# The Fortieth Annual Session of the

Twin Cities Association Of Free Will Baptists

# meeting with the

Bethel Free Will Baptist Church Of Columbus, GA

# October 8, 2016

# Minutes of the 2016 Sessions

# Meeting Schedule for 2017

01-14-17 Calvary 07-08-17 Grace 04-08-17 First 10-14-17 St. Mark

#### **OFFICERS**

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

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Rev. Willie Martin, Moderator Glenda George, Clerk/Treasurer Harold Smith Charlies Wilson Ronnie Knighton

### **ORDAINING COUNCIL**

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Rev. Mike Randall	*****		
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#### STATE BOARD MEMBERS

State Camp Board......Bro. Joey George (2017) Missions Board.....Dr. Aaron Baldridge (2017)

### **ORDAINED MINISTERS**

Rev. Aaron Baldridge Rev. Ronnie Knighton Rev. Willie Martin Rev. Mike Randall Rev. Danny Ryals Rev. Ricky Ward 3930 Conrad Drive, Columbus, GA 31909
941 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, Columbus, GA 31904
6329 Cricket Lane, Columbus, GA 31909
6400 Main St., Apt 8D, Columbus, GA 31909
4800 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Phenix City, AL 36867
42 Stillwell Drive, Phenix City, AL 36869

706-984-9726 706-571-9833 706-563-8440 706-587-2914 256-589-5313 334-480-0346

### **CAMP DIRECTORS**

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

#### YOUTH RALLY DIRECTORS

Joey George, Director Tiffany Chaffin, Asst. Director Glenda George, Secretary

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

#### CHURCH

**Bethel FWB Church** 10250 Lee Road 240 Phenix City, AL 36870 334-448-0103

**Calvary FWB Church** 6165 Billings Road Columbus, GA 31909 706-563-7031

**First FWB Church** 952 54<sup>th</sup> Street Columbus, GA 31904 706-324-1741

**Grace FWB Church** 2101 18<sup>th</sup> Place Phenix City, AL 36867 334-540-9678

St. Mark FWB Church **3009 Sandfort Road** Phenix City, AL 36867 334-298-8015

Weems Road FWB Church Rev. Mike Randall

#### **PASTOR**

Earl Ransom, Interim 4040 Tococa Avenue Columbus, GA 31907 706-561-3617

**Rev./Dr. Aaron Baldridge 3930 Conrad Drive** Columbus, GA 31909 706-984-9726

**Rev. Willie Martin** 6329 Cricket Lane Columbus, GA 31909 706-563-8440

**Rev. Ricky Ward 42 Stillwell Drive** Phenix City, AL 36869 334-480-0346

**Rev. Danny Ryals** 4800 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Phenix City, AL 36867 256-589-5373

#### **CLERK**

**Joseph Hayes** 185 Lee Road 887 Phenix City, AL 36870 334-298-0790

Lynn H. Turner 2983 Victory Circle Columbus, GA 31909 706-323-4369

**Glenda George** 288 Buckhead Ridge Fortson, GA 31808 706-587-4946

**Elicia Prickett** 241 Lee Road 2153 Salem, AL 36874 706-681-0967

**Christy Green** 3106 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Phenix City, AL 36867 706-325-8070

3400 Weems Road Columbus, GA 31909 706-327-0053

6400 Main St., Apt. 8D Columbus, GA 31909 706-587-2914

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Juanita Bowens **6217 Highland Avenue** Columbus, GA 31909 706-327-1722

January 9, 2016

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

Opening Song: "On Jordan's Stormy Banks" pg.634, led by Rev. Ronnie Knighton.

Opening prayer: by Rev. Ricky Ward.

Morning Devotion: by Rev. Willie Martin, "Praise," scripture taken from Psalm 148.

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

Visitors: There were seven members of Grace Free Will Baptist Church including Rev. Ricky Ward that were recognized.

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

Letters: St. Mark FWB asked that the Association accept Rev. Danny Ryals pending examination. Also, Grace FWB asked to be accepted into the Association.

There were no resolutions.

Ordaining council to meet a break.

Dismissed for brunch in prayer by Bro. David Chafin.

M/S/C to receive the day's digest report as read. M/S/C to receive Youth Rally and Change Trophy reports as read.

### **Board Reports:**

State Trustee Board report. Bro. Russell Ruhland stated there was nothing to report.

State Mission Board report. Rev. Aaron Baldridge stated there was nothing to report.

State Camp Board report. Bro. Joey George gave Camp Board report, and it is attached to the minutes. M/S/C to receive as information.

<u>State Education Board report</u>. Rev. Willie Martin stated there was nothing to report, except that the Couple's Retreat, which is usually held in February, will be cancelled this year as Lake Blackshear is renovating their facilities. Please refer to the Promotional Bulletin for other items of news. M/S/C to receive as information.

Women Active for Christ report. Report given by Sis. Leslie

Baldridge. The District Supper will be at First Church, Thursday, January 21, 2016 at 7PM. The State Annual Conference will be held at Colquitt Free Will Baptist Church on March 17, 2016. State Prayer Retreat will be held at Norman Park April 8-9, 2916. Deadline for early registration is March 17, 2016. The Minister's Wife Retreat is coming up in 7 months, and each church needs to think about sending their pastor's wife. She said to refer to the Promotional Bulletin for further information. M/S/C to receive as information.

### New Business

The Ordaining Council met this morning. There were two recommendations:

- 1) It is recommended that Danny Ryals be accepted upon letter of good standing from Cahaba FWB. There is no need to re-examine his credentials.
- 2) It is recommended that Ricky Ward's credentials be reexamined.

There was a motion to act upon these two recommendations, the motion was seconded and carried.

M/S to receive Grace FWB into Association pending an examination by the Executive Committee. The motion was carried.

### Miscellaneous Business

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

The TCA Youth Rally will be held at First FWB Church on Saturday January 23, 2016, at 6:00 PM.

The State Association has moved Teen Camp to the same dates as Twin Cities Camp.

There will be a singing on January 30, 2016, with Ernie Dawson and Erhline at St. Mark FWB Church beginning at 6:00 PM.

State Prayer Retreat planning committee will be meeting the same day as the Youth Rally to plan retreat. Leslie Baldridge asked that we keep them in our prayers.

Rev. Willie Martin mentioned a book named, "Brilliant, Made in the Image of God," by author Bruce Malone. It was good reading with good archaeological pictures, and could be helpful in teaching the young to understand creation. M/S/C to adjourn the business meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenda George, Clerk

Morning message by Rev. Willie Martin, "Spiritually Bankrupt," scripture taken Proverbs 10:4 "Lazy hands make a man poor, but diligent hands bring wealth."

### Treasurer's Report January 1, 2016 – March 31, 2016 Twin Cities Association Funds

Deposits	
Associational Dues	\$300.00
Deducted Printing of Minutes Twice	\$364.87
Deposit Correction (11/13/2015)	<u>\$10.00</u>
Balance Subtotal	\$5,382.04

<u>Expenditures</u>	
Printing of Minutes	\$236.25
Balance on Hand (March 31, 2016)	\$5,145.79

Associational Funds	\$4,683.16
Youth Competition	\$146.05
Men's Retreat	\$216.58
Summer Intern	<u>\$100.00</u>

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\$5,145.79

### **Camp Funds**

Balance Brought Forward (January 1, 2016)	\$6,510.07
Deposits	
Change Trophy	<u>\$398.64</u>
Balance Subtotal	
	-
<u>Expenditures</u>	
Expenses	<u>\$150.55</u>
Balance on Hand (March 31, 2016)	

# **Digest Report January 2016**

### January 9, 2016 Quarterly Meeting

Ministers Present	
Deacons Present	5
Delegates	
Visitors	<u>7</u>
Total Present	

### January 23, 2016 Youth Rally

### **Attendance**

Bethel	0
Calvary	
First Church	
Grace	
St. Mark	
Weems	
Total Children	_
Adults	

1 Total
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### **Change Trophy**

Bethel	\$0.00
Calvary	
First Church	
Grace	
	-
Grace St. Mark Weems Total	\$50 

### St Mark Free Will Baptist Church 3005 Sandfort Road Phenix City, AL 36869 334-298-8015

Pastor: Danny Ryals

The Twin Cities Association To: Date: January 9, 2016 New Pastor, Danny Ryals Re:

#### Dear Clerk Glenda George:

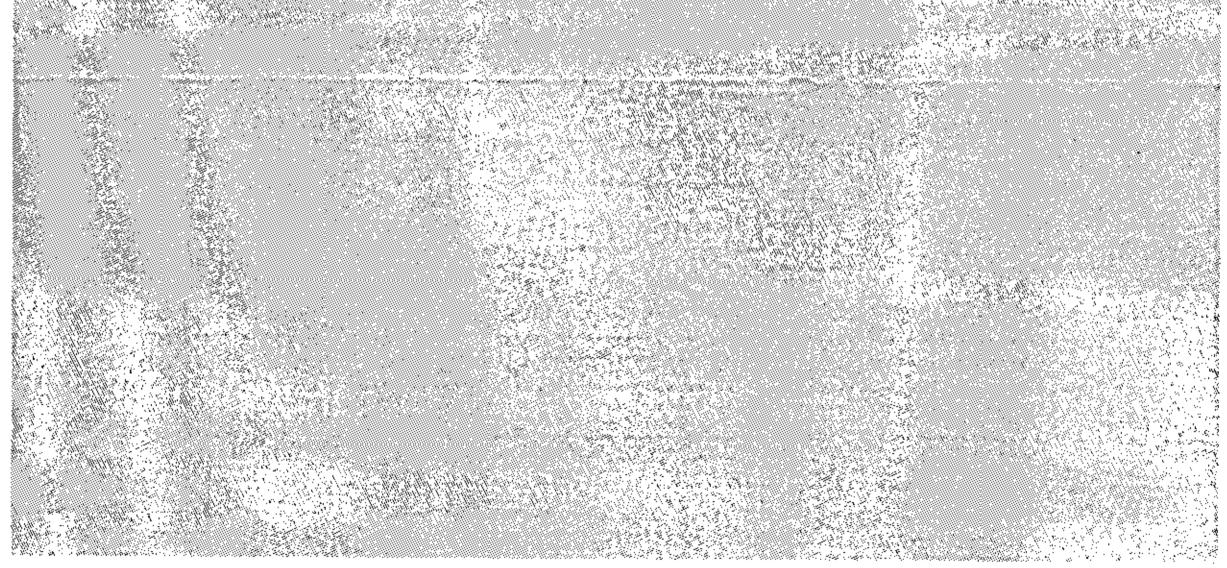
We The St. Mark Free Will Baptist Church, has called Pastor Danny Ryals, to be our new pastor. We ask that he be allowed to join the association and that he be examined by the ordaining consul. Also, we ask that a letter requesting good standing be sent to the Cahaba River Association in Alabama. Their clerk is Rev. Wayne Neely. 

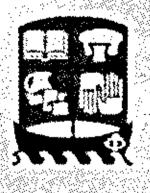
We appreciate your help in this matter and look forward to working with our Twin Cities Association.

In Jesus

**Christy Green** 

Secretary/Treasurer St. Mark Free Will Baptist Church





TWIN CITIES DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS 288 BUCKHEAD RIDGE FORTSON, GEORGIA 31808

January 25, 2016

Cahaba River Association Of Free Will Baptist Wayne Neely, Clerk 115 Narrows Road Remlap, AL 35133

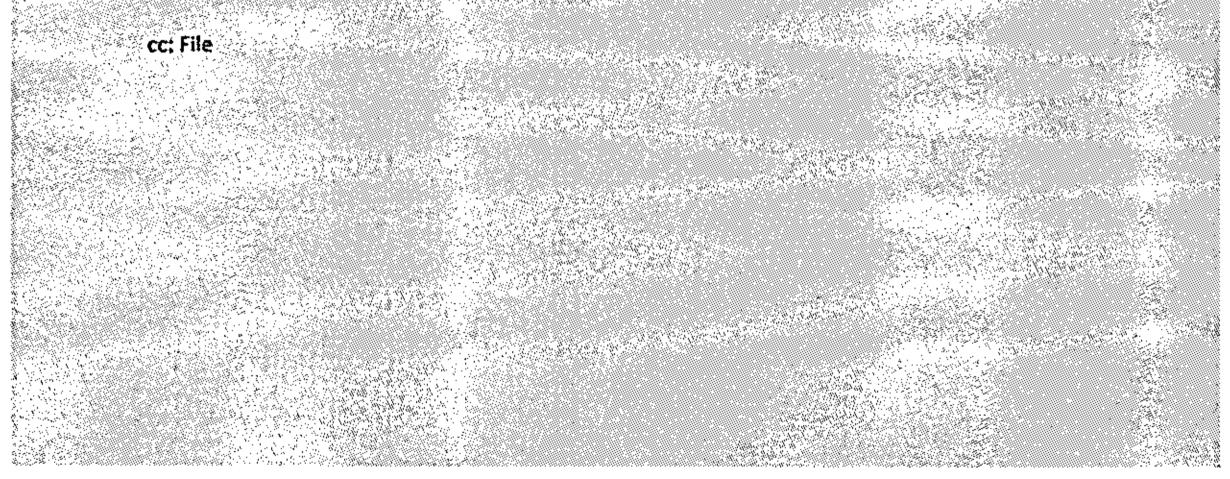
Dear Clerk Neely,

Saint Mark Free Will Baptist Church of Phenix City, Alabama, has called Rev. George Daniel Ryals to be the pastor their church. The Twin Cities District Association is requesting a letter of good standing for Rev. Ryals.

Please mail letter to my attention at 288 Buckhead Ridge, Fortson, Georgia 31808.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Respectfully, Glenda F. George, Clerk Twin Cities District Association Of Free Will Baptists





#### CAHABA RIVER DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Wayne Neely, Clerk P.O. Box 342 Moody, AL 35004

March 20, 2016

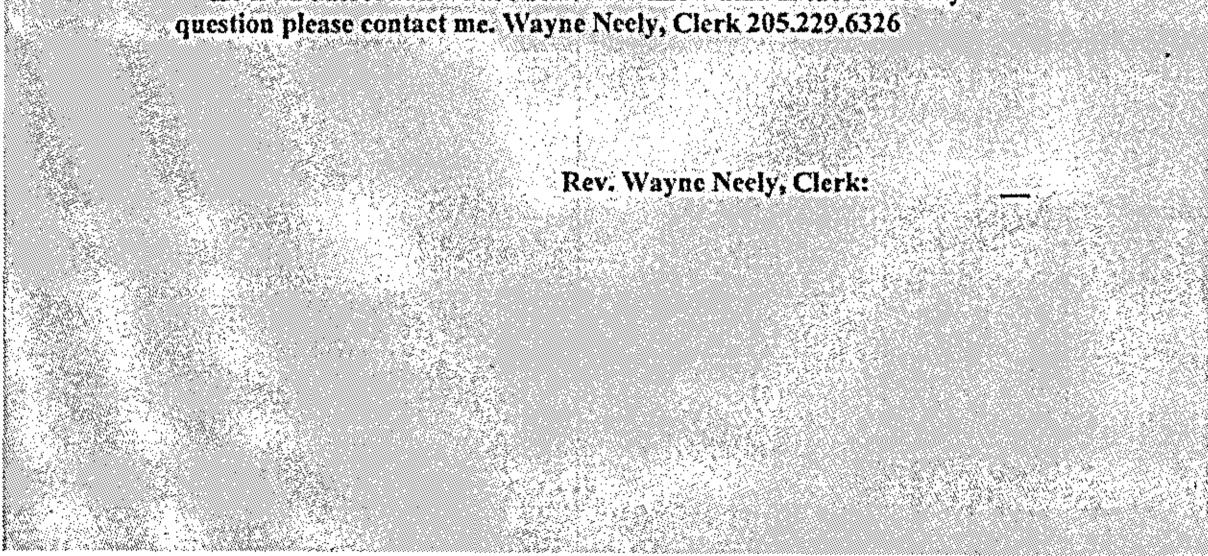
To whom it may concern:

Subject: Letter of Recommendation of Good Standings

It is with honor and priviledge to acknowledge Reverend Danny Ryals as an ordained minister of the Cahaba River Free Will Baptist Association.

Bro. Ryals has servered as Senior Pastor in one of our churches and is in good standings with the Cahaba River District Association of Free Will Baptist State of Alabama.

He is an aasset and we are blessed to know him. If there are any



#### State Camp Board Meeting

#### October 15, 2015

The State Camp Board met at First Free Will Baptist Church in Albany, Georgia. Bro. William Smith was unable to attend as he had pneumonia. There was 170 campers at Teen Camp and there were no off site trips other than Six Flags.

Scott Warren was the speaker at Teen Camp and said they were looking at two speakers for the 2016 camp.

State Camp is trying to settle out of court in the case of the teen who broke his elbow.

Devotions were moved to evening time right before bed and that seemed to work well.

The budget for State Camp was in the red, but with the Co-op giving it will break even. The price for campers will remain the same, \$165 for early bird registration and \$190 for late registration. The cost of the camp shirts were \$2 cheaper than in past years. They had plenty of men workers, but only five women workers last year. They will be needing more women workers to volunteer for this year.

There is the possibility that another church will be sending 25 campers for this year, which will boost attendance close to 200.

The Six Flags trip is still planned for 2016. There will be a bon fire on the first night of camp, Sunday. Camp is planned for May 29-June 3, 2016.

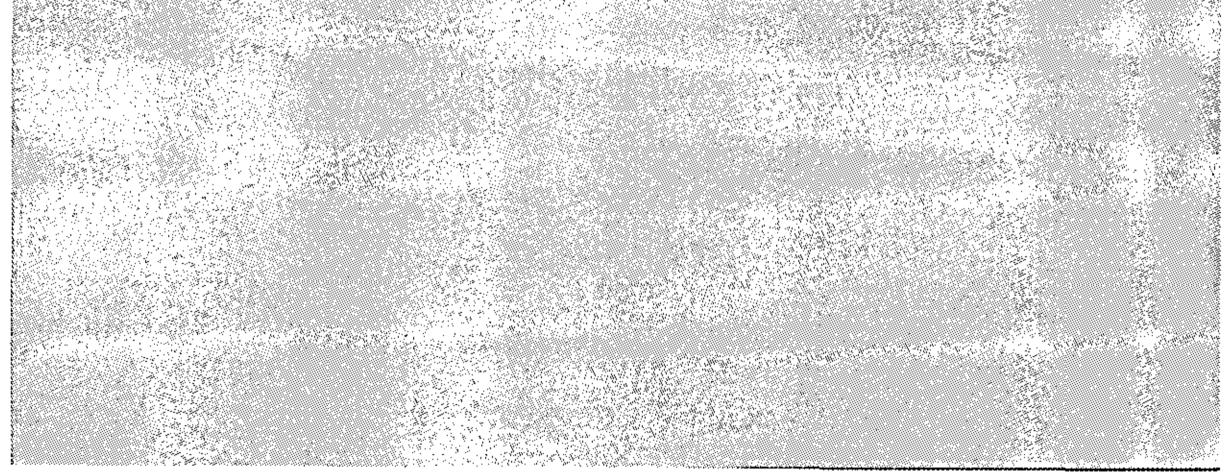
State Camp will be giving \$1,200 for Junior camp.

The Chairman of the State Camp Board Committee stayed the same.

Submitted by:

Juntif Decen

Joey George State Camp Board



#### Grace Free Will Baptist Church 2101 18<sup>th</sup> Place Phenix City, Al. 36867 Phone 334-540-9678

#### DATE: 12/02/15

To: Twin Cities FWB Association From: Grace FWB Church Subject: To Unite with Association

We at Grace FWB Church would like to petition the Twin Cities FWB Association to join fellowship with the association. If possible we would like to present this at the January meeting. We have been formed since March 2015 and are under, and using the FWB Doctrine & Treatise as our standard of worship. We are also including our Mission Statement.

Pastor: Ricky Ward Head Trustee: Charles Wilson

#### MISSION STATEMENT OF GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

1. It is the mission of Grace FWB Church to lead the lost to Jesus Christ thru salvation. Romans 10:9-10 KJB

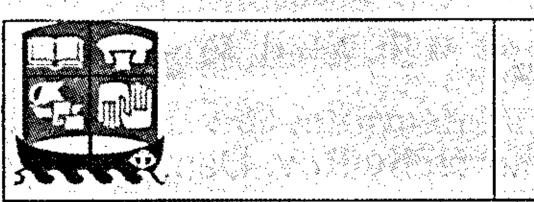
2. It is the mission of Grace FWB Church to teach, train, and direct the body of Christ in the service of discipleship of Jesus Christ that the word may go forth to the building of God's Kingdom. Matt. 28:19-20

3. It is the mission of Grace FWB Church to lead the body of Christ in Prayer, Faith, and Trust in God's word and promises. Luke 11:1-4 KJB

4. It is the mission of Grace FWB Church to worship and give thanks to God for His blessings in unity, one heart, one mind, one accord. Acts 1:12-14

Ricky Ward, Pastor Home - 334-480-0346 Cell - 334-707-6075

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Twin Citles District Association Of Free Will Baptist Glenda F. George, Secretary 288 Buckhead Ridge Fortson, GA 31808

Georgla State Association of Free Will Baptists William Smith, Secretary P. O. Box 507 Colquitt, GA 39837-0507

Dr. Bro. Smith,

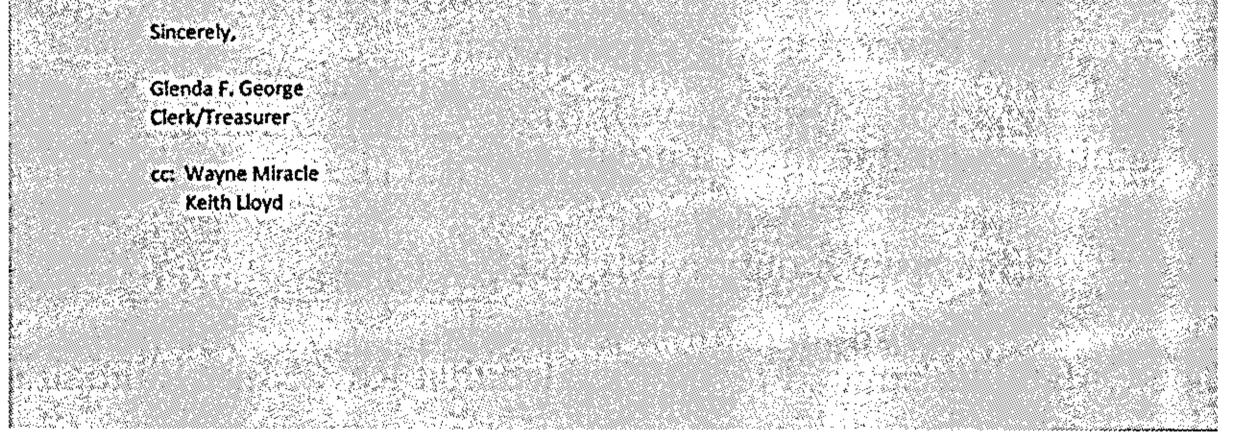
The Twin Cities Association of Free Will Baptists in Columbus, Georgia, officially accepted Grace Free Will Baptist Church into our association.

On December 2, 2015, a letter of petition was sent by Grace Free Will Baptist requesting fellowship into the Twin Cities Association. They were formed on March 2015 and are under and using the Free Will Baptist Doctrine & Treatise as their standard of worship. Their current address is:

> Grace Free Will Baptist Church Pastor, Rev. Ricky Ward 2101 18<sup>th</sup> Place Phenix City, AL 36867 Phone: 334-540-9678

On February 2, 2016, the executive board met with the pastor, Ricky Ward, and trustee, Bro. Tillman Smith. Several questions were asked concerning organization and interest in the Free Will Baptists denomination. By vote, they were unanimously accepted into the association.

Can you forward a copy of this letter to Bro. Wayne Miracle and Bro. Keith Lloyd? If you need any other documentation regarding Grace Free Will Baptist Church, please advise.



April 9, 2016

The Twin Cities Association met at St. Mark Free Will Baptist Church.

Welcome to St. Mark FWB Church by Rev. Danny Ryals. Opening Song: "What a Day That Will Be", led by Rev. Danny Ryals.

Morning Devotion: by Rev. Willie Martin, scripture taken from 1 Kings 21, Ecclesiastes, and Matthew 11:17.

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

M/S/C to accept minutes of previous meeting as read with correction that Rev. Ricky Ward to be 're-affirmed' and not 're-examined' by Ordination Council recommendation.

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

Letters: Letter of good standing regarding Rev. Danny Ryals from Cahaba River Association was read.

Ordaining council to meet a break.

Dismissed for brunch in prayer.

The Ordaining Council recommended that Rev. Mike Randall be ordained.

M/S/C to receive the day's digest report as read. M/S/C to receive Youth Rally and Change Trophy reports as read.

<u>Executive Board</u> report given by Moderator, Rev. Willie Martin and it is attached to the minutes. M/S/C to receive as information. Rev. Willie Martin reminded everyone about the Associational Co-Op Revival and that each church is to provide \$150.00. M/S/C to receive as information.

M/S/C to receive Twin Cities Camp report as read.

M/S/C to ordain Rev. Mike Randall as recommended by Ordaining Council.

### **Board Reports:**

State Trustee Board report. Bro. Russell Ruhland stated there was nothing to report.

State Mission Board report. Rev. Aaron Baldridge gave report and it is attached to the minutes. M/S/C to receive as information.

State Camp Board report. Bro. Joey George stated there was nothing to report.

State Education Board report. Rev. Willie Martin gave report. M/S/C to receive as information.

<u>Women Active for Christ report</u>. Report given by Gail Sams gave report. M/S/C to receive as information.

### **Miscellaneous Business**

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

No New Business.

Rev. Willie Martin announced that First Church was having revival services April 10-13, 2016.

Rev. Aaron Baldridge announced that there will be a downtown revival. Welch College is moving to Gallatin, and there will be a prayer group and the prayer leader will be Rev. Aaron Baldridge.

Youth Rally will be held at St. Mark FWB Church on Saturday April 23, 2016, at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Mitchell, Asst. Clerk

Morning message by Rev. Danny Ryals, scripture taken from Psalm 147. Special Singing: "Beulah Land" by Carrie Ryals.

## Treasurer's Report April 1, 2016 - June 30, 2016 Twin Cities Association Funds

Balance Brought Forward (April 1, 2016) ...... \$5,145.79

**Deposits** 

Associational Dues	\$300.00
Associational Dues (Grace FWB Year 2016).	
Co-Op Revival Giving (4 Churches)	
Co-Op Revival Offerings	
Co-Op Revival Giving (Grace FWB)	
Balance Subtotal	

**Expenditures** 

Roger Duncan (Co-Op Speaker) ...... \$1,345.00 Quality Inn (Hotel Room for Co-Op Speaker) .... <u>\$229.77</u>

Balance on Hand (June 30, 2016)......\$5,366.02

Associational Funds	\$4,903.39
Youth Competition	\$146.05
Men's Retreat	\$216.58
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Summer Intern

<u>\$100.00</u> \$5,366.02

### Camp Funds

Balance Brought Forward (April 1, 2016)	\$6,758.16
Deposits	
Change Trophy	\$566.54
Camp Receipts	* <u>\$5,490.00</u>
Balance Subtotal	\$12,814.70

\* See attached Camp Financial Report - \$6.00 deposit error found on June statement

\*\* See attached Camp Financial Report - amount is \$8,062.16 minus \$150.55 reported in January 2016 report

# Digest Report April 2016

### April 9, 2016 Quarterly Meeting

Ministers Present	4
Deacons Present	4
Delegates	17
Visitors	<u>9</u>
Total Present	

### April 30, 2016 Youth Rally

### **Attendance**

Bethel	
Calvary	0
First Church	
Grace	
St. Mark	
Weems	<u>5</u>
Total Children	<u>61</u>
Adults	
All Total	

### **Change Trophy**

Bethel	\$0.00
Calvary	\$0.00
First Church	
Grace	\$311.00
St. Mark	\$126.84
Weems	
Total	
Actual Change Trophy Deposit	

#### Report to the TWIN CITIES ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Saturday, April 9, 2016

The Mission Board met on Thursday, March 17 during the state meeting in Colquitt. It was a very encouraging meeting that put some key things in motion that will allow us to begin our next state mission work in mid-2017. Several years ago a Free Will Baptist church located in Tilton, GA closed and gave the money from the sale of the property to the State Mission Board with the stipulation that the money be used to begin a new work in the Tilton area. By the end of the year the balance in that account will be approximately \$150,000, which will allow the mission board to start off on a very strong footing. The Board will be talking with several individuals and families that have expressed an Interest in going to help with the new work.

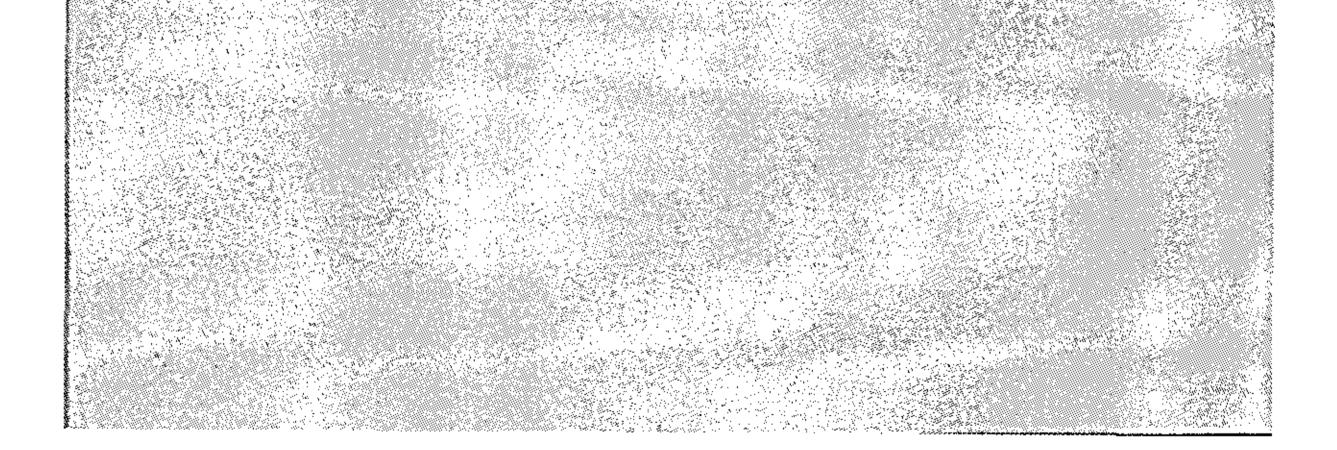
The church that is purchasing the Cartersville property continues to do very well. They again paid their full years lease payments up front. Please remember their pastor Justin Gazaway and the church. As the Lord blesses this church they will be able to purchase the property which will allow the mission board to plant more Free Will Baptist works across Georgia.

I encourage all of our churches to participate in the FWB International Missions Offering April 24th, Working together we can accomplish great things for God's Glory and see His Kingdom expand.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent our association on the mission board.

Blessings.

Aaron R. Baldridge

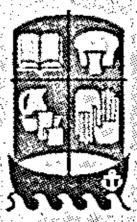


Executive Board Report concerning the admission of Grace Free Will Baptist Church into the Twin Cities Association

The Executive Board met with representation of the Grace Free Will Baptist Church of Phenix City, Alabama Tuesday evening February 2, 2016 and determined they are in compliance with all the expectations of the Twin Cities Association. We welcome them into our full fellowship to serve and labor with us to advance the Kingdom of God.

> Willie C. Martin Moderator





<u>Florida State Line Association</u> <u>of Free Will Baptists</u>

> Moderator: Rev. Bobby Peters Clerk: Rev. Jonathan Cordell

April 11, 2016

Twin Cities Association of Free Will Baptists Attn: Glenda F George, Secretary 288 Buckhead Ridge Fortson, GA 31808

Ms. George,

My prayer is that this letter finds you and your family doing well and enjoying the blessings of the Lord.

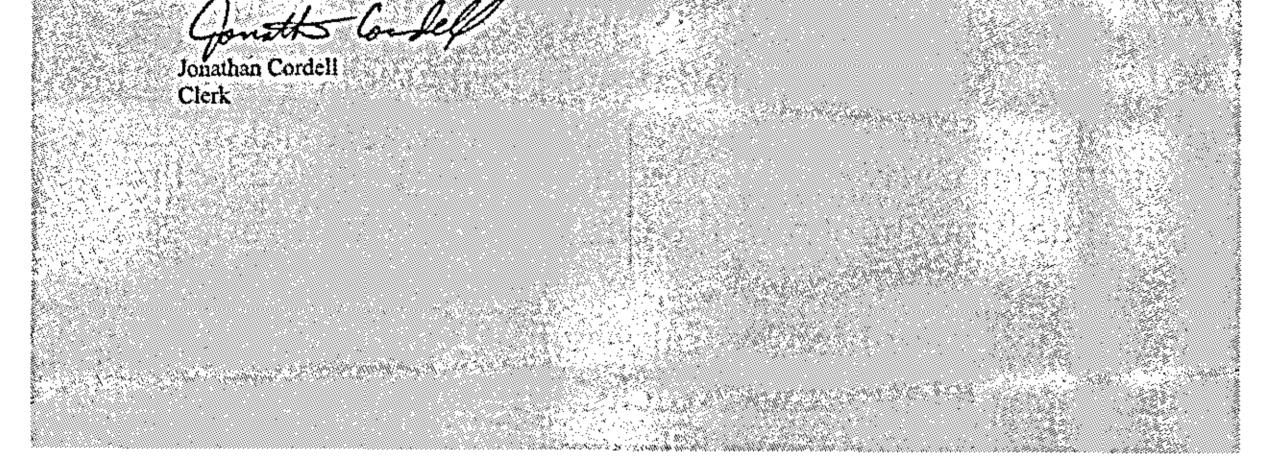
Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church, a member church of our association, has called Rev. Stephen Windham as the pastor of their church. We are writing to ask for a Letter of Good Standing for Rev. Windham from your association.

The address to send the letter to is:

Florida State Line Association of Free Will Baptists Attn: Jonathan Cordell, Clerk P. O. Box 65 Ozark, AL 36361

Let me say in advance thank you for your help in this matter. Please let me know if you have any questions or if I can be of assistance to you. My mobile phone number is (334) 237-1753. Again thank you and have a great day.

In Christ Alone,



July 9, 2016

The Twin Cities Association met at Weems Road Free Will Baptist Church.

Welcome and Opening Song: "When We All Get to Heaven" page 692 led by Bro. Don Benefield.

Morning Devotion: by Rev. Willie Martin, scripture taken from 1 Timothy 2:1, 2, "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men. For Kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty." Which was also printed on the front of the day's agenda. We are guilty of complaining about things that are wrong with our society.

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.

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

Letters:

1) Letter from Calvary FWB recommending that Russell Ruhland be brought before the Ordaining Council for licensure.

2) Resolution submitted by Calvary FWB to amend Constitution and By-Laws Article V Election of Officers. The resolution is attached to the minutes.

Ordaining Council to meet a break.

Dismissed for brunch in prayer by Russell Ruhland.

M/S/C to receive treasurer's report as read. M/S/C to receive the day's digest report as read. M/S/C to receive Youth Rally and Change Trophy reports as read.

M/S/C to receive Twin Camp Financial Report as read.

## **Board Reports:**

State Trustee Board report. Bro. Russell Ruhland stated there was nothing to report.

State Mission Board report. Rev. Aaron Baldridge stated there was nothing to report.

State Camp Board report. Bro. Joey George stated there was nothing to report.

<u>State Education Board report</u>. Rev. Willie Martin stated that the Minister's Wife Retreat is Sept 15-17, 2016 at Lake Blackshear, Georgia. You can get other retreat dates from the Promotional Bulletin. M/S/C to receive as information.

<u>Women Active for Christ report</u>. Report given by Sis. Leslie Baldridge, District Supper, July 28 2016, 7:00 PM, at First Church. M/S/C to receive.

The inflatable and two trikes were stolen and damage was done to the trailer. First Church received \$5,895.36 from the insurance company. There was a motion and second to use this money to replace the inflatable and trikes. Tony Mitchell stated that we might want to table this issue to determine the cost differentiation from buying new inflatables and renting them. Rev. Danny Ryals stated it is better to own than to rent and it would be a good idea to table to get prices. Rev. Willie stated he had the prices of each item, \$3,200 for one inflatable, \$1,200 for the other and \$700 for the trikes for a total of \$5,100. Rev. Earl Ransom stated he would like for us to delay on buying new inflatables. The cost of renting might be more

cost efficient than buying and we could possibly get a better deal. Rev. Aaron Baldridge made a motion to table, and the motion was seconded and carried to table the matter. Bro. Joey George stated he would check with different rental companies to get pricing.

There was a motion that the Moderator appoint the nominating committee based on recommendation of the pastor from each church. Motion seconded and carried.

### Nominating Committee for 2017

Bethel	Bro. Joe Hayes
Calvary	Bro. Russell Ruhland
First	Bro. Edward Newman
Grace	Bro. Charles Wilson
St. Mark	Rev. Danny Ryals, chm.
Weems	Bro. Don Benefield

### There was a motion and second to consider the resolution

letter mentioned earlier. The resolution was re-read by the clerk. Rev. Earl Ransom made a motion to have it to read in brackets at second sentence in the submitted paragraph, "to the best of their ability." There was a second by Rev. Mike Randall, but the motion was later withdrawn so the motion is now dead to have the insertion as previously stated. After much discussion, there was a motion and second to table and let the executive committee examine and discuss and make recommendations. The motion was carried. There was another motion by Leslie Baldridge to amend to read executive committee and each pastor examine and make recommendations. The motion was seconded and carried.

Joey George stood and stated he will be resigning his position on the Ordaining Council effective October 1, 2016, and that the Nominating Committee would need to submit the name of another person for this position on the Nominating Committee Report.

## Miscellaneous Business

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

James Allen, the previous pastor of Weems Road FWB, passed away.

The Twin Cities Youth Rally will be held at Weems Road FWB Church on Saturday July 30, 2016, at 6:00 PM.

Southern Raised Gospel Group will be singing on August 20, 2016 at First Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenda F. George, Clerk

Morning message by Rev. Mike Randall, "Today is the Day of Salvation," scripture taken from 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11.

Special Singing: "From the Manger to the Rugged Cross of Calvary," by Don Benefield.

### Treasurer's Report July 1, 2016 – September 30, 2016 Twin Cities Association Funds

Balance Brought Forward (July 1, 2016) ...... \$5,366.02

Deposits Associational Dues.....\$300.00 Balance Subtotal....\$5,666.02

Expenditures Checks......\$19.90 Balance on Hand (September 30, 2016)......\$5,646.12

Associational Funds	\$5,183.49
Youth Competition	\$146.05
Men's Retreat	\$216.58
Summer Intern	<u>\$100.00</u>
	\$5,646.12

## <u>Camp Funds</u>

Balance Brought Forward (July 1, 2016)	\$4,903.09
Deposits	
Insurance	\$5,895.36
Change Trophy	<u>\$493.26</u>
Balance Subtotal	
<u>Expenditures</u>	
None	\$0.00

INOI	le		<u>Φ0.00</u>
Balance on Hand (Se	ptember 30, 20	)16)	\$11,291.71

# Digest Report July 2016

### July 9, 2016 Quarterly Meeting

Ministers Present	7
Deacons Present	4
Delegates	
Visitors	
Total Present	

### July 30, 2015 Youth Rally

### **Attendance**

Bethel	0
Calvary	0
First Church	
Grace	
St. Mark	
Weems Road	
Total Children	
Adults	
All Total	

### **Change Trophy**

Bethel	\$0.00
Calvary	\$0.00
First Church	
Grace	\$285.00
St. Mark	\$71.00
Weems Road	\$65.00
Total	

Calvary Free Will Baptist Church 6165 Billings Road Columbus, Georgia 31909

July 6, 2016

Glenda George, Clerk Twin Cities Association of Free Will Baptists 288 Buckhead Ridge Fortson, GA 31808

Dear Twin Cities Association,

Calvary Free Will Baptist Church asks that Russell Ruhland be brought before the Ordaining Council for licensure to the gospel ministry.

Also, during our regularly scheduled quarterly business meeting the church approved the attached resolution and asks that the Association take appropriate action upon it at the July association meeting.

Sincerely

Dr. Aaron R. Batdridge, Pastor

Cliff Turner, Assistant Clerk



Whereas the purpose of the Twin Cities District Association of Free Will Baptists is stated as "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 church,"

AND whereas, each member church supports the Association's work through quarterly dues,

AND whereas, we recognize that it is not good, nor proper for some member churches to have no representative officers on any board, nor is it good nor proper for some churches to have disproportional representative officers on any board,

AND whereas, it is important that each member church have equal voice within the Association:

Be it therefore resolved that the Twin Cities District Association of Free Will Baptists be called upon to amend the Constitution and By-laws Article V Election of Officers to Include the following as V.1 and all current sections be renumbered in sequential order (i.e. Section 1 becomes Section 2):

At the July quarterly meeting the moderator shall appoint a nominating committee to bring recommendations/nominations to the Association at its annual meeting in October. The nominating committee shall ensure that there is equitable representation among the member churches on all boards and committees within the Association.

Submitted to the Twin Cities District Association upon vote and approval by Calvary Free Will Baptist Church at its regular business meeting July 6, 2016



30

September 27, 2016

Called meeting between the Twin Cities Executive and Pastors concerning Constition and By Laws Article V Resolution.

The meeting was chaired by the Moderator Rev. Willie Martin and was attended by Assistant Moderator Dr./Rev. Aaron Baldridge, Clerk Glenda George, Rev. Mike Randall, Rev. Ricky Ward, Rev. Danny Ryals, Rev. Earl Ransom and Bro. Don Benefield.

Meeting opened in prayer by Rev. Ricky Ward.

Moderator Rev. Willie Martin made opening remarks stating that the meeting will be informal. He asked that all discussion be made before a decision was made.

Clerk Glenda George re-read the portion of July 9, 2016, minutes pertaining to the item of business, to wit: Article V, Election of Officers. The resolution submitted by Dr./Rev. Aaron Baldridge is attached. Moderator Rev. Willie Martin reread the resolution out loud.

There was much discussion regarding the current wording and the intent. It was also discussed how the nominating committee is formed. It was mentioned that the nominating committee members needed guidance as far as procedures and guidelines.

Rev. Danny Ryals suggested that Article V be amended as per the resolution. Rev. Earl Ransom suggested that this wording be included to amend Article V Section 4. Rev. Earl Ransom also stated that the word "equitabe" is not viable as that would never happened. Moderator Rev. Willie Martin stated Article V Section 5 would include the nominating committee and would be at the discretion of the Association. Moderator Rev. Willie Martin suggested a Procedures Guideline for the Nominating Committee and present this to the Association.

It was agreeable to add last sentence of the proposed resolution to Article V Section 5 at the end of the existing sentence to read, "Any additional Boards, Committees, or Officers needed shall be appointed or elected by the Association at its discretion. The Nominating Committee shall ensure that there is equitable representation among the member churches on all boards and committees within the Association to the best of their ability."

It was also agreeable that a Nominating Committee Procedure Guideline be written, but that a draft needs to be drawn up by the Executive Board.

The meeting was closed in prayer by Rev. Danny Ryals.

October 8, 2016

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

Welcome by Rev. Earl Ransom and Hymn of Praise: "Will Jesus Find Us Watching" page 504 led by Rev. Earl Ransom accompanied by Sis. Lazelle Brown on the piano.

Opened in prayer by Rev. Ronnie Knighton.

Morning Devotion: given by Rev. Willie Martin, Moderator, scripture taken from 1 Corinthians 1:10, "Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment." If you listen to God, He will direct us into fellowship with fellow believers."

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

No visitors to recognize.

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

There were no letters to read.

Ordaining Council to meet a break. Bro. Joey George is to serve in this meeting. M/S/C to accept.

Rev. Earl Ransom stated that Rev. Ricky Ward said that 90% of the work is done by 10% of the people. When we go back to share a meal, the people preparing the meal have worked for about three weeks to pull this together. Bethel does not have a great deal of folks to help and plan. Joe Hayes, Lynn Hayes, June Hayes and Pat Ransom have worked very hard. He asked us to give them a note of appreciation.

Dismissed for brunch in prayer by Charles Wilson.

M/S/C to receive the day's digest report as read. M/S/C to receive Youth Rally and Change Trophy reports as read.

## **Old Business**

M/S/C to take Inflatable and trikes items off the table. Bro. Joey George stated he had prices for rental. They are attached to the minutes. These inflatables are smaller than what we had. Bro. Joey George also stated it was a job to put the inflatables up and to take them down. He also suggested the Association buy a dolly to help move the inflatables around. Rev. Mike Randall stated that the insurance money would cover the cost of rental for nine years. Rev. Danny Ryals stated that the prices of rentals will go up. Bro. Russell Ruhland stated he was understanding that the inflatables were also available for each church and there was a small fee for use to help with upkeep. Sis. Leslie Baldridge stated she just googled an inflatable water slide for \$549. There as a motion to replace the inflatables and trikes and to get the dolly to move them. Motion seconded. The motion was carried.

M/S/C to remove Resolution item from the table. Clerk George read the minutes from the September 7, 2016, called meeting with the Executive Board and Pastors. M/S/C to adopt the change to the Article V Section 5 as stated.

M/S/C for the Executive Board to draw up the wording for The Procedures and Guidelines for the Nominating Committee.

Ordaining Council report given by Dr./Rev. Aaron Baldridge. Recommendation and motion to license Bro. Russell Ruhland for one year. Motion seconded and carried.

## **Board Reports:**

State Trustee Board report. Bro. Russell Ruhland stated there was nothing to report.

<u>State Mission Board report</u>. Dr./Rev. Aaron Baldridge stated there was nothing to report as they have not met. He asked that we pray for our mission board and Georgia. Pray the Lord will direct. November is home Missions month and Benjamin Randall Offering. M/S/C to receive.

<u>State Camp Board report</u>. Bro. Joey George stated there was nothing to report. They were supposed to meet, but the meeting was cancelled and moved to October 25, 2016.

<u>State Education Board report</u>. Rev. Willie Martin mentioned Senior Saint's Retreat is listed in the Promotional Bulletin. M/S/C to receive as information.

Women Active for Christ report. Report given by Rev. Aaron Baldridge in Sis. Leslie Baldridge's absence, the Twin Cities District Meeting will be October 15, 2016, 9:30 PM, at First Church. National Day of Prayer at Calvary on November 19, 2016, beginning at 7:00 AM and continuing all day with a Concert of Prayer beginning at 6:00 PM. A prayer sign-up sheet will be available at the district meeting. There will be at least two women praying each hour. M/S/C to receive as information.

Nominating Committee Report given by Rev. Danny Ryals and it is attached to the minutes. Motion to receive and accept by acclamation. The motion was seconded and carried.

## **Miscellaneous Business**

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

Bro. Edward Newman stated that our minutes had been previously voted that anyone to be licensed or ordained that the church give the ordaining council a 30-day notice. He suggested that this be added to the Constitution and By-laws. Moderator Willie Martin says this needs to be in writing and submitted.

Announcements (listed on back of agenda)

The Twin Cities Youth Rally will be held at Bethel FWB Church on Saturday October 22, 2016, at 6:00 PM. Bro. Earl Ransom requested that everyone dress warmly as they will be outdoors for this event.

Welch College recently released a book, "Sexuality, Gender and the Church", that will help guide us through the very awkward sexual landscape in America culture now.

Homecoming at First FWB Church and Calvary FWB Church October 9, 2016.

Revival at Calvary FWB Church on October 9, 2016, beginning in the evening service at 7:00 PM. Rev. Tim Horne preaching.

Homecoming at Bethel FWB Church on October 16, 2016.

M/S/C to adjourn the business meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenda F. George, Clerk

Morning message by Rev. Earl Ransom, "Let Us Make America Great Again" neglected scripture in the books of Genesis 1:1, "In the beginning, God." He talked about ethics, concerned of the study of distinguishing between good and

acceptable conduct. Virtuous characteristics of people-

morality. Quote Alexis D. Tocqueville, book Democracy in America, "I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her commodious harbors and her ample rivers-and it was not there...in her fertile fields and boundless forests and it was not there...in her rich mines and her vast world commerce-and is was not there... in her democratic Congress and her matchless Constitution-and it was not there. Not until I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits aflame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power. America is great because she is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, she will cease to be great."

The five points of the message:

- 1) Christian
- 2) Believe Bible
- 3) Must be in Church
- 4) Be Ethical
- 5) Be Moral, Do What's Right

# Treasurer's Report October 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016 Twin Cities Association Funds

<u>Deposits</u>	
Associational Dues	\$ <u>385.00</u>
Balance Subtotal	

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Associational Funds	\$4,593.49
Youth Competition	\$146.05
Men's Retreat	\$216.58
Summer Intern	\$100.00
	\$5,056.12

# Camp Funds

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Balance Brought Forward (October 1, 2016)	\$11,291.71
<u>Deposits</u>	
Change Trophy	<u>\$339.21</u>
Balance Subtotal	\$11,630.92
Expenditures	
	\$0.00
Balance on Hand (December 31, 2016)	\$11,630.92

# Digest Report October 2016

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## October 8, 2016 Quarterly Meeting

Ministers Present	6
Deacons Present	4
Delegates	14
Visitors	
Total Present	

## October 22, 2016 Youth Rally

## **Attendance**

Bethel	5
Calvary	0
First Church	
Grace	
St. Mark	
Weems	2
Total Children	
Adults	
All Total	<del></del>

## **Change Trophy**

Bethel	\$0.00
Calvary	\$0.00
First Church	
Grace	\$160.83
St. Mark	\$75.00
Weems	<u>\$54.00</u>
Total	\$339.21

## <u>Twin Cities District Association</u> 2016-2017 Nominting Committee Report

Moderator – Rev. Willie Martin (term expires 2018) Assistant Moderator – Rev. Aaron Baldridge Clerk/Treasurer – Glenda George Assistant Clerk – Tony Mitchell

Executive Board Rev. Willie Martin, Moderator Glenda George, Clerk Harold Smith (replaced Don Benefield) Charles Wilson (replaced Gary Clegg) Rev. Ronnie Knighton

### **Ordaining Council**

Rev. Mike Randall (term expires 2017) (replacing Joey George) Tony Mitchell (term expires 2018) Rev. Ricky Ward (term expires 2019) (replacing Rev. Aaron Baldridge)

<u>Camp Directors</u> Heather Ransom – Director (term expires 2018) Willie Martin – Assistant Director (term expires 2018)

## <u>Boards</u>

State Camp Board – Joey Georgia (term expires 2017) State Mission Board – Rev. Aaron Baldridge (term expires 2017) State Trustee Board – Russell Ruhland (term expires 2019) State Christian Education Board – Rev. Willie Martin (term expires 2019)

<u>Youth Rally</u> Joey George, Director (term expires 2018) Tiffany Chaffin, Assistant Director (term expires 2018) Glenda George, Secretary (term expires 2018)

<u>Registration Clerks</u> Lazelle Brown (term expires 2018) Barbara Clegg (term expires 2018)

# Twin Cities Women Active for Christ District Convention October 15, 2016

Welcome and Prayer

- The meeting began with a welcome to First Free Will Baptist Church by Brooke Prather, President of First WAC. 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 514 "I Want to Be a Worker for the Lord".
- The offering was taken by Gail Sams and Brooke Prather. During the offering, Rae played "Work for the Night Is Coming".

Call to Order

• The business meeting was called to order by

Heather Ellison, President of TCWAC.

- 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, 20 members, and 12 delegates
- The Financial Report was given by Brooke Prather, TCWAC Treasurer. (Financial report attached). Year: October 15, 2015 – October 15, 2016
  - Beginning of year: \$625.11
  - Ending of year: \$501.11

- 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** 

- Heather made a motion to move the annual • meeting to Thursday to hopefully increase attendance in lieu of District Supper. Motion was tabled. Local presidents are to discuss with their ladies their opinion about moving this to Thursday.
- Tiffany and Rae led us in "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" page 446
- Registration Report:
  - Glenda George presented our registration 0 report. Report passed. (Attached)

- Delegates 4
- District Officers 8
- State Officers 0
- Visitors 3
- Missionaries 0
- Pastors 0
- <u>Total present 15</u>
- Day of Prayer 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Day of Prayer
  - o November 19, 2016
  - Calvary will host
  - Start at 7:00 a.m. End at 6:00 p.m.; 0 followed by a concert of prayer
  - Prayer requests will be on the alter for us 0 to pray over
  - Two ladies to pray during each hour 0
    - 42

- Initial the prayer requests as you pray through your hour so everything is prayed over throughout the day
- o Mission Prayer Request
  - International Brooke Prather
  - Home Leslie Baldridge
- Local/State/National government Heather Ellison
- Personal Prayer Request Gail Sams for Calvary, Sue Flowers for First, get personal prayer requests to Leslie by Nov. 16<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 Calvary
- District Retreat Mary Prather
  - We need to pray for increased attendance of our ladies and plan a retreat to increase participation of our local churches.
  - Encourage our sister churches to come together in faith and fellowship for a time of prayer and praise.
- GWAC and WNAC information was shared by Leslie Baldridge
- New Slate of Officers will remain the same. Motion/Second/Carried (Attached)
- Resolutions Report:
  - Dianne Martin presented our resolutions report. Motion/Second/Carried (Attached)
- Delegates to GAWAC Convention: March 16, 2017 – First Free Will Baptist Church (standing)

delegates: state officers, local/district president and field worker)

- Heather Ellison (standing, district) 0 president)
- Mary Prather (standing, district field 0 worker)
- Leslie Baldridge (standing, state secretary)
- Brooke Prather (standing, local president) 0
- o Glenda George
- o Gail Sams
- o Sue Flowers
- o Tiffany Chaffin
- Nadine Blanton
- Rae Knighton
- Brooke made a motion to allow Heather to 0 appoint others at the meeting if necessary. (motion passed)
- Final Financial Report: Today's offering \$100.00, • makes our current balance - \$601.11 (motion/second/passed)
- Business portion was adjourned

Special Singing – Tiffany and Leslie sang page 684 "Home of the Soul" with Rae accompanying on piano.

Program: Brenda Gilkey

- Choices and Comfort Zones
  - Psalm 150 praise Him in corporate 0 worship and outside corporate worship
  - Let everything that has breath praise the Lord (verse 6)
  - Psalm 22 He is Holy; God inhabits the 0 praises of His people
    - Inhabits dwell, stay, live
  - Focus on our praise to the Lord; the Holy Spirit assists us in praising the Lord

- You cannot stay in the dumps while praising the Lord.
- God is working in your life one way or the other, whether you recognize it or not!
- Our lives influence others, positively or negatively.
- We make choices each day. Sometimes our choices are between two bad things or maybe two good things.
- There will be times, when it is difficult to make a specific choice. Human nature dictates that our choices are made to keep us in our comfort zones. God asks us to step out of our comfort zones, just about the time we grow accustom to living in that comfort zone. We grow more when we are outside our comfort zones. When God moves us from our comfort zones, He always goes with us along the way to guide
  - our lives.
- God will not call you to a job that He has not first given you a passion for.
- When someone gives you a praise report, stop and give it back to the One who answered the request!
- o God is in charge!!!!
- o If My people ...! Praise the LORD!
- o We need to remember that
  - All things are possible with God
  - Give God the glory
  - Tell the world that you serve an awesome God and you are not ashamed to worship Him at any place and any time.
- Brooke Prather presented Brenda with our token of appreciation (\$100.00) for coming to speak to us.

Reading of October 15, 2016 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

46

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alance on hand Oc	tober 15, 2015					\$625.11
eposits:						\$1,913.00
	Calvary			\$907	00	<b></b>
	First Church			\$945		
	Offering (201	5 annual mei	eting)	\$61	전 - 도행경에 이 날 아이지지?	
		oreses as a		\$1,913	00	S. S
rand Total:						\$2,538.11
isbursements:						\$2,037.00
	*Designated f	unas		\$1,837 \$100		
		Cranker/Ba	- Volahtan)	\$100		
	October 2015	Speaker (na	E KINKUCON	\$2,037		



Designated Funds	Duge for Mambon (30 GC10 75 )			\$1,837.00
	Dues for Members (20 @\$18.75 ea.) Calvary	8	\$150.00	
	First Church	12	\$225.00 \$375.00	
	WNAC 20 ¥	\$15.00	\$300.00	
	GWAC 20 X TCWAC 20 X	\$3.00 \$0.75	\$60.00 \$15.00	
A. WNAC Disbursem	ents			
	2016 Dues Emphasis Month Offering		\$360.00 \$250.00	
	Provision Closet Offering Sub Total		\$100.00 \$710.00	
WNAC Total:			3710.00	\$710.00
B. College Support:	Dot Harvey Loan Fund		\$120.00	
College Total: C. Missionary Disbury	sements		and and a second se	\$120.00
	State Missions: Acts 1:8		\$50.00 \$50.00	
	International Missions:	an ing panang Kabupatèn	\$100.00	
	General Fund Bishop Cornmeal Project		\$25.00 \$42.00	
Missionary Accounts	Josh & Alicia Crowe Chris & Tori Sargent		\$120.00 \$120.00	
			\$307.00	
	Home Missions: Pre-Thanksgiving Offering		\$100.00	
Missionary Accounts	Barry & Jessica Long		\$120.00	
	Nate & Jenna Altom Donnie Burke		\$120.00 \$20.00	
	Josh Bennet		\$20.00 \$380.00	
Missionary Total: 🔅				\$787.00
D. Misc:	AL FWB Children's Home		\$220.00	
Misc Total: TOTAL of Designated				\$220.00 \$1,837.00

48

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### 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.

## 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 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. The Nominating Committee shall ensure that there is equitable representation among the member churches on all boards and committees within the Association to the best of their ability.

## **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 (seventy-five (\$75) dollars per church quarterly and seventy-five (\$75) 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, and October, and the July rally will be held three Saturdays after the Associational Meeting. 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.