

MINUTES

OF THE

121st Annual Session of the

TENNESSEE RIVER

ASSOCIATION

of

Free Will Baptists

Convened with

Scotts Chapel Church

Friday, September 17, 1999

The next association will convene with
Solitude Church
on Friday before the third Sunday in
September 2000, at 10:30 A.M.

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(See map on reverse for directions)

Directions
(not to scale)



ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

Moderator Rev. Vernon Gober, 4293 State Road 22 N.,
Adamsville, TN 38310-2507. Ph. (901) 632-4228
Assistant Moderator Rev. Paul Childers, 1485 Mayhall Road,
Counce, TN 38326, Ph. (901) 689-5548
Clerk Bro. John E. Banks, 1344 Chisholm Road,
Cypress Inn, TN 38452, Ph. (931) 724-9156

HOME MISSIONS BOARD

Secretary-Treasurer ... Bro. Alan Gober, 1404 Winding Way, White House, TN 37188
Rev. Paul Childers 1485 Mayhall Rd., Counce, TN 38326
Rev. Charles Linam 26 Southerland Lane, Savannah, TN 38372

ASSOCIATIONAL PASTOR

Rev. Vernon Gober 4293 State Road 22 N, Adamsville, TN 38310-2507
Ph. (901) 632-4228

OFFICERS OF FIFTH SUNDAY MEETINGS

Moderator Rev. Jimmy Shields, 196 County Road 262,
Florence, AL 35633, Ph. (256) 766-6926
Assistant Moderator Rev. James R. Flatt, 2333 Mount Vernon Rd.
Stantonville, TN 38379, Ph. (901) 632-4622
Clerk Rev. Keith Montgomery, 2515 Co. Rd. 261,
Florence, AL 35633, Ph. (256) 760-0925

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Bro. Charles Moore 8746 Leapwood-Enville, Rd., Adamsville, TN 38310
Rev. Marvin Morrow 3415 Cromwell Ridge Rd., Cypress Inn, Tn 38452
Rev. Tim Hanback 2420 Chisholm Rd., Iron City, TN 38463

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Everything will be brought to the executive committee before being presented to the presbytery. The committee will consist of five members. They are as follows.

- (1) Rev. Vernon Gober (Chairman)
- (3) Rev. Tim Hanback
- (5) Rev. Dalton Skaggs

- (2) Rev. Jimmy Shields
- (4) Bro. J. W. Stookbserry

PLACING OF FIFTH SUNDAY MEETINGS

October 1999 Shady Grove
January 2000 Solitude
April 2000 New Chapel
July 2000 Piney Grove

CHURCH CLERKS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

Adamsville	Sis. Cindy Wolfe 577 Hagy Lane, Shiloh, TN 38376
Bumpus Creek	Sis. Linda Scott 9224 Sixty-Nine Hwy., Lutts, TN 38471
Meeks Grove	Sis. Betty Milford 1123 Tommy Sanders Rd., Stantonville, TN 38379
Midway	Sis. Lela Hall 2375 Waldrep Loop, Leighton, AL 35646
Murphy's Chapel	Sis. Cathy Creasy 1650 Co. Rd. 141, Florence, AL 35633
New Chapel	Sis. Linda Moore 1865 Kendrick Rd., Michie, TN 38357
New Pleasant Grove	Sis. Sue Franks 465 Andrews Lane, Savannah, TN 38372
Piney Grove	Bro. Roger Stults 1080 Big Cypress Road, Cypress Inn, TN 38452
Plummer's Chapel	Sis. Connie Pinson 2670 Highway 203, Savannah, TN 38372
Rayborn Chapel	Bro. Edgar Melson 6698 Rayborn Creek Rd., Collinwood, TN 38450
Roden	Bro. Jerry Mack Willis 2398 Co. Rd., 235, Town Creek, AL 35672
Scotts Chapel	Sis. Judy Harper 5261 Pumping Station Rd., Iron City, TN 38463
Shady Grove	Sis. Teresa Hughes 1205 Number Two Rd., Iron City, TN 38463
Solitude	Sis. Betty Harville 9288 Leapwood-Enville Rd., Adamsville, TN 38310
Whites Creek	Sis. Paulette Stricklin Rt. 1, Box 163, Savannah, TN 38372

ORDAINED MINISTERS: THEIR ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS

Bro. John E. Banks 1344 Chisholm Road, Cypress Inn, TN 38452
Phone: (931) 724-9156

Rev. Benton Brown 820 Clay Loop, Savannah, TN 38372
Phone: (901) 925-9313

X Rev. Paul Childers 1485 Mayhall Road, Counce, TN 38326
Phone: (901) 689-5548

X Rev. Carl Creasy 6421 County Road 10, Florence, AL 35633
Phone: (256) 766-5958

X Rev. Greg Eaton 295 Kilburn Hollow Rd., Waynesboro, TN 38485
Phone: (931) 722-7581

Rev. James Flatt 2333 Mount Vernon Rd., Stantonville, TN 38379
Phone: (901) 632-4622

Rev. V. H. Gean 1697 County Road 143, Florence, AL 35633
Phone: (256) 766-3896

Rev. Vernon Gohber 4293 State Road 22 North, Adamsville, TN 38310-2507
Phone: (901) 632-4228

X Rev. Tim Hanback 2420 Chisholm Road, Iron City, TN 38463
Phone: (931) 724-5371

X Rev. Carlos Hughes 225 Saddle Club Loop, Lexington, TN 38351
Phone: (901) 968-8194

X Rev. Clarence Jeffreys 1738 Co. Rd. 235, Town Creek, AL 35672
Phone: (256) 685-3508

X Rev. Charles Linam 26 Southerland Ln., Savannah, TN 38372
Phone: (901) 925-2923

X Rev. Keith Montgomery 2515 Co. Rd. 261, Florence, AL 35633
Phone: (256) 760-0925

Rev. Virgil Moore 100 Beason Dr., Morris Chapel, TN 38361-4400
Phone: (901) 632-3256

Rev. Marvin Morrow 1351 Cromwell Ridge Rd., Cypress Inn, TN 38452
Phone: (931) 724-9663

Rev. Earl Rich 4258 Rose Lane, Cypress Inn, TN 38452
Phone: (931) 724-9654

X Rev. Jimmy Shields 196 County Road 262, Florence, AL 35633
Phone: (256) 766-6926

X Rev. Dalton Skaggs 100 Catawba Dr., Collinwood, TN 38450
Phone: (931) 724-9622

Rev. Edward Smith 3856 Shiloh Adamsville Rd., Stantonville, TN 38379
Phone: (901) 632-4413

LICENSED MINISTER

Rev. Chad Balentine P.O. Box 251, Collinwood, TN 38450
Phone (931) 724-5995

ROLL OF DECEASED MINISTERS

<u>Minister</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>
Rev. George W. Arnold	23
Rev. R. T. Berry	10
Rev. Elton Cotner	39
Rev. Vernon Creasy	9
Rev. Lige Dickey	44
Rev. Boss G. Gibson	4
Rev. B. A. Hale	20
Rev. Don Hanback	1
Rev. J. B. Harper	60
Rev. Clarence Harris	5
Rev. R. A. Johnson	35
Rev. J. B. McGee	18
Rev. L. L. Moore	22
Rev. J. A. Moyer	26
Rev. R. P. Owen	14
Rev. J. Whitfield Phillips	42
Rev. Walker Rich	13
Rev. H. M. Richardson	12
Rev. Earnest Robertson	9
Rev. Dewey Stults	11
Rev. J. J. Tune	Unknown
Rev. Eargin Warren	18
Rev. J. B. Webb	Unknown
Rev. Nick White	43
Rev. L. L. Wilson	43

CHURCH PASTORS

Adamsville	Rev. Greg Eaton
Bumpus Creek	Rev. Burlon Jones
Meeks Grove	Rev. Charles Linam
Midway	Rev. Everett Rich
Murphy's Chapel	Rev. Carl Creasy
New Chapel	Rev. Paul Childers
New Pleasant Grove	Rev. Jimmy Shields
Piney Grove	Rev. Keith Montgomery
Rayborn Chapel	Rev. Dalton Skaggs
Roden	Rev. Clarence Jeffreys
Scotts Chapel	Rev. Tim Hanback
Shady Grove	Rev. Carlos Hughes
Solitude	Rev. Marvin Morrow
Whites Creek	Rev. Jimmy McGee

**ORDAINED DEACONS
THEIR ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBERS**

ADAMSVILLE

Bro. Robert Jarrett 1861 Caney Branch Rd., Adamsville, TN 38310
Bro. Virgil Nixon 939 Old Shiloh Rd., Adamsville, TN 38310
Phone: (901) 632-4620
Bro. Jerry Scott Rt. 2, Box 53A, Adamsville, TN 38310
Phone: (901) 632-4629

BUMPUS CREEK

Bro. Bill Benson Box 61, Waterloo, AL 35630
Phone: (256) 760-1664

MEEKS GROVE

Bro. E. G. Sowell 500 Old Shiloh Rd., Adamsville, TN 38310
Phone: (901) 632-0154
Bro. Charles Taylor 821 Tommy Sanders Rd., Stantonville, TN 38379
Phone: (901) 632-4042

MIDWAY

Bro. Steve Creasy 524 Piney Woods Rd., Russellville, AL 35654
Phone: (256) 332-3679
Bro. Claude Hall 2375 Waldrep Loop Rd., Leighton, AL 35646
Phone: (256) 446-8757
Bro. Stancil Robbins 2130 Piney Woods Rd., Leighton, AL 35646
Phone: (256) 446-6552

MURPHY'S CHAPEL

NEW CHAPEL

Bro. Andy Moore 1865 Kendrick Rd., Michie, TN 38357

NEW PLEASANT GROVE

PINEY GROVE

Bro. Ira Gillis Collinwood, TN 38450
Phone: (931) 724-9231
Bro. Robert D. Wright Cypress Inn, TN 38452
Phone: (931) 724-9691
Bro. Coy Weeks Iron City, TN 38463
Phone: (931) 724-4593
Bro. Joe Hanback Collinwood, TN 38450
Phone: (931) 724-9937

PLUMMER'S CHAPEL

Bro. L. D. Irvin 5580 County Home Rd., Savannah, TN 38372
Bro. Billy Pinson 2670 Highway 203, Savannah, TN 38372
Bro. Charles Copeland 1480 Bensontown Dr., Savannah, TN 38372

RAYBORN CHAPEL

Bro. Jessie J. Melson Collinwood, TN 38450
Phone: (931) 724-4926

RODEN

Bro. Jerry Mack Willis 2398 Co. Rd. 235, Town Creek, AL 35672
Phone: (256) 685-0148

SCOTTS CHAPEL

Bro. Robert Berry 2355 Weatherford Creek Rd., Lutts, TN 38471
Phone: (931) 724-9011
Bro. Danny Brown 1016 Oakwood Dr., Cypress Inn, TN 38452
Phone: (931) 724-9509
Bro. J. W. Stooksberry 1030 Stooksberry Rd., Iron City, Tn 38463
Phone: (931) 724-4340
Bro. Aaron Stults 6101 Fantail Branch Rd., Cypress Inn, TN 38452
Phone: (931) 724-9219
Bro. Joel Pigg 4114 Walter Pigg Rd., Cypress Inn, TN 38452
Phone: (931) 724-9263

SHADY GROVE

Bro. Paul Franks Olive Hill, TN 38475
Phone: (901) 925-6070

SOLITUDE

Bro. Charles Moore 8746 Leapwood-Enville Rd., Adamsville, TN 38310
Phone: (901) 632-3112
Bro. Clarence Cook 202 Landreth Lane, Adamsville, TN 38310
Phone: (901) 632-3736
Bro. Gary Gober P.O. Box 715, 331 Hickory St., Adamsville, TN 38310
Phone: (901) 632-4989

WHITES CREEK

Bro. Jimmy Lambert 5725 Holland Creek Rd., Savannah, TN 38372
Phone: (901) 925-3672

PROCEEDINGS

Friday Morning, September 17, 1999

The Tennessee River Association met with Scotts Chapel Church at 10:30

A.M.

Opening Song Led By Bro. Jerry Risner
Prayer By Rev. Charles Linam
Welcome By Rev. Paul Childers
Message By Rev. Vernon Gober
Scripture John 18:37-38, 8:28-35
Subject What Is Truth
Dismissed By Rev. Earnest Rich

Friday Afternoon Session

Song Led By Bro. Leyonne Harper
Scripture Read By Bro. Charles Taylor
Scripture Psalms 133:1-3
Prayer By Bro. James Flatt

Appointment Of Various Committees

Reading Clerks Bro. Jerry Risner, Bro. Danny Brown
Finance Bro. James Flatt, Bro. Gary Gober, Bro. Keith Montgomery
Sunday School Bro. Jimmy Shields, Bro. Bob berry, Bro. Parker Holt
Obituary Sis. Freada Bricker, Sis. Brenda Pickens, Sis. Kim Dickerson
Program Bro. J. W. Stooksberry, Bro. Tim Hanback, Bro. Charles Taylor

CALLED FOR CHURCH LETTERS AND RECOGNIZED THE DELEGATES

Adamsville

Bro. Jerry Scott, Bro. Virgil Nixon, Bro. Robert Jarrett

Bumpus Creek

Bro. Steve Holcombe

Meeks Grove

Bro. Jerry Whitten, Bro. Ray Milford

Midway

By Letter

Murphy's Chapel

Bro. Ronald Brown, Bro. Ronnie Brown

New Chapel

Sis. Elanor Smith, Sis. Linda Moss, Sis. Kim Dickerson, Bro. Jimbo Dickerson

New Pleasant Grove

Bro. Monroe Hubbard, Sis. Susie Hubbard

Piney Grove

Bro. Lem Hanback, Bro. Parker Holt

Rayborn Chapel

Bro. Edgar Melson

Roden

No Report

Scotts Chapel

Bro. Otha Horton, Bro. Ross Berry, Bro. Leyonne Harper,
Bro. Odell Harper, Bro. Jerry Risner

Shady Grove

Bro. Buddy Melson, Sis. Eula Mae Melson

Solitude

Sis. Freada Bricker, Bro. Don Bricker,
Sis. Brenda Pickens, Sis. Avonell Hysmith

Whites Creek

Bro. Jerry Morris, Bro. Tommy Cossey

APPOINTMENT OF OTHER COMMITTEES

General Business Bro. Carl Creasy, Bro. Charles Linam
Bro. Edward Smith, Bro. Dalton Skaggs, Bro. Marin Morrow
Education Bro. Ray Milford, Bro. V. H. Gean, Bro. Leyonne Harper
Temperance Bro. Monroe Hubbard, Bro. Robert D. Wright, Bro. Lem Hanback
Benevolence Bro. Steve Holcombe, Bro. Jerry Morris, Bro. Tommy Cossey
Resolution Of Thanks Sis. Susie Hubbard, Sis. Linda Moss, Sis. Elanor Smith

FRIDAY NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE

Song Led By Bro. Carl Harper
Prayer By Bro. Earl Rich
1st Message By Charles Linam
Scripture Heb. 11:17-18
Subject When Faith Is Tested
2nd Message By Bro. James Flatt
Scripture 1 Kings 3:1-15

Subject The Wisdom Of God
Dismissed by Bro. John E. Banks

SATURDAY MORNING BUSINESS SESSION

Song Led By Bro. Paul Childers
Scripture Read By Bro. Billy Pinson
Scripture Psalms 23
Prayer Bro. Carl Creasy

GENERAL BUSINESS REPORT

We your committee on general business recommend the committee be composed of five members.

We recommend each church send \$150.00 to the Home Missions Board each year. We recommend it be sent by the first of January.

We recommend each church send the State and National dues to the Association with their letter.

• We recommend that the deacons remind the churches, according to Acts 6:3, we feel it is their duty to make sure the financial needs of their church and the Association are met.

We recommend each church give prayerful thought to the support of the work of the Lord carried on by the Association.

We recommend all our Ministers pay a tenth of the money received from ministerial work to the Home Missions Board by the 30th of August of each year.

We recommend each church call it pastor at least thirty days before the Association meets. We recommend church conferences use secret ballots to elect or re-elect nominees for pastor.

We recommend the officers of the Fifth Sunday meetings be elected and the Fifth Sunday meeting places be selected at the last Fifth Sunday meeting before the Associational meeting. We recommend said officers be elected for a one year term.

We recommend the Associational Clerk, Home Missions Treasurer, and Fifth Sunday Clerk each be paid \$200.00 per year from the Home Missions Treasury.

We recommend preachers and deacons come to the Associational meetings.

We recommend directions to the host church of the Association be added to the minutes.

We recommend that any church desiring to borrow money for any additions or improvements, petition the trustees at the quarterly meeting for up to two-thirds of the total amount in the fund, and if approved, to be granted at the next quarterly meeting. This money is to be repaid after one year without interest.

We recommend that the Association continue its work with the youth and also continue the quarterly meetings.

We recommend that all amounts contributed to the Home Missions Fund in excess of the recommended amount for each church be deposited in the Associational Building Fund.

We recommend the names of all ministers and deacons present at each presbytery meeting be shown in the minutes.

Bro. Charles Linam, Chairman

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

We your committee on Sunday School wish to submit the following.

We have heard from 13 churches which have a present enrollment of 753 in Sunday School, with an average attendance of 688.

We recommend that each church have Sunday School regularly. We also recommend that all teachers be devout Christians, sound in faith and able to teach with good leadership.

We recommend that parents carry their children to Sunday School that they may learn more of God's love for mankind.

We, the Sunday School Committee, recommend that all Sunday School Superintendents take an active role in overseeing Sunday School activities and make recommendations that will encourage strong leadership qualities in Sunday School teachers and enhance the attendance of Sunday School members.

We recommend that all churches provide up to date study/teaching materials for all age classes. We also encourage Sunday School Superintendents in the Association to meet and discuss methods of teaching and activities of the churches and methods of problem solving. We recommend that the meeting be held quarterly for these sessions.

We recommend that all visitors be made to feel welcome and made to feel that their being with us had made the service better and ask them to come again.

We should pray more and show more love one for another asking God for wisdom and patience to teach our children God's ways.

Bro. Jimmy Shields, Chairman

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your committee on education, find the definition of education to mean "an act or process of learning by instruction, training, or example." Proverbs 4:1-4 says: *Hear ye children, the instruction of a Father, and attend to know understanding. For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law. For I was my Father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother. He taught me also and said unto me, let thine heart retain my words. Keep my commandments and live.*

We recommend that Christian families have daily Bible study and prayer with their children. We also recommend that our young people, and others, desiring further education, attend the Free Will Baptist College in Nashville, Tennessee. We should strive to learn more about our Lord. According to Proverbs 22:6: *Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it.*

Ephesians 6:1-6: *Children obey your parents in the Lord for this is right. Honor 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 Father, provoke not your children to wrath, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. James 1:5: If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not, and it shall be given him.*

We recommend that parents cooperate with schools as long as it is not against the teaching of the Bible. Christian parents should stand against that which is evil.

We recommend our churches use the King James version of the Bible and Free Will Baptist literature. We recommend our churches have Bible study and prayer meeting weekly, and establish and maintain a Youth Training Program along with a yearly Vacation Bible

School.

We also recommend our churches conduct a Singing School once per year that we might better learn to praise the Lord in song. Ephesians 5:19 *Speaking to yourself in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.*

Bro. V. H. Gean, Chairman

TEMPERANCE REPORT

We your committee on temperance in regard to strong drink, whiskey, drugs or any other thing harmful to the body to mean total abstinence from these things We believe this is to condemn the voting for or sanctioning the sale of alcoholic beverage. Once a word is spoken it cannot be unsaid.

We as Christians should remember that being temperate is not only moderation, but also abstinence from all things displeasing to the Lord.

We find that in I Cor. 9:25 *And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things.* Therefore to please God we must be temperate in all walks of life.

Prov. 20:1 says, *Wine is mockery, strong drink is raging and whosoever is deceived is not wise.*

Ep. 5:8 says, *And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess, but be filled with the spirit.*

• Titus 2:2 says, *That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience.*

2 Peter 1:5-8: *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.*

1 Peter 3:10 says, *For he that will love life, and see good days let him refrain his tongue from evil and his lips that they speak no gile.*

James says in chapter 3:8, *but the tongue can no man tame, it is an unruly evil full of deadly poison.*

Temperance - The virtue of one who masters his desires and passions, especially his sensual appetites. Taken from the New Ungers Bible Dictionary.

Bro. Lem Hanback, Chairman

OBITUARY REPORT

Adamsville Sis. Jane Miller

Midway Sis. Lula Poston

New Pleasant Grove Sis. Maggie Griffin

Piney Grove Sis. Cora Victory, Bro. Ray Balentine

Whites Creek Sis. Martha Goodman

REPORT ON BENEVOLENCE

We, the people of the Benevolence Committee, finding that benevolence means a willingness to do good, promote brotherly love, and to be kind to others. We feel that the pastors and church members as a whole body should visit the sick of the church and the people of the church community. We recommend each pastor coming into a new church at the beginning of a new year visit the community surrounding the church. We feel the need to instill the following verses into the hearts of all those who read, believe and obey the Word of God.

As Christians we find in Colossians 3:13 the following *Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any; even as Christ forgave you so also do ye.* Matthew 6:15 says, *But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your father forgive your trespasses.* Matthew 5:43 says *Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of them turn not thou away.* In Acts 20:35 Paul says, *I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than receive.*

Then for our homes and family, I Corinthians 7:3 says, *Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence; and likewise also the wife to the husband.*

And remember the most important things. I Corinthians 13:13 says *...and now abideth Faith, Hope, Charity, these three, But the greatest of these is Charity.*

Bro. Steve Holcombe, Chairman

CLERK'S REPORT

1997 Balance left in treasury	\$ 1,841.16
Minute fund for 1998	588.00
Interest	48.67
Total	<u>\$ 2,477.80</u>
Expenses for printing minutes for 1998	520.00
Balance for 1998	<u>\$ 1,957.80</u>

John E. Banks, Clerk

FINANCE REPORT FOR MINUTE FUND

Adamsville	\$ 50.00
Bumpus Creek	50.00
Meeks Grove	50.00
Midway	50.00
Murphy's Chapel	25.00
New Chapel	50.00
New Pleasant Grove	50.00
Piney Grove	50.00
Plummer's Chapel	25.00
Rayborn Chapel	12.00
Roden	
Scotts Chapel	50.00

Shady Grove	50.00
Solitude	25.00
Whites Creek	<u>50.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 587.00

HOME MISSIONS BOARD REPORT RECEIPTS 1998 - 1999

Children's Home

Adamsville	\$ 500.00
Meeks Grove	400.00
Midway	300.00
New Chapel	664.71
Scotts Chapel	900.90
Shady Grove	250.00
White's Creek	<u>412.00</u>
	\$3,427.61

Home Missions

Adamsville	\$ 150.00
Bumpus Creek	150.00
Meek's Grove	100.00
Midway	150.00
Murphy's Chapel	50.00
New Chapel	100.00
New Pleasant Grove	200.00
Piney Grove	150.00
Roden	50.00
Scotts Chapel	100.00
Shady Grove	150.00
Solitude	150.00
White's Creek	<u>100.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 1,600.00

MINISTERS' TITHES

Rev. Paul Childers	\$ 630.00
Rev. Vernon Gober	200.00
Rev. Keith Montgomery	200.00
Rev. Jimmy Shields	<u>550.00</u>
	\$ 1,580.00

OTHER INCOME

Associational & Quarterly Offerings	\$ 2,493.95
Meek's Grove (State Dues)	35.00
Murphy's Chapel (State Dues)	35.00

New Chapel (State Dues)	35.00
New Pleasant Grove (State Dues)	35.00
Piney Grove (State Dues)	35.00
Scott's Chapel (State Dues)	35.00
Solitude (State Dues)	35.00
White's Creek (State Dues)	35.00
Interest Received - Bank of Adamsville	<u>482.26</u>
	\$ 3,256.21

Total Received 1998-99	\$ 9,863.82
Balance Forwarded 1998-99	<u>13,198.03</u>
Total Received and Balance Forwarded	\$23,061.85

EXPENSES 1998-99

Alabama Children's Home	\$ 2,960.78
Tennessee Children's Home	2,960.78
Rev. Vernon H. Gober (Associational Pastor)	1,800.00
Rev. John E. Banks (Associational Clerk)	200.00
Rev. Keith Montgomery (Quarterly Clerk)	200.00
Rev. Alan R. Gober (Associational Sec. & Treasurer)	200.00
Tennessee State Association Dues	<u>510.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 8,831.56

Balance Forwarded 1999-2000	\$ 14,230.29
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BUILDING FUND

Balance Forwarded 1998-99	\$ 31,862.33
Interest Received - Bancorp South	<u>850.93</u>
Balance Forwarded 1999-2000	\$ 32,713.26

Alan R. Gober, Secretary & Treasurer
1404 Winding Way, White House, Tn 37188

ASSOCIATIONAL PASTOR'S REPORT

Visited all the churches in the Association several times. Visited churches outside the Association. Attended the State Association. Helped Shady Grove obtain a pastor. Filled in for several pastors. Held 1 funeral, witnessed 2 conversions, 1 rededication. Total money received \$3,088. Miles traveled 5,247.

ASSOCIATIONAL BUSINESS

Motion made and seconded to dismiss the Resolution Committee and form a Committee that would be called the Executive Committee. This motion passed. The motion was made and passed to use the guidelines that were presented for the Executive Committee. Bro. James Platt was elected to serve on the Board of Trustees, Bro. Vernon Gober was

elected as Associational Pastor. Motion made and seconded to support the Foreign Missions and Home Missions. Motion made and seconded to send \$1,000 dollars to each one, Motion made and seconded to send this on a yearly basis.

SATURDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Song Led By Bro. Lem Hanback
Prayer By Bro. Charles Moore
Bro. Jack Taylor made a talk concerning the Children’s Home in Greenville, TN.
Message by Bro. Paul Childers
Scripture 1 Peter 1:1-9
Subject Reasons To Praise The Lord
Dismissed by Bro. Benton Brown

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Song Led By Bro. Danny Brown
Scripture Read By Bro. Dalton Skaggs
Scripture John 15:1-10
Dismissed By Bro. Jummy Lambert

**MINUTES OF THE PRESBYTERY SESSION
HELD AT THE ASSOCIATION
SCOTTS CHAPEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
SEPTEMBER 18, 1999**

Moderator Rev. Jimmy Shields called the session to order, with Rev. Marvin Morrow assisting. There were 14 churches, 17 ordained ministers, 7 ordained, and 1 deacon under the watch care of the church. The minutes of the previous session were read and approved. The following ministers were present, reported and were granted a card: John E. Banks, Paul Childers, Carl Creasy, Greg Eaton, James Flatt, Tim Hanback, Carlos Hughes, Charles Linam, Keith Montgomery, Marvin Morrow, Earl Rich, Jimmy Shields, Dalton Skaggs. Clarence Jeffreys was absent and did not report; his card was withheld until the next presbytery session. The following lifetime card holders were present and reported: Benton Brown, V. H. Gean, Vernon Gober, and Edward Smith. Lifetime card holder Virgil Moore was absent and sent a report.

Under new business the motion was made to make available the credentials of any previous minister or deacon of the association that asks for these said credentials. After much discussion the motion was passed with the authority being given to the executive committee to make the final decision on person(s) in question. Motion made and passed to destroy all revoked credentials and to give the executive committee the authority to deal with each individual that freely releases their credentials in the future to decide whether said person is worthy to possess the void credentials in question, of it said credentials should be destroyed.

Bumpas Creek sent a letter stating that Steve Holcomb had been placed under the watch

care of the church for one year for the office of deacon. There being no further business the motion was made and passed to adjourn, dismissed. The following ordained deacons were present: J. W. Stooksberry, Danny Brown, Joe Hanback, Robert D. Wright, Stancil Robbins, Jessie J. Melson, Jimmy Lambert and Charles Moore.

ORDAINED MINISTERS' REPORTS

Rev. John E. Banks, pastored Collinwood Free Will Baptist Church, held 1 revival, 1 weekend revival, baptized 2, married 3 couples, held 6 funerals, money received \$5,419. Card granted.

Rev. Benton Brown, pastored Plummer's Chapel Church since January 24, 1999, held 1 conference, 1 communion service, 1 funeral, organized 1 church, assisted in 1 revival, witnessed 2 conversions, baptized 4, preached 52 sermons, money received \$3,380. Has lifetime card.

Rev. Paul Childers, pastored New Chapel Church, witnessed 5 professions, baptized 10, 6 rededications, 4 communion services, 1 funeral, assisted in 2, married 1 couple, added 14 to church. Money received \$5,100. Card granted.

Rev. Paul Creasy, pastored Murphy's Chapel Church, conducted 1 communion service, had 2 conferences, assisted in 1 revival, received 4 into the church, assisted in 2 baptizings, witnessed 8 rededications, miles traveled 3,575, money received \$4,100. Card granted.

Rev. Greg Eaton, pastored Adamsville Church, preached 98 sermons, held 3 revivals, witnessed 3 professions, baptized 5, held 3 funerals, married 3 couples, miles traveled 9,108, money received \$8,671. Card granted.

Rev. James Flatt, filled in at several churches, visited several churches, preached 29 sermons, held 1 weekend revival, preached at Lane Chapel every 4th Sunday, preached at Mount Vinson Methodist Church every 5th Sunday, miles traveled 1,084, money received \$1,380. Card granted.

Rev. V. H. Gean, Visited other churches, filled in for other ministers when needed, money received \$145.00. Has lifetime card.

Rev. Vernon Gober, Gave report as associational pastor. Has lifetime card.

Rev. Tim Hanback, preached 168 sermons, pastored 1 church, held 9 revivals, witnessed 10 professions, baptized 4, added 7 to the church, held 4 funerals, married 3 couples, money received \$10,100. Card granted.

Rev. Carlos Hughes, sermons preached 90, pastored 1 church, assisted in 1 revival, conducted 1 communion service, baptized 7, added 10 to the church, married 2 couples, miles traveled 5,500, money received \$600.00. Card granted.

Rev. Clarence Jeffreys, No report.

Rev. Charles Linam, pastored Meeks Grove Church, assisted in 1 revival, conducted 3 funerals, baptized 1, married 1 couple, held 4 communion services. Card granted.

Rev. Keith Montgomery, preached 102 sermons, held 2 revivals, preached in 4 revivals, held 1 communion service, witnessed 5 professions, baptized 4, added 11 to the church, held 3 funerals, married 1 couple, traveled 4,500 miles, money received \$6,905. Card granted.

Rev. Virgil Moore, Sick all year. Has lifetime card.

Rev. Marvin Morrow, pastored Solitude Church, held 1 revival, preached 5 revivals, 4 weekend revivals, held 4 communion services, held 2 funerals, married 3 couples, miles traveled 12,000, money received \$7,430. Ran a full time evangelist ministry. Card granted.

Rev. Earl Rich, pastored Mill Rock Church, witnessed 8 professions, baptized 10, held 1

revival, conducted 2 funerals, conducted 3 communion services, money received \$6,800. Card granted.

Rev. Jimmy Shields, pastored New Pleasant Grove Church, held 1 communion service, witnessed 5 professions, witnessed 3 rededications, baptized 6, received 12 into church. Money received \$5425. Card granted.

Rev. Dalton Skaggs, preached 45 sermons, pastored Rayborn Chapel Church, miles traveled 1,000, money received \$1,029. Card granted.

Rev. Edward Smith, gave oral report, has lifetime card.

SATURDAY NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE

Song Led By Bro. Tim Hanback

Prayer By Bro. Michael Hudson

1st Message By Bro. John E. Banks

Scripture Matt. 20:1-15

Subject Is God Always Fair

2nd Message By Bro. Earl Rich

Scripture Rom. 9:1-17

Subject God Has No Grandchildren

Dismissed By Bro. Danny Brown

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

We, the committee of Resolution of thanks, wish to thank God for allowing us to meet in love and fellowship.

We wish to thank Scotts Chapel Church and all the surrounding churches for the wonderful hospitality, friendliness and kindness shown to the entire Association as a whole.

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

May God bless and keep each of us until we meet again in the next Associational meeting.

Sis. Susie Hubbard, Chairman

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Song Led By Bro. Chuck Holt

Prayer By Bro. Bobby Wilson

Offering For Children' Home Taken By Bro. Michael Hudson

Message By Bro. Keith Montgomery

Scripture Jer. 18:1-10, 2 Tim. 2:15-21

Subject The Vessel, To Honor Or Dishonor

Dismissed

**MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SUNDAY WEEKEND MEETING
CONVENED WITH SCOTTS CHAPEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
NOVEMBER 27 & 28, 1998**

Friday Evening Session

The service began with singing led by Bro. Carl Harper, and prayer led by Bro. Bob Berry. Moderator Rev. Jimmy Shields welcomed everyone to Scotts Chapel, and called for an altar prayer. The first message was delivered by Rev. Keith Montgomery reading from Colossians 1:9-13 with the subject "God's Desire For The Church". The second message was delivered by Rev. Marvin Morrow reading from Isaiah 53:3-6 with the subject "Perilous Times". Dismissed by Rev. Everett Rich.

Saturday Morning Session

Service opened with singing led by Bro. Carl Harper, followed with prayer led by Bro. Vernon Gober. The first message was delivered by Rev. Dalton Skaggs reading from 1 John 2:1-6 with the subject "Living Like Christ". He was followed by Rev. Edward Smith reading from Hebrews 6:18-20 with the subject "Hope Is The Anchor Of The Soul". Dismissed by Rev. Keith Montgomery.

Saturday Afternoon Session

Service began with singing led by Bro. Carl Harper. Moderator Rev. Jimmy Shields welcomed everyone. The afternoon message was brought by Rev. Charles Linam reading from Matthew 6:19-21, and Luke 12:13-21.

Presbytery Session

Moderator Rev. Jimmy Shields called the meeting to order assisted by Rev. Charles Linam in Rev. Marvin Morrow's absence. There were 9 churches represented, 12 ordained ministers, and 4 ordained deacons. Minutes from the previous session were read and approved. Moderator called for any old business. Under new business Rev. Vernon Gober gave a report on the State Association meeting held at Elizabeth, TN. He is also receiving more information on a Bible Institute which may be set up in our area. Further discussion tabled until more information arrives. Rev. Jimmy Shields moved to have another Super Sunday on January 24, 1999 setting a goal of 1100. Rev. Earl Rich made motion to financially support the printing of the Associational Newsletter. Motion carried. Bro. Danny Brown made the motion to cover all expenses of the newsletter. Motion carried. Moderator appointed Rev. Greg Eaton, Rev. Edward Smith, and Bro. Joe Hanback to the Program Committee for the next meeting. There being no further business, meeting was adjourned. Dismissed by Bro. Darryl West.

Saturday Evening Service

Service was opened with singing led by Bro. Carl Harper. Bro. Bob Berry was in charge of the children's home offering and led a devotional reading from Matthew 19:14 & 15 with the subject, "God's Little Children". Followed by a testimonial service. The youth of the church conducted a program which included singing. Dismissed by Bro. Darryl West.

**MINUTES OF THE FIFTH WEEKEND MEETING
CONVENED WITH ADAMSVILLE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
JANUARY 29 & 30, 1999**

Friday Evening Service

The service began with singing led by Rev. Keith Montgomery, and prayer by Rev. James Flatt. Moderator Rev. Jimmy Shields welcomed everyone to Adamsville and called for an altar prayer. The first message was delivered by Rev. Benton Brown reading from II Peter 3:1 & 2, with the subject "Stirring Up Our Pure Minds". The second message was delivered by Rev. Earl Rich reading from Romans 13:1-4 with the subject "The Power Of God". Dismissed by Rev. Carl Creasy.

Saturday Morning Service

Service opened with singing led by Rev. James Flatt, followed with prayer led by Rev. Jimmy Shields. The first message was delivered by Rev. James Flatt reading from Matthew 8:5-13, with the subject "Speak The Word Only." The second message was delivered by Rev. Tim Hanback reading from Ezekial 22:30, with the subject "Making Up The Hedge." Dismissed by Rev. Vernon Gober.

Saturday Afternoon Service

Service opened with singing led by Rev. Greg Eaton, followed with prayer led by Rev. Edward Smith. The message was delivered by Rev. John E. Banks reading from II Corinthians 10:15-18, with the subject "He That Is Commanded Of God."

Presbytery Session

Moderator Rev. Jimmy Shields called the meeting to order. There were 7 churches represented, 9 ordained ministers and 3 ordained deacons. Moderator called for any old business. Under new business, Rev. Vernon Gober made a motion to form a committee to discuss ideas or problems before bringing it into the presbytery. Motion carried. The committee is to be called the executive committee. The guidelines are as follows: Everything will be brought to the attention of the executive committee before being presented to the presbytery. The committee will consist of 5 members. These 5 members will serve until the August quarterly meeting at that time one will be released. Rev. Vernon Gober was chosen as chairman also Rev. Jimmy Shields, Rev. Tim Hanback, Bro. J. W. Stooksberry and Rev. James Flatt were elected to the committee. Delbert Tucker of New Chapel sent in his credentials for deacon and were accepted. Rev. Marvin Morrow, Rev. John E. Banks, and Rev. Tim Hanback were selected for the program committee for the next quarterly meeting.

Saturday Evening Service

Service began with singing being led by Bro. Bubba Wolfe, followed by prayer led by Rev. Keith Montgomery. Moderator Rev. Jimmy Shields welcomed everyone. Bro. Bubba Wolfe was in charge of the Children's Home offering and devotion reading from Matthew 19:13-14. The message was delivered by Rev. Paul Childers with the subject "No Condemnation For The Child Of God."

**MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SUNDAY WEEKEND MEETING
CONVENED WITH PINEY GROVE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
MAY 28 & 29, 1999**

Friday Evening Session

The service began with singing led by Bro. Lem Hanback and prayer led by Bro. Coy Weeks. Rev. Keith Montgomery welcomed everyone to Piney Grove and called for an altar prayer. Devotion was led by Bro. Joe Hanback with the subject "Devotion", followed by a testimony service. The second message was delivered by Rev. Vernon Gober reading from Hebrews 5:11-14 with the subject, "Christians Need To Grow". Dismissed by Bro. Ross Victory.

Saturday Morning Session

Service opened with singing led by Bro. Coy Weeks. Moderator Rev. Jimmy Shields welcomed everyone. The first message was delivered by Bro. Greg Eaton reading from Luke 10:30 with the subject "The Difference Between Religion And Salvation." He was followed by Rev. Tom Malone bringing news about the Free Will Baptist College, followed with his message reading from Genesis 32:24 with the subject "Broken To Blessing". Dismissed by Rev. Burlon Jones.

Saturday Afternoon Session

Service began with singing led by Bro. Robert D. Wright. Moderator Rev. Jimmy Shields welcomed everyone. The afternoon message was brought by Rev. Virgil Gean reading from Exodus 3:1-20.

Presbytery Session

Moderator Rev. Jimmy Shields called the meeting to order assisted by Rev. Marvin Morrow. There were 9 churches represented, 12 ordained ministers and 5 ordained deacons. Minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved. Moderator called for old business. Under new business Rev. John E. Banks made the motion that the service on Saturday be set for 1:30 for every quarterly meeting. Motion carried. Rev. Marvin Morrow appointed Rev. Jimmy Shields, Rev. Charles Linam and Bro. Joe Hanback to the program committee for the next quarterly meeting to be held at New Pleasant Grove. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned. Dismissed by Rev. Paul Childers. Ministers in attendance were Virgil Gean, Jimmy Shields, Vernon Gober, James Flatt, John E. Banks, Paul Childers, Dalton Skaggs, Tim Hanback, Marvin Morrow, Charles Linam, Edward Smith, Keith Montgomery. Deacons in attendance were Joe Hanback, Coy Weeks, Robert D. Wright, J. W. Stooksberry and Andy Moore.

Saturday Evening Service

Service was opened with singing led by Rev. Keith Montgomery. Bro. Coy Weeks was in charge of the Children's Home offering leading in a devotional and prayer. The youth of the church conducted a program which included singing. The message was delivered by Rev. Charles Linam reading from Luke 13:6-9 with the subject, "God's Rights". Dismissed by Rev. Vernon Gober.

**MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SUNDAY WEEKEND MEETING
CONVENED WITH NEW PLEASANT GROVE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
AUGUST 28 & 29, 1999**

Friday Evening Session

The service began with singing led by Bro. Sonny Southerland. The moderator Rev. Jimmy Shields welcomed everyone to New Pleasant Grove. Devotion was led by Bro. Herschel Copeland from John 4:13-39, with the subject "Do You Have A Testimony." The message was delivered by Rev. Tim Hanback reading from Joshua 6 with the subject, "The Wall". Dismissed by Bro. Edward Smith.

Saturday Morning Session

Service began with singing led by Sonny Southerland followed with prayer led by Rev. James Flatt. Moderator Rev. Jimmy Shields welcomed everyone. The first message was delivered by Rev. Marvin Morrow reading from Deuteronomy 31:6 with the subject "Trusting In God." The second message was delivered by Rev. Malcolm Garrett reading from Song of Solomon 4:8&9 with the subject "Come Walk With Me." Dismissed by Rev. Benton Brown.

Saturday Afternoon Session

Service began with singing led by Bro. Sonny Southerland followed with prayer led by Rev. Virgil Gean. The moderator Rev. Jimmy Shields extended a welcome to everyone. The message was delivered by Rev. Earl Rich reading from I Samuel 17:39 with the subject "Proved."

Presbytery Session

Moderator Rev. Jimmy Shields called the meeting to order assisted by Rev. Marvin Morrow. 9 churches were in attendance, 11 ordained ministers, 6 ordained deacons. Minutes from the previous session were read and approved. Solitude sent a letter to the body stating that Greg Martin was placed under the watchcare of the church for the office of deacon. Piney Grove sent a letter recommending Chad Balentine be licensed for the period of one year to preach the gospel. License granted. Officers of the presbytery were elected for 1999 - 2000: Moderator - Rev. Jimmy Shields; Assistant Moderator - Rev. James Flatt, Clerk - Rev. Keith Montgomery. The quarterly meetings for the following year were placed as follows: October 1999 - Shady Grove; January 2000 - Solitude; April 2000 - New Chapel; July 2000 - Piney Grove. Rev. Jimmy Shields, Rev. Charles Linam, Rev. James Flatt were appointed to the program committee. Motion made to adjourn. Dismissed. Ministers and deacons present: Rev. Jimmy Shields, Rev. Paul Childers, Rev. Charles Linam, Rev. James Flatt, Rev. Marvin Morrow, Rev. Virgil Gean, Rev. Earl Rich, Rev. Benton Brown, Rev. Vernon Gober, Rev. Edward Smith, Rev. Keith Montgomery, Bro. Virgil Nixon, Bro. Robert Jarrett, Bro. Gary Gober, Bro. Andy Moore, Bro. J. W. Stooksberry, Bro. Robert D. Wright.

Saturday Evening Service

Service was opened with singing led by Bro. Sonny Southerland followed with prayer led by Rev. Earl Rich. Bro. Sonny Southerland was in charge of receiving the Children's Home offering reading from Luke 9. Youth from Solitude, Murphy's Chapel, Piney Grove and New Pleasant Grove performed skits and special singing. Dismissed by Bro. Chad Balentine.

By Baptism
 By Letter
 By Experience
 Restored
 Dismissed By Letter
 Withdrawn
 Deceased
 Membership
 Sunday School
 Avg. Attendance
 Deacons
 Ordained Ministers
 Licensed Ministers
 Church Value
 Amount Paid Pastor
 Pastoral Help
 Home Missions
 Minute Fund
 Children's Homes
 Meeting Days

Adamsville	4					1	68	68	33	3	4		\$125,000	\$8,100	\$430	\$150.00	\$50.00	\$500.00	
Bumpus Creek	3		3				114	30	35	1	1		\$45,000	\$2,600	\$200	\$150.00	\$50.00		
Meeks Grove	1	2					149	54	54	2	2		\$150,000		\$500	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$500.00	
Midway	2			4			108	50	50	3			\$110,000	\$8,800	\$1,050	\$150.00	\$50.00	\$400.00	Every Sun & Sun Night
Murphy's Chapel	2	2					64	25	23		2		\$130,000	\$3,300	\$525	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$170.00	
New Chapel	3	5	6	6			107	35	55	1	1		\$100,000	\$5,100	\$1,045	\$150.00	\$50.00	\$752.00	
New Pleasant Grove	6	4	4		3		46	36	48		1		\$125,000	\$5,275	\$550	\$150.00	\$50.00		Every Sun & Sun Night
Piney Grove	3		7		2		198	101	74	4	5	1	\$85,000	\$5,375	\$525	\$150.00	\$50.00		Every Sun & Sun Night Sunday Night
Plummer's Chapel							25	25	45	3									
Rayborn Chapel							27	27	18	1	1		\$10,000	\$1,025	\$100		\$12.00	\$50.00	
Roden	NO REPORT																		
Scots Chapel	7	4			1		143	112	118	5	1		\$125,000	\$8,525	\$800	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$1709.07	
Sandy Grove	7				1		30	10	25	1	1		\$25,000		\$300	\$150.00	\$50.00	\$300.00	
Solitude	3	1	7				84	135	100	3	1		\$195,000	\$7,050	\$970	\$150.00	\$25.00	\$480.00	Every Sun & Sun Night
Whites Creek						1	109	70	55	1			\$65,000	\$5,250	\$600	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$279.00	

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 Baptist, and shall be 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, an assistant 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 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 or delegate.

Article 7. This association shall use a treatise of the faith and practices of Free Will Baptists from the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

Article 8. 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 or 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 discussion 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 being 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 "yes" 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.

17. Any minister who fails to get his report before the presbytery for two consecutive years, his name shall be dropped from the minutes.

18. The Associational Pastor shall be elected each year, and be paid from the Home Mission Fund as the Home Mission Board sees fit. He shall fill in where needed, look for places to organize new churches, and assist with other ministers in mission work.

19. Any man believing he is called of God to preach should notify the church of which he is a member. The church by approval of its membership should bring this request before the presbytery.

20. All candidates for ordination and those to be licensed for a minister will be examined by council. If approved, licenses shall be for a period of one year. The examination for license or ordination should refer to the piety and doctrine, conviction and purpose, respecting work for the ministry, reputation of character, and ability of the candidate.

21. Any ordained minister coming from other Free Will Baptist Associations who desire to unite with this association, should first join a church in this association, then be examined by the presbytery. If he brings a good recommendation from the association of which he is a member, believes and practices Free Will Baptist doctrine, he be granted a card.

22. Any minister coming from a body other than Free Will Baptist, should join a church in this association and remain a member for one year. If at that time the church so desires, he be examined to be licensed for one year.

23. Any man desiring the office of deacon and qualifying according to the scriptures should be appointed to the watch care of their church for one year, and notify the association of such an appointing. At the end of one year, they will be examined by council for ordination.

24. All ministers and deacons shall be given a certificate of ordination when ordained. When leaving the association, they shall be given a letter at their request stating their standing with the association at the time of departure. Upon resignation or leaving the denomination, they shall turn in their credentials.

25. All members shall abstain from strong drink, beer, whiskey or any drug harmful to the body. They shall support the Free Will Baptist doctrine and practice its ordinances.

26. All members shall support the association. If any church calls a pastor not

in a Free Will Baptist presbytery, his name shall not appear in the minutes. All churches shall send its letter to the association on Friday after being approved by its membership.

27. Any church having a problem that cannot be worked out should contact the chairman of the resolution committee. If necessary, a called session of the presbytery shall be held at the church.

28. An ordained minister shall be eligible to receive a lifetime card from this association provided that he has served the association in this capacity for a period of at least thirty (30) years continuous, or if he should become unable to carry the gospel because of a physical condition.

29. All ordained ministers eligible to receive a lifetime card shall be subject to an annual review as to their conduct as a member of the presbytery. If such conduct is not found in good standing by the committee and the full presbytery, the card shall be null and void.

30. The annual review of lifetime cards shall be conducted by a committee of three (3) ordained ministers in a manner as they shall see fit. The committee shall be nominated from the floor and members shall be eligible to serve no more than two (2) years consecutively. At least two of the three committee members shall have served fifteen (15) years or more consecutively in this body, and no more than one (1) committee members shall be eligible to receive a lifetime card.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. The Bible - The Scriptures of the Old and New Testament were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. God - There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as a Creator, Preserver, and righteous Governor of the universe; and in the Scriptures as Father, Son and Holy Ghost, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore and obey.

3. Christ - Christ is manifest in the flesh, in His divine nature truly God, 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 exercised 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 renewed 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 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 or 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, Judgement 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 to eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal live."

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 will agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions and social worship; and by self-denial, faith and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship and the observance of ordinances of the gospel; nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor and all its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace. To be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, promote the success of the church and of the gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principles sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society, constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of education and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday schools and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

FORM LETTER OF DISMISSION

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

QUESTIONS FOR ORDINATION

1. How long have you been a Free Will Baptist?
2. Give a short account of your calling.
3. Do you meeting the qualifications of First Timothy 3:1-7?
4. Have you or your wife ever been divorced?
5. What is your attitude toward intoxicating beverages, tobacco, drugs or worldly amusement?
6. Do you believe without reservation that the Bible is the verbally inspired, infallible word of God and it is the only rule of faith and practice?
7. Explain your view on Baptism.
8. What is the meaning of the Lord's Supper?
9. Should feet washing be observed? Explain.
10. What do you believe about apostasy and the perseverance of the believer?
11. What are the duties of your calling?
12. What is the mission of the Church in light of Matt. 28:19-20?

GUIDELINES FOR SCHOLARSHIP

1. One \$500.00 scholarship will be granted each year, with everyone required to reapply every year.
2. All applicants must either be a member of the Tennessee River Association or with the Children's Home that the Association supports.
3. The scholarship will be awarded based on financial need and grade average.
4. The applicant must pursue a study in a religious field.
5. The Freewill Baptist Bible College will make the final decision in the case of more than one applicant.
6. The deadline to apply is January 1 for the following fall semester.
7. The scholarship will apply to the Freewill Baptist Bible College in Nashville, TN only.

FORM OF RECEIVING MEMBERS IN CHURCH

In as much as you present yourself for admission into the church of the Free Will Baptist in Christ, we rejoice with you that through the grace of God you have been brought to a knowledge of the truth and have been made partakers of the great salvation. The privileges you seek are above price and the duties enjoined are so solemn, it is proper, that you publicly confess your faith and vow your purpose by answering the following questions:

1. Q. Did you find yourself a sinner in the sight of God?
A. I Did.
2. Q. And you now believe that God has for Christ's sake pardoned and forgiven all your sins?
A. I Do.
3. Q. And your desire is to become a member of the Free Will Baptist at this place?
A. Yes, Sir.
4. Q. Are you willing to be governed by our church rules?
A. Yes, Sir.
5. Q. Are you willing to contribute to the support of the gospel as God prospers you?
A. I Am.
6. Q. Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and do you accept Him as your personal Saviour?
A. I Do.
7. Q. Do you believe the whole Bible is infallibly true, and are you willing to take the authorized King James Version, as your guide, to live by?
A. Yes, Sir.
8. Q. Do you believe in free and open communion? Let a man examine himself according to I Corinthians 11:28. Also in washing of the saints' feet, according to St. John 13?
A. I Do.
9. Q. Have you been baptized by immersion, in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost, according to St. Matthew 28:19?

A. _____

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 set with you in your deliberations and to help transact any legal business that
may come before your body. The statistics of our church are as follows.

Received by profession of faith and baptism _____,
by letter _____, by experience _____,
restored by confession _____, dismissed by letter _____,
withdrawn _____, expelled _____, dead _____
total membership _____, number of students enrolled in
Sunday school _____, average attendance _____,
number of deacons _____, number 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 \$ _____, minutes funds \$ _____.
Moderator _____ Address _____
Clerk _____ Address _____

