# The Thirty-Ninth Annual Session of the

# Twin Cities Association Of Free Will Baptists

meeting with the

Calvary Free Will Baptist Church
Of Columbus, GA
October 10, 2015

Minutes of the 2015 Sessions

Meeting Schedule for 2016

01-09-16 First 04-09-16 St. Mark

07-09-16 Weems 10-08-16 Bethel

#### **OFFICERS**

Moderator	
Asst. Moderator	Rev. Aaron Baldridge
Clerk/Treasurer	Sis. Glenda George
Asst. Clerk/Treasurer	Bro. Tony Mitchell

# EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Rev. Willie Martin, Moderator Glenda George, Clerk/Treasurer Don Benefield Gary Clegg Ronnie Knighton

# **ORDAINING COUNCIL**

Bro. Joey George	
STATE BOA	RD MEMBERS
	Bro. Joey George (2017)Dr. Aaron Baldridge (2017)
Christian Education Board	

# **ORDAINED MINISTERS**

Rev. Aaron Baldridge	3930 Conrad Drive, Columbus, GA 31909	706-984-9726
Rev. Ronnie Knighton	941 52nd Street, Columbus, GA 31904	706-571-9833
Rev. Willie Martin	6329 Cricket Lane, Columbus, GA 31909	706-563-8440

# **CAMP DIRECTORS**

Heather Ransom, Director Rev. Willie Martin, Asst. Director

### YOUTH RALLY DIRECTORS

Joey George, Director Ronnie Knighton, Asst. Director Glenda George, Secretary

# DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES, PASTORS, CLERKS AND ADDRESSES

<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>PASTOR</u>	<u>CLERK</u>
Bethel	Earl Ransom, Interim	Joseph Hayes
10250 Lee Road 240	4040 Tococa Avenue	185 Lee Road 887
Phenix City, AL 36870	Columbus, GA 31907	Phenix City, AL 36870
334-448-0103	706-561-3617	334-298-0790
Calvary	Dr. Aaron Baldridge	Lynn H. Turner
6165 Billings Road	3930 Conrad Drive	2983 Victory Circle
Columbus, GA 31909	Columbus, GA 31909	Columbus, GA 31909
706-563-7031	706-984-9726	706-323-4369
First	Rev. Willie Martin	Glenda George
952 54 <sup>th</sup> Street	6329 Cricket Lane	288 Buckhead Ridge
Columbus, GA 31904	Columbus, GA 31909	Fortson, GA 31808
706-324-1741	706-563-8440	706-587-4946
St. Mark 3009 Sandfort Road Phenix City, AL 36867 334-298-8015	None	Christy Green 3106 7th Avenue Phenix City, AL 36867 706-325-8070
Weems Road	Mike Randall	Juanita Bowens
3400 Weems Road	6400 Main St., Apt. 80	6217 Highland Avenue
Columbus, GA 31909	Columbus, GA 31909	Columbus, GA 31909
706-327-0053	706-587-2914	706-327-1722

January 10, 2015

Twin Cities Association met at Weems Road Free Will Baptist Church. Opening Song: "Nothing But the Blood" pg. 180 led by James Rogers. Morning Devotion: by Rev. Willie Martin, "What is our purpose today? Are we able to conduct the Lord's business?" scripture taken from Psalm 133:1-3.

M/S/C to adopt the agenda and order of business. M/S/C to accept letters and to seat all delegates.

No visitors to recognize.

Substitute Nominating Committee report letter read by Rev. Willie Martin. M/S/C to accept submission of letter for review.

M/S/C to accept minutes of previous meeting as read. M/S/C to receive treasurer's report as read.

Dismissed for brunch in prayer by Rev. Mike Randall.

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

M/S/C to receive Youth Rally and Change Trophy reports as read.

M/S/C to accept Substitute Nominating Committee report, and is to rescind previous nominating report. The substitute report is attached to the minutes.

Co-Op Revival will be May 4-6, 2015 at Calvary FWB. Guest speaker will be Jim McComas from North American Ministries (formerly International Home Missions).

#### REPORTS

State Trustee Board - No report.

State Mission Board - Rev. Aaron Baldridge asked that we pray for the Mission Board and the decisions they are making. M/S/C to receive.

State Camp Board - Joey George submitted report and is attached to the minutes. M/S/C to receive.

State Education Board - Rev. Willie Martin reminded that retreat dates are printed in the Promotional Bulletin. M/S/C to receive.

Women Active for Christ - Leslie Baldridge stated the District Supper will be January 22, 2015, at Calvary FWB beginning at 7:00 p.m. Prayer Retreat at Norman Park will be April 17-18. State Convention will be March 19 in Albany, Georgia. M/S/C to receive.

#### Miscellaneous Business

Rev. Aaron Baldridge asked that we pray for the State Meeting April 19-20 at First Church FWB in Albany, Georgia. He also encouraged each church to send their pastor to the upcoming Minister's Retreat.

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

Sister Leslie Baldridge stated that she is the only one from our Association that goes to the Minister's Wife Retreat. She wanted every church to consider sending their minister's wife to this retreat.

Youth Rally will be held at Weems Road FWB on Saturday January 24, 2015.

Southern Raised, who are nationally recognized, will be performing at First FWB Church on January 31, 2015.

The Welch College Choir will be on their Spring Tour and will be performing at Calvary FWB on March 17, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. Help with housing the students is needed.

There is a contract for the sale of the West End Avenue campus at Welch College property. Forestar Group, a real estate development company from Austin, Texas, is interested in the property.

Rev. Stephen Windham stated there will be a revival at St. Mark FWB January 18-21 with Keith Floyd preaching.

Prayers for Bethany Lytle who was being treated for breast cancer and had a reaction to the treatment.

M/S/C to adjourn business meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenda George, Clerk

Bro. Don Benefield sang a special hymn.

Morning message by Rev. Mike Randall, "Crisis in America, scripture taken from Psalm 85:4-6.

Bro. James Rogers sang a closing song and we were dismissed in prayer by Rev. Stephen Windham.

# Treasurer's Report January 1, 2015 - March 31, 2015 Twin Cities Association Funds

Balance Brought Forward (January 1, 2015)\$5,157.03
Deposits
Associational Dues
Balance Subtotal\$5,532.03
Expenditures
Printing of Minutes\$364.87
Welch College Choir Food Expense
Dalance on Franci (Water 51, 2015)
Associational Funds \$4,459.41 Youth Competition \$146.05
Youth Competition \$146.05 Men's Retreat \$216.58
Summer Intern <u>\$100.00</u>
\$4,922.04
Camp Funds
Balance Brought Forward (January 1, 2015)
<u>Deposits</u> Change Trophy\$618.89
Unknown\$150.00
Unknown
Balance Subtotal
Expenditures
Twin Cities Camp Rental\$100.00
U. S. Postal Service (stamps)
Balance on Hand (March 31, 2015)

# Digest Report January 2015

# January 10, 2015 Quarterly Meeting

Ministers Present6
Deacons Present7
Delegates
Visitors <u>5</u>
Total Present37
January 24, 2015 Youth Rally
<u>Attendance</u>
Bethel 1
Calvary
First Church
St. Mark
Weems 7
White Rock
Total Children63
Adults
All Total
Change Trophy
Bethel\$0.00
Calvary\$0.00
First Church\$178.25
St. Mark\$293.64
Weems\$45.00
White Rock \$102.00
Total

#### TWIN CITIES DISTRICT ASSOCIATION SUBSTITUTE NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT 2015 NOMINEES

Please note that all nominees have an asterisk preceding their name. Unless noted otherwise, other positions are noted by term expiration dates.

MODERATOR:

\* Rev. Willie Martin (term expires 2016)

ASS'T MODERATOR:

\* Rev. Stephen Windham

CLERK/TREASURER:

\* Glenda George

ASSISTANT CLERK/TREASURER: \* Edward Newman

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev Willie Martin: Moderator

Glenda George: Clerk

- \* Rev. Arron Baldridge
- \* Gary Clegg
- \* Tony Mitchell

**CRDAINING COUNCIL** 

\*Lester Thornton 2015 (unexpired term of Ricky Ward)

Rev. Arron Baldridge 2016

\*Rev Steven Windham 2017

CAMP DIRECTORS

CAMP DIRECTOR: \* Heather Ransom

ASSISTANT: \* Rev. Stephen Windham

STATE BOARDS

MISSIONS: Rev Arron Baldridge (term expires 2017)

TRUSTEE: \* Russell Ruhland (term expires 2015)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: \* Rev. Willie Martin (term expires 2015)

CAMPING: Joey George (term expires 2017)

YOUTHRALLY

DIRECTOR: \* Joey George

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: \* Ronnie Knighton

SECRETARY: \* Glenda George

PEGISTRATION CLERKS

REGISTRATION CLERK: \* Lazelle Brown

ASSISTANT CLERK: \* Barbara Clegg

(Original report submitted by committee below. Amended report submitted by Willie Martin after association).

Respectfully Submitted:

Gary Clegg: Chairman

Members: Don Bennefield, Ronnie Knighton, Joe Hayes, Lester Thornton, David Van Pelt

#### State Board Camp Meeting

The State Board Camp met on Tuesday, October 21, 2014 at Albany, Georgia.

Teen Camp will be May 31 – June 5, 2015 at Camo Echeconnee in Lizella, Georgia. There will a cost increase per camper from \$150 to \$165 early and from \$175 to \$190 for late entries. Prices are being increased due to the rising cost of food and possibly an offsite activity.

Junior Camp will receive \$1,200 from the State, the same as last year.

There is a required background check for all camp workers. If you were a camp worker last year, and you filled out a background check, you may not have to fill out another for this year. The company doing the backgrounds will be checking a number of applications at random, and those will last year's applications may have to be resubmitted. By March of this year we will be getting a new list of the people that will need to resubmit their applications. All applications have to be dated within 30 days prior to camp or they will not be allowed to work.

Bro. William Smith encouraged all churches to give 10% to Co-op.

Adults are not to take pictures of the children at camp and post them on Facebook due to possible pedophiles.

Last year's camp in 2014 went very well. Jacob Riggs was the guest speaker. There were a few cell phones lost at Six Flags. One girl had an asthma attack at the concert and, if her inhaler had not be begin to relieve her symptoms, they were contemplating call 911. One boy broke his elbow.

For 2015, the chairman and vice chairman of the State Camp Board stayed the same, but a new secretary was nominated.

The speaker for 2015 will be Aaron Poncious from Donaldsonville, Georgia, or Scott Warren from Michigan.

Respectfully submitted,

Joey George State Camp Board Twin Cities Association met at White Rock Free Will Baptist Church Welcome by Rev. Ronnie Knighton.

Opening Song: "Are You Washed in the Blood?" pg. 177 led by Rev. Ronnie Knighton.

Opened in Prayer by: Rev. Earl Ransom.

Morning Devotion: by Rev. Willie Martin, "Church Meetings?" scripture taken from Acts 15:1-22.

M/S/C to adopt the agenda and order of business. M/S/C to accept letters and to seat all delegates.

Visitors were Chaplain David Trogdon, a Free Will Baptist preacher stationed at Fort Benning, Georgia.

M/S/C to accept minutes of previous meeting as read. M/S/C to receive treasurer's report as read.

There were three church letters to read:

- 1) To provide the Tuesday evening meal for the Welch College Choir members and attendants. The executive board made the decision that the Association would cover the cost of the meal and that the cost not exceed \$500.00. The meal cost \$245.00. This decision needed approval by the delegates. M/S/C
- 2) White Rock submitted a letter regarding Rev. Jeffery Vaughn asking that the Association license and/or ordain him into the Twin Cities Association.
- 3) Weems Road submitted a letter regarding Rev. Mike Randall asking the Ordination Committee to examine him for ordination into the Twin Cities Association.

The Ordaining council met during the break.

Dismissed for brunch in prayer by Bro. Don Benefield.

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

M/S/C to receive Youth Rally and Change Trophy reports as read.

The Ordaining Council voted to approve Rev. Mike Randall for licensure, under the watch care of the Association. Rev. Randall come from another denomination. Also, the Ordination Council recommended that the Association deny Jeff Vaughn's licensure because of the incompatibility of doctrinal beliefs, particularly his stance on eternal security.

Co-Op Revival report given by Dr. Aaron Baldridge. He stated the revival will be held at Calvary from May 4 to 6, 2015 beginning at 7:00 PM each night. Rev. Jim McComas will the speaker. The following churches will be responsible for the singing: St. Mark and Weems on Monday night; First Church and Bethel on Tuesday night, and Calvary and White Rock on Wednesday night. Each church is to give \$150 for the speaker. M/S/C

Youth Rally will be held Saturday, April 25, 2015, at 6:00 PM at White Rock. M/S/C to receive as information.

Deadline for Twin Cities Camp applications is April 25<sup>th</sup> per Heather Ransom, Camp Director. Camp will be held at Camp Joy, Hamilton, GA, from May 24-27, 2015. They need applications for kids and workers. She really needs the camp workers earlier so a background check can be done. M/S/C to receive as information.

#### **REPORTS**

State Trustee Board report - No report.

State Mission Board report - No report.

State Camp Board report - Teen Camp will be held May 31 – June 5, 2015 at Camp Echeconnee in Lizella, Georgia. M/S/C to receive as information.

State Education Board report - Rev. Willie Martin reminded that retreat dates are printed in the Promotional Bulletin. He stated that we are able to have these retreats because of cooperative giving. M/S/C to receive as information.

Women Active for Christ report. Twin Cities Women Active for Christ District Supper will be April 23, 2015 at First Church at 7:00 PM. Robin Hamby, the mother of the conjoined twins will be the guest speaker. Women's Retreat will be at Norman Park, Georgia, on April 17-18, 2015. M/S/C to receive as information.

#### Miscellaneous Business

Welch College Choir letter. M/S/C to receive.

Dr. Aaron Baldridge stated that Chaplain David Trogdon had been promoted to Lt. Colonel, and it was voted to give a rising vote of thanks for his service to our country and to congratulate him.

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

Bro. Joey George stated he has heard disturbing news about one of our pastors who is out of order. He made a motion for the Executive Board to investigate this pastor and to take appropriate disciplinary actions. The motion was seconded. Barbara McLendon of St. Mark stated there was a committee meeting in their church and they were in agreement to forgive him and move forward. The Ordaining Council had met, and Lester Thornton thought the matter was dropped, and that he felt it should stay that way. There was a M/S/C to cease debate on the matter. There was a motion to table the previous motion. The motion was seconded and there were 19 in favor of not to table and 16 in favor of tabling the motion, and the motion was passed. Then there was a vote not to talk about the matter any longer. There was also a motion to investigate the matter, and there was a vote of 23 against investigation and 10 for investigation, and the motion failed.

M/S/C to adjourn business meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenda George, Clerk

Bro. Lester Thornton introduced special guest Lt. Col. Chaplain David Trogdon. "Preach the Word", scripture from II Timothy 4:1

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. Willie Martin.

# Treasurer's Report April 1, 2015 - June 30, 2015 Twin Cities Association Funds

Balance Brought Forward (April 1, 2015)\$4,922.04
Deposits
Co-Op Revival Offerings\$750.00
Associational Dues\$375.00
Balance Subtotal
Expenditures
Rev. Jim McComas (Co-Op Revival Speaker) \$750.00
Balance on Hand (June 30, 2015)\$5,297.04
Associational Funds \$4,834.41
Youth Competition \$146.05
Men's Retreat \$216.58
Summer Intern <u>\$100.00</u>
\$5,297.04
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<u>Camp Funds</u>
Balance Brought Forward (April 1, 2015)
Change Trophy
Camp Receipts
Balance Subtotal
Expenditures Common Com
Twin Cities Camp Expenses
U. S. Postal Service (stamps)
Balance on Hand (June 30, 2015)

# Digest Report April 2015

# April 11, 2015 Quarterly Meeting

Ministers Present6
Deacons Present
Delegates
Visitors <u>7</u>
Total Present
April 25, 2015 Youth Rally
<u>Attendance</u>
Bethel3
Calvary 1
First Church5
St. Mark
Weems
White Rock <u>0</u>
Total Children
Adults
All Total49
Change Trophy
Bethel\$0.00
Calvary\$106.81
First Church
St. Mark
Weems\$56.00
White Rock <u>\$144.50</u>
Total\$466.52
Actual Change Trophy Deposit\$466.49

### Attention delegates of the Twin Cites Association:

Our sister church, Calvary, had the Welch College choir March 17<sup>th</sup>. The event at Calvary appeared to be well supported by our other churches and seemed to be a blessing to them. This was not an official association event, but gratefully we were invited to participate. The pastor of Calvary requested that the association provide the Tuesday evening meal for the choir and all of the attendants which numbered nearly 40 people. In lieu of the fact that the association could not meet to make a decision concerning the request, the moderator called the executive board members and asked if they would be in favor of the association providing the meal at a cost not to exceed \$500.00. Each board member graciously agreed to accept the responsibility of providing this meal according to this stipulation of not exceeding \$500.00. The meal cost less than half that amount, \$245.00, and we are grateful to Jason's Deli where they were fed for giving us a 10% discount.

If it pleases the association today (April 11, 2015), the executive committee requests that the delegates approve the decision made by the executive board.

The Moderator,

Willie Martin
Millie Co Mirota

Report of the Twin Cities Ordaining Council Saturday, April 11, 2015 at White Rock Free Will Baptist Church

The Twin Cities Association received letters from White Rock Free Will Baptist Church and Weems Road Free Will Baptist Church requesting that the Ordaining Council examine Jeff Vaughn and Mike Randall. The Council met with and examined both of these men individually and make the following recommendations to the Association:

- The Association approve Mike Randall for licensure, under the watch care of the Association because Bro. Randall comes from another denomination into our Free Will Baptist denomination.
- The Association deny the request to license Jeff Vaughn because of the incompatibility of doctrinal beliefs, particularly of his stance on eternal security.

Respectfully submitted

Rev. Aaron R. Baldridge Rev. Stephen Windham

Bro. Lester Thornton

July 11, 2015

Twin Cities Association met at Bethel Free Will Baptist Church.

Welcome by Rev. Earl Ransom.

Opening Song: "Praise Him" pg. 50 led by Rev. Earl Ransom.

Opened in Prayer by: Tony Mitchell.

Morning Devotion: by Rev. Willie Martin, "Model Preacher According to

Paul" scripture taken from Ephesians 6:10-13.

M/S/C to adopt the agenda and order of business.

M/S/C to accept letters and to seat all delegates.

Visitors were Roy McLendon and Hannah and Katie Ransom.

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

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

There was a church letter regarding Chaplain David Trogdon to be read.

There was a resolution by First Free Will Baptist to also read.

The Ordaining Council met during the break.

Dismissed for brunch in prayer by Lester Thornton.

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

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

Twin Cities Camp Director Heather Ransom gave Camp Report. It is attached to the minutes. M/S/C to receive. There was also a M/S/C to give Heather Ransom a hand clap for her efforts with camp.

#### REPORTS

State Trustee Board report - No report.

State Mission Board report - No report. Rev. Aaron Baldridge stated they will have a meeting on August 26 2015.

State Camp Board report - No report.

State Education Board report - No report. Rev. Willie Martin reminded that retreat dates are printed in the Promotional Bulletin. He stated that all

information is printed in the Promotional Bulletin. The Minister's Wife Retreat is coming up. M/S/C to receive.

Women Active for Christ report. Leslie Baldridge stated that Elizabeth Hodges, Executive Secretary, will be the speaker that the Minister's Wife Retreat. They will be making crocheted scarfs for the Missions Closet. She also stated there will be no District Women Active for Christ Supper in July. The Annual Women Active for Christ Meeting will be held October 17, 2015, at Calvary FWB. M/S/C to receive as information.

#### Miscellaneous Business

Youth Rally date – In 2011 it was permanently moved to be held three weeks after the Association Meeting. Bethel had already scheduled for the 25<sup>th</sup> of July so a motion was made to move the Youth Rally to the 25<sup>th</sup> for this one time only. All others will be held three weeks after the Associational Meetings. M/S/C

#### Nominating Committee:

- 1) Bethel Joe Hayes
- 2) Calvary Leslie Baldridge
- 3) First Tony Mitchell
- 4) St. Mark Gary Clegg
- 5) Weems Don Benefield
- 6) Whiterock Lester Thornton

Resolution submitted by First Church. M/S/C to receive motion as read for discussion. First Church requested that the Association give consideration to the resolution. There was much discussion. There was a M/S/C to allow the moderator to speak. After much more discussion, there was a M/S/C to cease talk. The Executive Board is to consult with Bro. Stephen Windham after a vote of 17-11 in favor.

Ordaining Council voted to receive Chaplain David Trogdon pending letter of good standing from Randall Association in North Carolina. M/S/C

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

Resolution by Dr. Aaron Baldridge to give Rev. Willie Martin a happy birthday song.

#### **Announcements**

Rev. Mike and Salina Randall will be going on a mission trip to India. They need our prayers.

Youth Rally will be July 25, 2015 at Bethel FWB Church.

Sis. Helen Gilchrist, deceased, funeral will be at McMullen's Funeral Home on July 26, 2015, from 6pm to 8pm.

M/S/C to adjourn business meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenda George, Clerk

Morning Message: Rev Earl Ransom, "Miracles," scripture taken from Revelations 13:1-18.

# Treasurer's Report July 1, 2015 – September 30, 2015 Twin Cities Association Funds

Balance Brought Forward (July 1, 2015)\$5,297.04
Deposits
Associational Dues
Βαιαπου σαστοται φυζο / 210 1
Expenditures
Printing of Minutes
Balance on Hand (September 30, 2015)\$5,307.17
Associational Funds \$4,844.54
Youth Competition \$146.05
Men's Retreat \$216.58
Summer Intern <u>\$100.00</u>
\$5,307.17
Camp Funds
Balance Brought Forward (July 1, 2015)
<u>Deposits</u> Change Trophy
Balance Subtotal
<u>Expenditures</u>
None <u>\$0.00</u>
Balance on Hand (September 30, 2015)\$6,269.87

# Digest Report July 2015

# July 11, 2015 Quarterly Meeting

Ministers Present8Deacons Present7Delegates20Visitors4
Total Present
July 25, 2015 Youth Rally
<u>Attendance</u>
Bethel1
Calvary 0
First Church
St. Mark 8
Weems
White Rock <u>0</u>
Total Children30
Adults
All Total58
Change Trophy
Bethel\$0.00
Calvary\$0.00
First Church
St. Mark\$46.00
Weems\$0.00
White Rock <u>\$0.00</u>
Total\$151.12

# Resolution submitted to the Twin Cities Association of Free Will Baptists July 11, 2015

Origin: First Free Will Baptist Church

In lieu of the last meeting (April 11, 2015) of the Twin Cities Association we want to express the following concerns.

Whereas a question concerning a pastor's character in the Twin Cities Association's was brought up and dismissed without investigation made being made by the associational body,

And whereas the association determined by vote that the matter had been resolved,

And whereas some seem to believe that such a matter should not have been the concern of the Twin Cities Association,

Be it resolved that the Twin Cities Association act upon and affirm the following,

That we reacquaint ourselves with Free Will Baptist history in its dealing with its ministers,<sup>1</sup>
That we reacquaint ourselves with our National Treatise concerning the discipline of ministers,<sup>2</sup>
That we reaffirm that all matters pertaining to all of our churches and pastors is our concern,
That of particular concern, and our responsibility, is the ongoing conduct of our ministers,<sup>3</sup>
That it is the sacred prerogative of the Twin Cities Association to be kept fully informed of all
matters of its churches, but particularly of its ministers,<sup>4</sup> in order to pray for, encourage,
examine, and discipline if needed in keeping with our history, and present practices.

And be it further resolved in lieu of our duty to our ministers, that the ordaining council (excluding the minister in question),<sup>5</sup> and executive board members investigate the character of the minister in question, review the association's previous action toward the matter, and report and(or) recommend to the association any action to be taken.

Be it also resolved that the minister in question immediately be asked by the body to resign his positions in the association until all matters related are resolved in the association.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Free Will Baptists Heritage series, "Free Will Baptist Church Government" is a brief summary of what we believe and practice concerning church government in both the local church and associations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Treatise of the Falth and Practices of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc., see Part IV The Practices of Free Will Baptists, Chapter II The Minister, Section III His Discipline, A. "As is the case of ordination, the authority to discipline a minister has its source in the authority of the local church. Again, however, this is delegated to the association along with the authority to ordain."

I Timothy 3:2, "A bishop then must be blameless... 7 Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil."

<sup>\*</sup> Ephesians 6:21, 22 "But that ye also may know my affairs, and how I do, Tychicus, a beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, shall make known to you all things: 22 Whom I have sent unto you for the same purpose, that ye might know our affairs..."

Another member would have to be appointed or elected to serve.

# TWIN CITIES 2015 CAMP FINANCIAL REPORT Held at Camp Joy, Hamilton, Georgia May 24th-May 27th.

**Total Registered Campers 39** Total of No Show Campers 1 Day & Night Workers 12 Day Workers & Part Time Help 10 **Grand Total 60** 

Camp Fund Balance Received from change trophy competition <sup>1</sup> Inflatable Rental Unknown Deposit 1-14-15 Received from State Camp Board <sup>2</sup> Received of Campers Gross Canteen Return on canteen items Total Receipts	\$ 2338.53 \$ 150.00 \$ 100.00 \$ 1200.00 \$ 3315.00 \$ 618.51 \$ 29.58 \$ 7751.62	\$4	.953.22
Expenses Trailer Tag Camp Deposit (applied to camp rental) Camp Rental Camp Evangelist (David Reeves- preaching a Welch College Student Camp Help (Brandon of Canteen Purchases Snow Cone Machine Purchase Food Paper goods & Supplies Letter Making Postage First Aid Literature Fun-time, Games (recreational, balls, etc.) Crafts Prizes (Awards) Tee Shirts Camival Slight of Hand Artist Performer (Jeff II) Life guard (Madison Colberg) Total Expenses	Justice)	\$ 40.53 \$ 100.00 \$ 1172.00 \$ 450.00 \$ 350.00 \$ 823.75 \$ 179.39 \$ 1218.08 \$ 460.82 \$ 17.76 \$ 0.00 \$ 299.73 \$ 420.30 \$ 194.24 \$ 112.66 \$ 566.83 \$ 125.00 \$ 55.00 \$ 6586.09	
Total Receipts for Camp Year 2015 Less Total Expense for Camp Year 2015 2015 Camp Session Gain			\$ 7751.62 \$ 6586.09 \$ 1165.53
Camp Fund Balance from 2014 Camp Receipts balance taken from report at to Total Less expenses listed above Current Camp Fund Balance Total (Bank balance is \$6118.75.)		***************************************	\$4,953.22 \$7,751.62 \$12,704.84 \$ 6586.09 \$ 6118.75 Report submitted

<sup>1</sup> July 26th \$677.98; October 25th \$575.17; January 24th \$618.89; April 25th \$466.52; (July 2015 amount not recorded)
<sup>2</sup> The State Camp Board provides each Junior Camp (per association) an equal share of money.

Heather Ransom, Camp Director

The Twin Cities Association met at Calvary Free Will Baptist Church. Welcome by Bro. Russell Ruhland.

Opening Song: "Bringing in the Sheaves" pg. 353 led by Bro. Russell Ruhland.

Call to order: Moderator Rev. Willie Martin.

Morning Devotion: by Rev. Willie Martin, "God Knows All," scripture taken from Jeremiah 33:3.

M/S/C to adopt the agenda and order of business. M/S/C to accept letters and to seat all delegates.

There were no visitors to recognize.

M/S/C to accept minutes of previous meeting as read. M/S/C to receive treasurer's report as read.

There was a letter from White Rock dated July 17, 2015, to withdraw their membership with the Twin Cities Association. It is attached to the minutes. The letter was submitted by Deacon Lester Thornton and Clerk Betty Ellis. There was a M/S/C to receive letter and for the Twin Cities Association to send a letter to White Rock advising them of their 501(c)3 tax status with the Association and the National Association.

There was also a letter from Steven Windham received on August 3, 2015, in which he officially resigned from all permanent positions he held with the Twin Cities Association. M/S/C to accept letter. It is attached to the minutes.

The Ordaining Council did not need to meet during the break.

Dismissed for brunch in prayer by Joe Hayes.

M/S/C to sing a song of Happy Birthday to Don Benefield.

Nominating Committee report was given by Mod. Rev. Willie Martin at committee chairman Don Benefield's direction. It is attached to the minutes. There was a M/S/C to receive and accept the nominees by acclamation.

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

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

#### Reports

State Trustee Board report - No report.

State Mission Board report - Rev. Aaron Baldridge stated they met on August 26 2015. The report is attached to the minutes. M/S/C to receive as information.

State Camp Board report - No report.

State Christian Education Board report - No report. Rev. Willie Martin stated the Senior Citizens Retreat is coming up on November 2-4, 2015 at George T. Bagby State Park in Fort Gaines, GA. M/S/C to receive as information.

Women Active for Christ report - Leslie Baldridge stated the Annual Meeting will be held at Calvary on October 17, 2015 @ 9:30. The guest speaker will be Rae Knighton. The Day of Prayer will be at Calvary on November 21, 2015. A sign-up sheet will be available at the Annual Meeting. The Concert of Prayer will begin at 6:00 p.m. All women are welcome to participate in this event.

Rev. Willie Martin advised that he has begun reading a book entitled, "Arminian and Baptist" by J. Matthew Pinson, President of Welch College. He stated it is a very good book.

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

#### Announcements

Youth Rally will be at Calvary on October 24, 2015, at 6 PM. Calvary and First Church are having Homecoming on October 11, 2015. Bethel will be having their Homecoming on October 18, 2015.

Miscellaneous Business

M/S to adjourn business meeting, motion carried by everyone stating hallelujah.

Respectfully submitted, Glenda George, Clerk

Song led by Bro. Russell Ruhland, "Where Could I Go" pg. 568.

Morning Message: Dr./Rev. Aaron Baldridge, "Where is the Glory," scripture taken from 1 Corinthians 1:18, 26-31.

# Treasurer's Report October 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015 Twin Cities Association Funds

Balance Brought Forward (October 1, 2015)\$5,307.17
<u>Deposits</u>
Associational Dues\$375.00
Balance Subtotal
Expenditures
State and National Dues
Balance on Hand (December 31, 2015)\$4,707.17
Associational Funds \$4,244.54
Youth Competition \$146.05
Men's Retreat \$216.58
Summer Intern <u>\$100.00</u>
\$4,707.17
Camp Funds
Balance Brought Forward (October 1, 2015)
Change Trophy
Balance Subtotal
Expenditures
Balance on Hand (December 31, 2015)
Dalance on Hand (December 31, 2013)

# Digest Report October 2015

# October 10, 2015 Quarterly Meeting

Deacons Present       4         Delegates       18         Visitors       3         Total Present       29         October 24, 2015 Youth Rally         Attendance         Bethel       0         Calvary       2         First Church       13         St. Mark       0         Weems       2         Total Children       17         Adults       18         All Total       35         Change Trophy         Bethel       \$0.00         Calvary       \$0.00         First Church       \$174.95         St. Mark       \$0.00         Weems       \$65.25	Ministers Present	4
Visitors       3         Total Present       29         Attendance         Bethel       0         Calvary       2         First Church       13         St. Mark       0         Weems       2         Total Children       17         Adults       18         All Total       35         Change Trophy         Bethel       \$0.00         Calvary       \$0.00         First Church       \$174.95         St. Mark       \$0.00	Deacons Present	4
Visitors       3         Total Present       29         October 24, 2015 Youth Rally         Attendance         Bethel       0         Calvary       2         First Church       13         St. Mark       0         Weems       2         Total Children       17         Adults       18         All Total       35         Change Trophy         Bethel       \$0.00         Calvary       \$0.00         First Church       \$174.95         St. Mark       \$0.00	Delegates	18
October 24, 2015 Youth Rally           Attendance           Bethel         0           Calvary         2           First Church         13           St. Mark         0           Weems         2           Total Children         17           Adults         18           All Total         35           Change Trophy           Bethel         \$0.00           Calvary         \$0.00           First Church         \$174.95           St. Mark         \$0.00	Visitors	<u>3</u>
Attendance         Bethel       0         Calvary       2         First Church       13         St. Mark       0         Weems       2         Total Children       17         Adults       18         All Total       35         Change Trophy         Bethel       \$0.00         Calvary       \$0.00         First Church       \$174.95         St. Mark       \$0.00		
Bethel.       0         Calvary       2         First Church       13         St. Mark       0         Weems       2         Total Children       17         Adults       18         All Total       35         Change Trophy         Bethel       \$0.00         Calvary       \$0.00         First Church       \$174.95         St. Mark       \$0.00	October 24, 2015 Youth Rally	
Calvary       2         First Church       13         St. Mark       0         Weems       2         Total Children       17         Adults       18         All Total       35         Change Trophy         Bethel       \$0.00         Calvary       \$0.00         First Church       \$174.95         St. Mark       \$0.00	<u>Attendance</u>	
First Church       13         St. Mark       0         Weems       2         Total Children       17         Adults       18         All Total       35         Change Trophy         Bethel       \$0.00         Calvary       \$0.00         First Church       \$174.95         St. Mark       \$0.00	Bethel	0
First Church       13         St. Mark       0         Weems       2         Total Children       17         Adults       18         All Total       35         Change Trophy         Bethel       \$0.00         Calvary       \$0.00         First Church       \$174.95         St. Mark       \$0.00	Calvary	2
Weems       2         Total Children       17         Adults       18         All Total       35         Change Trophy         Bethel       \$0.00         Calvary       \$0.00         First Church       \$174.95         St. Mark       \$0.00	First Church	13
Total Children       17         Adults       18         All Total       35         Change Trophy         Bethel       \$0.00         Calvary       \$0.00         First Church       \$174.95         St. Mark       \$0.00	St. Mark	0
Adults       18         All Total       35         Change Trophy         Bethel       \$0.00         Calvary       \$0.00         First Church       \$174.95         St. Mark       \$0.00		
All Total       35         Change Trophy         Bethel       \$0.00         Calvary       \$0.00         First Church       \$174.95         St. Mark       \$0.00	Total Children	17
Change Trophy         Bethel       \$0.00         Calvary       \$0.00         First Church       \$174.95         St. Mark       \$0.00		
Bethel	All Total	35
Calvary       \$0.00         First Church       \$174.95         St. Mark       \$0.00	Change Trophy	
First Church	Bethel\$0	0.00
First Church	Calvary\$0	0.00
	•	
Weems	St. Mark	0.00
	Weems	<u>5.25</u>

Total.....

.\$240.20

# TWIN CITIES DISTRICT ASSOCIATION UPDATED NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT VOTED ON AND APPROVED AT QUARTERLY MEETING 10 OCTOBER 2015

**MODERATOR:** 

REV WILLIE MARTIN (TERM EXPIRES 2016)

ASS'T MODERATOR: REV ARRON BALDRIDGE (NOMINEE)

CLERK/TREASURE: GLENDA GEORGE

ASS'T CLERK/TREASURE: TONY MITCHELL (NOMINEE)

**EXECUTIVE BOARD** 

**REV WILLIE MARTIN: MODERATOR** 

GLENDA GEORGE: CLERK

DON BENEFIELD **GARY CLEGG** 

RONNIE KNIGHTON (NOMINEE)

ORDAINING COUNCIL

**REV ARRON BALDRIDGE: 2016** 

JOEY GEORGE 2017 (REPLACED UNEXPIRED TERM Rev STEVEN WINDHAM) (NOMINEE)

TONY MITCHELL 2018 (NOMINEE)

CAMP DIRECTORS

HEATHER RANSOM: CAMP DIRECTOR

REV WILLIE MARTIN ASS'T CAMP DIRECTOR (NOMINEE)

**BOARDS** 

MISSIONS: REV ARRON BALDRIDGE (TERM EXPIRES 2017)

TRUSTEE: RUSSELL RUHLAND (TERM EXPIRES 2019

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: REV WILLIE MARTIN: TERM EXPIRES 2019** 

**CAMPING: JOEY GRORGE (TERM EXPIRES 2017)** 

YOUTH RALLY

**DIRECTOR: JOEY GEORGE** 

ASS'T DIRECTOR: RONNIE KNIGHTON

SECRETARY: GLENDA GEORGE

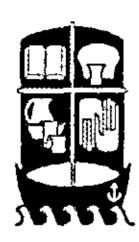
**REGISTRATION CLERKS** 

LAZELLE BROWN

**ASS'T CLERK: BARBARA CLEGG** 

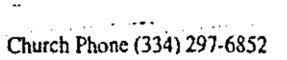
Respectfully Submitted: Chairman Don Benfield,

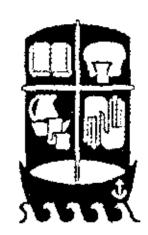
Members: GARY CLEGG, LESLIE BALDRIGE, Joe Hayes, TONY MITCHELL



# White Rock Free Will Baptist Church

#4 Crawford Church Road Phenix City, AL 36870





July 17, 2015

To The Twin Cities Association of Free Will Baptist Columbus, GA.

We the members of White Rock Free Will Baptist Church voted unanimously on Wednesday July 15, 2015 to withdraw our membership from the Twin Cities Free Will Baptist Association.

Due to the present circumstances, we feel this is the best thing for our church at this time.

Sincerely,

White Rock Free Will Baptist

Lester Thornton

Deacon

Betty Ellis
Church Clerk

Twin Cities Association of Free Will Baptist c/o Glenda George, Clerk 288 Buckhead Ridge

Fortson, GA 31808

Columbus, GA

Dear Delegates and Officers of the Association:

I am writing to inform you of my permanent resignation from ALL positions held by me within the Twin Cities Association. I feel that this is the best decision at this time for myself as well as my family. This resignation is to be effective immediately.

Thank you,

Rev. Stephen Windham

Cc: Willie Martin, Aaron Baldridge

# Mission Board Report

The Mission Board met in August in Milledgeville. We have divided up into teams to examine various locations for suitability for a mission work. The cities being looked at are LaGrange, Milledgeville, Tifton, Augusta, and Athens. Please be in prayer for the board that they would have clarity and identify just the right place and the right team.

Remember that November is Home Missions month for Free Will Baptists. I encourage all of our churches to support our denomination's efforts to plant churches across North America. Our churches are encouraged to participate in the Benjamin Randall Offering on November 22, 2015. Each church should have received information from the National Offices.

Thank you for the privilege to represent our association on the GAFWB Mission Board.

Aaron R. Baldridge

# Twin Cities Women Active for Christ District Convention October 17, 2015

#### Welcome and Prayer

- The meeting began with a welcome to Calvary Free Will Baptist Church by Leslie Baldridge. She opened our meeting in prayer.
- We were led in song by Tiffany Chaffin and she was accompanied by Rae Knighton on piano. We sang, page 521 "We'll Work 'Til Jesus Comes".
- The offering was taken by Gail Sams and Brooke Prather. During the offering, Rae played "I Surrender All".

#### Call to Order

- The business meeting was called to order by Heather Ellison,
   President of TCWAC.
  - o Gail Sams, TCWAC Vice President, read the Credentials report. (Attached)
    - Seating of the delegates was made by the standing delegates, TCWAC officers and local presidents. Motion/Second/Carried
    - Purpose of Credentials Report is to seat the delegates.
    - 2 churches, 17 members, and 7 delegates
  - The Financial Report was given by Brooke Prather, TCWAC Treasurer. (Financial report attached). Year: October 15, 2014 October 15, 2015
    - Beginning of year: \$579.36
    - Ending of year: \$625.11
    - Made a motion to accept the partial financial report as read, Motion/Second/Carried
  - Heather Ellison asked Mary Prather to ask the blessing on the brunch.

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

#### Resume Business

- Tiffany and Rae led us in "Jesus Saves" page 363
- Registration Report:
  - Tiffany Chaffin presented our registration report. Report passed. (Attached)
    - Delegates 6
    - District Officers 6

- State Officers 0
- Visitors -5
- Missionaries 0
- Pastors 0
- Total present 17
- Day of Prayer 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Day of Prayer
  - o November 21, 2015
  - First 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 over
  - o Two ladies to pray during each hour
  - o Initial the prayer requests as you pray through your hour so everything is prayed over throughout the day
  - Mission Prayer Request
    - International Brooke Prather
    - Home Leslie Baldridge
  - o Local/State/National government Heather Ellison
  - Personal Prayer Request Gail Sams for Calvary, Sue Flowers for First, get personal prayer requests to Heather by Nov. 18<sup>th.</sup>
  - Need to invite the other ladies in the churches to at least attend the Concert of Prayer even if they are not a regularly attending WAC member.
  - o Token Gift -Tiffany Chaffin
  - Music/Program for Concert of Prayer First
- Nominating Committee
  - Sue Flowers Chairperson
  - Glenda George
  - Tiffany Chaffin
- Resolutions Report:
  - Dianne Martin presented our resolutions report.
     (Attached)
    - Resolutions were voted on item by item.
      - o Resolution 1 passed financial and prayer support for missions
      - Resolution 2 passed attest to attend and encourage others to attend our state and national retreats to strengthen our walk with Christ

Resolution 3 – passed – pray for the government and upcoming presidential election
 Resolution 4 – passed – host church a rising vote of thanks

- Delegates to GAWAC Convention: March 17, 2016 Colquitt Free Will Baptist Church (standing delegates: state officers, local/district president and field worker)
  - o Heather Ellison (standing, district president)
  - o Mary Prather (standing, district field worker)
  - o Leslie Baldridge (standing, state secretary)
  - o Brooke Prather (standing, local president)
  - o Glenda George
  - o Gail Sams
  - Sue Flowers
  - Nadine Blanton
  - o Dianne Martin
  - o Brooke made a motion to allow Heather to appoint others at the meeting if necessary. (motion passed)
- Final Financial Report: Today's offering \$61.00, makes our current balance \$686.11 (motion/seconded/passed) [Changes were made to the original financial report to reflect a misallocation of funds for the Alabama Children's Home. The report stated that there was \$120.00 for the Alabama Children's Home, but actually it should be \$170.00.]
- Leslie shared information about the state meeting and the prayer retreat.
- Business portion was adjourned.

Special Singing – Tiffany and Leslie sang page 669 "Where The Soul Never Dies" with Rae accompanying on piano.

# Program: Rae Knighton

- Even though we are saved that does not mean that we are completely surrendered on a daily basis. God is not finished with us yet!
- Surrender to relinquish possession and control to another
- Romans 6:19 be slaves to all that is true and holy
- Instead of trying harder, you have to trust more.

- What does it actually mean to surrender to Christ?
  - Following God's lead without knowing where He is sending you
    - Genesis 12: 1-4
    - Hebrews 11: 8-10
  - Waiting for God's timing without knowing when it is going to come
    - Genesis 18: 9-14
    - Hebrews 11: 11-12
  - Expecting a miracle without knowing when God will provide
    - Daniel 3: 16-18 we may sometime have to go in the fire, but we are never alone
  - Trusting God's purpose without understanding the circumstances
    - Genesis 50: 15-20
  - o Even Jesus, Himself surrendered to His Father
  - Referenced the song "Whatever It Takes"
  - Let it be our goal each day to be surrendered to God as we trust Him more and more each day.
    - Ps. 50:15
    - 1 Peter 5: 6-10
- Heather shared about the Ivory Coast Retreat Project received from WNAC. Mary made a motion to send \$100.00 to help support this project.
- Brooke Prather presented Rae with our token of appreciation (\$100.00) for coming to speak to us.

# Reading of October 17, 2015 TCWAC Minutes

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

Heather closed the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Leslie Baldridge, TCWAC Secretary

	Twin Cities Auxiliary 2015 A	nnual Report	
Balance on hand O	october 15, 2014		\$579.36
Deposits:			\$2,881.09
	Calvary	\$1,521.34	
	First Church	\$1,226.75	
	Offering (2014 annual meeting)	\$133.00	
		\$2,881.09	
Grand Total:			\$3,460.45
Disbursements:			\$2,835.34
	*Designated Funds	\$2,735.34	
	October 2014 Speaker (Debra Van Pelt)	\$100.00	
American and the first section of the section of th		\$2,835.34	
Balance on hand O	october 15, 2015		\$625.11

Designated Funds				2 2 3 5 4		\$2,735.34
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		Calvary		8	\$150.00	
		First Church	h	9	\$168.75	
				,	\$318.75	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
					: :	
·····	WNAC	17	X	\$15.00	\$255.00	
e territorial de la colonia	GWAC	17	X	\$3.00	\$51.00	
······································	TCWAC	17	X	\$0.75	\$12.75	ing a manganan menganan salah sa Salah salah sa
A 14/N/A C Disharan						
A. WNAC Disburseme		3				
	2015 Dues				\$306.00	÷ ··· ·· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Emphasis Mon	th Offering		* * *	\$182.00	
	State Project				\$936.24	
		Sub Total			\$1,424.24	,
WNAC Total:						\$1,424.24
B. College Support:	Dot Harvey Loa	ın Fund			\$120.00	
College Total:		}		7	<b>x</b> = = = :	\$120.00
C. Missionary Disburs	ements				······································	
	State Missions	<u>.</u>			\$50.00	
<del></del>	Acts 1:8	•		···-	\$133.10	
					\$183.10	
	International N	/lissions:	•••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••			···· <del> </del>
	International Missions: Bishop Cornmeal Project				\$20.00	
Missionary Accounts		Josh & Alici	2 Crowe		\$120.00	
Wilsolollary Accounts	<u> </u>	Chris & Tor	•	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
etatatatata (1	1	Cilis & Tol	ı sargent		\$120.00 <b>\$260.00</b>	·
······································	:					
	Home Missions:					
e e e de la desta de la completa de la proposición de la proposición de la proposición de la proposición de la	Pre-Thanksgiving Offering			derivate in a constant of the	\$238.00	
Missionary Accounts	,	Barry & Jes	sica Long	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	\$220.00	
	Nate & Jenna Altom				\$120.00	•
	•			······	\$578.00	
Missionary Total:		5			······································	\$1,021.10
D. Misc:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					. ,
Cleanana Chaidean ann adaige (1 a ag 1 g 1 g 1 g 1 g 1 g 1 g 1 g 1 g 1	AL FWB Childre	en's Home			\$170.00	
Misc Total:					<del> </del>	\$170.00
	/		•	•		

#### 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 1 - NAME**

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

#### <u>ARTICLE II - PURPOSE</u>

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 the 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.

# <u>ARTICLE IV - BOARDS AND COMMITTEES</u>

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 is 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.
- 5. Any additional Boards, Committees, or Officers needed shall be appointed or elected by the Association at its discretion.

# ARTICLE VI - MEMBERSHIP AND REPRESENTATION

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

- 1. 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 1Timothy 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, 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 un-served 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 denomination 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 of believers in water, and teaching humility, or universal obligation, is 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.