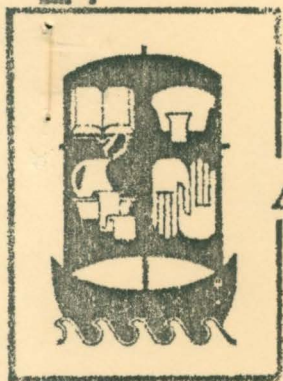


MINUTES

TEXAS

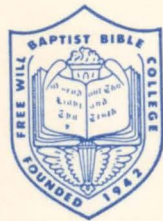
Association of Free Will Baptists



WHEN CONVENED AT
CHRIST'S FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS

JUNE 9-10 1977

THE NEXT SESSION WILL BE HELD WITH THE
WEST FROK DISTRICT



FREE WILL BAPTIST
BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

Rev. Thurmon Murphy

MINUTES
TEXAS STATE ASSOCIATION
CHRIST'S FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS
JUNE 9-10, 1977

Thursday Evening, June 9, 1977

The Sixty-third annual session of the Texas State Association of Free Will Baptists convened with the Mission District at Christ's Church in Corpus Christi, Texas. Bro. Earl Scroggins, Moderator, presided over the session. The meeting was called into session by the Moderator and the Music director, Bro. David Archer, led the congregation in the opening hymn, Amazing Grace. Bro. Lonnie DaVault led in the opening prayer.

The Moderator asked for a motion to adopt the program, and if there were any changes. The motion to adopt the printed program was made and adopted.

Bro. Herbert Richards, host pastor, introduced David Dietz, a member of the city council of Corpus Christi who gave a great welcome to the city.

The Moderator, in his opening message read Acts 2:1 and spoke on the theme of "Being in One Accord". Bro. Scroggins asked for prayer requests from the congregation and closed this portion of the service with prayer.

The Moderator declared the session open for the immediate business of the appointment of committees. The following committees were appointed.

Nominating Committee: Bro. Raymond Getz, .. Chairman
Bro. Herbert Richards
Bro. Larry Cox

Committee on Committees, Bro. Thurman Murphy, .. Chairman
Bro. Billy Walker
Bro. Tiff Covington

Credentials Committee, Bro. Jim Shephard .. Chairman
Bro. Clyde Tucker
Bro. Charles Reeves

The Business session was closed.

The service was turned over to Bro. Raymond Getz, by the Moderator, in order for Bro. Getz to present the awards to the participants and winners in the C.T.S. competitive activities.

Bro. Thurman Murphy, representing the Mission-Church Extension Board was introduced by the Moderator. Bro. Murphy presided over the Mission Emphasis service. The Following Texas Home Missionaries were recognized: Bro. Sanford Davis (Not Present), newly appointed to begin a work in Temple. Bro. Bobby Beavers, home Missionary to Grand Prairie. Bro. Larry Powell, serving in McAllen with the Rio Grande project. and Bro. Jim Williams who has recently been appointed to enter Mexico and reopen the Institute of Gold. Bro. Murphy then introduced Bro. Mike Cousineau, who is married to a Texan, the former Delene Huston. Mike and Delene will begin Missionary Internship in Farmington, Michigan in September and plan to begin itinerary next summer to prepare for work in the Ivory Coast. Bro. Cousineau Challenged the group with the fact that only Free Will Baptists are assigned as witnesses in the Ivory Coast and that the need is urgent now. He requested that churches begin now sending, at least \$ 10.00 per-month to their account, in order to facilitate their entrance to Africa.

The group was challenged by Bro. Murphy to support the needs of Missions, in general, financially. The Offering for Missions was taken.

Bro. David Archer led the congregation in singing "Send The Light." A Duet from the Eastside Church in Houston sang "One Day Too Late".

Bro. Roy Thomas, representing the National Home Missions Board was introduced as speaker. He brought a Wonderful and Challenging message from Joshua, encouraging the group to "Conquer" Texas for Christ and Free Will Baptists.

The Moderator reminded the group of the schedule for Friday and other announcements. The service was dismissed in prayer by Bro. Charles Denman.

Friday Morning, June 10, 1977

The Texas State Association of Free Will Baptists was called to order by Moderator Earl Scroggins at 8:30 a.m. Bro. David Archer led the body in singing "To God Be The Glory" and "There Is Power In The Blood", with Bro. Larry Cox at the piano.

Scripture. 1 Corinthians 15:57 was read by Bro. Bob Scott, who led the congregation in prayer.

The Delegates were reminded by the Moderator to be considerate of others and also of the time element involved.

The report of the Credentials Committee was given by Brother Jim Shephard, with the recommendation that the entire Delegation of the Midessa District not be seated.

Motion Carried. The following report of the Committee on Committees was given by Bro. Thurman Murphy.

Resolutions Committee, Bro. Larry Powell . . . Chairman

Bro. H. Z. Cox

Bro. Bill Houseley

Temperance Committee, Bro. Bob Scott . . . Chairman

Bro. Charles Denman

Bro. Rom McMillin

Obituary Committee, Bro. Charles Reeves . . . Chairman

Bro. Owen Barger

Bro. Roy Lee

It was pointed out that the Board Member who are members of the Midessa District still have the power to operate in their particular Boards. After a question by Bro. Hall concerning discipline in Article 6, Section 4 of the Constitution, it was pointed out that, with respect to discipline, the State Association cannot discipline a local Church.

The report of the Mission-Church Extension Board was given by Bro. Thurman Murphy. An oral report, praising the Lord for His Blessing on the McAllen Church was given by Bro. Larry Powell, as part of the report of the Mission-Church Extension Board.

Motion to receive the report Carried.

Bro. Jim Shephard announced the annual Ministers and Laymen Retreat to be conducted on August 27, 28, 1977 at the West Fork Campground with Bro. Roy Thomas of the National Home Mission Board and Bro. Bill Jones, President of Hillsdale, as the featured Speakers.

The Report of the National Home Mission Department was given by Bro. Roy Thomas who recognized Bro. Sanford Davis (Not Present), who is beginning a new work in Temple, Texas. Bro. Bobby Beavers, Home Missionary to Grand Prairie and Bro. Jim Williams, appointee to re-open the Institute of Gold in Monterrey, Mexico. A Home Mission-Sunday School Seminar to be conducted at the National Association was announced. Enrollment procedures are announced in Sunday School Attack. Utilizing Joshua 13:1, he expressed appreciation to the State of Texas for the gifts given to National Home Missions. Report accepted as information.

The report of the Foreign Missions Department was given by Board Member, Bro. Allen Moore. He encouraged the body to pray for the Missionaries and thanked the group for their support. Report accepted as information.

The report of the Christian Education Board was given by Bro. Larry Cox. Report accepted.

Dr. Roger Reeds gave the report of the Free Will Baptist Sunday School Department, pointing out that ours is the oldest group in America that has remained true to the Word of God. The report was accepted as information.

Bro. Ron McMillin represented the National C. T. S. Department. He announced the theme of the 1977 National Youth Conference as "Jesus Christ, Lord of All." Report accepted as information.

The Texas State Executive Office Report was given by Bro. Jim Williams. He thanked the people for allowing him to serve the people of Texas during these four(4) years he has served as Executive Secretary. The report was accepted.

The Moderator recognized Bro. Lonnie DaVault, the Executive Secretary from Oklahoma.

Bro. Rufus Coffey brought greetings from the National Executive Office, and had praises for every Department and Institution of our work. Accepted as information.

The Hillsdale College Trustee report was given by Bro. Clyde Gillentine. The report was accepted.

Bro. Bill Jones, President of Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College, gave greetings from the School. He stated that because of a rumor that had emerged in the spring of 1977, Hillsdale has reaffirmed its Biblical, Fundamental and Traditional Beliefs of the Plenary Verbal Inspiration, just as the Bible states it and as Free Will Baptists believe. He also stated that every faculty member agrees with this Free Will Baptist Biblical Position, and that every student who leaves the College has been taught the Biblical and Free Will Baptist Doctrines. The report was accepted as information.

The Moderator recognized Bro. Lloyd Olsen of the National Master's Men Organization. He praised the Lord for His Blessings upon the work of the Master's Men. He announced that Bro. Jim Williams would be speaking at the National Master's Men breakfast in Detroit, Michigan. The report was accepted as information.

Bro. Robert Crawford was recognized and brought greetings from Free Will Baptist Bible College. He expressed appreciation to the State for their support. Report was accepted as information.

The report of the Texas Woman's Auxiliary was given by Sis. Patricia Beavers. Report was Accepted.

The motion was entertained and carried to adjourn until the 11:00 a.m. warship service. Bro. Ron McMillin led in the dismissal prayer.

Friday Morning Worship Service, June 10, 1977

The congregation was led in singing "O, How I Love Jesus", followed by prayer led by Bro. Marvin Williams. The Moderator presented a certificate for a Camera, ordered from Sears, to Bro. Jim Williams to be used in his work in Mexico. Bro. David Archer led the congregation in the chorus "Alleluia".

Special music was rendered by Bro. Raymond Lee, who as accompanied by Mrs. Lee as he sang "I'm Too Far Out On My Journey".

A special offering for the expenses of the State meeting was received. Prayer was led by Bro. Bobby Joe Davis.

Bro. Rufus Coffey, Executive Secretary of the National Association of Free Will Baptists brought the Morning Message, using for his subject, "The Plenary Verbal Inspiration of the Scriptures" and I Corinthians 2:1, 16 and Colossians 2:8 as his text". The Worship service was closed in Prayer.

Friday Afternoon, June 10, 1977

The afternoon session was called to order by the Moderator Earl Scroggins. The group was led in singing "Bring Them In" by Bro. David Archer, .

Bro. Clyde Tucker read the Scripture 11 Timothy 3:15, 17 and led in Prayer.

The report of the Nominating Committee was given by Bro. Raymond Getz. Report accepted. The following slate of officers were elected, individually, by acclamation.

Moderator . . . Bro. Earl Scroggins
Assistant Moderator. Bro. Owen Barger
Clerk Bro. Harold R. Teague
Assistant Clerk . . Bro. Charles Reeves
Parliamentarian. . Bro. Billy Walker
Board of Christian Education. . Bro. Ron McMillin, Bro. David Archer.
State Mission-Church Extension Board.
West Fork . . . Bro. Jim Shephard
Central . . . Bro. Vernon Pegues
East Texas. . Bro. Bob Scott
Mission. . . Bro. Herbert Richards
North West Brazos Bro. M. L. Crosby
Midessa. . . Bro. Thurman Murphy

A report was read from the State Executive Committee recommending Bro. Allen Moore as the new State Executive Secretary. . . Bro. Clarence Herron was nominated from the floor. . . Bro. Allen Moore was elected and hired as Texas State Executive Secretary.

The full report of the General Board Meeting with recommendations was given and accepted.

The report of the Minister's and Layman's Meeting was given. Report accepted as Information.

The report of the Resolutions Committee was given and accepted. All items carried.

The report of the Temperance Committee was given and accepted. All items carried.

The report of the Obituary Committee was given and accepted. The group stood in silent prayer in memory of the deceased and in concern for their families. A motion was made and carried to incorporate the names of the deceased of each District in the report to the State Meeting each year.

A motion recommending the use of the reporting Forms of the National Association in reporting all State work was Tabled.

A motion to accept the position paper regarding the inspiration of the Scriptures, as presented in the report of the Executive Secretary, carried by unanimous vote.

Moderator Scroggins made a plea for additional funds for the State Office, whose needs are critical at this time.

The meeting was adjourned to meet with the West Fork District in 1978.

Respectfully Submitted
Clerk. . . Bro. Harold R. Teague

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY REPORT

The twenty-seventh session of the Texas State Woman's Auxiliary convened on June 9, 1977 at Christ's Church in Corpus Christi, Texas.

The meeting was opened by the President, Sister Ava Hellard. The Music was led by Sister Betty Kelly.

Three Districts were represented, West Fork, East Texas and Central Texas, with fifteen (15) Delegates.

Sister Geneva Walker gave a report of the State Woman's Auxiliary Retreat in April.

The Treasurer's report was given. The Offering for the State Project for 1976-1977 totals \$ 799.02. The State project for this year is the Temple-Kileen work, encouraging each member of each local Auxiliary to give \$ 10.00. The Resolution Committee report was given. The major resolution states: Be it resolved that we, as Christian Free Will Baptist Women take a firm stand against any homosexuality philosophies in our communities.

A report was given on the Grand Prairie work by Patricia Beavers. Bro. Larry Powell gave a report on the work in McAllen, Texas.

Special music by Bro. Everett Hellard was "What Shall I Give Thee, Master".

Bro. Larry Powell gave an inspiring and challenging message on "The Image Of Christ", Scripture, Romans 8:29.

Sister Kelly read the minutes of the organizational meeting of the Texas State Woman's Auxiliary which took place, August 15, 1950.

New Officers for 1977-1978. President-Ava Hellard
Vice President - Ann Reeves
Secretary-Patricia Beavers
Treasurer- Betty Kelly
Field Worker-Norma Teague
Member at Large- Sandy Scroggins

A special song was given by Sis. Betty Kelly, "Make Me Willing".

The Installation Service was conducted by Sister Betty Ferguson.
Submitted by Sister Patricia Beavers.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

District Delegates.... 19., Church Delegates 34., Making a total Delegates present 55.
Churches reporting 43... Churches Not Reporting 20..

The West Fork District Requests the State Meeting for 1978.

It is recommended that the representatives of the Midessa District not be seated for this 1977 session of the Texas State Association.

Jim Shepherd..Chairman, Charles Reeves-Member - Clyde Tucker Member..

MINISTERS AND DEACONS MEETING

The Minister and Deacons Meeting was conducted June 9, 1977

Bro. Larry Cox brought the meeting to order. There was no old business. New Business consisted of the election of officers.

President.. Bro. Larry Cox
Secretary.. Bro. Ron McMillin

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

1. Be it resolved that the Texas State Association of Free Will Baptists take an active stand against Homosexuality and verbally express the sinfulness of all such wicked perversions in this area.
2. Be it resolved that we give a rising vote of expression of appreciation to our brother, Jim Williams, for outstanding contribution in service to the Texas State Work.
3. Be it resolved that we give a rising vote of thanks to the Mission District Association and this host Church for entertaining the State Meeting this year in Corpus Christi, Texas. Respectfully Submitted.. Hz. Cox, Bill Housely and Larry Powell.

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

We, the Temperance Committee, recommend that,

1. Each Christian set the example of Godly conduct and reverence in the Church and in daily life.
 2. Each Minister reemphasize the Biblical concept of marriage and the home.
 3. Each person actively oppose the legalization and use of Narcotics; totally abstain from the use and sale of Alcohol, oppose the promotion and sale of Rock Music, and Gospel Rock and take a stand against pornography and pornographic material:
 4. Actively oppose the profanity and other offensive material being presented on T.V. by writing letters of protest to the T.V. networks and stations, F.C.C. and your congressman, expressing your concern and convictions against such,
 5. Each Christian use Biblical guidelines in choosing amusements;
 6. Each pastor encourage reverent courteous conduct at the National Convention;
 7. Each pastor to encourage his people to support these recommendations.
- Bro. Ron McMillin.. Bro. Charles Deman.. Bro. Bob Scott ..

POSITION PAPER ON INSPIRATION

For 250 years (1727-1977) Free Will Baptists have existed in America as a fundamental, evangelical, Bible believing denomination. Many other denominations, which once stood where we have always stood, have folded their tents and move one by one into the camp of theological liberalism or neo-orthodoxy. Because of the influence of German higher criticism on American ecclesiastical bodies there is a danger that we, too, may cast off our moorings and begin to slide into the wasteland of humanistic rationalism.

Errant contemporary theological trends have begun to touch our beloved denomination. Questions arise which cast aspersions on the inspiration, authority, and infallibility of the Scriptures. Plenary verbal inspiration is redefined and made to mean less than it has meant as historically defined by the Church. Verbal inspiration is, in fact, made to mean thought or concept inspiration.

To some, infallibility, or inerrancy, means only that the Scriptures are inerrant in matters of faith and practice but not in matters of science, history and chronology.

Following the German school of higher criticism, some have adopted a position of pseudonymity which says that many of the books of the Bible were not written by the men to whom they are attributed by the Bible itself but by imposters. For example, it is said that Daniel did not write the book of Daniel, Paul did not write some of the Pauline Epistles, and Peter did not write Second Peter.

It is time for Free Will Baptists to catch up with other denominations in building larger, more beautiful, more effective churches on the proverbial main street. But it is not time, and may it never be time, for Free Will Baptists to catch up with other denominations and ecclesiastical bodies by tearing up our Bibles and undermining its complete trustworthiness. We believe there is no evidence available today which is sufficient to question the position that has been held by Free Will Baptist for 250 years/.

As Free Will Baptists we believe that the plenary and verbal inspiration of the Bible is a foundational, fundamental, cardinal doctrine. If the Bible is not fully inspired and trustworthy, then we have no sure foundation on which to build the other doctrines of the Christian faith. We could not be sure that we have the truth about Christ, Salvation, Morality, or man's Destiny.

The doctrine of the infallibility of the Bible has proven to be a theological watershed. If church history has any lessons to teach us, it is the lesson that once a denomination departs from a belief in biblical infallibility, it opens the doors to disbelief about other essential doctrines of the faith. Once a denomination denies the infallibility of the Bible, or adopts a position of limited inerrancy, it will only be a matter of time until they also deny the inerrancy of the Bible on matters of Faith and Practice

Thus it is appropriate for us in this Sixty-Third (63) session of the Texas State Association of Free Will Baptists to declare where we stand as to God's Word-- Our Infallible Guide. Therefore, we affirm for all to know, that,

1. We believe in the plenary verbal inspiration of the Bible. By plenary we mean "full and complete," that all parts of the Bible are inspired, that inspiration extends to all subjects dealt with. By verbal we mean that inspiration extends to the very words of Scripture, not just to the thoughts and ideas in the minds of the human authors of Scripture.

2. We believe in the complete infallibility and inerrancy of Scripture. We believe the Bible is inerrant in all that it intends to teach as truth or fact, in matters of cosmogony, geology, astronomy, anthropology, history, chronology, ect., as well as in matters of Faith and Practice.

3. We believe that the human authors of Scripture were the very men to whom the Bible itself attributes the individual books. We reject the theory which says that many of the books were written under a pseudonym.

4. We accept the Bible, The Word of God, as our final authority and dedicate ourselves to the proclamation of it in its entirety, trusting in God to empower it to fruition.

We urge the adoption of this position paper by the Texas State Association of Free Will Baptists on this date, June 10-1977, that it be printed in its entirety and distributed to all Churches in the State, That copies of it be sent to all Free Will Baptist state papers, and that a copy of it be sent to the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

This is the positional paper voted upon and carried by unanimous vote on page four(4) of the 1977 Texas State Minutes.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

June 1977

Brethren;

This month marks the end of four(4) years service for the State's first full-time promotional man. A great deal of time could be spent looking back for a good deal has happened during this period of time. However, Those who are interested in what has been accomplished already know what has happened for they have had a major part in those accomplishments.

It would be a great injustice to start calling names of those who have been instrumental in making this full-time office a successful reality, While the deeds of some have been seen by all, the great majority have been silently faithful to the task.

My family and I express our heartfelt thanks to all of you and for your many kindnesses. You have opened your hearts and your homes to us.

I thank you for your faithfulness to the work. God's work. Many of you have given unselfishly of your prayers and finances to get this office moving ahead. We feel your money has been spent wisely. It has borne fruit and continues to do so.

The Lord has seen fit to call my family to a new place of service, The Institute of Gold in Monterrey, Mexico. Therefore, I will not accept the nomination for another term of service here in Texas. Your Executive Board has a nomination that I feel is pleasing to the Lord and worthy of your consideration.

There is no doubt in my mind that the new promotional man will need your prayers and support as much and more than I have, I say more for there is much yet to be done.

STATE OFFICE ACCOUNT.

Balance on Hand 12-31-1975	33.48
Balance due on 1975 (776.59)	
Deposits 1976	49,261.86
Total to account for	49,295.34

Disbursements

For 1975	776.59
Foreign Missions	11,711.84
Home Missions	7,436.18
Bible College	1,035.85
Hillsdale	3,372.73
National Office	2,376.53
State C.E. Board	719.61
State Missions	2,042.68
Pine Springs Camp	1,796.00
Retirement	120.00
Social Security	653.01
Salary	9,350.00
Housing	1,800.00
Travel	3,294.27
Office and Challenge	1,279.27
Total Disbursed 1976	47,764.56
Balance on hand 12-31 1976.	1,530.78

Respectfully submitted,


Jim Williams

