

MINUTES
of the
Ninety-Fifth Annual Session
of the
TENNESSEE RIVER ASSOCIATION
of
Free Will Baptists
Convened with
Whites Creek Church
Friday, September 14, 1973

The next Association will convene with Murphys Chapel Church
on Friday before the third Sunday in September, 1974
at 11:00 A.M.

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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. J. B. Harper Cypress Inn, Tenn. Pho.—724-4594

EXAMINING COMMITTEE

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

OFFICERS OF FIFTH SUNDAY MEETINGS

Rev. Virgil Gean, Moderator Rt. 1, Cloverdale, Ala.
Rev. Ted Simmons, Assistant Moderator Rt. 2, Cherokee, Ala.
Bro. Roy Harper, Clerk Cypress Inn, Tenn.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Bro. Carl Harper Rt. 1, Iron City, Tenn.
Rev. Edward Smith Stantonville, Tenn.
Rev. Ealis Stephens Savannah, Tenn.

CHURCH CLERKS AND ADDRESSES

Adamsville—Bro. Jamie Smith, Stantonville, Tenn.
Bumpas Creek—Sis. Clara Benson, Rt. 20, Florence, Ala.
Fairview—Sis. Deane Butler, Rt. 1, Iron City, Tenn.
Huntsville—
McGlamery—
Meeks Grove—Sis. Shirley Moore, Rt. 1, Morris Chapel, Tenn.
Midway—Sis. Lela Hall, Rt. 2, Leighton, Ala.
Mt. Olivet—Bro. W. C. Jones, Jr.
Murphys 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, 2209 Vine St., Savannah, Tenn.
Piney Grove—Bro. John E. Banks, Rt. 2, Lutts, Tenn.
Poplar Springs—Sis. Wanda McKee, Rt. 1, Tishomingo, Miss. 38873
Poseys Chapel—Bro. Willie Posey, Rt. 3, Cherokee, Ala.
Rayborn Chapel—Bro. Edgar Melson, Rt. 2, Lutts, Tenn.

Scotts Chapel—Bro. Joel Pigg, Cypress Inn, Tenn.
 Shady Grove—Sis. Alama Franks, Olive Hill, Tenn.
 Shelby—Sis. Oneida McCoy, Tiplersville, Miss.
 Solitude—Sis. Virginia Finley, Rt. 2, Adamsville, Tenn.
 Whites Creek—Sis. Ora Stricklin, Rt. 2, Savannah, Tenn.

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ORDAINED MINISTERS, THEIR ADDRESSES, AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Emerald Bailey, Route 1, Iron City, Tennessee, Phone Collinwood 724-4378
 Elton Cotner, 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
 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
 Ealis Stephens, Route 4, Savannah, Tennessee, Phone 925-3881
 Thurman Stults, Collinwood, Tenn. Phone 724-9149
 Edward Smith, Stantonville, Tennessee, Phone-901-632-4413
 Nick White, Route 1, Savannah, Tennessee, Phone 901-925-5273
 L. L. Wilson 5058 Bryndale, Memphis, Tenn. Phone 362-6079
 Benton Brown, 2406 Pinhook Road, Savannah, Tennessee, Phone 901-925-3080
 W. C. Jones, Waterloo, Ala. (deceased)
 Riley T. Morrisett, Memphis, Tenn.
 Ted Simmons, Rt. 2, Cherokee, Ala., Phone 359-6849
 James Brewer, Waynesboro, Tenn., Phone 722-3137
 Ned Simmons, Cherokee, Ala. Phone 359-6632

LICENSED MINISTERS

Clay Mullins, Rt. 1, Box 293A, Cloverdale, Ala. Phone 764-0211

CHURCH PASTORS AND ADDRESSES

Adamsville—Rev. Edward Smith, Stantonville, Tenn.
 Bumpas Creek—Rev. J. B. Harper, Rt. 1, Cypress Inn, Tenn.
 Assistant Pastor—Rev. Ealis Stephens, Savannah, Tenn.
 Fairview—Rev. Emerald Bailey, Rt. 1, Iron City, Tenn.
 Huntsville—
 McGlamery—
 Meeks Grove—Rev. Virgil Moore, Rt. 1, Morris Chapel, Tenn.
 Midway—Rev. Gerald Montgomery, Rt. 10, Florence, Ala.
 Mt. Olivet—Rev. Benton Brown, 2406 Penhook Rd., Savannah, Tenn.
 Murphys Chapel—Rev. V. H. Gean, Rt. 1, Cloverdale, Ala.
 Assistant Pastor—Rev. Earl Dixon, Cloverdale, Ala.
 New Chapel—Rev. Nick White, Rt. 1, Savannah, Tenn.
 New Home—Rev. Virgil Moore, Morris Chapel, Tenn.
 New Pleasant Grove—Rev. L. L. Wilson, Memphis, Tenn.
 Piney Grove—Rev. Nick White, Savannah, Tenn.
 Poplar Springs—Rev. Malcolm Garrett, Corinth, Miss.
 Posey Chapel—Rev. J. B. Harper, Cypress Inn, Tenn.

Assistant Pastors—Rev. Ted Simmons and Rev. Ned Simmons
Rayborn Chapel—
Scotts Chapel—Rev. Thurman Stults, Cypress Inn, Tenn.
Shady Grove—Rev. Vernon Gober, Adamsville, Tenn.
Shelby—
Solitude—Rev. Elton Cotner, Rt. 2, Adamsville, Tenn.
Whites Creek—Rev. Everette Rich, Rt. 1, Iron City, Tenn.

PROCEEDINGS

Friday Morning

The Tennessee River Association met at 11:00 a. m. with congregational singing. The opening prayer was by Rev. Elton Cotner, there was also an alter prayer.

The morning message was delivered by Rev. Edward Smith, assistant moderator. His message was from Isaiah 5:1-7. His subject was "The vineyard of God."

The morning session was dismissed with prayer by Rev. Ned Simmons to be called back to session with singing after lunch.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Met according to previous adjournment with singing. The scripture reading was by Rev. Virgil Gean, reading from St. John 17:1-21. Prayer was led by Rev. Everette Rich.

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 CLERKS—Bro. Stancil Robbins and Rev. Ned Simmons

FINANCE COMMITTEE—Bros. Gene Clayton, Cecil Burns, and Millard White

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE—Rev. Ealis Stephens, Bros. Clarence Harris and Ed Horton

OBITUARY COMMITTEE—Rev. Earl Dixon, Bros. Clarence Linville and J. D. Farriel

Called for letters of Churches and recognized the delegates.

Adamsville—Bro. Jamie Smith and Sis. Marie Phillips

Bumpas Creek—Bros. Ray Scott and Homer Scott

Fairview—Bros. Carl Harper, Clarence Linville, and Cecil Burns

Huntsville—not represented

McGlamery—not represented

Meeks Grove—Bro. Ray Barnes and Sis. Effie Killingsworth

Midway—Represented by letter only

Mt. Olivet—Bros. W. C. Jones Jr. and Carl Franks

Murphys Chapel—Bro. Carthel Shields

New Chapel—Bro. and Sis. Bill Mayhall

New Home—Bros. Geney Clayton and Earl Clayton

New Pleasant Grove—Bros. Freddie Bowen, Clyde Hubbard, and Millard White

Piney Grove—Bros. Willard Reaves, Edd Horton and Roger Stults

Poplar Springs—absent (reported on Sat.) Rev. Malcolm Garrett, and Bro. Ray McKee

Posey Chapel—Bros. Willie Posey and Charles McCaig

Rayborn Chapel—Represented by letter only
Scotts Chapel—Represented by letter only
Shady Grove—Bro. Jody Melson
Shelby—absent (reported Sat.)
Solitude—Sis. Myrtle Cotner
Whites Creek—Bros. Earl Morris and Dee Paterson

APPOINTMENT OF OTHER COMMITTEES

PROGRAM—Committee consist of Pastor and deacons of church. They were Rev. Nick White and Bro. Luther White.

GENERAL BUSINESS—Rev. Everette Rich, Rev. Virgil Gean, Rev. Edward Smith, Bro. Randal Gray, and Rev. Ted Simmons.

EDUCATIONAL—Rev. James Brewer, Bros. Carthal Shields, W. C. Jones, Jr. Ray Scott, and Earl Clayton.

TEMPERANCE—Bros. Homer Scott, Carl Harper, Rev. Elton Cotner, and Bro. Willard Reaves.

BENEVOLENCE—Bros. Charles McCaig, Jamie Smith, Roger Stults, Dee Paterson and Carl Franks.

RESOLUTIONS OF THANKS—Sis. Myrtle Cotner, Bros. Willie Posey, Earl Morris, Sis. Mayhall and Sis. Marie Phillips.

The Business meeting adjourned to meet on Saturday morning at 9:00 o'clock a.m.

Dismissed with prayer by Rev. Ted Simmons.

FRIDAY NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE

The Friday night service began with singing, and the first prayer was by Sis. Dewey Stults. Rev. Elton Cotner gave the first message, on the subject "Abiding in the Vine", reading from the 15th Chapter of St. John. The second part of the service was by Rev. Earl Dixon, reading from the 3rd Chapter of Ephesians, with the thought "To comprehend Gods great Love."

The service was dismissed with prayer by Bro. Ray Scott.

SATURDAY MORNING BUSINESS SESSION

The morning session met according to previous adjournment with singing and Scripture reading. Rev. L. L. Wilson read the scripture from the 12th Chapter of Romans. Bro. Edd Horton led in prayer.

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 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 when the church desires that such a one of its members to be licensed to preach the gospel for one year, it request the presbytery or the Association of which it is a member to examine by council or otherwise such a member.

The examination for license should refer to the piety and doctrines, the convictions and purposes, respecting the work of the ministry and reputation for character and ability of the candidate.

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 \$50.00 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 \$35.00.

We recommend that we pay the Associational Clerk \$50.00.

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.

Ted Simmons, Chairman

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

We your committee on Sunday schools wish to submit the following: We have 16 churches with Sunday schools with a present enrollment of 821. The average attendance of the churches are 681.

We recommend that each church have Sunday School regularly. We also recommend that all leaders and teachers 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 by their teacher or some one of the church if possible to show our appreciation for their visit.

We should pray more and show our love for one another more. This report was adopted by the association.

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We your committee wish to submit the following: We exhort all Christians,

parents and children to reverence the scriptures; Ephesians 6:14, Children obey your parents in the Lord for this is right; Honour thy Father and Mother; which is the first commandment with promise, that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. And ye fathers provoke not your children to wrath; but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

We also recommend our churches to use Free Will Baptist literature.

We also recommend that all churches have Bible study and Prayer meeting one night through the week.

James Brewer, Chairman

This report was adopted by the association.

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."

This report was adopted by the Association.

Carl Harper, Chairman

OBITUARY REPORT

We your committee on obituaries in sorrow report that death has taken 15 of our members since our last association. They are as follows: Sis. Estalee Scott from Bumpas Creek; Bro. Fred George and Sis. Anna George from Midway; Bro. W. C. Jones Sr. and Bro. West White from Mt. Olivet; Bro. Ernest Morrow and Bro. Matt Horton from Piney Grove; Bro. Dalton Blankney from Poplar Springs; Sis. Pearl Melson from Rayborn Chapel; Sis. Nettie Shepard, Sis. Myrtle Shepard, Bro. Buddie Berry, Bro. Noah Berry and Bro. Larry Harper from Scotts chapel and Bro. Frank Ward from Whites Creek.

We trust that our loss is Heaven's gain.

Earl Dixon, Chairman

REPORT OF BENEVOLENCE

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

happiness of others.

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." Also Romans 12:10 says, Be kindly affectioned one to another with Brotherly Love; in honour preferring one another.

This report was adopted by the Association.

D.E. Patterson, Chairman

CLERKS REPORT

Total received from churches for minute fund 1972	\$202.50
an offering taken up to add to minute fund	79.80
Total amount in min. fund	282.30
-Clerks fee	50.00
Total Balance in fund	\$232.30
Expenses:	
ordered 500 minutes	\$258.10
postage to send to churches	1.05
Total expenses	\$259.15
Total in min. fund	\$232.30
A shortage of	\$26.85

Minutes were printed by:

National Printing Service

National Association of Free Will Baptist

P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tenn.

This report was adopted by Association.

Bro. J. W. Stooksberry, Clerk

A motion was made to pay Bro. Stooksberry the \$26.85 shortage from the Home Mission money. An offering was taken to add to next years minute fund of \$108.21.

A motion was made to order 1000 minutes next year.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTE FUND

Adamsville	\$8.00	Murphys Chapel	20.00
Bumpas Creek	15.00	New Chapel	5.30
Fairview	20.57	New Home	13.24
Meeks Grove	20.00	New Pleasant Grove	12.00
Midway	12.00	Piney Grove	16.56
Mt. Olivet	6.25	Poplar Springs	9.00

Poseys Chapel	12.00
Rayborn Chapel	6.50
Scotts Chapel	32.65
Shady Grove	5.00
Shelby Church	5.00

Solitude	6.00
Whites Creek	10.60
Total	\$235.67
offering taken	108.21
Total	\$343.88

HOME MISSIONS BOARD REPORT

Amount brought forward 1972	\$1899.98
Amount received for Children's Home	500.00
New Pleasant Grove	25.00
Midway	10.00
Hardin Grave Yard	25.00
Poplar Springs	10.00
White Creek	25.00
New Home	25.00
Scotts Chapel	25.00
New Chapel	25.00
Poseys Chapel	25.00
Murphy's Chapel	25.00
Ministers Tithes	457.00
Total paid in	\$1177.00
Total paid out	1717.00
Balance in Treasure	\$1359.98

All expenses itemized

Piano repair	\$36.00
New Tent	711.00
Childrens Home (Tenn. and Ala.)	500.00
Associational Pastor	400.00
Fifth Sunday Clerk	50.00
Treasure fee	35.00
Total Expenses	\$1717.00

Minister's tithings

Bro. Virgil Moore	\$20.00
Bro. Vernon Creasy	20.00
Bro. Edward Smith	50.00
Bro. Earl Dixon	100.00
Bro. V. H. Gean	142.00
Bro. J. B. Harper	100.00
Bro. Ted Simmons	25.00
Total tithes	\$457.00

A motion made to reimburse Bro. Simmons, the amount he had paid for Bond.

Treasure, Ted Simmons

ASSOCIATIONAL PASTORS REPORT

Pastored 1 church full time. Radio program each Sunday. Held 3 revivals, assisted in 1 revival. Witnessed 11 professions, received 1 into church, baptised 4, held 1 communion service, held 1 conference, conducted 14 funerals, assisted in 2 funerals, married 3 couples. Money received from Home Mission Board \$400.00 total money received \$1425.62.

Associational Pastor, Rev. V. H. Gean

ASSOCIATIONAL BUSINESS

The moderator asked for petitionary letters. There were none. The moderator asked if any church letters had come in that were absent on Friday. Two churches reported, they were Poplar Springs and Shelby Church.

A vote was taken for placing the association for the coming year. The churches which ask in their letters for association were Fairview, Murphys Chapel and Piney Grove. Murphys chapels received most votes. The association will convene with Murphys Chapel on Friday before the third Sunday in September of 1974 at 11:00 a.m.

A move was made to carry churches which had not reported for 1 more year giving them a chance to report. Voted on and passed by more than a 2/3 vote.

Officers now serving their second year are as follows; Moderator—Rev. J. B. Harper, Assistant moderator—Rev. Edward Smith and Clerk—Bro. J. W. Stooksberry, Home Mission board members, Rev. Ted Simmons Sec.-Treas. and Bro. David Montgomery and Rev. Vernon Creasy.

The Resolutions committee was retained with the exception of Rev. Emerald Bailey; Rev. L. L. Wilson elected to serve on the committee. Those now serving on Resolutions committee are as follows: Rev. Earl Dixon, Rev. Edward Smith, Rev. Everette Rich, Rev. Elton Cotner and Rev. L. L. Wilson. The purpose of the committee is to deal with problems that might arise and decide if they should be brought before the body. They serve the Association and Fifth Sunday meetings.

The business session adjourned with prayer by Rev. Vernon Gober.

SATURDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

The Saturday morning worship service began with singing and prayer led by Rev. Malcolm Garriett. The first message was given by Rev. Dewey Stults on "The Rejected Scripture" reading from 13th Chapter of St. John verses 1-17. The second message was by Rev. Everette Rich with the thought of "Induring" reading from 14th Chapter of Proverbs and also reading some from the 21st Chapter of Revelation. Dismissed for lunch with prayer by Rev. Nick White.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON PRESBYTERY SESSION

September 15, 1973

Scripture reading was by Rev. Ted Simmons reading from Philippians 5th Chapter. Prayer was given by Rev. Vernon Creasy.

The moderator of the presbytery, Rev. Virgil Moore, called the business session to order. There were 14 churches present 14 ordained ministers, 1 licensed minister, 10 ordained deacons, and 1 visiting minister. Minutes were read and accepted.

Unfinished business, elected a new Trustee and dropped the oldest member serving, which was Rev. Thurman Stults. Bro. Carl Harper was elected.

New business, ministers reports were given, and cards granted.

ORDAINED MINISTERS REPORTS

Emerald Bailey—Reported by letter, pastored 1 church, conducted 1 revival,

assisted in 3 revivals, witnessed 8 professions, conducted 1 conference, married 2 couples, conducted 1 communion service, conducted 9 funerals, assisted in 1, received \$995.00 for church work and paid tithes back to the church. Card Granted.

Kenneth L. Booker—Reported by letter, since being accepted in to the association in April, preached 4 times, traveled approx. 750 miles and received \$20.00 in money, baptised 1 person. Card Granted.

Benton Brown—Reported, pastored 2 churches half time, preached 54 sermons, conducted Radio program for 11 months—WORM, witnessed 7 confessions, baptised 2, took 3 into church, assisted in 2 revivals, married 1 couple, held 1 funeral, held 1 communion service, held 1 conference, money received \$264.00, paid one tenth to Mission Board. Card granted.

James Brewer—Reported by letter, pastored New Pleasant Grove Church, held 1 communion service, held 2 revivals, conducted a radio program, received for church work \$1250.00 Card granted.

Elton Cotner—Reported, pastored 1 church full time, conducted 1 revival, assisted revival, conducted 10 funerals, assisted in 2 funerals, held 1 communion service, married 3 couples, baptised 4, received 3 into church, money received \$1068.00. Card granted.

Vernon Creasy—Reported, pastored church full time, revivals held 2, funerals preached 2, couples married 1, conducted 1 communion service, money received \$1680.00. Card granted.

Lidge Dickey—absent, card held until report.

Earl Dixon—Reported, pastored 1 church half time, assisted in 1 weekend revival, conducted 1 revival, money received \$1589.04. Card granted.

V. H. Gean—Reported as Associational Pastor, report the same. Card granted.

Vernon H. Gober—Reported, preached 51 sermons, pastored 2 churches half time each, assisted in 2 revivals, professions witnessed 3, baptized 2, preached 1 funeral and assisted in 1, held 2 communion services, money received \$416.08. Card granted.

J. B. Harper—Reported, pastored 2 churches half time each, held 1 revival, held 1 weekend revival, conducted 1 communion service, conducted 7 funerals and assisted in 3 funerals, money received \$1085.75. Card granted.

Riley T. Morrisett—Absent, held card until report.

Virgil Moore—Reported, pastored 2 churches half time each, sermons preached 123, held 4 revivals, assisted in 2, witnessed 115 professions and rededications, baptized 28, received into church 29, conducted 4 funerals, and 2 communion services and held 2 conferences, married 2 couples, visited 13 churches, money received \$2655.09, miles traveled approx. 8,849, expenses approx. \$1061.88, amount paid to Home Mission, church and charity \$582.20. Card granted.

Everett Rich—Reported, pastored 1 church full time, conducted 1 revival, witnessed 15 professions, conducted 1 funeral, assisted in 1, conducted 1 conference, received \$1429.51. Card granted.

Ted Simmons Reported, sermons preached 60, revivals held 2, professions witnessed 3, number baptized 3, additions to church 3, miles traveled approx. 2500, money received approx. \$200.00, pastored 1 church full time, held 1 communion service, 1 conference. Card granted.

Edward Smith—Reported, pastored 1 church, held 1 revival, assisted in 1 revival, professions witnessed 6, baptized 2, additions to the church 2, held 1 conference, money received \$725.00. Card granted.

Ealis Stephens—Reported by letter, pastored 1 church full time since Feb. 1st. held 43 services, witnessed 5 professions, held 1 funeral, held 1 conference, 1 revival, money received \$563.50. Card granted.

Grover See—Absent, card held till report.

Thurman Stults—Reported, churches pastored 1, revivals held 2, additions to church 4, funerals preached 4, money received \$2131.26. Card granted.

Nick White—Reported, pastored 2 churches half time each, conversions 18,

restored 3, baptized and united with church 12, funerals conducted 12, marriages performed 11, communion services 2, revivals held 2, assisted in 5, conferences held 2, money received \$963.84. Card granted.

L. L. Wilson—Reported, pastored 1 church through July of 1973, sermons preached 104, additions to church 4, funerals held 1, communion services 1, business meetings 3, money received went back to church to help in expenses, assisted in 1 revival and received \$125.00 from Fairview for help in revival. Card granted.

W. C. Jones Sr.—Deceased

Ned Simmons—Gave oral report, held 4 tent revivals, witnessed 2 conversions, held 1 communion service. Card granted after ordination service.

LICENSED MINISTERS REPORT

Bro. Clay Mullins—Present

THE MODERATOR CALLED FOR LETTERS OF ORDINATION

A letter from Poseys chapel requesting Bro. Ned Simmons be ordained to preach.

Letter from Scotts Chapel asking for Bro. Clay Mullins to be licensed for 12 months.

Letter from Scotts Chapel stating that Bro. Joel Pigg, Bro. Robert Berry, Bro. Alvin Gilchrist and Bro. Arron Stults are under the watch care of the church for 12 months for deacons.

An Examining committee made up of Rev. V. H. Gean, Bro. Luther White, and Bro. Ira Gillis met with Bro. Ned Simmons and Bro. Clay Mullens. Committee found Bro. Simmons qualified for ordination, and Bro. Mullens qualified for licenses for 1 year.

ORDINATION

Rev. Earl Dixon read the scripture from 1st Timothy chapter 3. Prayer was by Rev. Dixon with an alter prayer, completing the service with the laying on of hands.

Rev. Earl Dixon gave a statement of thanks for all the churches which had supported him and his family in prayer and donations during his illness. Rev. Ned Simmons also made a statement of thanks for the help and support his family had received from the churches after their home burned.

Dismissed by Rev. Benton Brown.

SATURDAY NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE

Service began with singing and prayer by Bro. Bill Benson, followed by a testimony service. The first message was by Rev. Malcolm Garriett, a visiting pastor from Poplar Springs. His subject "Go ye therefore and teach all nations", reading from Matt. 28th. chapter verses 18-20 and some from John chapter 20.

The second message was delivered by Rev. V. H. Gean, reading from Matthew chapter 28 and also from St. John 11:25-26. One converted during alter call.

THE RESOLUTIONS OF THANKS WAS READ

We your committee of resolutions of thanks report to the body and

assembled together to give the people of Whites Creek Church and surrounding churches our sincere thanks for their kindness and hospitality shown during the association.

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

May the Lord bless each one of you.

Bro. Willie Posey, Chairman
Dismissed by Bro. Odell Harper

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Service began with singing, then prayer by Bro. Jessie J. Melson. There was special singing by the Gospel Five Group.

An offering was taken for Childrens Homes with Rev. Vernon Creasy in charge reading from Acts 20:26-36.

An offering of \$410.00 was taken to be divided between the following Childrens Homes; Free Will Baptist Childrens Home, P. O. Box 8, Eldridge, Ala. 35554 and the Free Will Baptist Childrens Home, Rt. 9, Greeneville, Tenn. 37743.

The first message was given by Rev. Ned Simmons with the thought of "Being founded on the Rock", reading from 2nd. chapter of Corinthians.

The next message was by Rev. L. L. Wilson reading from Philippians 3:13, on reaching forward. Dismissed by Bro. Odell Harper.

FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING AT WHITE'S CREEK OCTOBER 28-29, 1972

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

The services opened with singing led by Rev. J. B. Harper and prayer by Rev. V. H. Gean. The first message was preached by Rev. Vernon Creasy reading from Isaiah 61:1-4. Rev. Ted Simmons followed with another good message from Exodus 12. Services were dismissed with prayer by Rev. Edward Smith.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

The afternoon session was opened with singing led by Bro. Joe McCoy and prayer was given by Bro. Bill Benson. The message was delivered by Rev. V. H. Gean, reading from Deuteronomy 32:1-14.

The Moderator, Rev. Virgil Moore, called the business session to order. The roll was called and there were present 11 churches, 7 ordained ministers, 1 visiting minister, and 7 ordained deacons. The minutes were read and accepted. The call was made for unfinished business. Bro. Gean explained why Bro. McGee wasn't granted a card. It was because the church that he was a member of pulled out of this association. There was a discussion about how to keep a card; for instance, if a church in the association pulls out and any minister desiring to stay should unite with a church in the association, or if a minister wants out of the association, he should surrender his credentials within two years or be taken by a committee after the two year period of absence. The call was made for new business. A letter was received from each of the children's home recognizing the \$250. that was sent to each. A committee was appointed for the next session which were Rev. Vernon Creasy, Bro. Roy Harper, Bro. Bill Benson, and Bro. Herchel White. The business session was dismissed with prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

The service opened with singing led by Rev. V. H. Gean. Prayer was led by Rev. Elton Cottner. The first message was by Rev. J. B. Harper, reading from 1 Thessalonians 5:8-9. His subject was "Anchored in Hope". The second message was by Rev. Virgil Moore, reading from Titus 2:11-13. The service was dismissed with a handshake and prayer by Rev. Elton Cottner.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Services opened with singing led by Bro. J. W. Stooksberry. Prayer was offered by Rev. Vernon Creasy. The first message was by Rev. Edward Smith, reading from Ephesians 5:9-14 and Galatians 4:13-23. His subject was "The Fruits of the Spirit". He was followed by Rev. Elias Stephens, reading from Ephesians 5:1 and Isaiah 59:1-2. Service was dismissed by Rev. Vernon Gober.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

The service opened with singing led by Rev. Vernon Creasy, and prayer by Bro. Arthur Harrel. The message was delivered by Bro. Ned Simmons, reading from St. Luke 15:11-32. The service was dismissed by Bro. Bill Benson.

FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING AT MURPHY'S CHAPEL DECEMBER 30-31, 1972

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

The service began with singing led by Bro. Ronnie Brown at 10:30. The opening prayers were by Rev. Virgil Moore and Rev. W. C. Jones. Rev. Moore asked for alter prayer in behalf of the meeting and for Rev. Earl Dixon and others who were sick.

The first message was given by Rev. Benton Brown on "Humbleness", reading from 2 Chronicles. The second message was by Rev. Ealis Stephens with scripture from Romans 10. His subject was "Believing on the Lord."

The service was dismissed for lunch with prayer by Rev. L. L. Wilson.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The service began with singing by the Traveling Echos and The Booker Family, from Memphis. Rev. J. B. Harper led in prayer. Rev. Harper also gave the message on "The Touch of God", reading from 1 Kings 19.

The Moderator, Rev. Virgil Moore, called the business session to order. He appointed Bro. J. W. Stooksberry to serve as clerk in the absence of Bro. Joe McCoy. There were present 11 churches, 11 ordained ministers, 1 licensed minister, 4 ordained deacons, and 2 visiting ministers, Rev. E. W. Dean and Rev. Kenneth Booker. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. A motion was made and seconded for Rev. Virgil Gean to serve as Assistant Moderator in the absence of Rev. Earl Dixon. The Moderator asked for old business. There was some discussion about ministers leaving the association. It was stated that if they felt no desire to stay with the association, they should turn in their credentials.

The Moderator asked for new business. Shelby Church of Memphis sent a letter asking that Rev. Kenneth Booker be accepted into the association as an

ordained minister. A motion was made for him to go before an examining committee. The Examining Committee was nominated from the floor, consisting of Rev. J. B. Harper, Rev. Ealis Stephens, and Rev. Edward Smith. The committee met with him and found him to qualify for a card when recommendation was received from the other association. The committee reported that Bro. Booker volunteered to wait for the recommendations. He made the statement that he had been unable to attend meetings at the other association.

A committee was appointed for the next Fifth Sunday Meeting program. Those appointed were Rev. Nick White, Bro. Ben Brown, Bro. Stancil Robbins, and Bro. Bill Benson. A motion was made to close business session to meet again in April at Piney Grove. Dismissed in prayer by Rev. Thurman Stults.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

The night service began with singing led by Bro. Ronnie Brown. The opening prayer was by Rev. Dewey Stults. Special singing groups were The Stults Children, The Traveling Echos, and Marla and Carla.

The first message was led by Rev. Thurman Stults, reading from 2 Corinthians 4 on the subject of "If our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost". The second message was by Rev. Nick White on "The duty of husband and wife as to the church." His scripture was taken from Ephesians 5. Dismissed by Bro. J. W. Stooksberry.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

The service began with congregational singing and a prayer by Bro. Homer Scott.

The first message was by Rev. Virgil Gean with scripture from Hebrews 9 and Isaiah 53 on the subject of "Jesus was made unto sin for us." The second message was by Rev. Virgil Moore on "Borned of God, a child of the King", reading from Romans 8. Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Larry Dixon.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

The service began with singing. The first prayer was given by Bro. Lincoln Freshour. The message was given by Rev. Edward Smith, with scripture, reading from Jeremiah 2. His subject was "Thirsty for Righteousness". Prayer of dismissal was by Rev. Virgil Gean.

FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING AT PINEY GROVE APRIL 28, 1973

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

The services began with singing led by Bro. Stancil Robbins and prayer by Rev. Elton Cottner. Rev. Ned Simmons preached the first message about the powers and visions of John and Daniel, reading from Revelation 1:3. Rev. Earl Dixon followed with a good spiritual thought "Hearken and follow after righteousness" taken from Isaiah 51:1-11 and Psalms 61. Dismissed for lunch by Bro. Joe L. McCoy.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Bro. Kenneth Booker opened the services with singing and prayer by Rev. J. B. Harper. The Booker Family sang a few special songs. Rev. Edward Smith brought the afternoon message. His text was taken from Psalms 30:4-5.

The Moderator called the session to order with the roll call. There were 9 churches present, 10 ordained ministers, 1 licensed minister, 9 ordained deacons, 1 visiting minister. Minutes were read and accepted. The Moderator called for any old business. The clerk had received a recommendation from the West Tennessee Association of Free Will Baptist concerning Rev. Kenneth Booker. Bro. Booker received his card following this recommendation. The Moderator called for new business. A letter was sent from Shelby Church to set aside Bro. Grayford Scott as a deacon for 1 year from April 1973. New Pleasant Grove sent a letter asking that Bro. Clyde Hubbard and Bro. Freddie Bowen be set aside as deacons for 1 year from April 1973. Murphy's Chapel sent a letter recommending that Bro. Randal Gray and Bro. Carl Creasy be ordained as deacons. An Examining Committee was chosen to examine Bro. Gray and Bro. Creasy. The committee were Bro. Earl Dixon, Bro. L. L. Wilson and Bro. J. B. Harper. Rev. Virgil Geans, Bro. J. H. Wright, and Bro. Roy Harper was chosen for the next Program Committee for the meeting with Scotts Chapel Church.

Bro. Gean asked about the tent. It was decided to buy a tent and use the old poles. Bro. Ned Simmons said a 30' x 40' cost around \$800.00. This was to be bought by the Home Mission Board.

Bro. Gean read the ordination text from Acts 6:1-7 and 1 Timothy 3. Prayer by Rev. L. L. Wilson. The right hand of Christian Fellowship was extended to Bro. Gray, Bro. Creasy, and Bro. Booker. Meeting adjourned and dismissed by Bro. Booker.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

The services began with singing led by Bro. J. W. Stooksberry and prayer by Bro. Gean. Rev. Ted Simmons brought the first message reading from 2 Timothy 4:10. Followed by Rev. Vernon Creasy taking his text from Exodus 17:6. Dismissed by Bro. Bill Benson.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Bro. Ira Gillis opened the singing service and prayer by Rev. Vernon Creasy. Rev. Virgil Moore preached from Revelation 6:12. Rev. L. L. Wilson based his sermon on the thought "Filled with the Spirit". Both messages very stirring and enjoyed by all. Dismissed by Rev. Vernon Gober.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

The congregation gathered again to sing a while and fellowship together. Dismissed by Bro. J. W. Stooksberry.

FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING AT SCOTT'S CHAPEL JULY 28-29, 1973

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

The service was called to order with singing led by Bro. Bill Benson and

prayer by Bro. Jones from Huntsville, Ala. The first message was brought by Rev. Kenneth Booker, reading from 1 Timothy 3:1-7. The second message was delivered by Rev. Nick White, reading from St. John 3, with a theme "It is Written." Dismissed by Rev. Earl Dixon.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

The afternoon service opened with singing led by Bro. Ira Gillis and prayer by Rev. Ralph Tucker. The message was delivered by Rev. Thurman Stults from the 55th chapter of Isaiah.

The business session was called to order by the Moderator. There were 12 churches, 13 ordained ministers, 1 visiting minister, and 7 ordained deacons present. The minutes of the last session were read and accepted. The Moderator called for unfinished business. Bro. Ted Simmons gave the cost of \$711.00 for the new tent. The Moderator called for new business. Election of officers for the next term were: Moderator—Rev. Virgil Gean, Asst. Moderator—Rev. Ted Simmons, Clerk—Bro. Roy Harper, and Association Pastor—Rev. J. B. Harper.

A committee appointed to place the Fifth Sunday Meetings for next term. They were Rev. Ealis Stephens, Rev. Edward Smith, Rev. J. B. Harper, Rev. V. H. Gean, and Rev. Nick White. The meetings were placed at Midway Church for September 1973, Posey's Chapel for December 1973, Solitude for March 1974, and Bumpas Creek for July 1974.

A program committee was chosen to prepare the program for Midway Church. They were Rev. Earl Dixon, Bro. Bill Benson, and Bro. Randal Gray.

Bro. Jeffries gave his testimony. He is a minister in the United Methodist Church. His visit was most appreciated with us. Dismissed by Bro. Jeffries.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

The service opened with singing and prayer by Bro. J. W. Stooksberry. There was special singing by Rev. Farriel Austin and family. The first message was given by Rev. Elton Cottner, reading from Psalms 139. Rev. Geans Brewer brought the second message from Hebrews 11:24-35. The meeting dismissed with prayer by Bro. Ira Gillis.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opening prayer was given by Bro. Ray Scott. There was special singing by the Gospel Five group. The first message was by Rev. Earl Dixon, reading from St. Luke 4:16-20. He was followed by Rev. J. B. Harper with the second message. Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Larry Harper.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

The meeting began with singing after lunch. Prayer was led by Rev. Vernon Creasy.

The message was given by one of the deacons in the association, Bro. J. W. Stooksberry, reading from 1 Peter 5. Dismissed with prayer.

FORM OF CHURCH CONFERENCE

- 1—Call church to order
- 2—Call for peace of church
- 3—Invite visiting brethren and sisters to take seats with us.
- 4—An opportunity to reception of members
- 5—Reading minutes of previous conferences
- 6—Call for unfinished business.
- 7—Call for new business.

THE CONSTITUTION

Article 1. The association shall be called the *Tennessee River Association of Free Will Baptists*, and shall be composed of such 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

_____, 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 _____

Churches	By Baptism	By Letter	By Experience	Restored	Dismissed by letter	Withdrawn	Deceased	Membership	Sunday School	Average Attendance	Deacons	Ordained Ministers	Licensed Ministers	Church Value	Amt. Paid Pastor	Pastoral Help	Given Children Homes	Minute Fund	Home Mission	Meeting Days
Adamsville	2	3						53	54	35	1	5		\$17,000.	\$725.00	\$275.00		\$8.00	\$25.	Every Sunday & Sunday Night
Bumps Creek	1	1						95	50	25	1			9,000.	796.95	150.00		15.00	25.	Every Sunday & Sunday Night
Fairview	1	1						72	80	62	2	2		9,500.	674.45	125.00	\$50.	20.57		Every Sunday
Huntsville	Not Represented																			
McGlamery	Not Represented																			
Meeks Grove	14	6	2	44				93	93	53	1			4,000.	1,432.63	150.00		20.00		Every Sunday & 2nd & 4th Sunday Night
Midway	1							2	86	60	35	3		13,000.	1,414.04	165.00		12.00	10.	2nd & 4th
Mt. Olivet	2	1	2					2	25	25	20			3,000.	264.80	34.81		6.25		
Murphys Ch.	2			2				112	65	58	6	3		28,000.	1,680.00	200.00		20.00	25.	
New Chapel								53	15	12				7,000.	595.25	75.25		5.30	25.	1st & 3rd Sunday & Night
New Home	4			9				65	45	30	2			3,500.	767.59	155.55		13.24	25.	1st & 3rd Sunday
New Pleasant Grove	2			2				60	50	55	2	3		5,000.	1,250.00	165.00		12.00		1st & 3rd Sunday
Piney Grove	5	1						148	99	67	4	1		12,000.	763.84	90.00		16.56		1st & 3rd Sunday
Toplar Springs	2							1	96	100	65	1	1	20,000.	3,200.00		25.	9.00	25	
Poseys Chapel								23	30	25	1	1	1	11,000.	449.00	50.00		12.00	25	Every Sunday
Rayborn Chapel	2							1	26	16	16	2		1,500.	197.50	45.50	20.	6.50		1st & 3rd Sunday & Night
Scotts Chapel	0	4	1					5	165	108	79	3	3	15,000.	1,809.27	205.00		32.65	25	Every Sunday & 2nd & 4th Sunday Night
Shady Grove								75	40	28	3			Burned	228.34	42.34		5.00		Every Sunday & 2nd & 4th Sunday Night
Shelby	4							22						55,000.	75.00			5.00		
Solitude	2							185		41	2	1		4,000.	805.00	174.49		6.00	25	Every Sunday & 2nd & 4th Sunday Night
Whites Creek	5	5	5					1	70	50	40	1	1	5,000.	200.00	100.00		10.60	25.	2nd & 4th Sunday

