### The Thirty-Fifth Annual Session of the

## Twin Cities Association Of Free Will Baptists

meeting with the

St. Mark Free Will Baptist Church
Of Phenix City, Alabama

October 8, 2011
Minutes of the 2011 Sessions

Meeting Schedule for 2012

### TWIN CITIES DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR

Moderator	Rev. Aaron Baldridge
Asst. Moderator	
Clerk/Treasurer	Glenda George
Asst. Clerk/Treasurer	Edward Newman

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Rev. Aaron Baldridge Glenda George, Clerk Bro. Gary Clegg Bro. Lester Thornton

#### **ORDAINING COUNCIL**

Rev. Ricky Ward	2012
Rev.Willie Martin	
ORDAINED MINISTERS IN TWIN CITIES DISTRICT ASSOC	CIATION
Rev. Aaron Baldridge, 7047 Stoneridge Circle, Columbus, GA 31909 706 Rev. Aaron Harris, 5001 Riverchase Dr. #411, Phenix City, AL 36867 70	
Rev. Ronnie Knighton, 941 52 <sup>nd</sup> Street, Columbus, GA 31904 706-571-9 Rev. Willie Martin, 6329 Cricket Lane, Columbus, GA 31909 706-563-8 Rev. Alton Sellers, 4001 Auburn Road, Phenix City, AL 36870 334-298-	8440
Rev. Ricky Ward, 2303 45th Avenue, Phenix City, AL 36867 334-480-03	

#### TWIN CITIES CAMP DIRECTORS

Rev. Willie Martin, Director (2013) Rev. Aaron Harris, Asst. Director (2013)

#### YOUTH RALLY DIRECTORS

Director (2011) Joey George, Asst. Director (2011)

#### STATE BOARD MEMBERS

Missions Board	Rev. Aaron Baldridge (2013)
Trustee Board	Bro. Jim Tidwell (2013)
Camp Board	Rev. Aaron Harris (2013)
Christian Education Board	Rev. Willie Martin (2013)

#### DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES, PASTORS, CLERKS AND ADDRESSES

DIRECTORY OF CH	URCHES, PASTORS, CLER	KS AND ADDRESSES
<b>CHURCH</b>	PASTOR	<u>CLERK</u>
Bethel 10250 Lee Road Phenix City, AL 36870 334-448-0103	None	Thelma Green 479 Lee Road 211 Phenix City, AL 36870 334-298-8122
Calvary 6165 Billings Road Columbus, GA 31909 706-563-7031	Rev. Aaron Baldridge 7047 Stoneridge Circle Columbus, GA 31909 706-561-1356	David Van Pelt 794 Diamond Circle Waverly Hall, GA 31821 706-582-3989
First 952 54th Street	Rev. Willie Martin 6329 Cricket Lane	Glenda George 288 Buckhead Ridge
Columbus, GA 31904 706-324-1741	Columbus, GA 31909 706-563-8440	Fortson, GA 31808 706-596-9357
St. Mark 3005 Sandfort Road Phenix City, AL 36867 334-298-8015	Rev. Aaron Harris 5001 Riverchase Dr. #411 Phenix City, AL 36867 706-593-1651	Lewana Jones 25 Lee Rd. 771, Lot 15 Smiths, AL 36877 706-289-5673
Weems Road 3400 Weems Road Columbus, GA 31909 706-327-0053	None	Juanita Bowens 6217 Highland Avenue Columbus, GA 31909 706-327-1722
White Rock #4 Crawford Church Rd. Phenix City, AL 36869 334-297-6852	Rev. Ricky Ward 2303 45th Avenue Phenix City, AL 36867 334-480-0346	Betty Ellis 22 Robin Lane Phenix City, AL 36869 334-297-0895

#### January 8, 2011

The Twin Cities Association met at Bethel Free Will Baptist Church.

Opening Song: "I'll Fly Away" pg. 648

Opening Prayer: by Steve Hubbard

Welcome by Moderator: Rev. Aaron Baldridge

Morning Devotion by: Rev. Aaron Baldridge, scripture taken from 2 Samuel

6:1-15, "Worship God on His Terms"

M/S/C to seat all delegates.

M/S/C to accept minutes of previous meeting as read.

M/S/C to receive digest and treasurer's report as read.

M/S/C to receive Youth Rally report as read.

No visitors to recognize, no church letters or resolutions.

Dismissed for brunch in prayer by Rev. Aaron Baldridge.

State Mission Board report was given by Rev. Aaron Baldridge. He stated there was nothing to report as they have not met. He said that giving to State Coop and Acts 1:18 has decreased. The budget therefore had been decreased by 10%. Mission salaries were back as they were before. Rev. Baldridge stressed that everyone needs to support missions which helps to start churches. M/S/C to receive as information.

State Trustee Board report was given by Rev. Aaron Baldridge in Jim Tidwell's absence. He stated there was nothing to report as they had not met.

Women Active for Christ report was given by Debra Van Pelt. The report is attached to the minutes.

State Christian Education Board report given by Rev. Willie Martin. He stated retreats are listed in Promotional Bulletin. The deadline for registering for the Couple's Retreat at Lake Blackshear is drawing near. The Minister's Retreat is also coming up. He stated to watch promotional bulletins for historical information. Rev. Martin also stated that he is working on a report about Camp Mt. Bethel. M/S/C to receive as information.

Twin Cities Camp - Nothing to report.

State Camp Board-Rev. Baldridge stressed giving and co-op.

#### Old Business:

As voted on in the previous meeting on July 10, 2010, one minister and one member of each church to be selected to form a committee to look at Bylaws, church representation, and ministers present at Associational meetings. Rev. Baldridge stated he will be in touch with a date and time to meet.

#### New Business:

The Association has two churches without pastors. They need our prayers.

M/S/C to give host church, Bethel FWB, a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality.

It was decided at the National Meeting in Oklahoma in 2010 that the state representation dues for each church would be raised from \$100 to \$150 beginning in 2012.

M/S/C to raise church associational dues from \$55 to \$75 beginning the second quarter meeting in 2011 (April 9, 2011). It was stated that each church needs to be proactive in sending associational dues.

M/S for Association to give \$300 to Naomi Hayes to help with funeral costs for her husband, Rev. Bobby Hayes who recently deceased. Motion carried.

M/S/C to receive the day's Digest report.

M/S/C to adjourn.

Morning Message given by Rev. Earl Ransom. Scripture taken from Matthew 16:13-19, "A Fresh New Look at the Church."

Respectfully Submitted

Rev. Aaron Baldridge, Moderator Sis. Glenda F. George, Clerk/Treasurer

#### Date January 8, 2011

#### **DIGEST REPORT**

Deacons Present.	Business Meeting tt	11
Visitors Present	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	0
Total Present	•••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	40
<u>1-22-11 You</u>	uth RallyAttendance with Change Offeri	<u>ngs</u>
Bethel	12	\$0.00
Calvary		\$0.00
•	5	\$ 15.70
St. Mark	0	\$0.00
Weems		\$158.64
Whiterock	<u>10</u>	\$106.25
Total Children &	Change49	\$280.59
Adults		
Total in Attendance	ce 83	
	TREASURER'S REPORT	
Balance Brought	Forward\$	7,559.90
Deposited		
•	Churches	\$ 385.00
Chang	ge Trophy	\$ 280.59
_	Offering for Naomi Hayes\$	
	reasury\$1	-
Paid Out:		
State a	nd National Dues (Real Life)	.\$100.00
Printin	g of Minutes (Fed-Ex Office)	.\$186.45
Naomi	Hayes\$	2,140.00
Camp.	Joey (Twin Cities Camp)	.\$100.00
Twin C	Cities Inflatable\$	1,250.00
Balance in Treas	ury\$	6,289.04
Association Money	\$4,177.54	
Camp Money	\$1,819.27	
Youth Competition	\$146.08	
Men's Retreat	\$146.18	

## Twin Cities Women Active for Christ January 8, 2011

On November 20, 2010, women from First Church and Calvary conducted a 12 hour prayer vigil in conjunction with our WNAC Pre-Thanksgiving Week of Prayer. We met in pairs from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. to pray for our national leaders, legislators, churches, pastors, missionaries, and personal prayer requests that were left at the altar. At 6:00 p.m. we all gathered back at the church to have a concert of prayer and end the day together in a circle of prayer. All said there was a "sweet spirit in this place".

Upcoming we have our annual Twin Cities Women Active for Christ Convention at First Church on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will gather at 9:30 for registration and begin at 9:45 for our meeting. Two important items on the agenda are election of new officers and determining a new date for our annual meeting as we are currently meeting after reports are due to the State Officers. Please encourage all women to attend this important meeting.

Also, Georgia Women Active for Christ will meet at First Church in Albany on March 17<sup>th</sup> at the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Georgia Free Will Baptists Convention. This will be an exciting meeting of reflection on our past and future. We hope to have a good turn out for this meeting.

Respectfully Submitted-New Van Red, President TOWAL

#### **DISTRICT AUXILIARY NEWS**

Hello Sister Auxiliaries,

My name is Mary Prather and I am President of the Auxiliary at First Free Will Baptist Church of Columbus. I am so excited to send out our very first newsletter! In March at our Twin Cities District meeting, we discussed ways to share what is going on in our Twin Cities Auxiliary, in which we have 6 Churches. The answer: A quarterly newsletter!

Our hopes are that this newsletter will keep us all connected on what other sisters have going on. Maybe you are having a fundraiser, prayer vigil, or any activity that is benefitting our missionaries. Maybe you need special prayer for a member or loved one. These are examples of things that would go in the newsletter. Anything that your auxiliary is doing that may be newsworthy can be sent to me and will be included in future newsletters.

As you know we are the mission arm of the church. We support Missionaries by having special fundraisers throughout the year like suppers, cake sales, yard sales, etc. God has not called us to the mission field, but we are honored and thankful that he will use us to pray and support them.

Calvary FWB hosted a luncheon for our Home Missionaries to Alaska, Ronald and Janice Wallace. The luncheon went very well and we are so thankful for Calvary's willingness to host this special luncheon for such a special group of people.

In the month of March, First Church had 2 breakfasts to help raise money to send 15 ladies to the state retreat in Norman Park. These were successful fundraisers and we nearly made enough money to send all 15 ladies! Thankfully, our Master's Men pitched in and donated the difference. We were very grateful to them for their help.

As you can see, we are busy about the Lord's work. There is so much to share and I am praying through our newsletter that we will all become better acquainted with each other and possibly work closer with each other in the future. I know that this is God's will for us.

So let me know what is happening in your church. We are here for you and we love each of our sister auxiliaries or as we are currently known, Women Active for Christ (WAC).

Your Sister in Christ,

Mary Präther 306 49<sup>th</sup> Street

Columbus, GA 31904 Phone: 706-327-6879

Dates to remember:

District Fellowship Suppers: April 28, 2011 - Calvary at 7:00 July 28, 2011 - 1<sup>st</sup> Church at 7:00 October 27, 2011 - Calvary at 7:00

We hope you are able to attend. We have a great time full of fun, fellowship and praise! All that is missing is you!

#### April 9, 2011

The Twin Cities Association met at Calvary Free Will Baptist Church.

Opening Song: "Heaven's Jubilee" pg. 676 led by Ronnie Knighton

Opening Prayer: by Rev. Baldridge

Welcome by Moderator: Rev. Aaron Baldridge

Morning Devotion by: Rev. Ricky Ward, scripture taken from Daniel 6:10 "We

Need to Be Like Daniel"

M/S/C to seat all delegates.

M/S/C to accept minutes of previous meeting as read.

M/S/C to receive digest and treasurer's report as read.

M/S/C to receive Youth Rally report as read.

No visitors to recognize. One church letter. No resolutions.

There will be an executive committee meeting during the break.

Dismissed for brunch in prayer by Rev. Willie Martin.

Executive Board Committee report. The Board met via telephone on January 26, 2011, for the purpose of voting to send representation fees to the State for Real Life Free Will Baptist Church. The Board also met at the break and decided the fees for the support of Real Life Free Will Baptist should come from associational monies. M/S/C Rev. Willie wanted Moderator Rev. Aaron Baldridge to share with the congregation that Jay Hollis' son had to have emergency surgery on his finger from a boating accident, and thus the reason for Rev. Hollis' absence from the meeting.

Twin Cities Camp report was given by Rev. Willie Martin. Camp will be at Camp Joy again this year. Correspondence has been handed out. Attendance is down. Rev. Martin stated that Jesus was born in a stable, and we shouldn't be too good to go anywhere. Don't wait until the last minute to decide to go as it puts undue stress on the director. Another inflatable has been purchased (bounce house) for \$1,250.00. State Camp sending \$1,000, but other sources of income is the youth change trophy. Camp is \$12 per person per day (\$6 per person per day under age 12). Pray for a life guard for camp. M/S/C to receive as information.

Christian Education Board report given by Rev. Willie Martin. Ministers Retreat is April 25-27, 2011. Dr. Picirilli to speak. He is 80 years old, and this may be his last speaking engagement. Rev. Martin suggested that everyone look at their Promotional Bulletins for other retreats. There was also an article in the March 2011 issue regarding Camp Mount Bethel written by Rev. Willie Martin. M/S/C as information.

Sister Nadine Blanton reported that the Senior Retreat will be held the week of November 1, 2011. Pastors need to encourage seniors to attend.

State Camp Board report. Teen Camp will be June 5-10, 2011, at Lizella, Georgia.

Mission Board report given by Aaron Baldridge. They met three times in January at Whiteoaks Free Will Baptist Church, Macon, Georgia. Jay Hollis is the at the mid-way point for his evaluation. The locality of the church in Harris County averages attendance of twenty to thirty. There is a possibility of moving to the La Grange area and begin Angel Food which may give some exposure. Received notice of resignation from Bill Crank on March 29, 2011. He and Sister Lorraine need our prayers. They are having several family issues, and the church is going through some things. With the Acts 1:8 missions, all Japan missionaries are state side. They need those coin banks. Give to help Japan, World Missions. Send coin banks to Bro. William Smith. Pray for International Missions staff. They are lacking funding, and are having to trim down staff. If every church supports coop and Acts 1:8, it would make a big difference. Remember missionaries in Libya, Egypt, and the Ivory Coast. If Shiite government takes over, Christians will be killed. M/S/C as information.

Jim Tidwell had no information to report for Trustee Board.

Woman Active for Christ report given by Debra Van Pelt which is attached to the minutes. M/S/C as information.

#### Old Business

Rev. Aaron Baldridge has not called the By-law Committee meeting. Going to wait until October, until each church has a pastor.

#### **New Business**

Letter from Calvary requesting to move Youth Rally to April 30, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. M/S/C

There was a motion to permanently move Youth Rally in July one week later which would be three weeks from Associational Meeting. This year the Youth Rally will be July 30. Motion seconded and carried.

Calvary Revival beginning April 10, 2011. They will provide dinner from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Co-op Revival will be held at First Church from May 2 through 4, 2011. Rev. Chris Rumfelt from Hainesville, NC will be the speaker.

Each church is to provide \$150 for this revival. On Monday night, Calvary, Real Life and White Rock will be in charge of music, Tuesday night, First Church and Bethel and Wednesday night, Weems Road and St. Mark.

Motion, second and carried to give host church, Calvary Free Will Baptist, a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality.

Motion, second and carried to dismiss business meeting.

Special singing by Leslie Baldridge - Help Will Come in Time. He will take you through the fire again.

Morning Message given by Rev. Aaron Baldridge. Scripture taken from II Timothy 3:16, Paul writing to Timothy and to all preachers and teachers.

Respectfully Submitted

Rev. Aaron Baldridge, Moderator Sis. Glenda F. George, Clerk/Treasurer

#### Date April 9, 2011

#### **DIGEST REPORT**

#### Business Meeting at Bethel FWB Church

Ministers Present	6
Deacons Present	
Delegates Present	16
Visitors Present	
Total Present	
4-30-11 Youth RallyAttendance with Change Offeri	<u>ngs</u>
Bethel0	\$0.00
Calvary8	\$0.00
First1	\$25.78
St. Mark0	\$0.00
Weems6	\$101.30
Whiterock4	\$205.00
Real Life <u>0</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
Total Children & Change19	\$332.08
Adults28	
Total in Attendance47	
TREASURER'S REPORT	
Balance Brought Forward	66,289.04
Deposited:	
From Churches	\$450.00
Change Trophy	\$332.08
Coop Revival	
Coop Offering	<u>\$447.86</u>
Total in Treasury	88,418.98
D :10 4	
Paid Out:	00 151 15
Twin Cities Camp (Camp Joy)	•
Chris Rumfelt	•
V alley Rescue Mission (Men's Retreat Deposit).	
Balance in Treasury	54,819.95
Association Money \$4,627.54	
Camp Money \$0.18	
Youth Competition \$146.05	
Men's Retreat \$46.18	

Mission Board Report

April 9, 2011

The mission board has met three times since our quarterly meeting. In January we met at White Oak FWB Church in Macon, GA. The main purpose was to evaluate Jay Hollis. The work in Harris County is progressing more slowly than we would like to see but God is changing lives and we are excited about that. There was some discussion about the location of the church in southern Harris county. The board instructed Jay to examine the feasibility of moving the work to the LaGrange area. Real Life needs our prayers as they seek to reach people in Harris county for Christ. They have recently begun an Angel Food Ministry that is giving them some additional exposure in the community.

The board met during the state meeting, March 16. The board met again with Jay Hollis regarding the Harris County work. There does not seem to be any open doors in the LaGrange area at this time. Jay stated that they are starting small group Bible studies on Sunday evenings and there are some couples in the church that are hosting them. It is a great sign to see people take ownership in the work. The board before received a notice of resignation the day before this meeting from Bill Crank. The board instructed him to be present at the meeting and he choose not be present. After much discussion, it was decided that the board needed to meet with Bro. Bill and the church people in Cartersville to determine what next steps to take.

We meet with Bro. Bill on March 29 at the Cartersville Church. After a very lengthy discussion it was approved by the board to accept Bro. Bill's resignation and the contract with him was nullified. Bro. Bill agreed to stay at the church until at least December as a "tent maker." The state will be making the building payments during that time, but Bro. Bill will not be receiving a salary from the state mission board. He is going to find a job in the Cartersville area. There are several family issues that are also putting a great of strain on Bill and Loraine and they certainly do need our prayers.

Please remember to pray daily for our mission works and missionaries. It is my privilege to serve as our associations representative on the GAFWB Mission Board.

Aaron Baldridge

#### Twin Cities Women Active for Christ Report to Twin Cities District FWB Association April 9, 2011

On March 17, the ladies of Georgia met in Albany at First Church to conduct our 75<sup>th</sup> annual conference. Janice and Ron Wallace from Alaska were our guest speakers. Past President, Martha Everson gave some wonderful history of our women. It was a blessing.

Coming up.....

April 15-16 will be the GWAC Retreat in Norman Park. Sandy Atwood will be the speaker on Saturday. The theme is SEEK. The retreat is always a time of fun and fellowship. Hope you are planning on attending.

April 28<sup>th</sup> is our next District Fellowship Supper and will be held at Calvary. The menu is salads. We would love to have ladies from all our churches in attendance. It starts at 7:00.

We are planning another "Prayer Day" for our District. Originally it was planned for April 30<sup>th</sup> but the Youth Rally has been changed to that date. A notice will be sent to all churches when a date is nailed down.

Our District Annual Conference has been changed from January to October to allow us time to get reports to the State Level on time. October 15, 2011 will be the date and will be held at Calvary.

I want to thank the new TCWAC Executive Board for agreeing to serve. The Board was elected at our meeting this past January. The officers are:

Nadine Blanton, Mission Chair Sue Flowers, Prayer Chair Bobbie Jordan, Study Chair Dianne Martin, Service Chair Mary Prather, Field Worker Tiffany Chaffin, Historian Brooke Prather, Treasurer Leslie Baldridge, Secretary Heather Ellison, Vice President Debra Van Pelt, President

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Van Pelt, President Twin Cities Women Active for Christ July 9, 2011

The Twin Cities Association met at First Free Will Baptist Church on July 9, 2011.

Opening Song: He's Been So Good To Me, pg. 570 led by Ronnie Knighton

Welcome by Moderator: Rev. Aaron Baldridge

Opening Prayer: Rev. Ricky Ward

Morning Devotion: Rev. Aaron Baldridge, scripture taken from John 11:43

"Take Off the Grave Clothes"

M/S/C to seat all delegates that were present at the day's meeting.

M/S/C to accept minutes of previous meeting as read.

M/S/C to receive digest and treasurer s report as read.

No visitors to recognize.

One church letter from St. Mark. Request to ratify Rev. Aaron J. Harris' credentials.

There will be an ordination committee meeting at the break.

Dismissed for brunch in prayer by Tony Mitchell.

The Trustee Board has not met.

Mission Board report given by Aaron Baldridge and is attached to the minutes. M/S/C to receive as information. Rev. Willie Martin made an observation stating that when the Mission Board makes decisions, they are difficult ones, and that they are doing the right thing.

Twin Cities Camp and Financial report were given by Rev. Willie Martin and are attached to the minutes. M/S/C to receive as information. The Association gave a standing ovation to the camp workers.

State Christian Education Board report given by Rev. Willie Martin. The State Education Board has not met. He stated to look at the Promotion Bulletin. There is a minister's wife retreat scheduled in September. Rev. Baldridge encourages churches to support their minister's wives who want to attend the retreat.

Women Active for Christ report given by Debra Van Pelt which is attached to the minutes. M/S/C to receive as information.

No State Camp Board report given.

The Ordaining Council suggested that the Association request a letter of good standing from Cumberland Association for Rev. Aaron Harris' credentials. M/S/C

Rev. Willie Martin submitted two resolutions: 1) the guidelines for the Bounce House and 2) looking into the feasibility of a student from the Free Will Baptist Bible College to come during 2012 for summer ministry. This resolution was amended to add that Rev. Willie Martin was to head up the study. M/S/C

**New Business** 

The 2012 Nominating Committee is designated as follows:

Ronnie Knighton, First Church - Chair Linn Hayes, Bethel Dean Miles, Calvary Gary Clegg, St. Mark Ellen Pilgreen, Weems Road Lester Thornton, White Rock M/S/C

Motion, second and carried to give host church, First Free Will Baptist, a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality.

Leslie Baldridge stated that the Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Adamsville is hosting a Southern Ladies Retreat, Sept. 9-10 entitled "Beautiful in His Eyes." Details of this event are attached to the minutes. There will more information forthcoming. M/S/C to receive as information.

Youth Rally will be at First Church on July 30, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. M/S/C to receive as information.

There will be a group singing at Whiterock. M/S/C as information.

There will be a Talent Show and Hot Dog Supper at First Church on August 13, 2011, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

M/S/C to dismiss business meeting.

Singing led by Ronnie Knighton, pg. 654, "Oh I Want To See Him"

Morning Message given by Rev. Willie Martin. Scripture taken from Ephesians 4:30 Christian Sins

Respectfully Submitted

Rev. Aaron Baldridge, Moderator Sis. Glenda F. George, Clerk/Treasurer

#### July 9, 2011

#### **DIGEST REPORT**

#### Business Meeting at Bethel FWB Church

Ministers Present	5
Deacons Present	8
Delegates Present	23
Visitors Present	<u>6</u>
Total Present	42
7-30-11 Youth RallyAttendance with Change Offerin	<u>igs</u>
Bethel2	\$0.00
Calvary2	\$0.00
First33	\$21.22
St. Mark5	\$0.00
Weems15	\$58.50
Whiterock9	<u>\$122.25</u>
Total Children & Change66	\$201.97
Adults <u>45</u>	
Total in Attendance111	
TREASURER'S REPORT	
Balance Brought Forward	\$4,819.95
Deposited: From Churches	\$450.00
Change Trophy	
TCA Camp Money	
Total in Treasury	
Paid Out:	.00,000.22
***************************************	\$0.00
Balance in Treasury	\$8,835.22
Association Money \$5,077.54	
Camp Money \$3,565.45	
Youth Competition \$146.05	
Men's Retreat \$46.18	

### Georgia Association of Free Will Baptists Missions Board Report to Twin Cities Association of Free Will Baptists

July 9, 2011

The past few months have been difficult ones for the missions board. Rev. Jay Hollis submitted his resignation mid April. He and his family have returned to Bowling Green, KY. Please remember their family in prayer as they seek the Lord's direction for their ministry. We are thankful for the work they did in Harris County and hope restart a work in our area at a later date.

Since the last association meeting the board has met twice with Rev. Bill Crank about the Cartersville work. The church has gone through several strings of difficulty and lost several people. As a result there have been some changes in the work there. Rev. Crank had resigned earlier. The board renegotiated the contract with him and he is now working as a bi-vocational church planter attempted to revive the work in Cartersville. They are running about 50 in services. Offerings there have plummeted and they are not able to make payments on the building. The mission board voted to put the property up for sale. There is already an interested buyer, before the building was even put on the market. A church in Cartersville was destroyed by the tornado that went through the area a couple of months ago. We are in preliminary talks with them. Please make this a matter of great prayer.

Giving to Acts 1:8 is down significantly which impacts not only our work in Cartersville, but also our national and international missionaries that we support through the program. Please encourage your churches to continue to support and pray for our missionaries.

Because He Lives,

Rev. Aaron R. Baldridge

Missions Board representative

### Twin Cities Women Active for Christ July 9, 2011 Report for TCFWB Quarterly Meeting

We would like for all women to join us for our Quarterly Fellowship Supper on Thursday, July 28th at 7:00 at polyany. First Church

We are looking forward to our Twin Cities' WAC Annual Convention which will be October 15<sup>th</sup> at Calvary. Henrietta Brown has agreed to be our speaker and bring our special music for the meeting. We'll give you more information as we near this event.

As our main purpose is to support home and international missions, I'd like to ask that you remember our missionaries in your prayers. Also, please pray for the National Office as they search for a Missions Director.

Also, be in prayer for the National Association Meeting and WNAC Convention which will be held in Charlotte, NC this month.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Van Pelt, President

Twin Cities Women Active for Christ

### TWIN CITIES 2011 CAMP REPORT

Held at Camp Joy, Hamilton, Georgia May 29th-June 1st

Thankfully, Camp Joy welcomed us back this year. I did not travel last year to camp near Valdosta, but it tired me just thinking about the miles others had to drive to camp in 2010. As far as I am concerned, Camp Joy serves us well. I continue to listen for something else local, and I have checked out camps within a 75 mile radius of us. I have found nothing comparable to the price and amenities of Camp Joy. In fact, even with a price increase per person to rent Camp Joy this year, we experienced a drastic reduction in rental fees. We used to pay \$10 per night per person. The price went up to \$12 per person per night, however, any child 12 and under is \$6.00 per child per night! Calculate those savings.

We had 44 campers this year, 19 adult workers, and 2, 4yr. olds with a parent, for a total of 67. This was an increase over last year's total of 35 campers and 15 workers. With stronger association support, we could minister to a much larger group although most churches were represented in camp this year.

I purchased another large commercial inflatable "bounce house" for the children this year. It was a re-possession from the company where we purchased the slide. It was in very good shape and the entire cost was \$1,250. Our small association is blessed to have the finances to supply our children with such enjoyable things. If we take care of them we should get some years of use from them. Thanks to all the churches that support the "Change Trophy!" It is hard to imagine that since our last camp session, \$1,029.88 was received to help us in camp. The money really gives us a boost.

Thanks to every pastor, church and worker that helped in any way. The ladies of Calvary have been devoted to the kitchen, now, for years. Helen Gilchrist reminded us that she may be retiring. In the spirit of a true senior saint she has labored many long hours, along with the others, and deserves more commendation than we can give her in this brief note. A special thanks also to Cora Suggs who had to cram life guard training into her schedule at the very last minute to help us with the pool.

If you run across another director soon, I promise not to act like a typical Free Will Baptist that pouts and whines because someone took my job!

The Apparently Recycled Director Rev. Willie C. Martin

A financial statement follows this report.

#### TWIN CITIES 2011 CAMP FINANCIAL REPORT

Held at Camp Joy, Hamilton, Georgia May 29th-June 1st

Total Campers Day & Night Workers Small Children Grand Total	44 19 <u>2</u> 65		
Camp Fund Balance (prior to 7/24/2011) Received from change trophy competition Received from State Camp Board <sup>1</sup> Received of Campers Gross Canteen Deposit Total Receipts	\$1,029.88 \$1,000.00 \$3,740.00 \$ <u>553.20</u> \$6,323.08	\$2,471.69	
Expenses Camp Deposit (applied to camp rental) Camp Rental Camp Evangelist Purchase Inflatable Canteen Purchases Canteen Start Up Cash Food \$933.09+ paper goods \$214.08 First Aid Literature Fun-time, recreational, etc.) Crafts Life guard Reimbursed Camper did not come Total Expenses		\$ 100.00 \$1,322.00 \$ 450.00 \$1,250.00 \$ 341.96 \$ 150.00 \$1,147.17 \$ 32.05 \$ 13.86 \$ 263.83 \$ 100.00 \$ 175.00 85.00 \$5,430.87	
Total Receipts for Camp Year 2011 Less Total Expense for Camp Year 2011 2011 Camp Session Profit		<u>\$5</u>	323.08 3430.87 <b>892.21</b>
Camp Fund Balance from 2010  Current Camp Fund Balance Total			2 <u>,471.69</u> 3,363.90

Report submitted by

Rev. Willie C. Martin Camp Director

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The State Camp Board, prior to this year has been giving \$1,600.

### Resolutions

Concerning new "bounce house" purchased for camp:

Whereas we just purchased an inflatable bounce house for camp use,

And whereas other churches in our association may want to use it,

Be it resolved that it be used under the same conditions the inflatable slide would be used. The cost of using it will be \$100. However if both slide and bounce house are used, the price is \$150 for both.

Concerning the possibility of securing a FWBBC student for summer ministry to all our Twin Cities Churches:

Whereas many Free Will Baptist Bible College students entering the pastoral ministry desire work for the summer,

And whereas these young preacher boys could engage in a ministry that would be profitable to them and be a blessing to our Twin Cities Churches,

And whereas opportunities for teaching, preaching, camp, rallies, and other possible activities exists for each church, and collectively,

And whereas sharing the costs of securing such a student would be easier with the participation of all our churches,

Be it resolved that the Twin Cities Association immediately examine the feasibility of securing a student or students to serve in a summer program next year.

The Twin Cities Association met at St. Mark Free Will Baptist Church on October 8, 2011.

Opening Song: "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" pg. 446 led by Russell Ruhland

Welcome by Moderator: Rev. Aaron Baldridge

Opening Prayer: Danny Jordan

Morning Devotion: Rev. Aaron Baldridge, scripture taken from 1 Timothy 5:17-

19 "Honor Your Pastor"

M/S/C to seat all delegates that were present at the days meeting.

M/S/C to accept minutes of previous meeting as read.

M/S/C to receive digest and treasurers report as read.

No visitors to recognize.

One church letter from Weems Road to license Zack Walsh. Letter was tabled.

There will be an ordination committee meeting at the break. Rev. Ricky Ward and Rev. Willie Martin to sit in.

Bro. Ron Wallace spoke about plans in Fairbanks, Alaska. Rev. Willie Martin stated that Bro. Ron Wallace has been in faithful service to the Association and times are difficult. They need money. There was a motion and second to send \$300 from the Association to the Home Missions account of Ron Wallace. Motion carried.

Dismissed for brunch in prayer by Tony Mitchell.

Rev. Ronnie Knighton gave Nominating Committee Report. It is attached to the minutes. There was a M/S/C to accept report.

Digest report given by Sister Glenda George and there was a M/S/C to receive report.

Twin Cities Camp report given by Aaron Baldridge who stated that the Men's Retreat is scheduled for October 28-29 at a cost of \$28 per person.

Ordaining Council had two recommendations:

- 1) To receive Rev. Aaron Harris' credentials. Motion by Rev. Martin to receive Rev. Aaron Harris' credentials pending letter from Cumberland Association. Seconded and carried.
- 2) To table letter from Weems Road until Zach Walsh can meet with Ordaining Council. M/S/C

Trustee Board has not met.

Mission Board report given by Rev. Aaron Baldridge. Asked prayer for Georgia missionary Bro. Bill Crank in Cartersville, Colorado missionaries, Donnie and Susan Burke, in the Rocky Mountains, and Arizona missionaries, Jeff Bennett and Josh Goodman, in Marana. The Acts 1:8 giving is up 4% and please continue giving. M/S/C to receive as information.

State Camp report given by Rev. Aaron Baldridge. Stated that Teen Camp will be June 3-8 at Camp Echeconnee in Lizella, Georgia. M/S/C to receive as information.

Christian Education Board report given by Rev. Willie Martin. Reminded everyone to look at the Promotional Bulletin for information and retreats. Stated that Seniors Citizens Retreat is scheduled for Nov. 7-9 at George T. Bagby State Park in Fort Gaines. Bros. Billy Hannah and Kent Barwick will be the guest speakers.

Bro. Paul Creech was to write information regarding State Executive Secretary. M/S/C to receive as information.

Women Active for Christ report given by Debra Van Pelt and it is attached to the minutes. She stated that October 15th was the Annual Conference at Calvary and Henrietta Brown would be the guest speaker. Also, on November 15th the Day of Prayer at First Church is scheduled, and they will be praying for our missionaries. M/S/C to receive as information.

#### Old Business

The Summer Intern Feasibility Study is attached to the minutes. M/S to receive. Motion amended to enact plan upon each church approval and report back to sub-committee chairman Rev. Willie Martin. Motion carried.

#### **New Business**

Executive Board meeting asked Association to make a recommendation to cancel Friday night service at the state meeting. A motion was made that the moderator carry information back to the Executive Board that the Friday night worship service be moved to Thursday. Motion second and carried.

Motion, second and carried to give host church, St. Mark Free Will Baptist, a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality.

Youth Rally will be at St. Mark on October 22, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. M/S/C to receive as information.

M/S/C to dismiss business meeting.

Singing led by Russell Ruhland, pg. 450 "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" and pg. 451 "Trust and Obey".

Morning Message given by Rev. Aaron Harris. Scripture taken from Leviticus 19:1-2 "Churches Instead of Changing the Method Have Watered Down the Message". We can't understand God's love without understanding His holiness.

Respectfully Submitted

Rev. Aaron Baldridge, Moderator Sis. Glenda F. George, Clerk/Treasurer

#### October 8, 2011

#### **DIGEST REPORT**

#### Business Meeting at St. Mark FWB Church

Ministers Present19	
Deacons Present6	
Delegates Present8	
Visitors Present <u>7</u>	,
Total Present40	
10-22-11 Youth RallyAttendance with Change Offerings	
Bethel7 \$0.00	)
Calvary 9 \$22.61	L
First7 \$82.91	
St. Mark \$203.50	
Weems6 \$67.00	
Whiterock4 \$ <u>135.39</u>	<b>)</b>
Total Children & Change45 \$511.41	
*Actual Amount of Change According to Bank\$468.32	
Adults	•
Total in Attendance81	
·	
TREASURER'S REPORT	
Balance Brought Forward\$8,835.22 Deposited:	2
From Churches\$375.00	)
Change Trophy\$468.32	
Valley Rescue Mission (Men's Retreat Refund\$100.00	
Inflatable Rental\$250.00	
Total in Treasury\$10,028.54	1
Paid Out:	
Ron Wallace Alaska Missionary\$300.00	)
	,
State and National Dues\$975.00	
State and National Dues\$975.00 Balance in Treasury\$8,753.54	)
	)
Balance in Treasury\$8,753.54	)
Balance in Treasury\$8,753.54 Association Money \$4,427.54	)

The Twin Cities Women Active for Christ group will hold their annual conference on October 15, 2011 at Calvary. The meeting will begin at 9:30. Henrietta Brown from Dothan, AL will be our guest speaker and will provide special music. We have two WAC local groups reporting at this conference – Calvary and First Church but all women are welcome and encouraged to attend this and all WAC meetings.

We are also organizing another Day of Prayer. It will be November 19<sup>th</sup> to coincide with our Pre-Thanksgiving Week of Prayer for missions. The day will begin at 7:00 a.m. at First Church. At least two ladies will meet each hour to pray for missions, world leaders, our churches and pastors, and many other requests that will be left on the altar throughout the day. At 6:00 p.m. we will all gather back at First Church for a concert of prayer to include singing praises and ending the day with a group prayer. It is a special time and we would love for all ladies to participate. If you don't want to obligate yourself by signing up for a particular time, just show up to pray or join us at 6:00 p.m.

The purpose of WAC is to support missions (home and international) financially and with prayers. The goal also is to help ladies find their place in carrying out the Great Commission.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Van Pelt, President

**Twin Cities Women Active for Christ** 

#### TWIN CITIES DISTRICT ASSOCIATION NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT 2011-2012

Moderator:

Rev. Aaron Baldridge

Asst. Moderator:

Rev. Ricky Ward

Clerk/Treasurer:

Glenda George

Asst. Clerk/Treasurer:

**Edward Newman** 

#### **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Rev. Aaron Baldridge (Moderator)

Glenda George (Clerk)

Rev. Brett Sanders

**Gary Clegg** 

**Lester Thornton** 

#### **ORDAINING COUNCIL**

Rev. Ricky Ward - 2012 (filling unexpired term of J. Hollis)

Rev. Brett Sanders - 2013

Rev. Willie Martin - 2014

#### **CAMP DIRECTORS**

Rev. Willie Martin - 2013

Rev. Aaron Harris - 2013

#### **BOARDS**

Missions:

Rev. Aaron Baldridge - 2013

Trustee:

Jim Tidwell - 2013

**Christian Education:** 

Rev. Willie Martin - 2013

Camping:

(\*filling unexpired term of J. Hollis)

Rev. Aaron Harris - 2013\*

#### **YOUTH RALLY**

Director:

Rev. Brett Sanders - 2013

Asst. Director:

Joey George - 2013

#### **REGISTRATION CLERK**

Lazell Brown - 2013

Barbara Clegg - 2013

#### Respectfully Submitted:

Ronnie Knighton, Chairman

Lester Thornton

Gary Clegg

Dean Miles Lenn Hayes Ellen Pilgreen

## Feasibility Study For a Summer Intern for Twin Cities Association

The ministers of the Twin Cities Association met and agreed to pursue the idea of having a summer intern from Free Will Baptist Bible College next year (2012) to serve the entire Twin Cities Association. Willie Martin called John Murray at FWBBC and discussed the matter with him and he believes that it would be a workable plan. We had a general discussion as to where the intern would stay, discussed salary, discussed scheduling him in our churches, etc. We also agreed to form a sub-committee to discuss the matter more in detail. Aaron Baldridge, Aaron Harris and Willie Martin formed the sub-committee and met. The following is the results.

- 1. We would like to have a *mature* young man to help us the summer of 2012 to be used in each of our churches during the summer. We want at least a rising junior or senior. We would like to interview him before asking him to come.
- 2. We decided the First Church would be a central location for housing him. The First Church has a prophet's quarter's in their old parsonage with most anything he would need.
- 3. We determined that \$400.00 per week would be fair compensation, considering the housing provided and some meals provided.
- 4. We decided that the intern could preach (that is all services if you like), serve, etc., in each church consecutively for two weeks before moving to the next church. The following schedule was arranged. The First Church would have him the week of May 20<sup>th</sup> & the week of May 27<sup>th</sup>; Bethel June 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>; Calvary June 17<sup>th</sup> & June 24<sup>th</sup>; White Rock July 1<sup>st</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>; Weems Road July 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>; St. Mark July 29<sup>th</sup> & August 5<sup>th</sup>.
- 5. There are two camps going on through the summer that he could assist in; the Twin Cities Camp in May, and the State Teen Camp in June. (He could be used in the Youth Rally in July that Bethel is hosting).
- 6. We suggest that each church consider furnishing his meals on Sundays. We also suggest that the ladies in each church consider providing, <u>at their discretion</u>, provisions of food such as things for lunch, breakfast, and (or) the evening meals, and snacks. Each church may handle these circumstances differently.
- 7. We would like for each church to consider, if they have an event for their youth, to invite the other churches when <u>possible</u>. This is a cooperative effort, though he is exclusively yours during your two weeks.
- 8. Although we should expect the intern to be productive and serve us, remember he needs some down time, and study time, etc.

9. We would like for each church to be able to use the intern as much as possible during their 2 weeks (and at other possible times), however, we realize the limitations for our bi-vocational pastors who may be unable to schedule and arrange working with the intern. If you cannot use the intern through the week, please let other pastors know, we might be able to help you, or we might be able to use him ourselves. (Aaron Harris has volunteered to come up with some suggestions on outreach. These suggestions could possibly be implemented in a way that could help your church).

Our next step should probably be 1) to determine if we want to proceed with the idea, 2) determine if each church can afford the program, if not what are other possibilities.

There are other details that need to be worked out. No doubt some problems will arise.

Another perspective on using an intern is that we are investing in the future of a young man in our denomination. What we do for him should be encouraging.

Report prepared by Willie Martin

#### Welcome and Prayer

- The meeting began with a welcome to Calvary Free Will Baptist Church by the president of their WAC, Bobbie Jordan. She asked Nadine Blanton to open our meeting in prayer.
- We were led in song by Emily Knighton and she was accompanied by Rae Knighton on piano. We sang, "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" because our theme for this year is "Strength Builders".
- The offering was taken by Cindy Thomas and Brooke Prather. Debra Van Pelt offered the blessing over the offering while Rae played a beautiful melody.

#### Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by Debra Van Pelt, President of TCWAC, and she offered a welcome. We read Ephesians 4:12-16, which is the scripture that supports the national theme. What does it mean to live as a strength builder?
  - Welcome to Henrietta Brown
  - Purpose of meeting to combine the reports of the two local WAC's (secretary and treasurer) and hold the TCWAC officers accountable for the functioning of our TCWAC.
  - Encourage our other churches to start local WAC groups within our other churches.
  - The first order of business was calling the meeting to order by Debra Van Pelt, TCWAC President.
  - Heather Ellison read the Credentials report. (Attached)
  - Seating of the delegates was made by the standing delegates,
     TCWAC officers and local presidents. Motion/Second/Carried
    - 8 delegates were named Gail Sams
       Stephanie Pleskach
       Cindy Thomas
       Jeanette Thomas
       Helen Gilchrist
       Rae Knighton

Emily Knighton

Dee Mitchell

- The Financial Report was given by our Treasurer, Brooke Prather.
   (Financial report to be attached).
  - NOTE: Typically our reports run from January to December, but this year we are running from January to September because of our meeting being moved from January to October because of our reporting conflicts for the State and National.
  - Beginning of year: \$190.26
  - Ending of year: \$314.26
  - Made a motion to accept the report as read, Motion/Second/Carried
- Debra Van Pelt asked Nadine Blanton to ask the blessing on the brunch.

Break: We enjoyed brunch supplied by the ladies of First and Calvary.

#### Resume Business

Emily and Rae asked us to stand and sing in another song, "We'll Work 'Til Jesus Comes".

#### Registration Report:

- Bobbie Jordan presented our registration report. Report passed.
   (Attached)
  - Delegates 8
  - District Officers 9
  - Visitors 5
  - State Representative 1
  - Total present 23
- Two State Officers present: Henrietta Brown and Leslie Baldridge (included in above total)

#### **Resolutions Report:**

- o Diane Martin presented our resolutions report. Report passed. (Attached)
  - Debra Van Pelt added that we, as WAC ladies, support the State and National levels by subscribing to the publications provided by the different levels.

- Nominating Committee: to report on a new slate of officers for the October 2012 – October 2014 year at our next meeting in October 2012.
  - Rae Knighton (chairperson)
  - o Helen Gilchrist
  - o Jeanette Thomas
- Delegates to GAWAC Convention: March 15, 2012
  - 1. Heather Ellison
  - 2. Helen Gilchrist
  - 3. Nadine Blanton
  - 4. Brooke Prather
  - 5. Sue Flowers
  - 6. Gail Sams
  - Debra will appoint others at the meeting
- Day of Prayer
  - o November 19, 2011
  - o First Church will host
  - Start at 7:00 a.m. End at 6:00 p.m.; followed by a concert of prayer
  - o Prayer request will be on the alter for us to pray for
  - o Two ladies to pray during each hour
- By-Laws
  - Some of the laws are very outdated and the executive committee determined that the by-laws need to updated to better serve our needs
  - Local WAC as well as District WAC are encouraged to review our by-laws and the changes to the TCWAC by-laws will be addressed at our next meeting, October 2012.
- Amendment to Treasurers Report after offering was reported
  - Offering taken today totaled \$138.00, bringing our balance to \$452.26. Brooke Prather moved that we accepted this report and no questions were noted.
  - Ending balance after the offering: \$452.26

 Leslie Baldridge, TCWAC secretary, read the minutes from the day business session. Minutes were accepted as read.

#### Program

- Henrietta Brown, GAWAC Communications Coordinator, blessed us with
  - Special Music
    - Did I Mention
    - You Amazed Me
    - He Saw It All
    - It Is Well With My Soul
  - o Devotion
    - "Wanted: Armor Bearers"
    - We, WAC, are thought of as being the mission arm of the church; bring the focus of missions to the church
    - Armor Bearers go and do what God has called you to do.
      - What is an armor bearers role in victory? He was behind the leader
    - Is prayer in the life of a missionary important? Yes, from all perspectives!
      - I Samuel 12:23 Our neglect to pray is a sin.
      - Galatians 6:2 bring Me your burdens and leave them at the feet of Jesus, missionaries have burdens
      - Deuteronomy 1:38 encouragement, First Fruits: Answered Prayer on the Mission Field by Lorene Miley
      - Deuteronomy 3:28 you give encouragement and God gives the strength
      - Philippians 4:19 supply all your needs
      - Psalm 91: 1-16 protection

- Write down 7 specific prayer requests that you can pray for from the information provided for either Linda Snow and Janice Wallace
- Pray for our missionaries on a daily basis
- Send them specific letters stating specific prayer request
- Closed us in prayer

Debra Van Pelt thanked us for all being here and thanked Henrietta for challenging us to pray for our missionaries specifically on a regular basis.

Heather Ellison closed the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Leslie Baldridge, TCWAC Secretary

#### Twin Cities 2011 Annual Report

Balance on hand January 1, 2011			\$190.26
Deposits:	Calvary First Church Offering (Annual meeting)	\$1,735.94 \$1,602.20 \$91.00 \$3,429.14	\$3,429.14
Grand Total:			<b>\$</b> 3,619.40
Disbursements:	*Designated Funds Speaker (Patricia Blackwell)	\$3,205.14 \$100.00 \$3,305.14	\$3,305.14
Balance on hand October 15, 2011			\$314.26

Designated Funds						\$3,205.14
_	2012 Dues for 24 Men	nbers (@\$18	.75 ea.)			\$432.00
		Calvary		13	\$243.75	
		First Chu	ırch	11_	\$206.25	
					\$450.00	
	WNAC	24	x	\$15.00	\$360.00	
	GWAC	24	X	\$3.00	\$72.00	
	TCWAC	24	x	<b>\$</b> 0.75	\$18.00	
A. WNAC Disbursements	2012 Dues				\$432.00	
•	General Fund				\$90.00	
	State Project				\$1,607.19	•
	State Minutes				\$1.00	
		Sub Total		•	\$2,130.19	
	District Related Fees					
	TCWAC Dues	24	x	\$0.75	\$18.00	
	Speaker Fee	21	Λ.	<b>V</b> V0	\$100.00	
	District Printing				\$15.00	
	TOTAL				\$133.00	
	<u> </u>				4105.00	
WNAC Total:						<b>\$</b> 2,130.19
B. College Support:	DOT Harvey Loan Fund	l			\$105.00	
College Total:  C. Missionary Disbursements						\$105.00
•						
•	Foreign:					
	Laura Belle Barnard Of	_	-Easter"		\$414.95	
		Bishop			\$105.00	
Missionary Accounts		Griffin			\$30.00	
		Snow		-	\$105.00	
					\$654.95	
	Homes					
	Home: Lizzie McAdams - "Pre	.Thankeoisin	033		\$0.00	
	Lizzie Wichains - Tre	Wallace	8		\$105.00	
		Long			\$105.00	
		LONG		-	\$210.00	
					<b>\$210.00</b>	
Missionary Total:						<b>\$</b> 864.95
D. Misc:	AL FWB Children's Hom	te			\$105.00	
Misc Total:						\$105.00
TOTAL of Designated Funds						
TO THE OF DOUGHARD I WILLS						\$3,205.14

#### TWIN CITIES DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE TWIN CITIES ASSOCIATION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

#### **PREAMBLE**

We, being the members of the Free Will Baptist denomination, having adopted the Treatise of the Faith and Practices of the National Association of Original Free Will Baptists, realizing the necessity of fellowship among sister churches of like faith, do bond ourselves together to form an Association, and do therefore ordain this Constitution and By-Laws to the glory of God and to the improvement of denominational relations.

#### **ARTICLE I - NAME**

This organization shall be known as the Twin Cities Association of Original Free Will Baptists.

#### **ARTICLE II - PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Twin Cities Association is to promote greater fellowship among its member churches and to realize a greater harvest in the vineyard of the Lord through the combined efforts of the churches. The Association shall encourage the forming of such auxiliaries as are beneficial to the work of the churches, such as Sunday School, Church Training Service, Master's Men, Women's Auxiliary, Prayer Meetings, Youth Organizations, and Missionary and Educational Endeavors.

With this Divine purpose in view, we set forth the following statements of truth:

This Association neither claims nor desires to hold nor wield any power or authority over its member churches which are Divine Right reserved to the churches themselves. We emphasize anew that the local church is its own independent body so far as it relates to its own government, the transactions of its business, the choice of its officers, and the discipline of its members. However, we do hold that churches who have the right and privilege of the above liberty and fellowship are composed of persons who believe the truth as it is in Christ, and give evidence of true piety, are, upon examination or recommendation, received into membership according to regular methods of the local church and upon condition of Baptism.

#### ARTICLE III - OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

The officers of this Association shall be Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk-Treasurer, and Assistant Clerk-Treasurer.

- Section 1: The Moderator shall preside over all business of this Association. He shall keep order and, in general, direct all business of the Association. He shall serve as ex-officio member of all standing committees or boards.
- Section 2: The Assistant Moderator shall discharge the duties of the Moderator in his absence. In the absence of both the Moderator and his Assistant, the Clerk shall call he meeting to order and the Standing Delegates shall elect someone to preside at the meeting.
- Section 3: The Clerk-Treasurer shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Association. He/She shall be responsible for the printing and discharge of the Associational minutes to all churches, and shall enroll delegates at each session corresponding necessary for the Association. He/She shall receive all monies contributed to the Association, and make disbursements as authorized by the Association and/or the Executive Board. (Committee)
- Section 4: The Assistant Clerk-Treasurer shall discharge the duties of the Clerk-Treasurer in his/her absence.

The Association shall appoint or elect any other officers, boards, or committees it deems necessary for its business.

#### **ARTICLE IV - BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

Section 1: There shall be an Executive Board (Committee) composed of the Moderator, Clerk, and at least three (3) men not holding any other office in the Association. This Committee shall act in behalf of the Association in case of any emergency and shall act as the Association when the Association is not in session; however, any action taken by this Committee is subject to the approval or disapproval of the Association at its next meeting. This Committee shall plan and prepare the programs of the Association. It shall be responsible to the Association for the questioning and examination of churches petitioning this body for membership. This Committee shall have power to deal with any officer of the Association who fails to function in his/her office or indulge in unchristian like conduct. However, this action is temporary pending their report to the Association

and final action by the body while in session. This Committee shall be available to mediate any dissension or offer any help to member churches providing their help is requested by the church. In such cases, their traveling expenses shall be paid by the church desiring their assistance.

Section 2:

There shall be an Ordaining Council composed of at least three (3) deacons or ministers whose duties consist of those set forth in Article IX, Ministerial Relations of this document.

#### **ARTICLE V - ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

- 1. The term of the Moderator shall be two (2) years. He shall not succeed himself more than once.
- 2. The length of service for the Assistant Moderator, Clerk-Treasurer, and the Assistant Clerk-Treasurer shall be at the discretion of the Association.
- 3. The members of the Ordaining Council shall serve three (3) years. A new member to be added at the annual meeting each year.
- 4. The officers shall be elected at the regular annual session of the Association on the second Saturday in October.
- Any additional Boards, Committees, or Officers needed shall be appointed or elected by the Association at its discretion.

#### <u>ARTICLE VI - MEMBERSHIP AND REPRESENTATION</u>

Representation in this Association is conditioned upon meeting the following requirements:

- Full acceptance of the Treatise of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.
- 2. The churches of this Association shall practice consistency in supporting missions and Christian education.
- 3. Churches who petition this Association shall be examined concerning their spiritual and moral standard before the Associational acts.
- 4. Churches expelled from other Associations for any cause may not be received until their expulsion is satisfactorily explained to the Association.

- 5. Each church is allowed five (5) delegates. All ordained men in good standing with the church are standing delegates.
- 6. The Association shall meet four (4) times a year, three (3) quarterly meetings and one (1) annual meeting. Regular quarterly meetings of this Association shall be on the second Saturday in January, April, and July. The annual meeting shall be on the second Saturday in October.

#### **ARTICLE VII - VOTING**

- 1. The Moderator shall keep order and in general direct all business of the Association. He shall vote only in a tie vote, shall rule any person to silence who refuses to come to order, and in case of extreme disorder, may rule the meeting closed. The Moderator shall not allow any discussion on any subject unless it is placed before the body by a move and a second.
- 2. No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice on any one subject or more than five (5) minutes without permission from the Moderator.
- 3. No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any committee/board provided the person nominated is elected.
- 4. Any person desiring to speak shall rise and address the Moderator but shall not speak further until recognized by the Moderator.
- 5. Any ruling by the Moderator may be set aside by 2/3 majority of voting delegates.
- 6. All voting in this Association shall be as agreed upon by its delegates while in session.
- 7. The Moderator shall follow the Principles of Parliamentary Procedure in moderating the business of this Association.
- 8. The Moderator shall limit voting to authorized delegates only, and no delegate shall leave the building during a business session without being excused by the Moderator.

#### **ARTICLE VIII - MINISTERIAL RELATIONS**

1. The Ordaining Council shall examine any candidate for license upon request from his home church. A license may be granted by the Association for no more than one (1) year. However, a license may be renewed after one complete year, for no more than one more year (or for a total of two years).

- 2. The Ordaining Council shall examine any candidate for ordination upon request from the church to which he has been called and is pastoring provided he has been licensed and has met the qualifications as stated in Item #5 of this same article.
- 3. Any Free Will Baptist Minister presenting himself for membership to this Association must, after a request from the church to which he has been called, appear before the Ordaining Council for questioning, and upon the recommendation from the Ordaining Council be received into full fellowship pending a letter of good standing from his former Association.
- 4. Any minister, from another domination presenting himself for membership to this Association must, after a letter of request from the church to which he has been called appear before the Ordaining Council for questioning. It is agreed that he will, upon recommendation from the Ordaining Council, be received under the watch care of the Association for a period of no less than one year from the time of licensor, during which time the minister will have proved himself, as well as his desire to be a Free Will Baptist, and then will be received into full fellowship by the Association.
- 5. Any minister presenting himself to this Association for license, ordination, etc. . . from another denomination, shall be examined by the Ordaining Council. The Examination shall include the following: A) A thorough investigation of his character shall be made. B) Close questioning concerning a Divine call to the office. C) He must be thoroughly familiar with and a firm believer in the doctrine of the Free Will Baptist Church. D) His educational qualifications should be in keeping with his office and he must show a willingness to further his knowledge by additional study. E) Any candidate for ordination must have been licensed and called to pastor one or more churches or hold a position in a member church that would require ordination such as Associate Pastor, etc. . . He must be a practicing tither, and an active supporter of world-wide missions. F) The candidate shall also be examined according to the Word as found in 1 Timothy 3. G) The Council shall not recommend the ordination of any person whom they have honest doubt concerning his character, qualifications, and Divine Call to the work.

#### ARTICLE IX - ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 1. This Association shall be opened with Scripture reading and prayer and shall be closed with prayer.
- 2. The Association shall convene at 10:00 AM on the date set by the body.

- 3. At each quarterly meeting, business shall be kept to a minimum with a delegate report and representation fee (fifty-five (\$55) dollars per church quarterly and fifty-five (\$55) dollars at the annual meeting) report being made and any other pressing item of business being left for the annual meeting.
- 4. At the annual meeting, the annual reports from the churches shall be compiled for the convenience of the Clerk-Treasurer in preparation of the Associational minutes.
- 5. The meetings of the Association shall rotate among the member churches in succession.
- 6. This Constitution and By-Laws may be altered by a 2/3 majority vote of the voting delegates present.

#### **ARTICLES OF FAITH**

- 1. THE BIBLE The scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rules of Faith and Practice.
- 2. GOD There is one living and true God revealed in nature as the Creator of the universe; and in the Scripture as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore, obey.
- 3. CHRIST Christ is God manifest in flesh, in His divine nature truly God, in His nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, one crucified, He is now risen and glorified, and is our present Savior and Lord.
- 4. THE HOLY SPIRIT The Scripture assigns to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God. He is the Reprover, Comforter, Guide, and Sanctifier of men.
- 5. THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts if 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, to 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, effected for all a redemption from sin, that is full and free, is the ground of salvation by faith.
- 8. TERMS OF SALVATION The conditions of salvation are:
  - (1) Repentance of sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it.
  - (2) Faith of the unserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord, with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith with the soul renewed by the Holy Spirit freed from denomin ation of sin and become a child of God.
  - (3) Continuance in 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, whosoever will may come and take the water of life freely.
- 12. PERSEVERANCE All believers in Christ, who through grace perseveres in holiness to the end of life, have promises of eternal salvation.
- 13. GOSPEL ORDINANCES Baptism, or immersion believers in water, and teaching humility, or universal obligation and to be administered to all true believers.
- 14. TITHING God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament: Jesus Christ endorses it in gospel (Matthew 23:23) and the Apostle Paul said, "upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him." (1 Corinthians 16:2)
- 15. THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements for rest, worship, and Holy works.
- 16. RESURRECTION, JUDGMENT, AND FINAL RETRIBUTION The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men on the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

#### YOUTH RALLY BY-LAWS

#### The Youth Rally Committee Report states:

- 1. A director, assistant director, and secretary should be elected at each annual meeting.
- 2. They shall welcome and recognize each church at the rally. That they take an attendance count and give an attendance banner to the church with the most in attendance. This church will be responsible to bring the banner to the next rally.
- 3. The rallies shall be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of January, April, July, and October, and each church shall host and provide the program of the rally in alphabetical order.
- 4. Each program should include devotion from the Bible.
- 5. Offering may be taken only if they are designated toward the rally program.