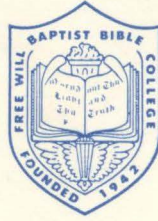


MINUTES
of the
Ninety-second Annual Session
of the
TENNESSEE RIVER ASSOCIATION
of
Free Will Baptists
Convened with
Adams Church
Friday, September 18, 1970

The next Association will convene with Bumpas Creek Church
on Friday before the third Sunday in September, 1971,
at 11:00 A. M.



FREE WILL BAPTIST
BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

Rev. Burlon Jones

MINUTES
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Ninety-second Annual Session
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TENNESSEE RIVER ASSOCIATION
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Churches	By Baptism	By Letter	By Experience	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Withdrawn	Deceased	Membership	Sunday School Enrollment	Average Attendance	Deacons	Ordained Ministers	Licensed Ministers	Church Value	Amount Paid Pastor	Pastorial Help	Given Children's Home	Home Missions	Minute Fund	Meeting Days
Adamsville	3		4	1					55	30	3	5		17,000	690.00	91.45		25.00	11.00	Every Sun. & night
Antioch	6	6	2	1	2			38	56	37		2	2	4,500	584.13	241.95	50.00	25.00	15.09	Every Sunday
Bumpas Creek	1		1			1		100	50	30	1			8,000	486.00	100.00		12.50	12.50	Every Sun. & 1st & 3rd nights
Fairview	2			3		1		64	80	58	2	2		9,500	480.00	100.00		25.00	18.20	2nd & 4th Sun. & nights
Harmony	5					1		154	99	85	5	1	2	19,000	1890.00	410.00	105.00		10.15	
McGlamery								20	22		1	1		4,500	200.00	60.55			7.00	
Meeks Grove	5	3	6					57	55	35	1			3,500	346.00	70.00			12.45	
Midway	5	2			2			96	55	40	3	1		12,000	798.26	115.00		10.00	10.00	1st & 3rd Sun.
Mt. Olivet		2						30	30	25	1			3,500	135.00	50.00			4.00	
Mt. Zion	4	1	1	2		1		117	43	30	4	1		14,450	1,711.52	229.12		25.00	12.00	
Murphys Chapel	2		3		3			90	60	55	3	4		28,000	1,575.00	103.25		25.00	16.81	
New Chapel		1	1					69	65	55	1			7,000	585.00	125.00	92.72	25.00	12.00	1st & 3rd Sun.
New Home	1		3		3	1	1	61	45	25	2			3,500	633.86	75.00		25.00	10.00	1st & 3rd Sun.
New Pleasant Grove	1		3			2		50	40	35	3	1		5,000	1,000.00	65.00			10.00	Every Sun. & night
Piney Grove	1	4	1			2		139	74	2	1			10,000	279.37	64.24			15.00	1st & 3rd Sun.
Poplar Springs		1	7			2		67	45	30	2	1		10,000	950.00	30.00	25.00	10.00	5.00	
Possey Chapel				3	2			18			1			11,000	800.00	100.00			10.00	
Rayborn Chapel				1		1		27	27	20	2			1,500	141.51	36.50			7.08	
Scotts Chapel	4			1	3			132	70	50	2	3			548.00	92.50			11.21	2nd & 4th Sun.
Second Creek					1			29	15					3,500	259.00	56.30			4.00	
Shady Grove	3	1	4					72	53	30	3			3,500	280.83	50.88			5.00	
Shelby		5	1	3				21	20	10	1	3		10,000	302.42	100.00		25.00	10.00	
Solitude	4		5					187	75	40	2	1	1	4,000	535.00	202.28		25.00	12.00	2nd & 4th Sun. & night
White's Creek	3		3					63	50	45	1	1		5,000	276.50	90.28			8.64	

ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

Rev. J. B. Harper, Moderator Rt. 1, Cypress Inn, Tenn.
Rev. Edward Smith, Assistant Moderator Stantonville, Tenn.
Bro. J. W. Stooksberry, Clerk Rt. 1, Iron City, Tenn.

HOME MISSION BOARD

Bro. Ted Simmons, Secretary-Treasurer Rt. II Box 77A, Cherokee, Ala. 35616
Bro. David Montgomery Cloverdale, Ala.
Rev. Vernon Creasy Cloverdale, Ala.

EVANGELIST

Rev. Elias Stephens Rt. 4, Savannah, Tenn.
(Phone, 925-3881)

EXAMINING COMMITTEE

Examining committee will be appointed from the floor, one each session as needed.

OFFICERS OF FIFTH SUNDAY MEETINGS

Rev. Virgil Moore, Moderator Morris Chapel, Tenn.
Rev. Everette Rich, Asst. Moderator Rt. 1, Iron City, Tenn.
Rev. Troy Massingill, Clerk Adamsville, Tenn.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rev. Vernon Gober Adamsville, Tenn.
Rev. Thurman Stults Collinwood, Tenn.
Rev. Earl Dixon Cloverdale, Ala.

CHURCH CLERKS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

Adamsville—Bro. Douglas Scott, Rt. 1, Adamsville, Tenn.
Antioch—Sis. Lina Montgomery, Rt. 1, Cloverdale, Ala.
Bumpas Creek—Sis. Clara Benson, Rt. 10, Florence, Ala.
Fairview—Sis. Deane Butler, Rt. 1, Iron City, Tenn.
Harmony—Sis. Betty L. Jeffreys, Rt. 2, Leighton, Ala.
McGlamery—Sis. Bethel Robertson, Rt. 2, Collinwood, Tenn.
Meeks Grove—Sis. Betty Sue Milford, Rt. 1, Stantonville, Tenn.
Midway—Sis. Lela Hall, Rt. 2, Leighton, Ala.
Mt. Olivet—Bro. W. C. Jones, Waterloo, Ala.
Mt. Zion—Sis. Inos Lowery, Rt. 1, Town Creek, Ala.
Murphy's Chapel—Bro. Randal Gray, 1336 James St., Florence, Ala.
New Chapel—Sis. Irene Robinson, Rt. 1, Counce, Tenn.
New Home—Sis. Ethel Davidson, Rt. 4, Henderson, Tenn.
New Pleasant Grove—Sis. Mary Lou Hubbard, 1510 Hickory St., Savannah, Tenn.
Piney Grove—Bro. Johnnie Banks, Cypress Inn, Tenn.
Popular Springs—Sis. Wanda Sue McKee, Tishomingo, Miss.
Posey Chapel—Bro. Willie Posey, Rt. 3, Cherokee, Ala.
Rayborn Chapel—Bro. Edgar Melson, Lutts, Tenn.
Scott Chapel—Sis. Mearle Harper, Cypress Inn, Tenn.
Second Creek—Sis. Alma Scott, Box 35, Waterloo, Ala.
Shady Grove—Sis. Alma Franks, Rt. 1, Olive Hill, Tenn.
Shelby—Sis. J. O. Smothers, 2396 Lisa Drive, Memphis, Tenn.
Solitude—Sis. Virginia Finley, Rt., Adamsville, Tenn.
Whites Creek—Sis. Ora Stricklin, Savannah, Tenn.

PROCEEDINGS

FRIDAY MORNING

The Tennessee River Association met at 11:00 a.m. with Congregational singing. Bro. Emerald Bailey called for an altar prayer as the opening prayer.

The morning message was delivered by Bro. Earl Dixon, Moderator, His subject was "A Walk with God", reading from Micah 6.

The morning session was dismissed with prayer, to meet back at 1:30 p.m.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Met according to previous adjournment with singing and prayer by Bro. Cecil Burns. Scripture reading was by Bro. Earl Dixon reading from Thessalonians 5.

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

APPOINTMENT OF VARIOUS COMMITTEES

READING CLERK—Bro. Carl Creasy and Bro. Gerald Montgomery.

FINANCE COMMITTEE—Bro. Jade Farriel, Bro. Joe Bailey, and Bro. Roger Stults.

SUNDAY SCHOOL—Bro. Homer Scott, Bro. Brady Tacker and Bro. Vernon Gober.

OBITUARY—Bro. Cecil Burns, Bro. Green Winston, and Bro. Nola Banks.

Called for letters from the churches and recognized delegates.

Adamsville—Bro. Rufus Hooks

Antioch—Bro. Walter Dials

Bumpas—Bro. Green Winston and Bro. Homer Scott

Fairview—Bro. Cecil Burns, and Bro. Joe Bailly

Harmony—Represented by letter

McGlamery—Bro. Leo Potete

Meeks Grove—Sis. Shelia Guynes

Midway—Bro. Clayton Hall

Mt. Olivet—Sis. Frankie Austin

Mt. Zion—Sis. Byrdia Landers and Sis. Emergene Jeffreys

Murphys Chapel—Bro. Tom Richardson and Bro. Carl Creasy

New Chapel—Bro. George McKinney and Bro. Bill Mayhall

New Home—Sis. Mary Dell Gilchrist, Sis. Alice Weaver, and Sis. Ethel Davidson

New Pleasant Grove—Bro. Clyde Hubbard, Bro. Jim Denton and Bro. Millard White

Piney Grove—Bro. Roger Stults, and Bro. Willard Reaves

Poplar Springs—Bro. Earnest Dill

Posey Chapel—Bro. Willie Posey

Rayborn Chapel—Bro. James Michael Melson

Scotts Chapel—Bro. Alvin Gilchrist, Bro. Mark Berry and Bro. Johnny Pig

Second Creek—Bro. Virgil Hinton

Shady Grove—Bro. Paul Franks and Bro. Roger Middleton

Shelby—Bro. Bill Bolton

Solitude—Bro. James Wicker, Bro. Robert Mitchell, Sis. Joyce Mitchell, and Sis. Mary Weeks

White Creek—Bro. Hershel White

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 Cottner, Route 2, Adamsville, Tennessee, Phone 632-4205
 Lige Dickey, Route 1, Cypress Inn, Tennessee, Phone Collinwood 724-9332
 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 724-4594
 Jerry House, Route 2, Box 31-A, Iuka, Mississippi
 J. C. McClanahan, Route 2, Florence, Alabama, Phone 764-8210
 Robert McGee, Route 5, Russellville, Alabama
 Vernon Creasy, Route 1, Cloverdale, Alabama, Phone 766-1666
 Virgil Moore, Morris Chapel, Tennessee, Phone 901-632-3256
 Everette Rich, Route 1, Iron City, Tennessee, Phone Collinwood 724-4568
 Grover See, 2592 Dakar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee
 Elias Stephens, Route 4, Savannah, Tennessee, Phone 925-3881
 Thurman Stults, Collinwood, Tenn.
 Edward Smith, Stantonville, Tennessee
 John H. Sneed, 1922 Morris Avenue, Columbia, Tennessee
 Nick White, Route 1, Savannah, Tennessee, Phone 925-4504
 L. L. Wilson, 271 N. Watkins St., Memphis, Tennessee, Phone 276-9392
 Benton Brown, 2406 Pinhook Road, Savannah, Tennessee, Phone 901-925-3080
 J. T. Wright, 427 Stanton Avenue, Florence, Alabama, Phone 766-4508
 Glenn Bobo, 1602 Pineherst Blve., Sheffield, Alabama, Phone 383-0141

LICENSED MINISTERS

Don Hanback Deceased
 Gerald Montgomery Cloverdale, Ala.
Leo Potete

CHURCH PASTORS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

Adamsville—Rev. Benton Brown, 2406 Pinhook Road, Savannah, Tenn.
 Antioch—Rev. Emerald Bailey, Rt. 1, Iron City, Tenn.
 Bumpas Creek—Rev. Everette Rich, Rt. 1, Iron City, Tenn.
 Fairview—Rev. Earl Dixon, Rt. 1, Cloverdale, Ala.
 Harmony—Rev. Dwight Fletcher, Rt. 2, Leighton, Ala.
 McGlamery—No pastor as yet.
 Meeks Grove—Rev. Virgil Moore, Morris Chapel, Tenn.
 Midway—Rev. Earl Dixon, Rt. 1, Cloverdale, Ala.
 Mt. Olivet—Rev. Nick White, Savannah, Tenn.
 Mt. Zion—Rev. Robert McGee, Rt. 5, Russellville, Ala.
 Murphy's Chapel—Rev. Vernon Creasy, Rt. 1, Cloverdale, Ala.
 New Chapel—Rev. Travis Johnson, Memphis, Tenn.
 New Home—Rev. Virgil Moore, Morris Chapel, Tenn.
 New Pleasant Grove—Rev. Elton Cottner, Adamsville, Tenn.
 Piney Grove—Rev. Thurman Stults, Collinwood, Tenn.
 Poplar Springs—Rev. Travis Johnson, Memphis, Tenn.
 Posey Chapel—Rev. V. H. Geans, Rt. 1, Cloverdale, Ala.
 Rayborn Chapel—Rev. Edward Smith, Stantonville, Tenn.
 Scotts Chapel—Rev. Thurman Stults, Collinwood, Tenn.
 Second Creek—Rev. Troy Massingill, Adamsville, Tenn.
 Shady Grove—Rev. J. T. Wright, Florence, Ala.
 Shelby—Rev. L. L. Wilson, 217 N. Watkins St., Memphis, Tenn.
 Solitude—Rev. Burlon Jones, Memphis, Tenn.
 Whites Creek—Rev. Nick White, Savannah, Tenn.

APPOINTMENT OF OTHER COMMITTEES

PROGRAM—Bro. Benton Brown, Bro. Roy Harper, Bro. Ted Simmons and Bro. Bill Benson.

GENERAL BUSINESS—Bro. Everette Rich, Bro. Virgil Geans, Bro. Edward Smith, Bro. J. W. Stooksberry, and Bro. J. B. Harper.

EDUCATIONAL—Bro. Thurman Stults, Bro. Gerald Montgomery, Bro. Tom Richardson, and Bro. Clayton Hall.

TEMPERANCE—Bro. Bill Bolton, Bro. Jody Melson, and Bro. Willie Posey.

BENEVOLENCE—Bro. Jones, Bro. James Wicker, Bro. Johnnie Brewer and Bro. Carl Creasy.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS—Sis. Mary Weeks, Sis. Frankie Austin, and Sis. Byrdia Landers.

The Moderator asked all ministers, deacons, and delegates to sign for a roll call. The business session adjourned to meet on Saturday Morning at 8:30 a.m.

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

The Friday night service was opened with singing and prayer by Bro. Virgil Moore. There were special singing groups. The first message was by Rev. Everette Rich, His subject was "pride", reading from James 4. The second part of the service was by Rev. J. B. Harper, his subject was "look on us", taken from Acts 3. The service was closed with prayer by Rev. L. L. Wilson.

SATURDAY MORNING

The morning session met according to previous adjournment with singing and prayer by Elias Stephens. Rev. Vernon Gober read the Scripture reading from Isaiah 55.

The roll call was made and 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 recommend that it be sent by the first of January.

We recommend that Deacons remind the churches, because of Acts 6:3 we feel it their duty to take care of the financial part of the church.

We recommend that the preacher pay the tenth more or less of the money he receives for ministerial work to the Home Mission Board.

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 man that acknowledges that he is called of God to preach and his home church esteems him to qualify with the Scripture found in 1st Timothy, 3, and to any other scripture which pertains to the qualification of a man holding this office in the church, that he be licensed for 12 months, then if his home church further recommends him, that he go before the examining committee before ordination.

We recommend that the men who desire the office of a deacon and can qualify according to the scripture be appointed under the watch care of their church for 1 year and that the association be notified of such appointing. Then at the end of 1 year they go before the examining committee before ordination. We also recommend that they be granted a certificate of ordination when ordained. We recommend that they back the Free Will Baptist Doctrine and practice its ordinances.

We recommend that any ordained minister coming from other bodies to this association, that brings good recommendation from the body which he is from, also bringing a good recommendation from the church of which he is a member, go before the examining committee and if he believes and practices Free Will Baptist Doctrine, that we grant him a card.

We 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, and 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 Meetings be elected and the Fifth Sunday meetings selected at the last Fifth Sunday meeting prior to the association.

We recommend that we pay our Fifth Sunday Meeting Clerk \$25.00 for services 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 recommend that we pay the Home Mission Treasurer \$25.00.

We recommend that we pay the Associational Clerk \$35.00.

We also recommend that the Home Mission Board pay the Associational Pastor for his ministerial work, plus the amount of \$100.00 for each tent revival.

This report was adopted by the association.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

We, your committee on Sunday Schools, wish to submit the following: We have 24 churches with Sunday schools with a present enrollment of 1144 and a regular attendance of 864. The average attendance is 36. This shows a small decrease in average attendance from last year.

We recommend that each church have a Sunday school regularly. We also recommend that all leaders and teachers of Sunday school 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.

Bro. Vernon Gober, Chairman

This report was adopted by the association.

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We your committee wish to recommend the following:

We exhort all Christian parents to teach their children to remember their creator in the days of their youth. Hosea 4:6 "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge, Because thou has rejected knowledge I will also reject thee. That thou shall be no priest to me seeing thou has forgotten the law of thy God. I will also forget thy children.

We recommend that the Free Will Baptist continue to use the King James Bible, because we are living in a time when different forms of the word are presented.

We also recommend that all churches have Bible Study or Prayer Meeting one night through the week.

This report was adopted by the association.

Gerald Montgomery, Chairman

TEMPERANCE REPORT

We, your committee on temperance, submit the following:

We find the word temperance in regard to strong drink, beer, wine, whiskey, nicotine or any drug harmful to our body. In 1st Corinthians 6:19-20, the Bible says: "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost, which is in you, Which ye have of God, and ye are not your own. For ye are bought with a price: Therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." First Corinthians 3:17 says, "If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." Ephesians 5:17, 18 "Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is." "And be not drunk with wine, where in is excess: but be filled with the Spirit."

We should be temperate in all walks of life, in church, at home, in school, 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 II Peter 1:5-8, 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 to temperance patience; and to patience, Godliness, and to Godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Chairman, Joda Melson

This report was adopted by the Association.

OBITUARY REPORT

We your committee on obituaries, in sorrow report that death has taken 14 of our members since last association. They are as follows: Bumpas Creek—Sis. Tennessee Mansel, Fairview—Bro. Don Hanback, Harmony—Sis. Lois Posey Parker, Mt. Zion—Bro. Walter Thomas Lowery, New Home—Bro. Raymond Rankins, New Pleasant Grove—Sis. Ella Denton and Bro. Duce Higgins, Piney Grove—Bro. Donnie Horton and Bro. Harrison Ayers, Poplar Springs—Sis. Sarah Johnson and Sis. Irene Bullard, Scotts Chapel—Bro. Turner Smith, Bro. Leonidas Pigg and Bro. Harrison Arnett.

We hope and trust our loss is Heaven's gain.

Bro. Cecil Burns, 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 orphan's 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."

Carl Creasy, Chairman

This report was adopted by the Association.

CLERKS REPORT

Amount received from churches 1969	\$248.15
Balance from 1968	<u>13.37</u>

Total	\$261.52
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Clerks fee	<u>35.00</u>
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Balance	\$226.52
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Printing of 1000 minutes	\$210.00
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Postage for delivering	3.99
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Postage for mailing to churches	<u>2.94</u>
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Total Paid out	<u>216.93</u>
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Balance in treasury	\$ 9.59
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Minutes were printed by:

National Printing Service

National Association of Free Will Baptists

P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tenn.

This report was adopted by the association.

Bro. J. W. Stooksberry, Clerk

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Adamsville	\$11.00	New Pleasant Grove	\$10.00
Antioch	15.09	Piney Grove	15.00
Bumpas Creek	12.50	Poplar Springs	5.00
Fairview	18.20	Posey Chapel	10.00
Harmony	10.15	Rayborn Chapel	7.08
McGlamery	7.00	Scotts Chapel	11.21
Meeks Grove	12.45	Second Creek	4.00
Midway	10.00	Shady Grove	5.00
Mt. Olivet	4.00	Solitude	12.00
Mt. Zion	12.00	Shelby	10.00
Murphy's Chapel	16.81	Whites Creek	<u>8.76</u>
New Chapel	12.00		
New Home	10.00	Total amount	\$249.23

HOME MISSION BOARD REPORT

Sept. 18, 1970

Amount brought forward, 1969	\$1,138.88
Amount received for Children's Home	441.00
Posey Chapel	25.00
Shelby Church	20.00
Murphy's Chapel	25.00
Mt. Zion	25.00
Antioch Church	25.00
Midway	10.00
New Home	25.00
Fairview	25.00
Mt. Zion	25.00
Murphy Chapel	25.00
Posey Chapel	25.00
Shelby Church, Memphis	25.00
Hardin Grave Yard Church	25.00
Ministers tithings	<u>277.60</u>
	Total Paid in \$1,023.60
	Total Paid'out <u>916.00</u>
Balance in the Treasury	\$1,411.98

Treasurer—John Bobo

ASSOCIATIONAL PASTORS REPORT

Pastored 1 church full time, received 7 into the church, conducted 1 communion service and 1 conference, baptized 5, witnessed 12 professions, conducted 5 funerals, married 3 couples, conducted 1 church revival, assisted in 3, conducted 2 tent revivals, money received for pastoral work \$573.93. Money received for associational work and other church revivals \$712.17. Paid ministers for helping in tent revivals \$150.00. Total amount received \$1136.10.

GENERAL BUSINESS

The moderator asked for perititionary letters. There were none. A vote was taken for the placement of the Association for the coming year, from the churches that ask for it in

their letters. The Association will convene with Bumpas Creek on Friday before the third Sunday in September of 1971, at 11:00 a.m.

Moderator called for the nomination of the member of the rotating board of Trustees which had served the longest period of time. Bro. Earl Dixon was re-elected to serve with Bro. Thurman Stults and Bro. Vernon Gober.

Motion was put before the body and passed on to elect an Assistant Moderator and let him move up to Moderator each year.

Moderator called for the nomination of Associational officers. Those elected are as follows: Moderator—Bro. J. B. Harper, Assistant Moderator—Bro. Edward Smith, Clerk—Bro. J. W. Stooksberry.

Moderator asked for nomination for Home Mission Board Members. Those elected are as follows: Secretary and Treasurer—Bro. Ted Simmons, Bro. David Montgomery, Bro. Vernon Creasy.

The Resolution Committee was retained to serve both the association and fifth Sunday Meetings were as follows: Bro. Earl Dixon, Bro. Edward Smith, Bro. Everette Rich, Bro. Emerald Bailey, and Bro. Elton Cottner. The purpose of the committee is to deal with problems which might arise and decide if they should be brought before the body of the Association.

The Business session adjourned.

SATURDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

The Saturday morning worship service began at 10:30 with singing and prayer by Bro. Melson. The Message was by Rev. Gerald Montgomery, reading from 1 Corinthians 3. His subject was "Forward for God". The second part of the service was by Rev. Elias Stephens, reading from 1 Corinthians 2, using as his subject carnality.

Dismissed by prayer by Bro. J. W. Stooksberry.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON PRESBYTERY SESSION

**Adamsville Church
September 19, 1970**

The presbytery session of the Tennessee River Association met in session with First Free Will Baptist Church of Adamsville, September 19, 1970. The Rev. L. L. Wilson, Moderator, and the Rev. Everett Rich; Assistant Moderator, presided. There were 17 churches present, 16 ordained ministers, 3 licensed ministers, 10 ordained deacons and 3 deacons under watch and care of churches.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved. Ask for any unfinished business there was none. The new business, none arised.

Moderator called for ministers reports.

ORDAINED MINISTERS REPORT

Rev. George Arnold—absent, card granted.

Rev. Emerald Bailey—gave his complete report for associational pastor, card granted.

Rev. Carroll C. Barnes—Absent, report read, preached at 5 churches, witnessed 2 professions, card granted.

Rev. Glen Bobo—Reported, sermons preached 87, churches pastored 1 half time, revivals 3, professions witnessed 7, money received \$720.72, 2 communion services. Card granted.

Rev. Benton Brown—reported, pastored 1 church full time, preached 86 sermons, married 2 couples, assisted in one funeral, received 7 into the church, baptized 3, assisted in one revival held 1 communion service, did chaplain work at Adamsville Rest Home. Money received \$690.00. Paid tenth to the church, miles traveled unknown, expenses unknown. Card granted.

Rev. Elton Cottner—reported, pastored 1 church full time, conducted radio program 9:15

Savannah on W.O.R.M. Conducted 1 revival, assisted in 1, baptized 1, received 2 into church, conducted 17 funerals, married 1 couple, money received \$1,193.00, paid the tenth to the church. Card granted.

Rev. Lidge Dickey—absent, motion made that resolution committee visit him.

Rev. Earl Dixon—reported, pastored 1 church half time, conducted 4 funerals, assisted in 2, conducted 1 revival, assisted in 4, held 1 conference, 1 communion service, baptized 3, received 3 into the church, money received \$727.70. Card granted.

Rev. V. H. Geans—reported, pastored 1 church full time, conducted radio program each Sunday morning, held 1 revival, assisted in 2, conducted 1 communion service, held 1 conference, witnessed 6 conversions, baptized 1, conducted 10 funerals, assisted in 3. Money received \$900.00. Card granted.

Rev. Vernon Gober—Gave oral report, sermons preached 15, professions witnessed 1, filled in for 5 pastors, money received \$25.00. Card granted.

Rev. J. B. Harper—reported, pastored 2 churches, conducted 2 revivals, assisted in 1, conducted 2 communion services, assisted in 3 funerals, received 7 into the church, baptized 5, money received \$1,385.59. Card granted.

Rev. Jerry House—absent, resolution committee to visit him.

Rev. J. C. McClannahan—absent, resolution committee to visit him.

Rev. Robert McGee—absent, card granted.

Rev. John Sneed—Reported, sermons preached 110, churches pastored 1, revivals held 1, professions witnessed 23, number baptized 5, additions to the church 6, funerals preached 9, marriages solemnized 7, miles traveled and money received unknown. Card granted.

Rev. Vernon Creasy—Reported, pastored 1 church full time, conducted 1 revival, witnessed 1 profession, baptized 1, received into church 2, conducted 1 communion service, held 1 conference, assisted in 2 funerals, money received from churches \$1,575.00, paid to the church \$516.00, paid to the association \$20.00, expenses and miles traveled unknown. Card granted.

Rev. Virgil Moore—Reported, sermons preached 73, pastored 2 churches, half time each, assisted in 2 revivals, witnessed 18 professions, baptized 5, received 8 into the church, conducted 5 funerals, conducted 2 communion services, conducted 4 conferences, miles traveled unknown and expenses unknown. Money received \$1,092.61, money given to charity \$226.80. Card granted.

Rev. Everette Rich—Reported, pastored 1 church full time, held 1 revival, assisted in 6 revivals, witnessed 21 professions, baptized 1, received into church 1, helped in 3 funerals, married 4 couples, held 1 communion service, money received \$1,007.40, miles traveled and expenses unknown. Card granted.

Rev. Grover See—Absent, report read, delivered approx. 30 messages, traveled approx. 3,000 miles, no money received but richly blessed by the Lord. Card granted.

Rev. Elias Stephens—Reported, preached 62 sermons, conducted 7 revivals, witnessed 22 professions, married 1 couple, miles traveled unknown, money received \$548.92. Card granted.

Rev. Thurman Stults—Reported, pastored 2 churches, held 3 revivals, professions witnessed 11, baptized 4, additions to the church 7, funerals preached 1, marriages 2, money received \$693.13, Communion services 2, conferences 2. Card granted.

Rev. Nick White—Reported, pastored 2 churches, one half time and the other fourth time, held 2 revivals, witnessed 6 professions, held 3 funerals, married 3 couples, baptized 1, money received \$394.00. Card granted.

Rev. L. L. Wilson—Sermons preached 92, churches pastored 1, revivals held 1, professions witnessed 10, additions to the church 6, funerals preached 2, miles traveled 10,475, money received \$302.42, conference 3, communion services 1. Card granted.

Rev. Edward Smith—reported, churches pastored 1, revivals held 1, assisted in 1, funerals held 2, money received \$211.51. Card granted.

Rev. J. T. Wright—absent, card read, churches pastored 2, half time each, held 1 revival, assisted in 1, professions witnessed 12, number baptized 4, additions to church 4, marriages 1, money received \$600.00, held 1 communion service, have radio program on W.S.H.F., at 3:00 o'clock. Card granted.

Rev. W. C. Jones—Absent, Retired, Card granted.

LICENSED MINISTERS REPORT

Rev. Don Hanback—Deceased

Rev. Troy Massingill—Gave oral report.

Rev. Gerald Montgomery—Oral report, conducted 1 revival, assisted in 2, witnessed approximately 5 professions, conducted radio program 3:45 each Sunday afternoon, WSHF station. Money received approximately \$850.00.

THE MODERATOR CALLED FOR LETTERS OF ORDINATION

Murphy's Chapel sent a letter asking that Bro. David Montgomery be ordained as deacon.

Mt. Zion Church sent a letter asking that Bro. Quinton Fay Simmons and Bro. Earnest Jefferys be ordained as deacons. Bro. Simmons was sick and unable to come.

Piney Grove sent a letter asking that Bro. Johnny Brewer be ordained as deacon.

Solitude sent letter asking that Bro. Troy Massingill be ordained to preach the gospel.

Scotts Chapel sent a letter saying that Bro. Frank Pigg was under the watch care of the church as deacon.

Bro. Elton Cottner was appointed to go with the examining committee, in the absence of Bro. Lige Dickey.

The men to be ordained went before the examining committee.

The examining committee reported that they recommended the deacons be ordained, but asked that Troy Massingill wait a while. Report accepted by the body.

Rev. Vernon Gober read the qualifications of a bishop from 1 Timothy, 3rd chapter. This was followed by an altar prayer and an ordination service was held.

Motion made and second that meeting adjourn. Dismissed by prayer.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

The Saturday night service opened with singing and prayer by Bro. Bill Benson and Bro. W. C. Jones. The first message was delivered by Rev. Vernon Creasy, reading from Matthew 7:23, 24, and from St. John 14. His subject was "Founded on the Rock." The second part of the service was by Rev. John Sneed. His message was "Under the Shed Blood" reading from Revelation 16. Dismissed with prayer by Rev. J. B. Harper.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

We, your committee on the resolution of thanks report to the people of Adamsville Church and surrounding churches our sincere thanks for the wonderful hospitality, friendliness, and kindness shown the entire association as a whole.

We feel, speaking for the entire group, that every one will leave here greatly enriched in their hearts, as we walk with the Lord in our daily lives.

Thanks again for a wonderful time and especially the good spiritual feeling we receive from the Lord as we associate with his people.

May the Lord Bless and keep each of us as we travel the uneven journey of life.

Sis. Byrdia Landers, Sis. Frankie Austin,
and Sis. Mary Weeks.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Service was opened with congregational singing. Opening prayer by Rev. V. H. Geans.

An offering for the Children's Home was taken. Rev. Elton Cottner was in charge reading from Luke 18. An offering of \$250.12 will be divided between the Free Will

Baptist Children's Home, P. O. Box 8, Eldridge, Ala. 35554, and Free Will Baptist Home for Children, Rt. 9, Greenville, Tenn. 37743.

The first message was brought by Rev. Thurman Stults, reading from Genesis 6, also Ezekiel. The second message was by Rev. Virgil Geans reading from Acts 2, His subject "What Shall We Do".

The service was dismissed with hand shake and prayer by Bro. Roy Harper.

FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING AT POSEY'S CHAPEL CHURCH

November 29 and 30, 1969

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The service opened with congregational singing led by Rev. V. H. Gean. Prayer was offered by Bro. J. W. Stooksberry. An altar prayer proceeded the first message. The opening message was delivered by Rev. Everette Rich, reading from Ephesians 4. Following was another message by Rev. Junior Cagle reading from Genesis 2. After the sermons there was a Christian hand shake. Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Waford Berry.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Called together with singing led by Rev. V. H. Gean. Prayer was offered by Rev. Elton Cottner. The afternoon message was delivered by Rev. Don Hanback reading from I John.

The moderator called the business session to order. There were 13 churches present, 15 ordained ministers, 3 licensed ministers, 5 ordained deacons present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

A motion was made and second that Rev. Burlon Jones go before the examining committee so he might know why his card was not granted. Bros. Earl Dixon, Erby White and Ted Simmons were appointed as a program committee for the next session. Rev. Burlon Jones asked for a letter of recommendation to the West Tenn. Association because he was pastoring a church in that association. A motion was made and second that we grant Bro. Jones a card and also a letter of recommendation. This was granted.

A letter was received from Posey's Chapel Church recommending Bro. Ned Simmions be licensed for one year to preach the gospel. Rev. Glen Bobo ask that this not be granted as the church was not together on this recommendation. A motion was passed that this matter be tabled. It was moved and second to adjourn. Dismissed by Rev. Burlon Jones.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

The session was called together by singing. Prayer was offered by Bro. Ned Simmions. A devotions service was held by Rev. Vernon Creasy. The first message was delivered by Rev. Thurmon Stults reading from Isaiah. Rev. J. B. Harper followed this with another message reading from John 7. Dismissed by Bro. Larry Dixon.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened with singing led by Rev. Earl Dixon. Prayer was offered by Sis. Gean. The opening message was delivered by Rev. Jimmy Montgomery reading from 2 Corinthians 13. Followed with another message by Rev. J. T. Wright. Dismissed by Rev. Junior Cagle.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Called together by singing led by Rev. Junior Cagle. A message was delivered by Rev. Edward Smith reading from 2 Corinthians. Dismissed by Rev. V. H. Gean.

FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING AT FAIRVIEW CHURCH

March 28 and 29, 1970

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The morning session opened with singing led by the Rev. Earl Dixon; followed with prayer offered by the Rev.'s Jr. Cagle and Elias Stephens. The opening message was by the Rev. Elton Cottner, reading from Romans 12. This was followed with another message by the Rev. V. H. Gean. Dismissed with prayer by the Rev. Earl Dixon.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The afternoon session opened with singing led by Rev. Earl Dixon, followed with special request prayer led by the Rev. Emerald Bailey. The afternoon message was delivered by the Rev. Vernon Creasy, reading from Genesis 1.

The moderator, Rev. L. L. Wilson, called the business session to order. There were 12 churches present, 14 ordained ministers, 4 ordained deacons and 3 licensed ministers present. Visitors were asked to sit with us. The minutes of the last session were read and approved. Letters were called for; a letter from Shelby Church stating that Bro. Joe E. McCoy is under the watch care of the church for one year as deacon. A letter from Meeks Grove Church recommending Bro. Robert Jarrett be ordained as deacon. A letter from Jones Chapel Church requesting a letter of dismissal from the Tenn. River Association. Motion made and second that a letter of dismissal be granted to Jones Chapel Church. The letter of dismissal was granted. The moderator asked for old business, there was none.

A program committee was appointed for the next session at Antioch in May. Rev. Emerald Bailey, Bro. Bill Benson, and Bro. J. W. Stooksberry were appointed.

Rev. J. B. Harper was appointed to go with the examining committee in absence of the Rev. Lidge Dickey. Bro. Jarrett went before the examining committee, they recommended he be ordained as deacon. The report was accepted. Rev. Edward Smith read the qualifications of a deacon. Altar prayer offered and Bro. Jarrett was ordained. The Resolution committee was asked to check some on the Sunday school literature from Nashville. A motion was made and approved that the business session adjourn. Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Ted Simmons.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Called together with singing led by Rev. J. B. Harper. Prayer was offered by Rev. Edward Smith. The opening message was brought by Rev. Vernon Gober, reading from St. John 15. Followed with another message by Rev. Lidge Dickey, reading from Galatians 6. Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Jimmy Montgomery.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened with congregational singing led by Bro. J. W. Stooksberry. Prayer was delivered by Rev. L. L. Wilson. Opening message was delivered by Rev. J. B. Harper, reading from Isaiah 53. Followed with another message by Rev. J. C. McClanahan reading from Ephesians chapter six. Dismissed with prayer by Rev. Everett Rich.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Called together with singing led by Rev. Earl Dixon. Prayer was offered by Rev. Everett Rich. The message was delivered by Rev. William Cagle, Jr. reading from I Samuel. Dismissed with prayer.

FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING AT ANTIOCH CHURCH
May 30 and 31, 1970

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

The morning session opened with singing led by Rev. Emerald Bailey. Prayer was offered by Rev. Elias Stephens. The opening message was delivered by Rev. Edward Smith, reading from Acts 10. Dismissed with prayer by Rev. Everett Rich.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Called together with singing led by Bro. J. W. Stooksberry. Prayer was offered by Bro. Buddy Bailey. The afternoon message was delivered by Rev. Troy Massingill taken from Romans 11. Dismissed with prayer.

The moderator called the business session to order. There were 10 churches, 14 ordained ministers, 2 licensed ministers, 4 ordained Deacons and 1 visiting minister present. The minutes of the last session were read and approved. Under unfinished business a letter, which should have been received in the March session but was delayed in the mail, was read from New Chapel Church stating that Bros. Ronnie Boulard and Troy Duncan is under watch and care of the church as deacons. The Resolution Committee was asked to report on the literature from Nashville. They reported that they didn't see anything out of line in it. The Committee was released of this matter.

Under new business a committee was appointed for the program arrangement for the Fifth Sunday meeting at Piney Grove in August. Bros. Roy Harper, John Bobo and Thurmon Stults were appointed.

A motion was made and second to adjourn. Dismissed by Rev. J. B. Harper.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Called together with singing by the congregation. Prayer was offered by Bro. Elvis Hanback. The message was delivered by Rev. J. T. Wright reading from 1 John 4. This was followed with another message by Rev. Everette Rich, reading from Proverbs 3. Dismiss with Prayer.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened with congregational singing. Prayer was offered by Rev. J. C. McClanahan and Rev. Jimmy Montgomery. The message was delivered by Rev. Glenn Bobo reading from Jude. Followed with another message delivered by Rev. L. L. Wilson. Dismissed by Bro. Ted Simmons. The Sunday afternoon session was omitted because of Ronnie Horton's funeral.

FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING AT PINEY GROVE CHURCH
August 29 and 30, 1970

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Opened with singing led by Rev. J. B. Harper. An altar prayer proceeded the message. The first message was delivered by Rev. Jimmy Montgomery, reading from James 2. Followed with another message delivered by Rev. Potete, reading from Psalms 128. Dismissed by Rev. Vernon Gober.

SATURDAY EVENING

Called together with singing led by Rev. V. H. Gean. Prayer was offered by Bro. J. W. Stooksberry. The message was delivered by Rev. Elias Stephens, reading from Acts 2.

BUSINESS SESSION

A motion was made to appoint an assistant moderator to assist Rev. Rich in absence of the moderator. Rev. Elias Stephens was appointed. The business session was called to order by Rev. Everett Rich. There were 14 churches, 14 ordained ministers, 2 licensed ministers, and 5 ordained deacons present. The minutes of the last session were read and approved. Any unfinished business was called for, there was none. Under new business a letter from Antioch recommended Bro. Gerald Montgomery be licensed to preach. Also a letter from McGlamery recommending Bro. Leo Potete be licensed to preach. The moderator asked for the churches that desire a fifth Sunday meeting in the following year.

A committee to place the fifth Sunday meetings was appointed as follows: Bros. J. W. Stooksberry, Earl Dixon, and Nick White. A committee for the programing of the next fifth Sunday meeting was appointed as follows: Bros. Ted Simmons, Jade Ferrell and V. H. Gean. The fifth Sunday meetings were placed as follows, Nov. 1970 Posey's Chapel, Jan. 71 Murphy Chapel, May New Pleasant Grove and Aug. Shelby.

The fifth Sunday officers were elected as follows: Assoc. Pastor, Rev. Elias Stephens, Moderator Rev. Virgil Moore, Asst. Moderator Rev. Everette Rich, and clerk Troy Massingill. A motion was passed to drop the standing Examining committee and appoint from floor one each session as needed. Motion made to adjourn. Dismissed by Rev. Glenn Bobo.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Opened with singing led by Bro. Arie Gillis. Prayer was offered by Rev. Jimmy Montgomery. A message was delivered by Rev. Virgil Moore reading from 2 Timothy 3. Followed by Rev. Earl Dixon reading from Hebrews. Dismissed by Rev. Lidge Dickey.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened with singing led by Rev. Vernon Creasy. Prayer was offered by Rev. J. B. Harper reading from 1 Corinthians. Followed with another message by Rev. Emerald Bailey reading from Jeremiah. Dismissed with prayer.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Called together with singing. Prayer was offered by Rev. Elton Cottner. The afternoon message was delivered by Rev. Nick White, reading from Genesis 4. Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Roy Harper.

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 the 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 the 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, 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 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 in 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

This certifies that _____, 19____
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 _____

