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2011 Minutes of the 97th Annual Session Texas State Association of Free Will Baptists

**Meeting June 8-10, 2011
First FWB Church of Duncanville, Texas**

Wednesday Evening, June 8, 2011

Evening Worship Service – 7:00 PM

Presiding: Clarence Hearron (First, Duncanville)

Music Director: Allen King (First, Henderson)

Pianist: Cindy Grimes (First, Duncanville)

Organist: Sherrie Anderson (First, Duncanville)

Guitarist: Jaron Ward (First, Duncanville)

Welcome by Clarence Hearron.

Scripture reading (Rev. 5:1-14) and prayer led by Josh Provow (First, Weatherford).

Congregational Songs: “My Savior’s Love” and “Jesus Saves”

Meeting called to order by Moderator Keith Woody (Lakehills, Cedar Park).

Bro. Woody named the appointed committees for the session:

Nominating Committee:

Clarence Hearron, Chairman

Richard Terry

Faron Thebeau

Credentials Committee:

Marcus Brewer, Chair

Chuck Vaughan

John Davis

Resolutions Committee:

Mark Headrick, Chairman

William Bushong

Michael Scott

Congregational Song: “God and God Alone”

Offering was received (\$162.34). Offertory song medley by the Convention Choir:

“Bless the Lord, O My Soul”, “Something Beautiful”, “Holy, Holy, Holy”.

Special Music by Richard Rust (Faith, Wichita Falls): “Come Away”

Message by Rev. Larry Powell, FWB Home Missions, Nashville, TN –

“Longsuffering Love” (Col. 1:9-11; Gal. 6:9-10)

I. Longsuffering love comes from the Holy Spirit.

II. Longsuffering love is exemplified by God (God is love).

III. Longsuffering love is not based on a condition.

IV. Longsuffering love is a choice, not a feeling.

V. Longsuffering love always seeks the highest good.

Invitation Song: “Just As I Am”

Introduction of Randall Wright and his family, newly appointed Home Missionary to McKinney.

Meeting Announcements:

♦ Pastor’s Conference will meet in the gymnasium Thursday morning at 8:30.

♦ TWAC meeting will meet in the Auditorium at 8:30.

♦ TWAC joint worship service and missions conference will meet in the Auditorium at 10:30.

Dismissed in prayer by Michael Scott (CrossRoads, Lubbock).

Thursday Morning, June 9, 2011

8:30 AM

Preaching Conference – Theme: “Reaffirming Our Difference”

Presiding: Richard Rust (Faith, Wichita Falls)

Opening song: “God Won’t Let You Down”, by Richard Rust

Scripture reading (John 3:1-18) and prayer by Clyde Gillentine (Collin Creek, Plano).

Message by Doug Dickey (Fellowship, Bryan) –

“The Gospel Ordinances” (1 Cor. 11: 2)

I. Water Baptism

A. The command (Matt. 28:16-20)

B. The symbolism

1. Buried with Christ (Rom. 6:4a) – shows previous death to self, not an act of salvation
2. Risen with Christ (Rom. 6:4b) – shows new life and the resurrection of Christ
3. Fulfilled righteousness (Matt. 3:13-15; Tit. 3:5) – incorporated in that new life with a community of believers working toward the second coming of Christ

II. The Lord’s Supper

A. The symbolism – Christ was broken physically, emotionally, and spiritually

1. The bread (Matt. 26:26)

2. The cup (Matt. 26:27)

B. The Practice (1 Cor. 11:26,27) – We remember, reflect, and react to the life of Christ

III. Washing the Saints’ Feet

A. The symbolism

1. Christ’s incarnation (John 13:3)

2. Christ’s ascension (John 13:3)

3. Humility and service (Luke 22:27)

B. Practice

1. Example of Christ (John 13:13-16)

2. Obligation (John 13:14)

Congregational Song: “O How I Love Jesus”, led by Richard Rust

Special Music: “I’m Walking in God’s Light”, by Richard Rust

Message by Randall Wright (Clearview, McKinney) –

“Life After Death” (Jude 1:3-23; Luke 16:19-31)

Intro: If Hell is not real, then the Bible is not true, we have to question the justice of God, and logic is violated.

I. We as believers need to understand that a person’s station in this life has nothing to do with their station in the next. (Luke 14:8-13; 15:2-31)

II. The Word of God is the only thing that will keep people out of Hell. Emotional sensation cannot produce spiritual transformation.

Dismissed in prayer by Mark Headrick (First, Henderson).

Thursday Afternoon, June 9, 2011

Business Session – 2:00 PM

Presiding: Keith Woody, Moderator

Opening song: “Now I Belong to Him”, led by Richard Rust, Mitzi Burks, Pianist

Session opened by Keith Woody with prayer.

Moderator's Message: Rev. Keith Woody (Lakehills, Cedar Park)

"The Pastor" – I Tim. 1:3-8

Introduction: There are many jokes and humorous items that circulate about pastors and their habits and characteristics, but the calling of the pastor is no laughing matter. It is a serious calling that men must accept with a corresponding attitude.

I. The pastorate is a calling from God Himself.

II. The pastorate requires being responsive to the needs of the congregation.

III. The pastorate requires maintaining familiarity with the Word of God and regular prayer.

IV. The pastorate can be hazardous to one's health.

Credentials Committee report was given by Clerk Marcus Brewer. MMS&C to receive the report, accept the letters, and seat the delegates.

MM&S to adopt the proposed Constitutional amendment from the General Board; by Constitutional requirement, the amendment was tabled for the necessary period of time until Friday morning.

Reports from National Ministries:

- ♦ WNAC report was given by Elizabeth Hodges, President.
- ♦ Executive Office report was given by Eric Thomsen, ONE Magazine Editor.
- ♦ International Missions report was given by Kiley Hawkins, Development Manager.
- ♦ Free Will Baptist Bible College report was given by Garnett Reid, Bible Department Chairman.
- ♦ Hillsdale FWB College report was given by Tim Eaton, President.
- ♦ Seminary of the Cross and Mexico FWB report was given by Dr. Thomas Marberry.
- ♦ Home Missions report was given by Larry Powell, General Director.
- ♦ Harvest FWB Child Care Ministries report was given by George Hyatt.
- ♦ Sunday School and Church Training Board report was given by Tim Eaton, Board Member.
- ♦ FWB Foundation report was given by Richard Davis, Accounting Administrator.
- ♦ Board of Retirement and Insurance report was given by John Brummitt, Chief Financial Officer.

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. Mark Headrick (First, Henderson).

Thursday Evening, June 9, 2011

Evening Worship Service – 7:00 PM

Presiding: Robert Posner (Collin Creek, Plano)

Music Director: Allen King (First, Henderson)

Pianist: Cindy Grimes (First, Duncanville)

Organist: Sherrie Anderson (First, Duncanville)

Guitarist: Jaron Ward (First, Duncanville)

Congregational Song: "Majesty"

Scripture reading (II Peter 2:1, 17-22) by Clyde Gillentine.

Congregational Songs: "Doxology", "We Are the Body of Christ", "In the Service of the King"

Offering was received (\$227.36).

Offertory song: "What Are You Waiting For?", by Ashley Beatty (Magnolia, Magnolia).

Special Music by the Convention Choir: "Rock of Ages"

Message by Rev. Larry Powell, FWB Home Missions, Nashville, TN –

"Living by Faith" (Hebrews 11:1-3)

Introduction: Imagine a situation in which you encounter a bear in the forest. Your only way of escape is a hunting cabin, which is nearby and the door of which you can seal to keep the bear out.

I. Faith is not fully explained by knowledge or experience, but it is supported by them and is manifested by actions based on them. Some knowledge about bears and their actions (e.g., their size or color) is not relevant in this situation, but some is (e.g., their ability to run and climb trees, their carnivorous nature, their inability to open locked doors).

II. Faith is not always spoken or fully described, but it is revealed in the actions we take (e.g., closing a strong wooden door that is sealed with an iron bar).

III. Faith is not based on feelings (e.g., even after closing the door, you may not “feel” safe for some time, though, in fact, you are).

IV. Faith works hand in hand with patience; the passage of time does not diminish true faith and it can enhance it.

Standing vote of thanks to the host church, First FWB Church of Duncanville.

Dismissed in prayer by Jeff Cates (Canyon Country, Canyon).

Friday Morning, June 10, 2011 – 8:30 AM

Presiding: Keith Woody

Music Director: Allen King

Pianist: Mitzi Burks

Congregational Song: “Redeemed”

Scripture reading (II Tim. 3:16; II Cor 6:17-18, Eph. 6:13-14) and prayer, led by John Davis (Thomaston, Thomaston).

Presentation on the history and 400th anniversary of the King James Version of the Bible was made by Richard Terry and Jared Oakes (First, Duncanville).

Reports from State Ministries and Boards:

- ♦ TWAC Report was given by Kareen Rust, TWAC Vice-President (written report on pp. 55-61 in the 2011 Yearbook), received as information.
- ♦ Nominating Committee report was given by Clarence Hearron (copy attached). MMS&C to receive the report.
- ♦ Christian Education Board report was given by Allen King (written report is located on page 51 of the Yearbook, with 2010 financial statement and 2011 budget on pp. 52-54).
 - ✓ There were 23 youth registered and seven entries in youth competitive activities at this year’s Texas Youth Conference. All of the entries will be going on to compete at the National Youth Conference in Charlotte, NC, in July.
 - ✓ The Board has scheduled a Men’s Retreat for the first weekend in December, at Three Mountain Retreat near Lake Whitney.
 - ✓ MMS&C to receive the Christian Education Board report and adopt the budget.
 - ✓ Christian Education Board positions were elected as nominated by the Nominating Committee.
- ♦ Missions Board report was given by Robert Posner (written report is on p. 43 of the Yearbook, with financial reports and budgets on pp. 44-50).
 - ✓ The work in Canyon (Jeff Cates) is growing quickly. Their new building is complete and they are considering an expansion for classrooms and educational space. The Cates are in the final year of their contract with the Board and the Board is considering a contract extension.
 - ✓ The CrossRoads work in Lubbock (Mike Scott) is doing well and growing. They had their first VBS and Christmas program last year, making new contacts, and they are looking forward to other new endeavors.
 - ✓ The North Oaks work in San Antonio (Don Bailey) is finished with the exterior of their building and are working with the city on items to complete the interior.
 - ✓ The CrossLife mission in San Antonio (Jeremy Lightsey) has outgrown their current meeting space and are negotiating for a new storefront facility that would allow them to eventually expand into adjoining space for classrooms and activities.
 - ✓ The new work by Randall and Collette Wright in McKinney is about to be officially underway. The Wrights have raised their support and have moved to the McKinney area and are now settling in to make contacts and begin preparations for worship services in the fall. Two other families will be moving to join them; please pray for them as they deal with issues related to family health and finding a new job in the area.
 - ✓ The new Light of Life work in McAllen is underway, under the leadership of Greg Yacobian. They have been having home-based Bible studies for quite awhile and are now looking to move

into church facilities to formally begin and grow their ministry.

- ✓ MMS&C to receive the Missions Board report and adopt the budget.
- ✓ Missions Board positions were elected as nominated by the Nominating Committee.
- ♦ Registration report (copy attached) was given by Marcus Brewer; there were 133 registered for the meeting, received as information.
- ♦ Executive Board report was given by Marcus Brewer (written reports and financial reports on pp. 34-41 of the Yearbook).
 - ✓ MMS&C to receive the Executive Board report.
 - ✓ Discussion was held concerning the proposal to investigate possibilities of having future meetings at a centralized location with facilities and lodging included. MMS&C to authorize the State Office coordinator to research the availability of such facilities and the relative benefits and costs of hosting meetings at those locations. The State Office Coordinator will report findings at the Executive Board meeting in January.
- ♦ Hillsdale FWB College report was given by Clyde Gillentine (written report on p. 64 of the Yearbook).
 - ✓ MMS&C to receive the report.
 - ✓ Hillsdale Trustees were elected as nominated by the Nominating Committee.
- ♦ Texas Challenge report was given by Sally Wilcox (written report on p. 42 of the Yearbook), received as information.
- ♦ Treasurer's Report was given by John Davis, received as information.
- ♦ MMS&C to adopt the distribution for state Cooperative giving as recommended by the Executive Board and General Board.

MMS&C to remove the constitutional amendments from the table.

MMS&C to adopt the amendment as recommended by the General Board.

Remaining Business:

- ♦ Resolutions Committee report was read by the clerk (copy attached). MMS&C to receive report and all items.
- ♦ Executive Board positions were elected as nominated by the Nominating Committee.
- ♦ MMS&C to give the Moderator the authority to appoint delegates to the National Convention.
- ♦ MMS&C to accept the invitation of the First FWB Church of Henderson to host the 2012 annual meeting.
- ♦ Obituary report was given by Marcus Brewer (copy attached).
- ♦ Letter from the State Association to the National Association was read. MMS&C to accept the report.
- ♦ MMS&C to adjourn the business session.

Dismissed in prayer by Doug Dickey (Fellowship, Bryan).

Minutes taken and typed by Marcus A. Brewer
Clerk, Texas State Association of Free Will Baptists

Constitutional Amendment Recommended by the General Board on Committees

- ♦ Article XI: Committees shall be amended as follows:

Section 1: The moderator shall ~~appoint~~ announce the appointment of a Committee on Committees Resolutions Committee, a Credentials Committee, and a Nominating Committee during the first business session of the first day of each annual convention.

Section 2: The Committee on Committees shall nominate the following committee consisting of three members: Resolutions.

Section 3: The Nominating Committee shall present nominations for the standing boards and the state officers ~~with the exception of the executive secretary~~, but the association shall in no wise prevent members from making nominations from the floor.

Section 4: ~~The moderator shall appoint other committees as necessary, or as otherwise provided for, which shall hold office until their assigned work is completed or until their successors are appointed.~~

Section 4: The Credentials Committee shall examine all letters from local churches and district associations to make sure they are in order, with all fees paid, and recommend to the association that their delegates be seated.

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Credentials Committee Report

The Credentials Committee has received letters and representation fees from the following district associations:

Central Texas (20 churches),
East Texas (10 churches),
West Fork (11 churches),
West Texas (6 churches), and
Rio Grande Valley (1 church).

These districts are entitled to one delegate for each hundred members or fractional part thereof. The West Texas District report includes all six churches, though they received no report or dues from Heritage Parks FWB Church in Abilene. The Central Texas District, the West Fork District, and the West Texas District have specified no delegates to the State Association. Larry Melton has been appointed as a delegate from the East Texas District. We recommend that these districts and their respective delegates be seated.

The Credentials Committee has received supplemental local church letters from the following churches:

First, Henderson	Good Hope, Henderson
Lifegate, Tyler	Bright Light, College Station
Cross, Iola	CrossLife, San Antonio
Eagle Heights, Sugar Land	Eastside, Houston
Evergreen, Iola	Fellowship, Bryan
First, Houston	Iglesia Bautista Libre, Houston
Lakehills, Cedar Park	Liberation, Houston
Lighthouse, Victoria	Magnolia, Magnolia
New Beginnings, Bryan	North Oaks, San Antonio
North Point, Conroe	North Zulch, North Zulch
Pine Prairie, Huntsville	Thomaston, Thomaston
Wildwood, Porter	Faith, Wichita Falls
New Salem, Decatur	

The Lifegate FWB Church in Tyler has named Larry and Diana Melton as local church delegates. The First FWB Church in Henderson has named Mitzi Burks and Allen King as local church delegates. In their letter, the First FWB Church in Henderson also requests the honor of hosting the 2012 State Association annual meeting, in conjunction with the celebration of the church's 60th anniversary.

We recommend that these local church delegates be seated and that the request by the First FWB Church in Henderson be acted upon at the appropriate time in the Friday morning business session.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcus A. Brewer, Chair
Chuck Vaughan
John Davis

Registration Report –

97th Annual Session of the Texas State Association of Free Will Baptists

Out-of-State FWB Visitors	11
Texas State Officers	5
Texas Ordained Ministers	25
Texas Ordained Deacons	4
Wife of Texas Ordained Minister or Deacon	20
Elected Delegates	1
Texas FWB (non-delegate)	67
Other Visitor	0

Pre-registered	94
Registered on-site	39

TOTAL REGISTRATION133

Respectfully submitted,
Marcus A. Brewer
Clerk, Texas State Association of Free Will Baptists

Nominating Committee Report

State Officers:

Moderator, replacing Keith Woody (2012) Keith Woody
Assistant Moderator, replacing Clarence Hearron (2012) Clarence Hearron
Clerk, replacing Marcus Brewer (2013) Marcus Brewer
Assistant Clerk, replacing Chuck Vaughan (2012) Chuck Vaughan
Executive Board Member-at-Large, replacing Richard Terry (2012) Richard Terry

Mission/Church Extension Board:

Chairman, Robert Posner (2013)
Treasurer, replacing David Rudd (2014) David Rudd
Member, Randy Puckett (2012)
Member, Secundino Urena (2013)
Member, replacing Faron Thebeau (2014) Faron Thebeau

Christian Education Board:

Chairman, replacing Ken Austin (2014) Ken Austin
Secretary, Marilu McDonald (2012)
Treasurer, Allen King (2013)
Competition Chair, Teresa Voltz (2013)
Member, replacing Kyle Howell (2014) Kyle Howell

Hillsdale Trustees:

Replacing Clyde Gillentine (2014) Clyde Gillentine
Replacing Eugene Richards (2014) Doug Dickey
National Association General Board Member: Keith Woody (2012)

Respectfully submitted,
Clarence Hearron, Chairman
Richard Terry
Faron Thebeau

State Association Committees Appointed

Resolutions Committee

Nominating Committee

Credentials Committee

Obituary Committee Report - 2010

CHURCH MEMBERS

Central Texas District

Eastside, Houston

Irene Click

James Kessenger

Shirley Knight

Barbara Reese

Evergreen, Iola

Adele Dirickson

R.W. (Bob) Hare

Fellowship, Bryan

Fred Dollar*

Lakehills, Cedar Park

Don Wager

North Zulch, North Zulch

Sibyl Windham

Pine Prairie, Huntsville

Sam Clements*

Lloyd Davis

East Texas District

Buncombe, Carthage

Harriet Thompson

First, Carthage

Viola Powell

First, Henderson

Norma McCune

Lifegate, Tyler

Truman Jones

Union Arbor, Beckville

Melba McDowell

*Denotes Deacon

Resolutions Committee Report

Resolved, that the Texas State Association of Free Will Baptists give the First Free Will Baptist Church, Duncanville, a standing vote of thanks in appreciation for their wonderful hospitality during this year's state meeting.

Respectfully,
Mark Headrick, Chairman
William Bushong
Michael Scott

