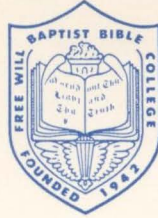


MINUTES
OF THE
Eighty-Ninth Annual Session
OF THE
TENNESSEE RIVER ASSOCIATION
OF
Free Will Baptists

CONVENED WITH
MURPHY'S CHAPEL CHURCH
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1967



The next association will convene with New Chapel Church
on Friday before the third Sunday in September, 1968,
at 11:00 a. m.



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

Rev. Burlon Jones

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Eighty-Ninth Annual Session
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ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

Rev. Lidge Dickey, Moderator	Cypress Inn, Tennessee
Rev. J. B. Harper, Assistant Moderator	Cypress Inn, Tennessee
Bro. J. W. Stooksberry, Clerk	Iron City, Tennessee

HOME MISSION BOARD

Bro. Roy L. Harper, Secretary-Treasurer	Cypress Inn, Tennessee
Bro. Stancil Robbins	707 Candler, Muscles Shoals, Alabama
Bro. Everette Rich	Iron City, Tennessee

EVANGELIST

Rev. J. B. Harper	Cypress Inn, Tennessee
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EXAMINING COMMITTEE

Rev. Lidge Dickey, Cypress Inn, Tenn.; Rev. Elias Stephens, Savannah, Tenn.; Rev. Emerald Bailey, Iron City, Tenn.

OFFICERS OF FIFTH SUNDAY MEETINGS

Rev. L. L. Wilson, Moderator	64 Winsor Road, Memphis Tennessee
Rev. Elias Stephens, Assistant Moderator	Route 4, Savannah, Tennessee
Rev. Vernon Gober, Clerk	Adamsville, Tennessee

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rev. Burlon Jones	6410 Marsh Avenue, N. W., Huntsville, Alabama
Rev. Earl Dixon	Route 1, Cloverdale, Alabama
Rev. Edward Smith	Stantonville, Tennessee

CHURCH CLERKS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

First Free Will Baptist Church, Adamsville, Tennessee—Bro. Connie Moore,
617 Alabama Street, Savannah, Tennessee
Bumpas Creek—Sister Robert Benson, Route 10, Florence, Alabama
Fairview—Sister Thelma Mae Dixon, Route 1, Iron City, Tennessee
Harmony—Sister Betty L. Jeffreys, Route 2, Leighton, Alabama
Huntsville—Sister Jean Tucker, 4208 Holmes Avenue N. W., Huntsville,
Alabama
Jones Chapel—Sister Vergie Mullins, 220 W. Duncan Avenue, Florence,
Alabama
McGlamery—Sister Bethel Robertson, Route 2, Collinwood, Tennessee
Meek's Grove—Sister Hazel Killingsworth, Adamsville, Tennessee
Midway—Sister Lela Hall, Route 2, Leighton, Alabama
Mt. Olivet—Bro. W. C. Jones, Route 1, Waterloo, Alabama
Mt. Zion—Sister Walter T. Lowery, Route 1, Town Creek, Alabama
Murphy's Chapel—Bro. Randal Gray, 1336 James Street, Florence, Alabama
New Chapel—Sister Irene Robinson, Counce, Tennessee
New Home—Sister Ethel Davidson, Route 4, Henderson, Tennessee
New Pleasant Grove—Sister Annie Mae Brown, Route 3, Savannah,
Tennessee
Piney Grove—Bro. Johnnie Banks, Cypress Inn, Tennessee
Poplar Springs—Sister Wanda McKee, Tishomingo, Mississippi
Posey's Chapel—Sister Laura Mae Posey, Route 3, Cherokee, Alabama
Rayborn Chapel—Sister Myrtle Bracher, Route 2, Waynesboro, Tennessee
Scott's Chapel—Bro. Roy Harper, Cypress Inn, Tennessee
Second Creek—Sister Alma Scott, Waterloo, Alabama
Shady Grove—Sister Alma Franks, Olive Hill, Tennessee
Shelby—Sister Thomas Lepard, 3135 Mangum Road, Memphis, Tennessee
Solitude—Sister Virginia Finley, Adamsville, Tennessee
White's Creek—Sister Ora Stricklin, Savannah, Tennessee

ORDAINED MINISTERS, THEIR ADDRESSES, AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Emerald Bailey, Route 1, Iron City, Tennessee, Phone Collinwood 724-4378
Carroll C. Barnes, 706 Stage Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, Phone 358-9577
Elton Cotner, Route 2, Adamsville, Tennessee, Phone 632-6065
Lidge Dickey, Route 1, Cypress Inn, Tennessee
Earl Dixon, Route 1, Cloverdale, Alabama, Phone Florence 764-0558
V. H. Gean, Route 1, Cloverdale, Alabama, Phone Florence 766-3896
Vernon Gober, Adamsville, Tennessee, Phone 632-4228
J. B. Harper, Cypress Inn, Tennessee, Phone Collinwood 724-4594
Jerry House, Route 2, Box 31-A, Iuka, Mississippi
Burlon Jones, 6410 Marsh Avenue N. W., Huntsville, Alabama, Phone
837-4461
John Lewis—Moved to Another Association
J. C. McClanahan, Route 2, Florence, Alabama, Phone 764-8210
Robert McGee, Route 5, Russellville, Alabama

Virgil Moore, Morris Chapel, Tennessee
 J. A. Moyer, 823 Fourth Avenue S. E., Decatur, Alabama
 Everette Rich, Route 1, Iron City, Tennessee, Phone Collinwood 724-4568
 Grover See, 2592 Dakar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee
 Elias Stephens, Route 4, Savannah, Tennessee
 Thurman Stults, Iron City, Tennessee
 Edward Smith, Stantonville, Tennessee
 John H. Sneed, 508 Sixth Avenue, Riverside, Columbia, Tennessee
 Nick White, Route 2, Savannah, Tennessee
 L. L. Wilson, 64 Winsor Road, Memphis, Tennessee
 Randy Eubanks, Left Association
 Braxton Parker

LICENSED MINISTERS

Benton Brown, 2406 Pinhook Road, Savannah, Tennessee, Phone 925-3080
 Chester Brown
 Clay Mullins, 220 W. Duncan Avenue, Florence, Alabama, Phone 764-0211

PASTORS OF CHURCHES AND THEIR ADDRESSES

First Church, Adamsville, Tennessee—Rev. Edward Smith, Stantonville, Tennessee, Pastor; Virgil Moore, Morris Chapel, Tennessee, Assistant Pastor
 Bumpas Creek—Rev. Earl Dixon, Cloverdale, Alabama
 Fairview—Rev. Everette Rich, Iron City, Tennessee
 Harmony—Rev. J. W. Henderson, Moulton, Alabama
 First Church, Huntsville, Alabama—Rev. Burlon Jones, 6410 Marsh Avenue N. W., Huntsville, Alabama
 McClamery—Rev. Thurman Stults, Iron City, Tennessee
 Meek's Grove—Rev. Virgil Moore, Morris Chapel, Tennessee
 Midway—Rev. J. B. Harper, Cypress Inn, Tennessee
 Mt. Zion—Rev. Robert McGee, Route 5, Russellville, Alabama
 Murphy's Chapel—Rev. V. H. Gean, Route 1, Cloverdale, Alabama
 Mt. Olivet—Rev. W. C. Jones, Route 1, Waterloo, Alabama, Pastor; Rev. Vernon Gober, Assistant Pastor
 New Chapel—Rev. Nick White, Route 2, Savannah, Tennessee
 New Home—Rev. L. L. Wilson, 4136 Neely Road, Memphis, Tennessee
 New Pleasant Grove—Rev. Elton Cotner, Route 2, Adamsville, Tennessee
 Piney Grove—Rev. Thurman Stults, Iron City, Tennessee
 Poplar Springs—Rev. Nick White, Route 2, Savannah, Tennessee
 Posey's Chapel—Rev. J. C. McClanahan, Florence, Alabama
 Rayborn Chapel—Rev. Thurman Stults, Iron City, Tennessee
 Scott's Chapel—Rev. Everette Rich, Iron City, Tennessee
 Second Creek—Rev. Lidge Dickey, Cypress Inn, Tennessee
 Shady Grove—Rev. Elias Stephens, Savannah, Tennessee
 Solitude—Rev. William Kendrick, Trenton, Tennessee
 Shelby—Rev. Grover See, 2592 Dakar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee
 White's Creek—Rev. Earl Dixon, Route 1, Cloverdale, Alabama

PROCEEDINGS

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

The Tennessee River Association opening at 11 a. m. with a song service conducted by the Rev. Emerald Bailey. The opening prayer was offered by the Rev. H. C. Killen; followed with the welcome address by the Rev. J. B. Harper.

The morning message was delivered by the moderator, the Rev. Lidge Dickey. He read for his Scripture from the sixth chapter of Ephesians, beginning with the tenth verse. His subject was "Sincerity." Following the message there was an old-time handshake.

The morning session was dismissed with prayer by the Rev. H. C. Killen to meet back at 1:30 p. m.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Met according to the previous adjournment with singing and prayer by the Rev. Edward Smith. The Scripture was read by the Rev. L. L. Wilson, reading from the twelfth chapter of Romans.

The body was then assembled in order of ministers, deacons, and delegates. All visitors were also invited to sit with us.

APPOINTMENT OF VARIOUS COMMITTEES

READING CLERKS—Bros. Burlon Jones and L. L. Wilson.

FINANCE COMMITTEE—Bros. Benton Brown, and C. I. Dixon, and Bill Benson.

SUNDAY SCHOOL—Bros. Jake Craig, Vernon Gober, and W. C. Jones.

OBITUARY—Bros. Joe Bailey, Marvin Michael, and Ernest West.

Letters from the various churches were called for as follows:

Adamsville—Bros. Clarence Harris and Lannie Moore.

Fairview—Bros. Joe Bailey, Don Hanback, and Ernest West.

Bumpas Creek—Bros. Ray Scott and Marvin Michael.

Huntsville—Bros. Arthur Boyd, Robert Fortner, and Sister Minnie Craig.

McClamery—Bro. Clyde Robertson.

Meek's Grove—Represented by letter.

Midway—Sisters Ann George and Grace Pace.

Mt. Olivet—Sisters Frankie Austin and Odeser Parker.

Mt. Zion—Represented by letter.

Murphy's Chapel—Bros. Ronnie Brown and Earl Austin.

New Chapel—Bros. George McKinney and George Bullard.

New Home—Bro. Elbert Weaver, Sisters Alice Weaver, and Lettie Garner.

New Pleasant Grove—Sisters Mary Hubbard and Mary Lou Hubbard.

Piney Grove—Bros. Donnie Reaves, Willard Reaves, Donnie Horton, and Johnnie Banks.

Poplar Springs—Bro. Edd Keele and Sister Mable Keele.

Posey's Chapel—Bro. Willie Posey.

Rayborn Chapel—Bro. Billy Stricklin.

Scott's Chapel—Bros. Lonzo Harper and Frank Pigg.
Second Creek—Sisters Lizzie Benson and Alma Scott.
Shady Grove—Bro. Jody Melson and Sister Virginia Melson.
Solitude—Sisters Mary Ruth Tacker, Virginia Finley, and Joyce Finley.
White's Creek—Bros. Hersel White and Clarence Stricklin.
Harmony—Represented by letter.
Jones Chapel—Bros. J. C. Woods and Clay Mullins.
Shelby—Bro. Thomas Lepard.

APPOINTMENT OF OTHER COMMITTEES

PROGRAM—Bros. Garner, Farris, and Gean.

GENERAL BUSINESS—Bros. J. C. McClanahan, Edd Keele, Elton Cotner, Joe Bailey, and C. C. Barnes.

EDUCATIONAL—Bros. Brady Tacker, Arthur Boyd, William Beaves, and Willie Posey.

TEMPERANCE—Bros. John Wright, Elbert Weaver, Clarence Stricklin, and John Banks.

BENEVOLENCE—Bros. Edward Smith, J. A. Moyer, C. I. Dixon, and Earl Austin.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS—Sisters Alma Scott, Mary Lou Hubbard, and Ann George.

The moderator asked that all the ministers, deacons, and delegates sign their names to be used for the roll call.

The business session adjourned to meet on Saturday morning at 8:30.

FRIDAY EVENING SESSION

The evening session opened with singing and prayer by the Rev. Elton Cotner. This was followed with a devotional and testimony service conducted by the Rev. J. C. McClanahan. The evening messages were brought by the Revs. L. L. Wilson and Benton Brown. The service closed with prayer by the Rev. J. A. Moyer.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The Saturday morning session met according to previous adjournment with singing and prayer by the Rev. Earl Dixon. The Scripture was read by the Rev. J. A. Moyer.

The roll call was made and the business reports were given as follows:

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 pray 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 he work with the home mission board.

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 recommended 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 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.

We also recommend that we pay the association clerk \$35.

We also recommend that the home mission board pay the association pastor for his ministerial work for 1967.

Rev. J. C. McClanahan, *Chairman*

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

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

We have 22 churches with Sunday schools (3 without Sunday schools), with a present enrollment of 1,138 and a regular attendance of 856. The average collection per school is \$38.90. 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 schools be devout Christians; sound in faith and apt to teach. We recommend that parents carry their children to Sunday school that they may be more attentive to the Word of God.

We recommend that all 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. Vernon H. Gober, *Chairman*

This report was adopted by the association.

EDUCATIONAL REPORT

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

That the members of the Free Will Baptist church learn the articles of our constitution and teach them to all members of our churches.

We are living in a time when education is being stressed, but we read in the Word of God: "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him" (James 1:5).

God is able to supply all our needs. We need to urge our people to teach their children at home about the Word of God, because in our schools today they have doctrines that are not suitable unto God's Word. We need to check with our children on the books they read.

Bro. Arthur Boyd Jr., *Chairman*

This report was adopted by the association.

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

Bro. Johnnie Banks, *Chairman*

OBITUARY REPORT

We, your committee on obituaries, beg leave to report with sadness that death has taken twelve of our members since our last association. They are as follows:

Fairview—Sisters Jessie Harbin; Bumpas Creek—Sister Nancy Cupples and Bro. John Burkhead; Piney Grove—Sisters Emma Southerland and Fannie Horten and Bro. Jimmy Gillies; Poplar Springs—Sister Lula Johnson; Raybom Chapel—Sister Arlie Haddock; Shady Grove—Bro. Will McLin; Solitude—Sister Myrtle Moore.

We hope and trust our loss in heaven's gain.

Bro. Marvin Michael, *Chairman*

This report was adopted by the Association.

REPORT OF BENEVOLENCE

We, your committee of benevolence, find that the word benevolence means disposition to do good, acts of kindness, and goodwill.

We feel that we should support all the benevolences 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 children's home 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 from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it. Say not unto thy neighbour, Go, and come again, and to morrow I will give; when thou hast it by thee."

By the Committee,
Bro. Edward Smith
Bro. J. A. Moyer
Bro. C. I. Dixon
Bro. Earl Austin

This report was adopted by the association.

CLERK'S REPORT

Amount Received from Churches September, 1966		\$166.22
Paid Clerk	\$ 35.00	
Paid for Printing 600 Minutes	194.65	

Total Paid Out		229.65

Shortage		\$ 63.43

This shortage was paid out of the home mission board treasury.

Bro. J. W. Stooksberry, Clerk

The report was adopted by the association.

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Adamsville	\$10.00	New Home	10.00
Antioch	8.20	New Pleasant Grove	10.00
Bumpas Creek	11.50	Piney Grove	10.41
Fairview	18.00	Poplar Springs	3.00
Harmony	8.38	Posey's Chapel	5.25
Huntsville	7.50	Rayborn Chapel	4.00
McClamery	10.00	Scott's Chapel	13.00
Meek's Grove	5.25	Second Creek	5.30
Midway	10.00	Shelby	7.00
Mt. Olivet	5.00	Solitude	7.00
Mt. Zion	12.00	Shady Grove	3.50
Jones Chapel	6.00	White's Creek	9.10
Murphy's Chapel	16.51		
New Chapel	9.36	Total	\$225.61

HOME MISSION BOARD REPORT

September 1, 1967

	GENERAL FUND	MISSION FUND
Amount Brought from 1966	\$337.94	\$
Freewill Offering for Children's Home at the Association	212.55	
Huntsville	25.00	
Solitude	25.00	5.00
Shelby	30.00	
Poplar Springs	10.00	
Mt. Zion	35.00	5.00
Fairview	25.00	11.00
Murphy's	25.00	10.00
Midway	25.00	5.00
Scott's Chapel	25.00	11.77
New Home		9.50
New Pleasant Grove		6.00
Adamsville		10.00
Bumpas Creek		4.00
White's Creek		9.40
Shady Grove		5.00
Posey's Chapel		2.00

Totals	\$774.49	\$ 93.57
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Ministers who paid one tenth of that received from ministerial work:

Rev. Emerald Bailey	\$100.00
Rev. Earl Dixon	40.00
Rev. V. H. Gean	125.00
Rev. Elias Stephens	30.00
Rev. Virgil Moore	20.00
Rev. Everette Rich	10.00
Rev. J. B. Harper	40.00

Total	365.00
Total in General Fund	774.49

Total Amount Received		\$1,233.06
Children's Home	\$212.50	
Fifth Sunday Meeting's Clerk	25.00	
Fifth Sunday Meeting's Clerk for Supplies	14.95	
J. B. Harper (balance on minute fund, 1965)	26.27	
J. W. Stoksberry, (balance on minute fund, 1966)	63.45	

Associational Pastor	200.00	
Treasurer's Fee	25.00	

Total Paid Out		567.17
Balance in Treasury		-----
		\$665.89

Bro. Roy L. Harper,
Secretary-Treasurer

This report was adopted by the association.

ASSOCIATIONAL PASTOR'S REPORT

REV. J. B. HARPER

I was able to visit all the churches except three. I took service in part and taught Sunday school in some. I also filled in for the pastors in some. I held one tent revival near Olive Hill, Tennessee. I have visited Decatur and checked on missions. Conducted two and assisted in two funerals. The amount of money I received was \$450.51. I served as assistant pastor at Cherokee and assisted in organizing one church.

GENERAL BUSINESS CONTINUED

The moderator asked for any petitionary letters.

Antioch Church asked to be taken into the association. A petitionary letter was read to the body and also the church letter giving the statistics of the church. A motion was made and passed to accept Antioch Church into the association. The statistics of the church are as follows: Received by baptism, 10; by letter, 2; total membership, 12; Sunday school enrollment, 52; average attendance, 40; value of church property, \$3,500; amount paid pastor, \$159.53; amount paid pastoral help, \$40; minute fund, \$8.20; meeting days, every Sunday morning and Sunday night. The church has elected the Rev. Emerald Bailey as pastor for the coming year. The clerk is Mrs. Lina Montgomery, Route 1, Box 400, Cloverdale, Alabama 35617.

The moderator asked for the placement of the association for the coming year. New Chapel was the only church with a written request in its letter.

The association will convene with New Chapel on Friday before the third Sunday in September, 1968, at eleven o'clock.

Motion was made and carried to transfer minute fund of \$30.12 from the home mission fund to the associational clerk.

The Rev. J. B. Harper was reelected as associational pastor. The associational pastor will be paid \$150 for each two weeks for tent revivals from the home mission funds and recommend each church he visits to give a freewill offering.

The associational officers are: Rev. Lidge Dickey, moderator; Rev. J. B. Harper, assistant moderator; Bro. J. W. Stooksberry, clerk.

The home mission board members are: Rev. Everett Rich, Bro. Roy Harper, and Bro. Stancil Robbins.

Moved and carried to elect a rotating board of trustees, electing one each year according to age. Those elected were: Bros. Earl Dixon, Virgil Gean, and Edward Smith. Bro. Smith to retire next year.

The resolutions committee, a standing committee to serve both the association and the fifth Sunday meeting, was elected as follows: Bros. Earl Dixon, Edward Smith, Everette Rich, Emerald Bailey, and Elton Cotner. The purpose of this committee is to deal with problems that arise and decide if they should be brought before the body of the association.

The business session adjourned.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The Saturday morning worship service opened with singing and prayer by the Rev. Vernon Gober. The messages were delivered by the Revs. Everette Rich and Burlon Jones. The services was dismissed with prayer by Bro. Wayford Berry.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON PRESBYTERY SESSION

September 16, 1967

The presbytery of the Tennessee River Association met in session with Murphy's Chapel Church, September 16, 1967. The Rev. Burlon Jones, moderator, and the Rev. Edward Smith, assistant moderator, presided. There were 21 churches represented with 15 ordained ministers, two licensed ministers 10 ordained deacons, and one visiting deacon present.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved. The moderator then called for old business. A motion was made and carried to extend Bro. Chester Brown's license for six months.

ORDAINED MINISTERS' REPORTS

Rev. George Arnold, absent—card not granted.

Rev. Emerald Bailey, reported—Pastored Fairview Church half time; since March 1, pastored Antich Church half time; organized a Sunday school there with 50 members; August 1 organized a Free Will Baptist church at Antioch with 10 members; at present time there are 12 members; conducted one communion service; conducted two conferences; conducted three funerals, conducted two revivals; assisted in four; witnessed 25 professions; baptized, 10; received into the church, 16; married five couples; money received, \$958.22; miles traveled, unknown. Card granted.

Rev. Carrell C. Barnes, reported—Assistant pastor of one church; witnessed one profession; miles traveled, not known; money received, \$111.00. Card granted.

Rev. Elton Cotner, reported—Pastored one church full time; conducted one revival; assisted in two; conducted one communion service; held one conference; conducted nine funerals; assisted in two; married one couple; conducted radio program each Sunday morning at 8:15 over W O R M, Savannah, Tennessee; money received, \$1,004.98. Card granted.

Rev. Lidge Dickey, reported—Pastored one church half time; held one

revival; assisted in one; conducted one funeral; married one couple; money received, \$493.49. Card granted.

Rev. Earl Dixon, reported—Pastored two churches; conducted two revivals; assisted in one; conducted two communion services; conducted four funerals; assisted in two; baptized two into the church; held three conferences; money received, \$541.76. Card granted.

Rev. Virgil H. Gean, reported—Pastored one church; held one revival; assisted in five; witnessed 26 professions; received six into the church; baptized, three; conducted 13 funerals; held one communion services; married five couples; conducted radio program each Sunday morning; money received, \$2,033.00. Card granted.

Rev. Vernon H. Gober, reported—Sermons preached, 9; miles traveled, approximately 800; money received, \$9.00; visited six churches. Card granted.

Rev. J. B. Harper, reported—Associational pastor. Was able to visit all churches except three and took part in the services; taught Sunday school classes in some; filled in for the pastor in some; held one tent revival near Olive Hill, Tennessee; visited in Decatur checking on missions; held two funerals; assisted in two; served as assistant pastor in Cherokee; assisted in organizing a church; money received, \$450.51. Card granted.

Rev. Jerry House, reported—Sermons preached, 45; churches pastored, two; revivals held, two. Card granted.

Rev. Burlon Jones, reported—Pastored one church full time; held one revival; assisted in one; held three communion services; conducted two funerals; married one couple; received 35 into the church; baptized, 13; money received for pastoral work and revivals, \$6,782.00; sermons preached, 103; miles traveled and expenses, unknown; tithes paid into the church, \$727.75. Card granted.

Rev. J. C. McClanahan, reported—Pastored one church full time; held two revivals; assisted in one; money received, \$465.29; tithes for ministerial work paid to Posey's Chapel Church. Card granted.

Rev. Robert McGee, reported—Sermons preached, 62; churches pastored, one; revivals assisted in, one; professions witnessed, 11; baptized, three; additions to the church, four; funerals conducted, one; married two couples; money received, \$1,350.00; assisted in building three Sunday school rooms and two bath rooms on to church. Card granted.

Rev. J. A. Moyer, reported—Sermons preached, 72; miles traveled, 1,825; married two couples; visited 47 sick persons; attended five business meetings; attended ten funeral services; money received, \$303.25; money paid out, \$158.75; visited eight churches; conducted one communion services; witnessed approximately 32 conversions. Card granted.

Rev. Virgil L. Moore, reported—Pastored two churches half-time each; assisted in one revival; conducted two conferences; conducted one communion service; conducted three funerals; married one couple; baptized, three; preached 57 sermons; money received, \$331.00; miles traveled and expenses, unknown. Card granted.

Rev. Braxton Parker, absent—Card granted.

Rev. Everette Rich, reported—Pastored one church half time; conducted one revival; assisted in three; witnessed 18 conversions; baptized and received into the church, 10; conducted one communion service; conducted one conference; money received, \$621.57; miles traveled and expenses, unknown. Card granted.

Rev. Grover See, absent but report sent in—Sermons preached, 10; pastored one church; held one revival; witnessed three professions; miles traveled, 7,500; money received, \$440.00. Card granted.

Rev. Edward Smith, reported—Pastored one church; conducted one conference; conducted one communion service; witnessed six professions; added three to the church; baptized, three; money received, approximately \$160.00; miles traveled and expenses, unknown. Card granted.

Rev. John Sneed, absent but report sent in—Sermons preached, 120; churches pastored, one; revivals held, three; witnessed 18 professions; baptized, 4; added 12 to the church; preached ten funerals; conducted eight marriages; miles traveled and money received, unknown. Card granted.

Rev. Elias Stephens, absent but report sent in—Pastored two churches half time each; preached 92 sermons; held one communion service; witnessed seven professions; held one weekend revival; assisted in two; married three couples; miles traveled, unknown; money received, \$745.14. Card granted.

Rev. Thurman Stults, reported—Pastored four churches one-fourth time each; revivals held, five; professions witnessed, 24 baptized, 22; addition to the church, 25; miles traveled, unknown; money received, \$745.17. Card granted.

Rev. Nick White, reported—Pastored two churches, one half time and one fourth time; held two revivals; assisted in one tent revival; witnessed three professions; baptized, two; received two into the church; married one couple; funerals held, seven; money received, approximately \$650.00. Card granted.

Rev. L. L. Wilson, absent but report sent in—Sermon preached, 66; churches pastored, one; revivals held, two; professions witnessed, four; baptized, one; additions to the church, one; funerals conducted, one; couples married, one; miles traveled, 8,887; money received, \$774.30. Card granted.

Rev. W. C. Jones—Present and card granted.

LICENSED MINISTER REPORTED

Rev. Benton Brown, reported—Started preaching June 11, 1967; preached 21 sermons; miles traveled, unknown; expenses, unknown; money received, \$40.00.

The moderator called for letters of ordination.

Fairview Church sent a letter asking that the Rev. Everette Rich be ordained to preach the gospel and that Bro. J. W. Stooksberry be ordained as a deacon.

Bumpas Creek Church sent a letter asking that Bro. Clay Mullins be licensed to preach.

The Rev. Burlon Jones asked the Rev. J. C. McClanahan to serve with the others on the examining committee, and asked that all candidates for ordination meet with the examining committee. The committee reported all men worthy to be ordained and licensed.

The Rev. Earl Dixon was asked to read the qualifications of a bishop from 1 Timothy 3. This was followed with an altar prayer of all ministers and an ordination service was held.

A motion was made and passed to extend Bro. Vernon Creacy's license for six months, since he was in the hospital at the present time.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Stancil Robbins.

SATURDAY NIGHT SESSION

The Saturday night service opened with congregational singing and prayer by Bro. William Kindrick. The messages were delivered by the Revs. Thurman Stults and Virgil Moore. Dismissed with prayer by the Rev. Ernest Rich.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

We, your committee on resolution of thanks, report to this body as assembled together to give the people of Murphy's Chapel Church and surrounding churches our sincere thanks for their kindness and hospitality shown us during this association.

May the Lord bless each one of you, and the communion of the Holy Spirit abide with us forever.

Sister Mary Lou Hubbard

SUNDAY MORNING SESSION

The morning services opened with congregational singing and prayer by the Rev. J. C. McClanahan. An offering was taken for the Children's Homes in the amount of \$327.65 with Bro. Earl Dixon in charge. The messages were brought by the Revs. J. B. Harper and Emerald Bailey.

FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING AT NEW PLEASANT GROVE

October 29, 30, 1966

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The morning service opened with congregational singing and prayer by the Rev. Randy Eubanks. This was followed with an altar prayer. The morning message was delivered by the Rev. Burlon Jones, reading from 1 Peter 5. The service closed with prayer by Bro. Jake Craig.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The afternoon session opened with singing and prayer by the Rev. Elton Cotner. The Rev. Chester Brown brought the message, reading from the sixth chapter of Revelation.

The moderator, the Rev. Burlon Jones, called for a business session. There were 15 churches represented, 12 ordained ministers, two visiting ministers, and six ordained deacons present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The moderator asked if the resolutions committee had a report; no report was given. Letters from churches were asked for, but there were no letters.

The Rev. Edward Smith, assistant moderator, was asked to appoint a program committee for the next fifth Sunday meeting to meet with Murphy's Chapel Church in January, 1967. The Rev. J. B. Haper, associational pastor, was asked to serve in the absence of the pastor, the Rev. Virgil Gean. Also appointed were Bros. Frank Wright and Stancil Robbins.

Bro. Stooksberry, the association clerk, stated that there was not enough money paid into the minute fund to pay for the publishing of the minutes. The amount taken in was \$131.00, and the cost of the minutes was \$194.00. The moderator stated that the resolutions committee would take care of this problem.

Motion was made and seconded to close the business session. Dismissed with prayer by the Rev. J. C. McClanahan.

SATURDAY NIGHT SESSION

The evening service opened with congregational singing conducted by Sister Hubbard. Prayer was offered by Bro. Stooksberry and the Rev. Everette Rich. The opening message was delivered by the Rev. Virgil Moore, reading for his Scripture, Revelation 3:6-16. This was followed with another message by the Rev. V. H. Gean, reading his Scripture, Daniel 2:26. The service closed with prayer by the Rev. Elias Stephens.

SUNDAY MORNING SESSION

The morning service opened with congregational singing. Prayer was offered by Bro. Wright, the Rev. L. L. Wilson, and the Rev. William Kendricks. The opening message was brought by the Rev. Everette Rich, reading from 2 Timothy 2; followed with a message by the Rev. J. C. McClanahan. Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Farrel.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The afternoon session opened with congregational singing. Prayer was offered by Sister Layton. The Rev. Robert McGee brought the afternoon message, reading for his Scripture, John 3:16. Dismissed with prayer by the Rev. Nick White.

FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING AT MURPHY'S CHAPEL

January 28, 1967

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The service opened with singing; followed with prayer by the Rev. Elias Stephens. This was followed with an altar prayer. The morning message was delivered by the Rev. Edward Smith, reading his Scripture from Luke 15. The service closed with prayer by the Rev. J. A. Moyer.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The session opened with singing; following with prayer by Bro. Jody Farrel. The opening message was by the Rev. Norlin Jones, reading from 2 Timothy. This was followed with a message by the Rev. William Kendricks, reading from 2 Timothy also.

The moderator called the business session to order. There were 12 churches represented, 12 ordained ministers, three visiting ministers, one licensed minister, and six ordained deacons present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The moderator asked if the resolutions committee had a report. Bro. Roy Harper stated that eleven churches had sent additional money for the minute fund. There was no old business.

Under new business, the moderator stated that Bro. Randy Eubanks had turned in his credentials and had gone to another church. A letter was received from New Pleasant Grove Church asking that Bro. William Kendricks be reinstated into the association. The examining committee stated that New Pleasant Grove Church should send a letter asking that Bro. Kendricks be licensed to preach for one year. The Rev. J. C. McClanahan asked if it was legal to take members into a church when there were only three or four members present. He was told that it was legal and proper to accept members into the church.

Motion was made and seconded to close the afternoon session. Dismissed with prayer by the Rev. J. B. Harper.

SATURDAY NIGHT SESSION

The night session opened with singing and prayer by Bro. Ben Brown and the Rev. Everette Rich. The devotional was conducted by the Rev. J. B. Harper. The evening message was delivered by the Rev. Emerald Bailey. Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Ben Brown.

SUNDAY MORNING SESSION

The Sunday morning session opened with congregational singing. Prayer was offered by the Revs. J. C. McClanahan and Nick White. The opening message was by the Rev. Jerry House, reading his Scripture from Romans 3. This was followed with a message by the Rev. Lidge Dickey, reading from 1 Peter 5.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The afternoon session opened with singing. Prayer was offered by Sister McClanahan. The Rev. Vernon Gober brought the opening message, reading from Luke 17. This was followed with a message by the Rev. Nick White. The services closed with prayer by the Rev. Thurman Stults.

FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING AT MT. ZION CHURCH

April 29, 1967

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The Saturday morning session opened with singing and prayer by the

Rev. J. A. Moyer and the Rev. Mr. Nard. The opening message was by the Rev. Elias Stephens, reading from Ephesians 6. This was followed with a message by the Rev. J. C. McClanahan, reading from Hebrews 6. The service closed with prayer by the Bro. Stancil Robbins.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The session opened with congregational singing, followed with prayer by the Rev. William Kendricks. The afternoon message was by the Rev. Earl Dixon, reading from 1 Samuel 2.

The moderator, the Rev. Burlon Jones, called the business session to order. There were eight churches represented, 12 ordained ministers, one visiting minister, and seven ordained deacons present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Under new business a program committee was appointed to arrange the next fifth Sunday meeting to be held in July. The Rev. Edward Smith, assistant moderator, appointed Bros. Jake Craig and Ettard Jeffreys to serve on the program committee.

New Pleasant Grove Church sent letters requesting that Bro. William Kendricks be licensed to preach for one year, and that Bro. Rex. Hargrove and Bro. Monroe Hubbard be ordained as deacons. The Rev. J. C. McClanahan was asked to serve on the examining committee in the absence of the Rev. Lidge Dickey. The examining committee met with the ones to be licensed and ordained and gave their approval. The Rev. Virgil Gean read from 1 Timothy the qualifications of a bishop; followed with an altar prayer and ordination service.

Motion made and seconded to close this session. Dismissed with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Long.

SATURDAY NIGHT SESSION

The evening session opened with singing. Prayer was offered by the Revs. Charles Berryman and Emerald Bailey. The Rev. Burlon Jones brought a message, reading from Hebrews 12. This was followed with another message by the Rev. Thurman Stults, reading from Luke 7. Dismissed with prayer by the Rev. Vernon Gober.

SUNDAY MORNING SESSION

The Sunday morning session opened with congregational singing. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Robert McGee and Sister Bailey. The Rev. Emerald Bailey brought the opening message, reading his Scripture from 2 Corinthians 13. This was followed with a message by the Rev. Everette Rich, reading from Luke 11. The service closed with prayer by the Rev. Emmitt Grisson.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The afternoon session opened with singing, followed with prayer by the Rev. J. C. McClanahan. The afternoon message was brought by the Rev. Chester Brown, reading his Scripture from 1 Corinthians 12 and Malachi 3:6. Service dismissed by Bro. V. H. Gean.

FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING AT
FIRST CHURCH OF ADAMSVILLE

July 29, 30, 1967

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The morning session opened with singing by the congregation. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Lidge Dickey. The opening message was by the Rev. Nick White, reading from 1 Kings 17. This was followed with another message by the Rev. J. B. Harper. Dismissed with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Brown.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The session opened with singing, followed with prayer by the Rev. L. L. Wilson. The afternoon message was brought by the Rev. Elias Stephens, reading from Revelation 21.

The assistant moderator, the Rev. Edward Smith, called the business session to order. The Rev. L. L. Wilson was appointed to assist in the absence of the Rev. Burlon Jones, moderator.

There were 13 churches represented, 13 ordained ministers; three licensed ministers, and eight ordained deacons present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. A call was made for the churches who would host the fifth Sunday meetings for the coming year. The Rev. L. L. Wilson appointed Bros. Rex. Hargrove, Roy Harper, and Lanny Moore as a committee to place the next year's meetings.

The following churches asked for the fifth Sunday meetings: New Pleasant Grove, October, 1967; Fairview, December, 1967; Bumpas Creek, March, 1968; and Scott's Chapel, June, 1968.

The Rev. L. L. Wilson appointed the Rev. Elton Cotner, Bro. Rex Hargrove, and Bro. Monroe Hubbard as a program committee for the next fifth Sunday meeting to be held at New Pleasant Grove Church, October, 1967.

The officers for the presbytery were elected as follows: Moderator, the Rev. L. L. Wilson; assistant moderator, the Rev. Elias Stephens; clerk, the Rev. Vernon Gober.

Motion was made and seconded to defer the electing of the association pastor until the associational meeting in September.

The Rev. Edward Smith called for church letters. Poplar Springs Church sent a letter asking the presbytery to ordain Bro. Chester Brown to preach the gospel. The First Free Will Baptist Church of Adamsville, Tennessee, sent a letter asking that Bro. Benton Brown be licensed to preach for one year.

The examining committee met with Bro. Chester Brown and Bro. Benton Brown. The Rev. Emerald Bailey, spokesman for the committee, stated that they recommend Bro. Benton Brown to be licensed for one year, but asked that Bro. Chester Brown wait and come back in six months, since there was a difference of opinions. Bro. Benton Brown was licensed

for one year. No action was taken on the matter by Poplar Springs Church. The qualifications of a bishop were read by Bro. John Sneed.

Moved and seconded to adjourn with prayer by the Rev. Emerald Bailey.

SATURDAY NIGHT SESSION

The evening session opened with singing and prayer by the Revs. Earl Dixon and Emerald Bailey. The opening message was by the Rev. L. L. Wilson, reading from 2 Corinthians 7. This was followed with another message by the Rev. Lidge Dickey, reading from 1 Corinthians 2. Dismissed with prayer by the Rev. Elton Cotner.

SUNDAY MORNING SESSION

The morning session opened with singing by the congregation. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Thurman Stults. The Rev. William Kendricks brought a message from the fifteenth chapter of Luke; followed with a message by the Rev. V. H. Gean, reading from Exodus 3. Dismissed with prayer by the Rev. Lidge Dickey.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The service opened with singing, followed with prayer by the Rev. J. C. McClanahan. The afternoon message was brought by the Rev. Thurman Stults, reading from Acts 1. Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Lanny Moore.

Churches	By Baptism	By Letter	By Experience	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Withdrawn	Expelled	Deceased	Membership	S. S. Enrollment	Average Attendance	Deacons	Ordained Ministers	Licensed Ministers	Church Value	Amount Paid Pastor	Pastoral Help	Given Children's Home	Home Missions	Minute Funds	Meeting Days
Adamsville	3			3				1	43	35	40	3	4	1	\$ 15,000	\$ 160.00	\$ 78.69		\$25	\$10.34	Every Sunday
Bumpas Creek				1				1	97	40	30				4,000	254.00	70.00			11.50	1st & 3rd Sunday
Fairview	3	1						1	65	80	70				7,352	462.00	100.00		25	18.00	2nd & 4th Sunday
Harmony	3	2							130	92	85				19,000	1,375.00	100.00			8.38	
Huntsville	13	11	8	13			2		135	90	60				120,000	6,662.00	205.00			7.50	
Jones Chapel	10	4		1					18	30	25				6,000	120.00	118.79			6.00	
McClary									21	22	22				4,000	139.39	30.35			10.00	
McClary	3	1		1					28	30	20				1,000	156.00	71.49			5.25	
Meek's Grove								1	98	63	48				10,000	682.72	104.37		25	10.00	2nd & 4th Sunday
Mixway	3	2							10						4,000		36.00			5.00	
Mt. Olivet	2								10	63	40				13,500	1,350.00	130.00		35	12.00	
Mt. Zion	2								92	78	54				27,000	1,575.00	235.00		35	16.51	
Murphy's Chapel	2	2		12					59	69	45				7,000	540.00	100.00			9.36	1st & 3rd Sunday
New Chapel	2			1				1	53	43	25				3,000	662.30	71.00		25	10.00	Every Sunday
New Home									60	35					5,000	906.50	40.00			10.41	
New Pleasant Grove	11	1		1				3	137	82					5,500	230.00	53.75	20.00	5	3.00	Every Sunday
Piney Grove								1	54	40	35				11,000	435.14	110.00			5.10	Every Sunday
Poplar Springs								1	16	35	20				1,500	134.60	36.00			4.00	
Possey's Chapel	4		2	1				1	119	60	40				3,000	390.19	100.00		25	13.00	1st & 3rd Sunday
Rayborn Chapel									26						3,500	308.52	71.00			5.30	2nd & 4th Sunday
Scott's Chapel	11								68						1,500	214.14	61.40			3.50	1st & 3rd Sunday
Second Creek								1	43	25	15				8,000	405.00	70.00		35	7.00	
Shady Grove									180	75	50				4,000	480.00	120.00		25	7.00	
Shelby				4					60	50	45				4,250	212.00	100.00			9.10	2nd & 4th Sunday
Solitude																					
White's Creek	1																				

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 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 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.

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 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 to 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 to 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 _____

