

Minutes

OF THE
TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE
Free Will Baptist
STATE ASSOCIATION

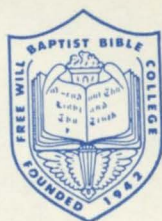
HELD WITH THE
Trinity Free Will Baptist Church
OF
Fort Worth, Texas

Tuesday Evening, November 2, 1937

The next session of this Association will be held with the First Free Will Baptist Church of Waco, Texas, Tuesday night before the first Sunday in November, 1938.

OFFICERS

Rev. J. L. Bounds.....	Moderator
Rev. M. L. Sutton.....	Ass't Moderator
Mr. Thos. A. Cloud.....	Clerk-Treasurer



FREE WILL BAPTIST
BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

Rev. Jim Williams

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MINUTES

The Twenty-Third session of the Texas Free Will Baptist State Association convened with the Trinity Free Will Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas, Tuesday evening, November 2, 1937.

Song Service led by choir director of Trinity Free Will Baptist church, Mr. Bill Eaves.

Prayer by Rev. J. E. Dearmore of Oklahoma.

Called to order by president C. F. Goen who called for more songs. These inspiring songs were followed by prayer by Rev. T. H. Newsome of Springtown, Texas.

Scripture lesson was read by Rev. T. W. Smith from the first chapter of Romans.

Prayer by Rev. J. C. Hodges of Fort Worth, Texas.

Sermon by Rev. Tommy Smith of Henderson, Texas, from 16th verse of 1st chapter of Romans. "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ."

Benediction.

Wednesday Morning

9:00 A. M.—Called together in an inspiring Song Service led by Rev. E. A. O'Donnell of Oklahoma. Devotional led by Rev. M. M. McKee of Sulphur, Oklahoma. Scripture lesson, 12th chapter of Romans. Prayer by Rev. E. A. O'Donnell.

10:00—Welcome Address by Rev. M. L. Sutton, Fort Worth, Texas. Response, Rev. B. A. Grant, Jacksonville, Texas. Minutes of previous meeting read and adopted.

10:30—The following Credentials Committee was appointed by the President: Rev. J. L. Bounds, Waco, Texas; Rev. Tommy Smith, Henderson, Texas; Rev. J. S. Hodges, Fort Worth, Texas.

10:45—A fifteen minutes' recess was then ordered by the president for the Credentials Committee to prepare a list of visiting delegates.

11:00 A. M.—Called to order by president. A Quartette was then given, led by Rev. M. L. Sutton. Prayer led by Rev. J. L. Tatum.

At 11:00 o'clock the Associational Sermon was preached by Rev. Tiff Covington of Buffalo Springs, Texas, from the 118th Psalm, 22nd and 23rd verses.

Dismissed at 12:00 o'clock noon for lunch.

Wednesday Afternoon

Called to order at 1:30 with song service. Devotional led by Rev. A. F. Ferguson, Ft. Worth, Texas. Scripture, Second chapter of the Gospel of Mark. Prayer by Rev. J. C. Hodges.

1:45 P. M. the Credentials Committee reported the following churches and delegates present.

West Fork Association

Mrs. A. F. Ferguson, Mrs. Brooks, J. H. McIntire, R. L. White, W. D. Phillips, Mrs. H. H. Killough, C. B. Wier, H. Woods and G. W. Taylor.

Friendship Association

Mrs. Ruby Thrasher and Mrs. Ella Wharton.

Texas Association

A. E. Stokes, Gus Smith, F. W. Dollar, J. O. Roberts, J. L. Ross, Mrs. B. A. Grant and T. T. Megason.

Central Texas Association

Mrs. O. L. Moore, Mrs. C. H. Holmes, J. L. Edge, Mrs. T. A. Cloud, and Miss Geraldine Gilpin

Woodlawn Association

Mrs. W. T. Smith

Fellowship Association

Munroe Parker and Mrs. S. H. Hicks.

Bright Light Church, Miss Icy Goen; New Salem Church, J. W. Taylor; New Hope Church (Parker Co.), Mrs. R. L. White; New Hope Church, (Henderson Co.), Mrs. E. A. Stokes and Mrs. Gus Smith; Ft. Worth First Church, Rev. C. J. Turrentine and Mrs. J. C. Hodges; Trinity Church, Ft. Worth, Mrs. Maud Wier and A. L. Gardener; Buffalo Springs Church, J. E. Ford and L. J. White; Bryan First Church, Mrs. Chas. Moehlman and Mrs. W. G. Reynolds; Plainview, Dallas Guinn; Christian Home, Mrs. James Lang; Waco, First Church, Mrs. A. Sullins and Mrs. Lula Gresham.

Delegates were seated as reported by Credentials Committee. Motion to seat visiting members from churches who had no delegate was defeated but visiting members were instructed to meet and appoint a delegation from their ranks. This was done and three more churches were permitted to seat delegates.

Visiting Brethren from Oklahoma were seated as corresponding messengers with right to discuss but not permitted to vote.

Petitionary letter was read from Friendship Association for admittance to State Association. Said letter unanimously accepted and delegates seated followed by a general fellowship and hand shaking for all.

The president appointed the following members as a committee on Committees, Viz: Rev. T. H. Newsome, Rev. B. A. Grant, and J. L. Edge. This committee was also instructed to fill vacancies for absent members of last standing committee for submission of reports to present Association.

Report of Committee on Education read and adopted (see reports).

Report of Committee on Committees read and approved and the following are standing committees for 1937-38:

Home Missions

W. D. Phillips and Rev. M. L. Sutton.

Foreign Missions

Rev. J. R. Davidson, Rev. R. C. Wiggs and J. L. Edge.

Sunday Schools

Rev. B. A. Grant, Rev. T. W. Smith and Mrs. J. O. Roberts.

Young People

Lucile Gardner, Mrs. Lula Gresham and Wright Bounds.

Education

C. F. Goen, Noah C. Cole and Miss De Lores Vance.

Evangelism

Rev. J. K. Warkentin, Rev. C. J. Turrentine and Rev. Allie Ferguson.

Temperance

Rev. J. L. Bounds, Rev. J. C. Hodges and Gee Moore.

Women's Work

Mrs. W. G. Reynolds, Rev. Lizzie McAdams and Mrs. Jack Bullard.

Denomination

Rev. John Swanwick, Floy Lefevre and J. Earl Tatum.

Layman's Work

Rev. E. S. Jimmerson, Bro. Kaskar and Rev. Ira Harper.

Resolutions

Rev. T. W. Smith, Rev. T. H. Newsome and H. H. Killough.

Credentials

Rev. J. L. Bounds, Rev. John Swanwick and Mrs. Chas. Moehlman.

Obituary

Mrs. J. C. Hodges, Mrs. M. L. Sutton and Mrs. Allie Ferguson.

Program

Rev. J. A. Smith, Rev. B. A. Grant and Rev. E. S. Jimmerson

Report of acting Sec.-Treas. on Foreign missions read and adopted (see Reports). C. F. Goen was then elected as State Sec.-Treas. for Foreign Missions work. Chair was then authorized to appoint an Auditing committee to audit the books of the retiring Sec.-Treas.

Committee—J. L. Edge, A. Sullins and L. M. Adams, who, after examining the books, reported them correct to date. Said report was accepted and approved as read.

Secretary of Association was instructed to notify the chairman of each standing committee just prior to meeting that they have their reports ready for presentation at next State Association.

Rev. J. K. Warkentin was elected as reporter for State Association.

Report of Sec.-Treas. was read and approved.

Adjourned till 7:30 P. M.

Wednesday Night

7:30 P. M.—Song Service led by choir director of Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, Mr. Bill Eaves. Devotional by Rev. J. E. Dearmore from St. John's Gospel. "Let not your heart be troubled," followed by a rousing testimonial meeting.

8:30 P. M.—Preaching service conducted by Rev. J. R. Davidson of

Bryan, Texas, who preached a great sermon from the 3rd chapter of Romans. Subject, "There is no Difference."

Benediction.

Thursday Morning

9:00 A. M.—Song "In the Garden" led by Rev. E. A. O'Donnell. Devotional conducted by Rev. R. C. Wiggs of North Zulch, Texas, from scripture found in the first chapter of the first Epistle of John. After the devotional words of appreciation and thanks were expressed by visiting ministers from Oklahoma. Minutes of Wednesday's session were read and approved. On motion and second regularly carried, the body went into the election of officers resulting as follows: Rev. J. L. Bounds, President; Rev. M. L. Sutton, Vice President; Thos. A. Cloud, Sec.-Treas.

Invitations were received from Waco First Church and from New Hope, Henderson County, to hold the 1938 session with them and it decided unanimously to meet with the First Church of Waco, Texas, on Tuesday night before the first Sunday in November, 1938.

Report of Cimmittee on Home Missions read and adopted.

Report of Committee on Sunday Schools accepted as read.

Report on Obituaries read and adopted followed by all standing in silent prayer with closing prayer for bereaved by Rev J. R. Davidson.

J. W. Kirk was elected as new member of Executive Board.

Report of Committee on Temperance read and acceptance to adopt tabled.

11:00—A five minute intermission.

Song service led by Rev. J. L. Bonds. Rev. M. M. McKee preached at 11:00 o'clock from the 13th and 14th verses of the 7th chapter of Matthew. Subject: "The Two Ways" illustrated with chart.

Dismissed for lunch by Rev. Lizzie McAdams.

Thursday Afternoon

1:30 P. M.—Song led by Rev. J. L. Bounds. Prayer, Rev. Lizzie McAdams. Devotional by Mrs. Lula Gresham of Waco. Scripture, the 11th Psalm, followed by testimony meeting.

Mrs. M. L. Sutton exhibited a specially made quilt depicting many Gospel and Quotational messages. The quilt to be auctioned later.

2:00 P. M.—Rev. Lizzie McAdams reported the following officers elected to serve one year by the Women's Auxiliary. President, Mrs. M. L. Sutton; Vice President, Mrs. W. G. Reynolds; Sec.-Treas., Mrs. C. B. Moehlman.

Rev. M. L. Sutton then offered to print a leaflet of information and Rules for the guidance of Women's Work which offer was gladly accepted.

Congregation asked to stand in silent prayer asking God's guidance

in organizing a church at Huntsville, Texas.

Report on Temperance re-read and after considerable discussion was adopted as read.

Rev. M. L. Sutton reported that at the noon hour an organization was perfected, composed of the ministers of the Free Will Baptist denomination in Texas, said organization to meet at least once a year in a school of instruction in doctrine and discipline as taught by the Free Will Baptists. The first meeting to be held with the First Free Will Baptist Church in Ft. Worth, Texas, for one week's session in March, 1938. This organization was heartily endorsed by the whole body in session.

The State Association endorsed a plan to create a loan fund for our worthy young people and elected an educational Board to handle funds. Committee: J. L. Edge, Rev. John Swanwick, and L. M. Adams.

Adjourned to 7:30.

Thursday Night

7:10—Song led by Rev. J. L. Bounds.

Motion of Rev. J. C. Turrentine that this body send delegates and \$10:00 membership fee to Eastern Association of Free Will Baptist meeting at Smithville, Miss., June, 1938, and also send corresponding messengers to Western Association was carried 23 to 9. Rev. J. R. Davidson was elected as delegate to Eastern Association and Rev. M. L. Sutton as corresponding messenger to Western Association.

A vote of thanks for courtesy and hospitality of churches in Ft. Worth and Sec. was instructed to write a letter of thanks to Pastor and congregation of Trinity Methodist Church for use of their kitchen and Dining Room.

Secretary was instructed to secure bids for printing 500 copies of Minutes of this session together with By-Laws and Constitution as revised, also to have date and place of next State Association on outside cover of Minutes.

7:30 P. M.—Devotional led by Rev. McPhail. Scripture lesson from the 11th Chapter of Hebrews, followed by Testimony Meeting.

7:45 P. M.—Solo: Rev. J. K. Warkentin. Rev. Warkentin then took charge of the service preaching a wonderful sermon from the question of Pilate, "What is Truth?"

Benediction.

Adjourned.

REV. J. L. BOUNDS, President.

T. A. CLOUD, Sec.-Treas.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Religious Education:

We, your committee on religious education, submit the following report, vis:

About one year ago we reported to our State association that we had purchased the Weaverville property at Weaverville, North Carolina, for a Free Will Baptist school, but the transaction did not go over because we did not have enough cash to handle the same. At this time our whole denomination, it seemed, saw our great need for a school of our own. We are still in the same need, and let us not give up the fight, but let us who made pledges pay them, and let us continue to raise money for this purpose.

We recommend that our association help our little school at Blakely, Georgia, as much as we can, and try to ever go forward with what we have.

We have on hand about \$100.00, let us make it thousands instead of hundreds. Also let us keep patronizing our publishing houses for literature and all work that we can give them. Let all Free Will Baptists keep praying and working for a school of our own where we can train our people to the glory of God.

Signed:

G. F. GOEN, K. V. SHUTES, E. N. TRANT.

Sunday School:

We, your committee on Sunday School, beg leave to make the following report:

We urge all our churches to use the Bible only where it is practicable, but where it is best to use the literature. We also urge that we patronize our publishing houses and use the literature published by them.

We also insist that Sunday Schools be organized and maintained in all our churches where they do not already exist.

Signed:

T. H. NEWSOME, R. L. WHITE.

Home Missions:

We, your committee on Home Missions, not being able to recommend any definite plans for this work, and seeing the great need of home mission in Texas, ask that this association discuss this work and help us to formulate some definite plan by which we may be able to attain a definite and specific goal.

Signed:

M. L. SUTTON, MRS. M. L. BURTON, MRS. MAUD WIER.

Obituary:

We, your committee on Obituary, report to the best of our knowledge the following:

Central Texas Association, one: West Fork Association, six.

May we as brothers and sisters of the State Association extend our heart felt sympathies to all the bereaved.

Signed:

MRS. FAY KILLOUGH, MRS. O. R. CROWDER,
MRS. R. L. WHITE.

Ministers As Registered

Rev. A. B. Grant, Box 865, Jacksonville, Texas.
Rev. Tiff Covington, Buffalo Springs, Texas.
Rev. A. T. Ferguson, 1219 Devitt, Fort Worth, Texas.
Rev. T. H. Newsome, Springtown, Texas.
Rev. S. C. Wiggs, North Zulch, Texas.
Rev. S. H. Hicks, Henderson, Texas.
Rev. T. W. Smith, Henderson, Texas.
Rev. J. A. Smith, Tatum, Texas.
Rev. Frank Wharton, Vernon, Texas.
Rev. J. R. Davidson, Bryan, Texas.
Rev. J. C. Hodges, 2908 8th Ave., Fort Worth, Texas.
Rev. E. S. Jameson, Tatum, Texas.
Rev. C. J. Turrentine, Box 4368, Fort Worth, Texas.
Rev. M. L. Sutton, 2704 Hanna, Fort Worth, Texas.
Rev. H. M. McAdams, Midway, Texas.
Rev. Lizzie McAdams, Midway, Texas.
Rev. Ira Harper, Tatum, Texas.
Rev. W. V. McPhail, 530 W. Munson, Denison, Texas.
Rev. J. L. Bounds, 1903 S. 12th, Waco, Texas.

Incomplete Statistical Report

FIRST CHURCH, FORT WORTH.

Members Received 14; By Letter 6, By Baptism 8; Died 3; Total Membership 129. Value of Property \$3,000.00. Paid Pastor \$724.56.

TRINITY CHURCH, FORT WORTH.

Members Received 24; By Letter 12, By Baptism 12. Dismissed 24. Total Membership 110. Value of Property \$4,000.00. Paid Pastor \$1,144.00.

BRIGHT LIGHT CHURCH.

Resident Members 66, Non-resident 20, Total Membership 86. value of Property \$1,000. Paid Pastor \$100.05.

FIRST CHURCH, BRYAN.

Members Received 13; By Letter 10; Dismissed 2, Died 1; Resident Members 181, Non-resident 31: Total Membership 212. Value of Property \$10,000.00
Paid Pastor \$1,318.00.

NEW SALEM, DECATUR.

Members Received 6; By Baptism 6; Total Membership 85. Value of Property \$1,000.00.

FIRST CHURCH, WACO.

Members Received 10; By Baptism 3, By Letter 7; Dismissed 1. Value of Property \$3,250.00. Paid Pastor \$625.57.

PLEASANT MOUND, BUFFALO SPRINGS.

Total Membership 142. Value of Property \$700.00

WEST FORK ASSOCIATION.

Members Received 80; Dismissed 47, Died 6; Total Membership 942. Value of Property \$10,000.00. Paid Pastors \$2,397.71.

CENTRAL TEXAS ASSOCIATION. No Report.

TEXAS ASSOCIATION. No Report.

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CONSTITUTION OF THE TEXAS STATE CONVENTION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Article 1. This organization shall be called the Texas State Convention of Free Will Baptists and shall be composed of all regularly appointed delegates from well organized and disciplined associations.

Article 2. The purpose of the convention is for the edification and mutual up-lift of the Free Will Baptist denomination and the advancement of His Kingdom on earth.

Article 3. The convention shall consist of the various associations and churches which are orthodox and orderly, and shall have representation on the following basis, to-wit: each association shall be represented by five (5) delegates for the first five hundred (500) members thereof and one additional delegate for each additional one hundred members or fractional part thereof; every church in the bounds of this convention shall be entitled to two delegates regardless of the number of members; each association shall send with its delegates and letter a contribution of one dollar for each delegate it is entitled to; each church is urged to send with its delegates and letter a contribution of two or more dollars.

Article 4. The officers of the convention shall be a President and a Vice President, elected annually, and a Standing Clerk and Treasurer.

Article 5. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the association and to appoint committees not otherwise provided for. It shall be the duty of the Vice President to preside in the absence of the President. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a record of the proceedings of the convention and to carry on all necessary correspondence. The Treasurer shall be custodian of all funds of the convention.

Article 6. A quorum shall consist of representatives of from two or more associations. A quorum not being present, the convention may adjourn from time to time.

Article 7. Any well organized and well disciplined Free Will Baptist Association in Texas, composed of such churches as adopt the doctrines and conform to the usages of the Free Will Baptist denomination as set forth in the Treatise of Faith and practice of the Free Will Baptist, may upon application become a member of the convention.

Article 8. The sessions of this convention shall be held every year beginning on Tuesday night before the first Sunday in November, at which time it shall be the duty of all associations and churches composing this convention to represent themselves by delegates and to report by letter their standing prospects and statistics, at which time this convention shall act on such questions and topics as may be referred to it and transact such other business as shall promote the interest of our denomination in the bounds of this convention.

Article 9. This convention shall have authority to discipline any association or other body composing it for disorderly walk, and to exclude it if labor proves unavailing, but in no case to reverse its decisions or interfere with its internal regulations.

Article 10. The constitution may be altered or amended in any regular session of the convention provided notice of such proposed change had been given in writing and recorded in the minutes of the last previous meeting.

Article 11. There shall be a convention executive committee of duly elected president, vice president, secretary-treasurer of the convention together with two elective members of the convention, whose election shall be for three years, one elected annually.

Article 12. The duties of the executive committee shall be to have supervision over all convention work and shall have power to act for the convention between its sessions, reporting annually to the convention for approval.

Article 13. All regular ordained ministers who are members of the Free Will Baptist Church in Texas, who are in good standing, are by virtue of their office members of this body.

Sunday School and Young People's organizations are authorized and requested to send delegates.

BY-LAWS

Article 1. When the session opens for business, a list of directors shall be called by the clerk and a temporary roll obtained from those actually in attendance.

Article 2. Delegates from corresponding bodies and brethren invited to seats with the convention shall be entitled to all privileges except voting.

Article 3. The Clerk shall receive \$10 annually for his services.

Article 4. No member shall speak more than twice on the same question without the permission of the convention. None shall be recognized without rising and addressing the chair.

Article 5. Any member retiring from the session of the convention without permission from the President shall be liable to censure.

Article 6. In the transaction of business this body shall be governed by parliamentary rules of order.

Article 7. The program of each annual meeting shall be prepared by a committee composed of three members elected at a previous session.

Article 8. The following standing committees shall be elected each session: Sunday School, Temperance, Home Missions, Foreign Missions, State of our Country, Denominational, Literature, Young People, Social Service, Woman's Work, and Committee of Committees.

Article 9. The minutes shall be carefully read and corrected at the close of each session.

Article 10. Every session shall be opened and closed with prayer.

Article 11. The associational year shall be from October first to October first of the following year.

Article 12. These By-Laws may be amended at any regular annual meeting of the convention by a two-thirds majority vote of members present.



S and S PRINT SHOP
2704 Hanna Street
Fort Worth, Texas