1	1,800
New Pleasant Grove.....	3	1	1	1	1	1	129	35	34	1	1	1	1,800
Piney Grove.....	7	2	2	2	2	2	43	35	22	1	1	1	1,800
Poplar Springs.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	22	12	1	1	1	10,000
Posey Chapel.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	17	39	3	3	1	1	1,800
Rayborn Chapel.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	110	63	39	3	3	1	3,000
Scotts Chapel.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	26	20	15	2	2	1	2,500
Second Creek.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	68	35	20	1	1	1	1,500
Shady Grove.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	43	35	20	1	1	1	10,000
Shelby.....	3	1	1	1	1	1	176	75	51	2	1	1	3,000
Solitude.....	3	1	1	1	1	1	58	60	45	1	1	1	3,400
White's Creek.....	6	1	1	1	1	1	58	60	45	1	1	1	3,400

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ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

Rev. Lige Dickey, Moderator Cypress Inn, Tennessee
 Rev. J. B. Harper, Asst. Moderator Cypress Inn, Tennessee
 Bro. John Bobo, Clerk Route #6, Box 397-C, Florence, Alabama

HOME MISSION BOARD

Bro. Roy L. Harper, Secretary & Treasurer Cypress Inn, Tennessee
 Bro. Stancil Robbins 707 Candler, Muscle Shoals, Ala.
 Bro. Everette Rich Iron City, Tennessee

ASSOCIATIONAL PASTOR

Rev. J. B. Harper Cypress Inn, Tennessee

EXAMINING COMMITTEE

Rev. Lige Dickey, Cypress Inn, Tennessee; Rev. Burlon Jones, Florence, Alabama
 Route #6, Rev. Emerald Bailey, Iron City, Tennessee.

OFFICERS OF FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING

Rev. Burlon Jones, Moderator Florence, Alabama, Route #6
 Rev. Edward Smith, Asst. Moderator Stantonville, Tennessee
 Bro. Stancil Robbins, Clerk 707 Candler, Muscle Shoals, Alabama

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rev. Burlon Jones Florence, Alabama, Route #6
 Rev. Earl Dixon Cloverdale, Alabama
 Rev. Edward Smith Stantonville, Tennessee

CHURCH CLERKS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

1st Free Will Baptist - Adamsville, Tennessee — Sister Connie Moore, Morris Chapel, Tennessee
 Bumpus Creek — Mrs. Robert Benson, Star Rt. #10, Florence, Alabama
 Fairview — Mrs. Thelma M. Dixon, Iron City, Tennessee, Route #1
 Harmony — Mrs. Betty Lowery Jeffreys, Route #2, Leighton, Alabama
 1st Free Will Baptist - Hunstville, Alabama — Mrs. Harvey Bradshaw, address unknown.
 Jones Chapel — Mrs. Cloteel Jones, Route #6 Box 334, Florence, Alabama
 McGlamery — Mrs. Bethel Robertson, Collinwood, Tennessee, Route #2
 Meeks Grove — Mrs. W. E. Killingsworth, Stantonville, Tennessee
 Midway — Mrs. Lela Hall, Route #2, Leighton, Alabama
 Mt. Olivet — Rev. W. C. Jones, Waterloo, Alabama, Route #1
 Mt. Zion — Mrs. Walter T. Lowery, Town Creek, Alabama, Route #1
 Murphy's Chapel — Bro. Benny Brown 0-2 Florence Apts, Florence, Alabama
 New Chapel — Mrs. Irene Robinson, Counce, Tennessee
 New Home — Mrs. Ethel Davidson, Henderson, Tennessee Route #4
 New Pleasant Grove — Mrs. Annie Mae Bowen, Route #3, Savannah, Tennessee
 Piney Grove — Bro. Frank Wright, Cypress Inn, Tennessee, Route #1
 Poplar Springs — Sister Wanda McKee, Route #1, Tishomingo, Mississippi
 Posey Chapel — Sister Laura Mae Posey, Cherokee, Alabama, Route #3
 Rayborn Chapel — Mrs. Myrtle Bratcher, Waynesboro, Tennessee, Route #2, Box 133.
 Scott's Chapel — Bro. Roy L. Harper, Cypress Inn, Tennessee
 Second Creek — Mrs. Alma Scott, Waterloo, Alabama
 Shady Grove — Sister Alma Franks, Olive Hill, Tennessee, Route #1

Shelby — Memphis, Tennessee - Bro. James K. Inman, 10220 Humphrey Rd., Cordova,
Tennessee 38127
Solitude — Sister Virginia Finley, Route #2, Adamsville, Tennessee
White's Creek — Sister Ora Stricklin, Savannah, Tennessee

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND ADDRESSES

G. W. Arnold, Address Unknown
Emerald Bailey, Iron City, Tennessee
Elton Cotner, Adamsville, Tennessee, Route #2
Lige Dickey, Cypress Inn, Tennessee
Earl Dixon, Cloverdale, Alabama, Rt. #1
V. H. Gean, Cloverdale, Alabama, Route #1
J. B. Harper, Cypress Inn, Tennessee
Burlon Jones, Florence, Alabama, Route #6
John Lewis, Madison, Alabama, R. F. D. #2
J. C. McClanahan, Florence, Alabama, Route #6
J. A. Moyer, Town Creek, Alabama, Route #1
Edward Smith, Stantonville, Tennessee
John H. Sneed, 508 6th Ave. Riverside, Columbia, Tennessee
Ralph Tucker, 206 Jordan Avenue. Hunstville, Alabama
Nick White, Savannah, Tennessee, Route #2
L. L. Wilson, 4186 Neely Road, Memphis 9, Tennessee
Jack Jones, Box 334, Florence, Alabama, Route #6
Virgil Moore, Morris Chapel Tennessee
Thurmon Stults, Iron City, Tennessee
Vernon Gober, Adamsville, Tennessee
Elias Stephans, Savannah, Tennessee, Route #4

LICENSED MINISTERS

Carroll C. Barnes,
Randie Eubanks
Jerry House
Braxton Parker

PASTORS OF EACH CHURCH AND THEIR ADDRESSES

1st Free Will Baptist - Adamsville, Tennessee - Rev. Edward Smith, Stantonville,
Tennessee (Pastor), Rev. Virgil Moore, Morris Chapel, Tennessee, Assistant pastor.
Bumpus — Rev. Emerald Bailey, Iron City, Tennessee, Route #1
Fairview — Rev. Emerald Bailey, Iron City, Tennessee, Route #1
Harmony — Rev. John Hunter Sneed, 508 Sixth Avenue, Riverside, Columbia, Ten-
nessee
1st Free Will Baptist — Hunstville, Alabama — Rev. Ralph Tucker, 206 Jordan
Lane, N. W., Huntsville, Alabama
Jones Chapel —
McGlamery — Rev. Thurmon Stults, Iron City, Tennessee
Meeks Grove — Rev. Virgil Moore, Morris Chapel, Tennessee
Midway — Rev. J. M. Pace, Russellville, Alabama
Mt. Zion — Rev. Robert McGee, Russellville, Alabama, Route #5
Murphy's Chapel — Rev. V. H. Gean, Route #1, Cloverdale, Alabama
Mt. Olivet — Rev. Elias Stephans, Savannah, Tennessee
New Chapel — Rev. Nick White, Savannah, Tennessee, Route #2
New Home — Rev. L. L. Wilson, 4186 Neely Road, Memphis 9, Tennessee
New PleasantGrove — Rev. Elton Cotner, Adamsville, Tennessee
Piney Grove — Rev. Thurmon Stults, Iron City, Tennessee
Poplar Springs — Rev. Nick White, Savannah, Tennessee, Route #2

Posey Chapel — Rev. Earl Dixon, Cloverdale, Alabama
 Rayborn Chapel — Rev. Thurmon Stults, Iron City, Tennessee
 Scott's Chapel — Rev. J. C. McClanahan, Florence, Alabama, Route #6
 Second Creek — Rev. Lige Dickey, Cypress Inn, Tennessee
 Shady Grove — Rev. Ealis Stephans, Savannah, Tennessee
 Solitude — Rev. Burlon Jones, Florence, Alabama, Route #6
 White's Creek — Rev. Lige Dickey, Cypress Inn, Tennessee
 Shelby — Memphis — Rev. Grover L. See, 2592 Dakar, Ave., Memphis, Tennessee

PROCEEDINGS

The opening message was brought by the moderator Rev. Lige Dickey, reading the 4th chapter of II Corinthians and Matthew 6:7. His subject "Give us THIS day". Adjourned to meet at 1:30 o'clock.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Met according to previous adjournment with singing and prayer by Rev. J. A. Moyer and scripture reading by Rev. J. C. McClanahan reading 5th chapter of first Thessalonians.

The body was then assembled in order of ministers, deacons, and the delegation.

The associational officers and their address was read by Rev. J. B. Harper, assistant moderator.

All visitors were invited seats with us.

Brother Burlan Jones and Brother Stancil Robbins were appointed reading clerks.

Finance committee was composed of Rev. Emerald Bailey, Rev. J. A. Moyer, Bro. John Bobo.

Sunday School committee was composed of Bro. Everette Rich, Bro. Gerald Robbins, Bro. Odell Jones and Bro. Earl Dixon, and Bro. Alvin Gilchrist.

Obituary committee was composed of Bro. Clyde Robertson, Bro. Lanny Moore, Bro. Hardin Stults, Bro. J. W. Stookesbury, and Bro. Ronny Brown.

Called for letters from various churches:

Adamsville — Bro. Lannie Moore.

Bumpus Creek — Bro. Ray Scott, Bro. Bill Benson, Bro. R. E. Patton, Bro. Jim White.

Fairview — Bro. Everette Rich, Bro. J. W. Stookesberry & Bro. Hardin Stults.

Huntsville — Brother Alvin Craig.

Jones Chapel — Represented by letter.

McGlamery — Brother Clyde Robertson.

Meeks Grove — Mrs. W. E. Killingsworth

Midway — Brother Gerald Robbins.

Mt. Olivet — Mr. & Mrs. Odell Jones, Vylono and Frankie Austin

Mt. Zion — Brother Lowery

Murphy's Chapel — Brother Ronnie Brown

New Chapel — Brother Bill Mayhall and Bro. Billy Mayhall

New Home — Brother Joe Garner and Bro. Alvin Knipper.

New Pleasant Grove — Brother Monroe Hubbard

Piney Grove — Brother Willard Reeves.

Poplar Springs — Represented by letter.

Posey Chapel — Represented by letter.

Rayborn Chapel — Represented by letter.

Scott's Chapel — Alvin Gilchrist and Bro. Lonzo Harper

Second Creek — Brother Floyd Hinton and Sister Alma Scott.

Shady Grove — Brother Joda and Virginia Melson

Shelby — Memphis — Sister Lepard and Sister Inman

Solitude — Sis. Lillie Gallagher, Sis. Mary Ruth Tacker, Sis. Myrtle

Cotner, Sis. Virginia Finley.

White's Creek — Represented by letter.

Harmony — Sis. John H. Lowery, Sis. Estelle McCormack and Sis. Sherman McCormack.

A program committee was appointed to arrange preaching service. Bro. J. B. Harper, Bro. Stancil Robbins, and Bro. G. J. Ferrell were appointed.

APPOINTING OF VARIOUS COMMITTEES

General Business — Rev. V. H. Geans, Bro. W. L. Harper, Bro. Eddard Jeffreys, and Rev. L. L. Wilson.

Educational — Rev. Edward Smith, Bro. Tom Richardson, and Bro. Randy Eubanks.

Temperance — Rev. J. C. McClanahan, Bro. Willard Reeves, and Bro. G. J. Ferrell.

Benevolence — Rev. Elton Cotner, Rev. Robert McGee, and Bro. Stancil Robbins.

Resolution of Thanks — Sister Alma Scott, Sister Elton Cotner, Sister Estelle McCormack, Mrs. John Henry Lowery and Sister Lepard.

Business session adjourned to meet Saturday morning at 8:30 o'clock.

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Opened by singing led by Rev. Edward Smith and prayer by Rev. J. C. McClanahan. Message by Rev. L. L. Wilson and Rev. Elton Cotner.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Met according to previous adjournment by singing and prayer by Rev. Emerald Bailey and scripture reading by Rev. Earl Dixon.

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 preachers and deacons remind the churches. We recommend that each preacher pay the tenth, more or less out of money he receives for ministerial work to the home mission 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 our prayers.

GENERAL BUSINESS REPORT CONTINUED

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.

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 to 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 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 recommend that each church call its pastor thirty days before the association if possible.

We also recommend that we pay the home mission treasurer \$25.00.

We also recommend that we pay the associational clerk \$35.00.

We recommend an associational revival with the tent be conducted prior to the church revivals, and let the associational pastor work with a committee on location and program.

Report adopted.

Rev. V. H. Gean, Chairman

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

We your committee on Sunday school wish to submit the following: We have 22 churches with Sunday Schools, (3 without Sunday Schools) present with a total enrollment of 1151, regular attendance 819 and an average of 39 for each church. This shows a small decrease in attendance from last year.

We recommend that each church have a Sunday School regularly. We also recommend that all leaders and teachers in Sunday School be devout Christians, sound in faith, apt to teach. We recommend that parents carry their children to Sunday School that they may be more attentive to the work of God.

We recommend that visitors who visit our churches be followed up by a visit of the teacher, or by a card to show our appreciation for their visit.

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

Rev. Earl Dixon, Chairman

EDUCATIONAL REPORT

We your committee on education wish to recommend the following:

We recommend that Christians study to show themselves approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth, II Timothy 2:15, also, from II Timothy 3:15 "and that from a child thou has known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ."

We also recommend that the parents co-operate with the schools as long as it is not against the teachings of the Bible. Stand against that which is evil. Proverbs 22:15 says, "Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him."

We recommend, also, that parents train up a child as he should go, teaching them to reverence and love God and to read the Bible daily.

Report adopted.

Bro. Randy Eubanks, Chairman

TEMPERANCE REPORT

We your committee on temperance submit the following report:

We find the word temperance in regard to beer, wine, and whiskey, to mean total abstinence from the use and sale of it.

We should be temperate at home, in church and at business. We find the Bible says in 1st 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 "and besides 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."

Reported adopted.

Bro. G. J. Farrell, Chairman

OBITUARY REPORT

We your committee on obituary beg leave to report with sadness that death has taken 13 of our members since our last association.

Harmony: Bro. Bill Lowery, Bro. Hugh Posey and Bro. Garvin Posey; McGlamery, Sister Sarah Wright, Meeks Grove, Sister Connie Tillman; Murphy's Chapel, Bro. Clarence Scott, Bro. Girallo South, and Sis. Ella Young; Piney Grove, Sis. Roxie Banks, Sis. Hanna Wright; Scott's Chapel, Sis. Thelma Berry; Solitude, Sis. Gladys Martin and Sis. Fannie Martin.

We have hope and trust our loss is heaven's gain.

Reported adopted.

Bro. J. W. Stooksberry, Chairman

REPORT OF BENEVOLENCE

We your committee on benevolence find that the word benevolence means disposition to do good, act of kindness, good will.

We feel that we should support all the benevolence of our churches.

We recommend that each church support their pastor financially for we see the need of him being in the field.

We also recommend that our churches send an offering to the orphans home monthly or quarterly and the support of our missions both at home and abroad, wherever we find people in need.

We find in Proverbs 3:27-28 "Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it. Say not unto thy neighbor go, and come again, and tomorrow I will give: When thou hast it by thee."

Report adopted.

Rev. Elton Cotner, Rev. Robert McGee, Bro. Stancil
Robbins, committee

CLERK'S REPORT

Deficit from 1963	\$ 1.88
Amount received from churches	146.26
Total	144.38
Paid clerks fee	35.00
Paid for printing minutes	105.00
Postage	.00
Balance	4.38
Received 700 minutes Nov. 19, 1964	

Reported adopted.

W. W. Berry, Clerk

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Adamsville	\$10.50	New Pleasant Grove	\$ 8.00
Bumpus	12.75	Piney Grove	6.00
Fairview	15.00	Poplar Springs	4.00
Harmony	7.25	Posey Chapel	3.00
Huntsville	5.00	Rayborn Chapel	4.20
Jones Chapel	5.00	Scott's Chapel	10.75
McGlamery	5.50	Second Creek	5.00
Meeks Grove	5.25	Shady Grove	4.00
Midway	5.00	Shelby	7.00
Mt. Zion	6.00	Solitude	8.00
Murphy's Chapel	10.00	White's Creek	6.00
New Chapel	9.15	Mt. Olivet	5.00
New Home	5.00		\$172.35

HOME MISSION BOARD REPORT

September 1, 1965

Amount brought forward	\$1,495.79
Freewill offering for children's home at the association	190.00
Solitude church	25.00
New Chapel Church	25.00
New Home Church	25.00
Meeks Grove Church	20.00
Piney Grove Church	25.00
Murphy's Chapel Church	25.00
McGlamery Church	25.00
Midway Church	18.00
Bumpus Creek Church	25.00

Fairview Church	\$	25.00	
New Pleasant Grove		25.00	
Scott's Chapel Church		25.00	\$1,973.79

Names of ministers who paid tenth received from ministeiral work

Rev. J. C. McClanahan	38.84	
Rev. Emerald Bailey	77.10	
Rev. V. H. Geans	156.48	
Rev. B. H. Southerland	112.05	
Rev. Edward Smith	20.00	
Rev. J. B. Harper	60.00	
Rev. Earl Dixon	30.00	
Rev. Nick White	20.00	
Total paid in		509.47
Amount paid out		\$2,483.26

Paid to Children's Home	\$200.00
Paid to associational Pastor	590.00
Paid for song books	90.00
Paid for insurance on Posey's Chapel Church	36.00
Paid for tent top and freight on top	441.40
Paid to Bro. John Bobo for tent pulpit and stand	36.00

Paid to Rev. Earl Dixon for taking care of Posey's

Chapel Church	105.00
Paid to 5th Sun. Meeting Clerk	25.00
Treasurer Fee	25.00

Total paid out \$1,548.40

Balance in Treasury 934.86

Report adopted.

Bro. Roy L. Harper, Sec. & Treas.

ASSOCIATIONAL PASTOR REPORT — Rev. J. B. Harper

Helped get pastor for Posey Chapel, Rev. Earl Dixon

Helped get pastor at Mt. Olivet, Rev. Elias Stephans

Made 3 trips to Decatur

Made 1 trip to Hamilton

Made 1 trip to Red Bay

I have had privilege to visit 16 churches, some more than one time. Filled in 3 of them for pastors. Conference held 1, Discussed new building, conducted 3 tent revivals, Petersville, Alabama; Wrights, Alabama; Waynesboro, Tennessee. Association paid \$590.00 Paid expense on tent and help \$72.00, assisted in 2 revivals, held 6 funerals, assisted in 2, offering received other than the association \$360.73 which makes a total received \$950.73.

Votes were taken and association placed to go to Fairview Church on Friday before the 3rd Sunday in September, 1966 at 11:00 o'clock.

Associational officers were elected.

Rev. Lige Dickey, Cypress Inn, Tenn. Moderator; Rev. J. B. Harper, Cypress Inn, Tenn. Assistant Moderator; Bro. John Bobo, Clerk address Route #6, Box 397-C, Florence, Alabama.

Home Mission Board consists of Bro. Everette Rich elected to serve with Bro. Roy Harper, and Bro. Stancil Robbins who were retained.

Associational pastor Rev. J. B. Harper was elected at 5th Sunday meeting prior to the association. Moved and seconded to pay the associational pastor \$100.00 a month.

Board of Trustees — Moved and seconded to elect a rotating board to serve, elect-

ing one each year. Burlon Jones at top, retiring next year; Earl Dixon; and Edward Smith according to age.

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened with singing and prayer by Bro. W. C. Jones. The message was brought by Rev. Elias Stephans and followed by Bro. Moore.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON PRESBYTERY SESSION

Presbytery session at Midway Chapel in session with the Tennessee River Association September 18, 1965. Rev. Emerald Bailey as moderator, churches represented 18, ordained ministers present 15; licensed ministers 3; visiting ministers 2; deacons 7.

Moderator asked for minutes to be read of previous presbytery session. Minutes were read and approved.

New business of ministers report and granting cards:

Rev. George Arnold - Absent - card granted.

Rev. Emerald Bailey - Report, Pastored 2 churches, half time each, conducted 2 conferences, conducted 2 communion services, conducted 6 funerals, assisted in 1, conducted 2 revivals, assisted in 4, witnessed 12 professions, baptized 5, received 6 into the church, money received \$863.22, expenses unknown. Card granted.

Rev. Elton Cotner - Report - Pastored 5 churches, 1 half time, conducted 5 revivals, baptized 8, received into church 7, conducted 3 communion services, conducted 4 conferences, conducted 9 funerals, married 3 couples, money received \$1,132.17, miles traveled unknown, expenses unknown. Card granted.

Rev. Lige Dickey - Report - Pastored three churches, 1 half time; conducted 1 conference, held 3 revivals; helped in 1; witnessed 9 conversions; baptized 8, held one funeral; assisted in 1; money received \$730.45; expenses and miles traveled unknown. Card granted.

Rev. Earl Dixon - Report - Assistant pastor to one church; assisted in 3 revivals; married 2 couples; assisted in 2 funerals; money received \$206.10. Card granted.

Rev. V. H. Gean - Report - Pastored 1 church; held 2 revivals; witnessed 5 professions; baptized 1; additions to church 7; preached 6 funerals; money received \$1,287.83. Card granted.

Rev. J. B. Harper - Report - Helped get pastor at Posey's Chapel, Bro. Earl Dixon, helped get pastor at Mt. Olivet, Bro. Elias Stephans; made 3 trips to Decatur, Made 1 trip to Hamilton, made 1 trip to Red Bay; I have had privilege to visit 16 churches, some more than one time; filled in 3 of them for pastors; conference held 1, discussed new building, conducted 3 tent revivals, Petersville, Alabama; Wrights, Alabama; Waynesboro, Tennessee, Association paid \$590.00; paid expense on tent and help \$72.00; assisted in 2 revivals; funerals held 6; assisted in 2; offering \$360.73 plus \$590.00 paid by the association, making a total of \$950.73. Card granted.

Rev. Burlon Jones - Report - Pastored two churches, half time each, conducted 1 communion service; held 1 conference; held two revivals, assisted in two; money received for pastored work and revivals \$799.97; expenses unknown; miles traveled 6,439; sermons preached 82. Card granted.

Rev. Jack Jones - Report - Preached 60 sermons; assistant pastor of church; held 2 revivals; witnessed 5 professions; miles traveled unknown; money received \$121.00 conducted 1 radio program full time. Card granted.

Rev. John Lewis - absent - Report read by clerk - Sermons preached 22, held 1 revival; witnessed 8 professions, baptized 1; solemnized 1 marriage; traveled 2,000 miles; money received none. Card granted.

Rev. J. C. McClanahan - Report - Pastored 1 church half time, conducted 1 revival; conducted 1 communion service; conducted 1 conference; conducted 2 funerals; money received \$349.80. Card granted.

Rev. J. A. Moyer - Report - Sermons preached 57, witnessed 25 professions; married 1 couple, traveled 8,075; money received \$270.90, paid out \$250.50; visited sick 24. Card granted.

Rev. Virgil Moore - Report - Pastored 1 church 1/2 time and assistant pastor of 1

church 1/2 time; assisted in 1 revival; witnessed 2 conversions; conducted 1 communion service; held one conference; conducted 2 funerals; preached 82 sermons; money received \$206.13; expenses and miles traveled unknown; paid money received from Adamsville church to church fund. Card granted.

Rev. Jamie Wicker - Absent - Card not granted.

Rev. Edward Smith - Report - Conducted 1 conference, conducted 1 communion, pastored 1 church, held 1 revival, assisted in 1, professions witnessed 2, additions to church 2, solemnized 1 marriage, miles traveled unknown; money received \$114.00; money received from Adamsville church was turned over to church treasury. Card granted.

Rev. John Sneed - Report - Preached 120 sermons, pastored 1 church, assisted in 1 revival, witnessed 4 professions; added to church 6, preached 7 funerals, marriages 4, miles traveled 26,000, money received \$1,400.00. Card granted.

Rev. B. H. Southerland - Sends letter and credentials.)

Rev. Ralph Tucker - absent - report read by clerk - Preached 144 sermons, church pastored 1, held 5 revivals, witnessed 61 professions, baptized 4, added to church 20, preached 2 funerals, solemnized 2 marriages, money received \$6,000.00. Card granted.

Rev. Nick White - Absent - Card granted.

Rev. Thurmon Stults - Report - Pastored 1 church, 1/2 time, pastored 1 church 6 months 1/2 time, preached 59 sermons, held 2 revivals, witnessed 2 conversions, attended 4 communion services, money received \$318.92, miles traveled unknown, Card granted.

Rev. Vernon Gober - Report - Preached 32 sermons, assisted in one communion service, visited 4 churches, attended all fifth Sunday meetings, received \$4.00, expenses and miles traveled unknown. Card granted. After ordination service.

Rev. Ealis Stephens - Report - Pastored Mt. Olivet church since February 21, preached eleven sermons, helped in the revival there, married one couple, money received \$48.10, miles traveled unknown, expenses unknown, visited 12 other churches, held 26 services, money received \$140.15, miles traveled unknown, and expenses unknown. Card granted after ordination service.

Rev. Randie Eubanks gave report oral.

Rev. Ralph McGee - absent report was read and discussed and referred to next fifth Sunday meeting.

Rev. L. L. Wilson - Sermons preached 152; Pastored one Church, full time; Held two revivals; witnessed 6 professions; Baptized 2, 8 additions to Church; preached 4 funerals; married one couple, Miles traveled 10,973; held two communion services & three conferences, money received \$3,142.00. Card granted.

Moderator called for all that were to be licensed or ordained to preach, also those ordained as deacons. The following came forward to be ordained and licensed: Licensed to preach - Bro. Carrol C. Barnes, Shelby Church Memphis, Bro. Jerry L. House, Iuka, Miss. (Poplar Springs Church). To be ordained to preach Bro. Elias Stephens and Bro. Vernon Gober. To be ordained as deacons, Bro. Edd Keel, Poplar Springs and Bro. Thomas Lepard Shelby Church - Memphis. The examining committee met with the candidates to be ordained and licensed and reported that they recommended all of them. Rev. V. H. Gean read the qualifications of a bishop, followed by the ordination service. Dismissed by prayer.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Opened with singing and prayer by Rev. Earl Dixon, preaching service by Rev. John Sneed and followed by Rev. Edward Smith.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

We your committee on resolution of thanks beg leave to report to the body assembled together with Midway Chapel church.

We wish to express our thanks to the people of this church and the surrounding community for the hospitality and friendship they have shown us during our stay. May the Lord bless each and everyone that lent a helping hand in any way.

Sister Myrtle Cotner, Chairman

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened by singing and prayer by Bro. Pace. An offering of \$151.10 was taken for the Children's Homes. Preaching by Rev. J. C. McClanahan and Rev. V. H. Gean.

MINUTES OF FIFTH SUNDAY MEETINGS

FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING AT FAIRVIEW CHURCH, November 28, 29, 1964

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened by singing, prayer by Rev. Elton Cotner and altar of prayer. Message by Rev. J. B. Harper, reading from 34th Psalms and Matthew. Dismissed by Rev. J. A. Moyer.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Opened by singing by Rev. Emerald Bailey and others, prayer by Rev. Lige Dickey, and Rev. V. H. Gean. Message by Rev. Earl Dixon reading from Philippians 4th Chapter 4th verse, followed by business session.

Rev. Emerald Bailey as moderator, churches represented 11, ordained ministers present 8, licensed ministers present 2, visiting ministers present 2, deacons present 7.

Moderator called for reading of last minutes, minutes read and approved. Moved and seconded to appoint a committee to buy song books for the association. The moderator appointed the following committee: Rev. Earl Dixon, Bro. Roy Harper, Rev. Hollis Southerland.

It was moved and seconded for the moderator to appoint Rev. J. B. Harper to act as assistant moderator in the absence of Rev. Burlon Jones. Rev. J. B. Harper appointed Bro. John Bobo, Bro. J. H. Wright, and Rev. J. B. Harper, serving in the absence of Rev. Tucker, to arrange the program for the Fifth Sun. in January at 1st Freewill Church in Huntsville, Alabama.

A letter was received and read from New Pleasant Grove recommending Bro. Fred Bowen to be ordained as a deacon, Bro. Bowen went before the examining committee, was approved and was ordained. Moved and seconded to close business session, dismissed by Rev. Edward Smith.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Opened by singing, prayer by Jimmie Wilson and Bro. J. H. Wright, singing by the Bobo family, message by Rev. Thurmon Stults reading II Timothy 4th chapter, followed by Rev. J. A. Moyer. Dismissed by Rev. E. Rich.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened by singing, prayer by Rev. E. Stephens and Rev. J. C. McClanahan. Singing by the Bobo family, opening message by Rev. V. H. Gean reading Isaiah 9th chapter, followed by Rev. B. H. Southerland reading Hebrews 8th chapter 10-13 verse. Dismissed by Bro. C. I. Dixon.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Opened by singing, prayer by Rev. McGee and sister Thelma Dixon, message by Rev. Nick White, reading from Genesis 1st chapter, dismissed by prayer.

**FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING AT FIRST FREWILL BAPTIST CHURCH
AT HUNTSVILLE,**

January 29, 30, 1965

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened by singing by Rev. J. B. Harper and others, altar of prayer, Rev. Ralph Tucker as assistant moderator. Opening message by Rev. Emerald Bailey reading from Zechariah 4th chapter and 9th verse, followed by Rev. Edward Smith reading from Numbers 9th chapter 1st through 3rd verse. Dismissed by Rev. Hollis Southerland.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Opened by singing, prayer by Rev. L. L. Wilson, message by Rev. Paul Weaver reading from I Thessalonians 2nd chapter. Scripture reading by Rev. Harper reading 26th and 29th Psalms prayer by Rev. Virgil Moore.

Going into business session, Rev. Emerald Bailey Moderator with 8 churches present, 9 ordained ministers present, 1 licensed minister present, 1 visiting minister and 4 deacons. Moderator called for reading of last minutes, minutes read and approved, Clerk Stancil Robbins reports that new association song books had been bought at a cost of \$90.00, moderator appointed following program committee for next fifth Sunday meeting at First Freewill Church at Adamsville, Tenn. Rev. Edward Smith, Bro. Stancil Robbins and Bro. John Bobo.

Rev. L. L. Wilson stated that Rev. Travis Johnson had not received his ordination papers and ministers card and would like to have some duplicates, motion was made and passed to issue Rev. Travis Johnson his papers. Rev. L. L. Wilson states that he was leaving the association and ask for a letter of recommendation. Motion was made and passed to grant Rev. Wilson a letter of recommendation.

Rev. J. B. Harper, associational pastor, made the following report. He stated that he had visited Decatur in regards to organizing a church there but did not get much encouragement. He stated also that he had heard that the pastor of Posey's Chapel did not belong to any association and that Posey's Chapel did not have any insurance on the building and asked for an opinion from the body. Motion was made and passed for the moderator to appoint a committee to check on the pastor of Posey's Chapel and to see about getting insurance on the building at Posey's chapel. Rev. J. B. Harper, Rev. V. H. Gean and Rev. Lige Dickey were appointed to the committee, move made and seconded to close business session, dismissed by Rev. Sweden.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Opened by singing by the Bobo family and others, prayer by Bro. Jake Craig, Rev. Edward Smith and Sister Wilson, opening message by Rev. Lige Dickey reading from Exodus 17th chapter, followed by Rev. V. H. Gean reading St. Mark 11th chapter, dismissed by Rev. Edward Smith.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened by singing by Bro. John Tucker and others, prayer by Rev. Emerald Bailey and altar of prayer. Message by Rev. L. L. Wilson reading from Matthew 25th chapter dismissed by Rev. Lige Dickey.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Opened by singing, prayer by Rev. Lige Dickey, message by Rev. Hollis Southerland reading from Habakkuk 3rd chapter 17 and 18 verse, dismissed by Bro. Bradshaw.

**FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING AT FIRST FREWILL BAPTIST CHURCH, ADAMSVILLE,
TENNESSEE MAY 29, 30, 1965**

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened by singing, Rev. Emerald Bailey moderator, prayer by Rev. V. H. Gean, opening message by Rev. Ralph Tucker, reading from Jude 1st chapter, Matthew 24th chapter and Romans 13th chapter. Followed by Rev. L. L. Wilson reading from I Corinthians 15th chapter, dismissed by Rev. B. H. Southerland.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Opened by singing by Bro. John Bobo and others, prayer by Rev. Lige Dickey, message by Rev. J. C. McClanahan reading from Mark 8:22-27.

Going into business session Rev. Emerald Bailey moderator, churches represented 13, ordained ministers 15, licensed ministers 1, visiting ministers 2, deacons 6, visiting deacons 1.

Moderator called for reading of minutes of previous presbytery session at 1st Freewill at Huntsville, Ala. in January 1965. Minutes were read and after amending were approved. The amendment was as follows: the committee that was appointed at Huntsville was to have investigated Rev. Paden who was at that time preaching at Posey's Chapel. It was thought that he did not belong to any association. The committee, Rev. V. H. Gean, Rev. J. B. Harper, and Rev. Lige Dickey reported that they found Rev. Paden in good standing with his association. Rev. Paden in the meantime resigned at Posey's Chapel.

The committee also reported that \$6,000 insurance had been bought on Posey's Chapel building, and paid for by the home mission board, at a cost of \$36.00. Rev. L. L. Wilson stated that the church Shelby Freewill Baptist that he pastored last desired to come into the Tenn. River Association after discussion it was stated that they should bring a letter to the association in September.

Rev. J. B. Harper stated that he had been going to Posey's Chapel to preach since they did not have a pastor, and he thought the association should send someone to preach for them. After discussing it a motion was made and passed that Rev. J. B. Harper either go or get someone to go to preach at Posey's Chapel until the association in September and that the association would pay \$15.00 plus what ever the church gave him.

Rev. Burlon Jones the assistant moderator appointed Rev. V. H. Gean, Bro. Brodie Tacker, and Bro. Roy Harper to the program committee at Murphy's Chapel in August.

A letter was received and read from First Freewill at Huntsville recommending that Bro. Randy Eubanks be licensed to preach for one year. The moderator asked the examining committee to meet with Bro. Eubanks and make their recommendation. The committee met with Bro. Eubanks and recommended that he be licensed to preach for one year. It was suggested by Rev. J. B. Harper that the association sponsor a 2 weeks tent revival, time and place to be announced later, motion made and passed to adjourn.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Opened by singing by Rev. Edward Smith and others, prayer by Rev. Elton Cotner and Rev. Paul Weaver. Opening message by Rev. Vernon Gober, reading from 123rd Psalms followed by Rev. John Sneed reading from Romans 23rd chapter, dismissed by Rev. Bishop.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened by singing, prayer by Rev. J. B. Harper, opening message by Rev. Burlon Jones reading from Hebrews 11th chapter, followed by Rev. V. H. Gean. Dismissed by altar prayer.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Opened by singing, prayer by Rev. Kendrick and Rev. House. Message by Rev. Elton Cotner, reading from Daniel 7th Chapter. Dismissed by Bro. Massengill.

FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING AT MURPHY'S CHAPEL AUGUST 28 and 29, 1965

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened by singing, prayer by Bro. John Wright and Rev. Nick White and altar of prayer.

Opening message by Rev. Virgil Moore reading from Isaiah 53rd chapter followed by Rev. J. B. Harper reading from 122nd Psalm, dismissed by Rev. L. L. Wilson.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Opened by singing, prayer by Bro. John Bobo and Rev. E. Stephens. Message by Rev. Ed Smith reading from St. John 23rd Chapter, followed by business session with Rev. Emerald Bailey moderator, scripture reading by Rev. E. Stephens. Churches represented 14, Ordained ministers 9, licensed ministers 3, visiting minister 1, deacons present 7.

Moderator asked for reading of last minutes, minutes read and approved, called for churches that would host the Fifth Sunday meetings next year, churches asking for Fifth Sunday Meeting as follows: Scotts Chapel in Oct. 1965

1st Church—Huntsville, January 1966

New Chapel—May 1966

Solitude—July 1966

Committee appointed to place 5th Sunday Meetings as follows Bro. Jake Sherrill, Rev. E. Stephens, Bro. John Wright. Next business of elections of new Presbytery officers: Rev. Burlon Jones, Moderator, Rev. Edward Smith, assistant moderator, Bro. Stancil Robbins, clerk, Rev. J. B. Harper elected as associational pastor.

Rev. Burlon Jones assistant moderator, appointed program committee for next fifth Sunday meeting at Scott's Chapel as follows: Rev. J. C. McClanahan, Bro. Roy Harper, and Rev. Vernon Gober. Rev. Burlon Jones asked to be received from the examining committee and Rev. Elias Stephens appointed to fill Rev. Jones' place on the committee.

Moderator asked for letters from churches who have ministers or deacons to be ordained or licensed. Harmony sends letter recommending Bro. Braxton Parker to be licensed to preach for one year, Fairview sends letter recommending Rev. Thurmon Stults to be ordained to preach. Rev. Stults and Bro. Parker met with the examining committee. The examining committee reported that Bro. Parker and Rev. Stults met with their approval. Rev. Stults was ordained to preach. Bro. Parker was issued licenses. Move made and seconded to close business session. Dismissed by Bro. McFalls.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Opening message by Rev. Emerald Bailey reading from James 1st chapter, followed by Rev. Lige Dickey reading from St. John 14th chapter, dismissed by Bro. John Bobo.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened by singing, prayer by Rev. E Stephens and Bro. Homer Scott, singing by the Bobo family, Dixon family and Stults children, message by Rev. B. H. Southerland reading from St. John 1st chapter dismissed by Rev. Cotner.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Opened by singing special by the Bobo family, prayer by Rev. McGee and Rev. Stults. Message by Rev. Nick White reading from 1st Kings 13 chapter, session closed by prayer.

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. The association shall be called the *Tennessee River Association of Free Will Baptists*, and shall be composed of such consisten, 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 delegate.

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 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 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 condition 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 preserve 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 are 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 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, 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 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....., withdraw....., expelled....., dead....., total membership....., number of students enrolled in Sunday school....., average attendance....., number of deacons....., number 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

