



**UNION**  
**ASSOCIATION**  
**OF**  
**FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

**MINUTES**  
**2004**

**2004  
ANNUAL MINUTES  
of the  
79<sup>th</sup> SESSION  
of the  
UNION ASSOCIATION  
of  
GEORGIA  
FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

Quarterly Sessions met at:  
Bethlehem Church, February 8, 2004  
Cairo Church, May 10, 2004  
Fellowship Church, August 9, 2004  
Grace Church, November 12, 2004

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

1. Session shall be opened with prayer.
2. Church Letters are to be called for, and the name of the delegates read.
3. There is to be a call for Petitionary Letters.
4. Visiting brethren are to be welcomed.
5. There is to be a call for Corresponding Messengers.
6. Committee Appointments:
  - (A) Digest Committee
  - (B) Finance Committee
  - (C) Nominating Committee
7. Miscellaneous Business.
8. Unfinished Business.
9. Reports of Committees.
10. Session shall be opened for announcements.
11. Session shall be adjourned with prayer.

NOTE: Every two (2) years (odd calendar years) there shall be an election of Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk and Parliamentarian at the conclusion of the Annual Session.

## **ASSOCIATION CALENDAR**

Greenwood Church.....	February 12, 2005
New Hope Church.....	May 14 , 2005
Midway Church.....	August 13, 2005
New Prospect Church.....	November 12, 2005

**2004 MINUTES  
79<sup>TH</sup> SESSIONS**

**UNION ASSOCIATION  
of  
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS  
convened with**

**Bethlehem, Cairo, Fellowship, Grace  
Free Will Baptist Churches**

**UNION ASSOCIATION BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Rev. S. E. Newberry, Moderator  
Rev. Chuck Scarborough, Assistant Moderator  
Rev. Herbert Waid, Clerk  
Mrs. Louvenia Kleedehn, Assistant Clerk  
Rev. Herbert Waid, Mission Board Chairman  
Rev. Chuck Scarborough, Ordaining Board Chairman  
Jackie Goff, Superannuation Board Chairman  
Rev. James Osborn, Youth Board Chairman  
Mr. Edward Baxter, Parliamentarian

**MISSION BOARD**

Rev. James Silvers	2005
Rev. Marshall Kennedy	2006
Rev. Chuck Scarborough	2007
Rev. Herbert Waid, Chairman	2008
Rev. Wilbur Harris	2009

**ORDAINING BOARD**

Rev. S. E. Newberry	2005
Rev. Bill Barksdale	2006
Rev. W. G. Turner	2007
Rev. James Sellers	2008
Rev. Chuck Scarborough, Chairman	2009

### **SUPERANNUATION BOARD**

Mr. Charles Sumner	2005
Mr. Edward Baxter	2006
Mr. Clint Hardin	2007
Mr. Blane Fowler	2008
Mr. Jackie Goff, Chairman	2009

### **YOUTH BOARD**

Mr. Mark Scheuring	2005
Mr. Stuart Bundy	2006
Rev. Wilbur Harris	2007
Rev. James Osborn, Chairman	2008
Mrs. Kirsten Saunders	2009

### **PARLIAMENTARIAN**

Mr. Edward Baxter	2005
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### **SONG LEADERS**

Rev. Wilbur Harris	2005
Rev. W. G. Turner, Assistant	2005

### **PIANIST**

Mrs. Louvenia Kleedehn	2005
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### **REPRESENTATIVES TO GEORGIA STATE BOARDS**

Board of Camping	Mr. James Silvers	2007
Board of Christian Education	Rev. Randy Jackson	2007
Board of Missions	Mr. Charles Sumner	2007
Board of Trustees	Rev. Chuck Scarborough	2007

## DIRECTORY OF PASTORS AND CLERKS

### BAY CHURCH, Colquitt County

Rev. S. E. Newberry  
776 Lewis Ln  
Quincy FL 32352  
850-856-5669

Mrs. Kirsten K. Saunders  
309 Faison Rd  
Hartsfield GA 31756  
229-941-2117

### BETHLEHEM CHURCH, Colquitt County

Rev. James Osborn  
176 Thomas St  
Moultrie GA 31788  
229-985-4995, Home  
229-891-6117, Cell

Mrs. Darlene Fowler  
PO Box 405  
Berlin GA 31722  
229-859-2775

### CAIRO, FIRST CHURCH, Grady County

Rev. W. G. Turner  
657 Elkins Rd  
Cairo GA 39827  
229-377-4251

Mrs. Toni Hammer  
293 Woodland Rd  
Cairo GA 39827  
229-377-1207

### FELLOWSHIP CHURCH, Worth County

Rev. Herbert Waid  
PO Box 1844  
Moultrie GA 31776  
229-985-5479

Mrs. Kate Harvey  
1803 Antioch Rd  
Albany GA 31705  
229-435-5059

### GRACE CHURCH, Colquitt County

Rev. Marshall Kennedy  
PO Box 2634  
Moultrie GA 31776  
229-985-9674, Home  
229-891-8559, Cell

Ms Bonnie Sisk  
2702 Sylvester Dr  
Moultrie GA 31768  
229-985-9264

### GREENWOOD CHURCH, Mitchell County

Rev. S. E. Newberry  
776 Lewis Ln  
Quincy FL 32352  
850-856-5669

Mr. Jake Singleton  
82 Williford Dr  
Camilla GA 31730  
229-336-5582

MIDWAY CHURCH, Colquitt County

Rev. Randy Jackson  
171 Walter Murphy Rd  
Moultrie GA 31768  
229-985-6366

Mrs. Cindy Harvin  
175 Ragin Rd  
Moultrie GA 31768  
229-985-0117

NEW HOPE CHURCH, Colquitt County

Rev. Chuck Scarborough  
1317 Erve Williams Rd  
Moultrie GA 31768  
229-941-2155

Mrs. Vicky Goff  
2580 US Hwy 319 S  
Coolidge GA 31738  
229-985-7510

NEW PROSPECT CHURCH, Turner County

Rev. Wilbur Harris  
103 Water Ln  
Sylvester GA 31791  
229-776-1900

Mrs. Ann Lavender  
157 Cutoff Rd  
Ashburn GA 31714  
229-567-3621

POULAN CHURCH, Worth County

Mr. Rocky Duckworth  
130 Jog Rd  
Sylvester GA 31791  
229-777-0523, Home  
229-272-0038, Cell

Mr. Larry Waltman  
1072 PT Salter Rd  
Poulan, GA 31781  
229-777-9314

SPRING HILL CHURCH, Mitchell County

Rev. Bill Barksdale  
659 Hwy 319 N  
Tifton GA 31794  
229-386-8320

Mrs. Jeannine Silvers  
659 Pine Tree Ln  
Albany GA 31705  
229-787-5948

SYLVESTER CHURCH, Worth County

Mrs. Barbara Spears  
340 N Cotton St  
Poulan GA 31781  
229-776-7912

**WRIGHTS CHAPEL CHURCH, Worth County**

Mr. Donny Nix  
PO Box 292  
Poulan GA 31781  
229-777-9385

Mr. Duck Bozeman  
838 EW Booth Rd  
Sumner GA 31789  
229-776-0043

**ROLL OF ORDAINED MINISTERS**

Rev. Bill Barksdale  
Rev. Wilbur Harris  
Rev. Randy Jackson  
Rev. Marshall Kennedy  
Rev. S. E. Newberry  
Rev. James Osborn  
Rev. Chuck Scarborough  
Rev. W. G. Turner  
Rev. Herbert Waid  
Rev. Claude Richardson  
Rev. James Sellers  
Rev. Robert Simpson  
Rev. Terron Stonecypher  
Rev. Chuck Walker

Spring Hill Church  
New Prospect Church  
Midway Church  
Grace Church  
Bay & Greenwood Church  
Bethlehem Church  
New Hope Church  
Cairo First Church  
Fellowship Church

**ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS  
NOT LISTED ELSEWHERE**

Mr. Stuart Bundy	222 N Jackson St, Baconton GA 31716 229-787-5285
Mrs. Louvenia Kleedehn	369 Faison Rd, Hartsfield GA 31756 229-941-5227
Rev. James Sellers	315 Shade Murphy Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768 229-985-8570
Mr. Mark Schuering	490A Tree Farm Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768 229-217-4826
Mr. Blane Fowler	218 Redding Rd, Pavo, GA 31778 229-859-2775
Mr. Charles Sumner	308 Lakeside Dr, Moultrie, GA 31768 229-985-8783

## ROLL OF DEACONS

### BAY CHURCH

Hayward McRae	167 DeMott St, Moultrie GA 31768
W. D. Parker	541 Summerlin Rd, Moultrie GA 31768
Billy L. Wilson	831 Faison Rd, Hartsfield GA 31756

### BETHLEHEM CHURCH

Tommy Cato	PO Box 162, Berlin GA 31722
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### CAIRO FIRST CHURCH

Edward Baxter	200 Free Willie Ln, Whigham GA 39897
Ronnie Bell	357 Rawls Rd, Cairo GA 31728
Kelvin Harrell	1338 Woodland Rd, Cairo GA 31728
E. W. Mitchell, Sr.	283 Woodland Rd, Cairo GA 31728

### FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Clint Hardin	6023 James Dr, Albany GA 31705
Virgil Holloway	251 Park Place, Albany GA 31705

### GRACE CHURCH

### GREENWOOD CHURCH

Donald Harris	8120 Pinclift Rd, Camilla GA 31730
Price Irvin	8335 Pinclift Rd, Camilla GA 31730
Jake Singleton	82 Williford Dr, Camilla GA 31730

### MIDWAY CHURCH

Darrell Gay	207 Walter Murphy Rd, Moultrie GA 31768
Roscoe Gay	2345 Lower Meigs Rd, Moultrie GA 31768
Art Harvin	175 Ragin Rd, Moultrie GA 31768
Wayne Lacey	235 Walter Murphy Rd, Moultrie GA 31768
Enoch Parrish	985 Sauls Rd, Moultrie GA 31768
Grady Sloan	205 Ragin Rd, Moultrie GA 31768

### NEW HOPE CHURCH

Jackie Goff	2610 Hwy 319 S, Coolidge GA 31738
Wilford Tucker	2002 West Blvd, Moultrie GA 31768

### NEW PROSPECT CHURCH

Horace E. Davis	320 Horace Davis Ln, Ashburn GA 31714
Bud Williams	1174 Maude Williams Rd, Ashburn GA 31714
Kirk Lavender	1508 Maude Williams Rd, Ashburn GA 31714
Jimmy Sellers	4989 Coverdale Hwy, Ashburn GA 31714
Bill Hobby	94 Yawn Rd, Sycamore GA 31790

### POULAN CHURCH

Wayne Carlton	468 Northwood Dr NW, Poulan GA 31781
Jack D. Powell	335 Old Mail Rd, Sylvester GA 31791
James E. Powell	111 Goldenwood Dr, Sylvester GA 31791
Larry S. Waltman	1072 PT Salter Rd, Poulan GA 31781

### SPRING HILL CHURCH

Leonard Bundy	222 N Jackson St, Baconton GA 31716
Glenn Etheredge	6027 Jenkins Rd, Albany GA 31705
James Silvers	659 Pine Tree Ln, Albany GA 31705

### SYLVESTER CHURCH

Marvin Bell	118 Oak Dr, Sylvester GA 31791
John Nelms	103 Hunton St, Poulan GA 31781
Melvin Rutherford	109 York Rd, Sylvester GA 31791

### WRIGHTS CHAPEL CHURCH

Duck Bozeman	838 EW Booth Rd, Sumner GA 31789
Melvin Walker	1882 Wrights Chapel Rd, Sumner GA 31789

## UNION ASSOCIATION STATICS for the year 2004

Church	Active Members	Sunday School	CTS	Women of Union Active for Christ	Master Men	Property Value
Bay	18	17				233,000
Bethlehem	41					
Cairo, First	43			10		220,000
Fellowship	34	35	24	12	6	196,000
Grace	34					200,000
Greenwood						
Midway	116	70	60	16		350,000
New Hope	32	20				
New Prospect	50	42	42	10		
Poulan	35	35				
Spring Hill	143	45	30	8	7	145,000
Sylvester	26					
Wrights Chapel						
Totals	572	264	156	56	13	1,344,000

## **First Quarter Meeting, February 14, 2004 at the Bethlehem Church**

The meeting opened with singing "Love Lifted Me." Mr. Charles Sumner led in prayer. The Moderator, Rev. S. E. Newberry, and the Host Pastor, Rev. James Sellers, gave the welcome. Rev. Bill Barksdale brought the devotional. His scripture reading was Hebrews 4:12-16 and the theme of his message was "The Bible." He expanded his message by using various Scriptures with "The Word." He encouraged us to read the Bible as it will guide us in Holy Living. It benefits us and is an answer to all of our needs.

The clerk called the roll of churches, ministers and deacons. A roll call of delegates was read and the delegates were seated by vote after a motion by Rev. W.G.Turner and a second by Rev. Bill Barksdale.

State Board Members were asked for reports. There were no official reports. Geraldine Waid gave a glowing report of the Historical Society which is under the sponsorship of the Georgia State Association Board of Christian Education. She stated that all of the collection of State and District Minutes have been put on microfilm and it was praised by the Mercer University Library, Special Collection Department, as being the most complete collection that they know about. Rev. S.E. Newberry informed us of the State Board of Trustee's intention to continue the campaign to build the new State Office Building in Cordele.

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

Digest: Ms. Tammy Harry, Mrs. Janelle Kennedy, Mrs. Ann Lavender

Finance: Mr. Tim Whitman, Mrs. Mary Etheredge, Mrs. Tammy Holloway

The Moderator then declared a short break.

### **MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE**

Reconvened by singing "I Want To Be A Worker." Rev. Jim Osborn led in prayer. The Moderator had two items of business to be considered. (1) Delegates to the State Association in March. The following delegates volunteered: Mr. Charles Sumner, Mr. Mark Scheuring, Mrs. Geraldine Waid. Rev. Wilbur Harris made a motion to elected these to serve as delegates, giving the authority to either the Moderator or the Clerk to appoint others if it becoming necessary. It was seconded by Mr. Edward Baxter and the delegates were elected by vote. (2) Designation for today's offering. Mr. Charles Sumner made a motion that half of the offering be given to the Alabama Children's Home. It was seconded by Mr. Edward Baxter and carried. Rev. Wilbur Harris made a motion that the other half of the offering be put in the Youth Fund. Mrs. Louvenia Kleedehn seconded the motion and it carried. Mr. Preston Barrett and Mr. Mark Schuering served as ushers and Mr. Schuering asked God's blessing on the offering.

The Bethlehem Church Choir rendered a special, "It's Too Late To Turn Back Now," and a men's quartet sang, "Loving God, Loving Each Other." Rev. W. G. Turner

brought the morning message. His Scripture text was from Romans 10:1-3. The theme of his message was "Submitting To God." His emphasis was that we should be clothed in the righteousness of God and submit to Him in all areas of our lives. Direction for lunch was given by Rev. James Sellers. Rev. Marshall Kennedy prayed the dismissal prayer and asked God's blessing on the food.

### AFTERNOON SESSION

The afternoon session began with singing "I Shall Not Be Moved." Mr. Melvin Rutherford led in prayer. Rev. Wilbur Harris brought the devotional using John 3:26-30 as his text. He pointed out that we need to put God first in our lives. He said that churches are not where they need to be because adult Christians are not where they need to be.

Mr. Charles Sumner gave the report from the Alabama Children's Home. The current total of children is 24. The drug house that the Home recently bought is being torn down. They were able to clear about \$1,300 from the house. Plans are to build a new dorm on that location. He mentioned items needed by the Home and urged our churches to participate in sending these items. The pick-up date will be April 10. He encouraged us to visit the Home and just see what God is doing in the lives of the children. Rev. W. G. Turner seconded the motion to accept this report as information and it carried.

#### **Union Association Board Reports were given:**

**Mission Board** report was given by Rev. Herbert Waid. He said to anticipate a Mission Conference in 2005. He gave us information received from the Rev. Park and the Korean Mission Program. He also informed us that Debbie Griffin is due back in the States in May of this year.

**Superannuation Board** report was given by Jackie Goff. The Board met January 12 with 4 members present. He reported that they are updating the Board Guidelines, making them more easily understood but they are not ready to be voted on yet. They voted to add (starting this quarter) Mrs. Ethel Franks, widow of Rev. Elzie Franks, to the list of recipients that currently receive \$60.00 per quarter. They are still investigating the situation of Rev. Robert Simpson. Mrs. Cleo Goff and Mrs. Marjorie Parrish do not desire to receive funds at this time. The motion to received was seconded by Mr. Virgil Holloway and it carried.

**Youth Board** report was given by Rev. Wilbur Harris. He reported that the Valentine Banquet was a great success with 5 churches participating and 112 in attendance. He pointed out that the King and Queen in the adult division was present today — Rev. Herbert and Mrs. Geraldine Waid. Rev. Jeff Lunsford, Missionary to Mongolia, had a great message. There was good talent from the different churches and the food was good. The Sylvester church did a great job hosting. Brother Wilbur then reminded us that the summer camp dates are June 13-18 at Camp Tygart and the ages are 6 - 15. The motion to received was seconded by Mr. Clint Hardin and it carried.

Under miscellaneous business Rev. Jim Osborn made a motion that, in the light of the kinds of immoral programs we are seeing on television, that our churches contact the FCC in support of more moral programs. He also moved that we voice our opinions

on the same sex marriage issue. Mr. Charles Sumner interjected that we need to adjust our church constitutions to reflect our stands because, without it, a church cannot legally take any action, such as, dismissing a gay person. Mrs. Geraldine Waid said that each church and individuals need to contact our Senators and Representatives concerning these things. The Union Association Women Active For Christ has done so and has a list of addresses. It was suggested that the Clerk draw up a sample letter and send to each church with addresses of those who should receive them. It was also suggested that we send a motion to the State Association from our association requesting that the State body take the same type of stand and change our State Constitution to reveal such action. Rev. Jim Osborn further made a suggestion that we contact a legal group that handles such matters to get details before we change our constitutions so that they can be worded correctly. Mr. James Silvers seconded the motion and it carried.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Digest** by Ms. Tammy Harry which was seconded by Rev. W. G. Turner and it carried.

Churches represented		12 (of 13)
Delegates present	21	
Deacons present	10	
Ministers present	<u>8</u>	
Total delegates		39
Visitors		<u>17</u>
Total present		56

**Finance** by Mr. Tim Whitman. It was seconded by Mr. Virgil Holloway and it carried.

General Fund Balance Brought Forward	\$3,573.54
Offering	155.88
Dues Collected	<u>661.00</u>
<b>General Fund Total</b>	<b>\$4,390.42</b>
<b>Youth Fund Total</b>	<b>\$ 420.50</b>
<b>Ministers' Retirement Total</b>	<b>\$3,662.24</b>

Rev. W. G. Turner made a motion to give a vote of thanks to the Host Church and it carried with a rising vote. Announcements were made. The moderator declared that since there was no more business that we would be adjourned and asked Mr. Melvin Rutherford to dismiss in prayer.

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The Executive Committee met immediately following the First Quarterly Session at the Bethlehem Church. Those present for the meeting were: Rev. S.E. Newberry, Mrs. Louvenia Kleedehn, Rev. Wilbur Harris, Mr. Jackie Goff, Mr. Edward Baxter, and Rev. Herbert Waid.

The program for the May Meeting at the Cairo First Church was discussed. It was decided not to have a theme. The following speakers are to choose their own subjects:

A.M. Devotional	Rev. James Sellers
Message	Rev. Randy Jackson
P.M. Devotional	Rev. Herbert Waid

# **UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

## **Second Quarter Meeting, May 8, 2004 at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Cairo, Georgia**

The Second Quarterly Meeting of the Union Association met at the Cairo First Church on May 8, 2004. Rev. Wilbur Harris led the congregation in singing, "The Solid Rock." Mrs. Louvenia Kleedehn accompanied at the piano. Rev. Bill Barksdale led in prayer. The Moderator, Rev. S. E. Newberry, gave a welcome and Mr. Edward Baxter, in the absence of Pastor W. G. Turner, gave a welcome from the church. Rev. James Sellers brought the morning devotional. His text was Joel 2:12-17 from which he developed the theme, "Where Is Their God?" Christians are God's called-out-ones separated from the world. We should not serve our Lord lightly but be His witnesses letting the world know we are Christians.

The Moderator asked for a motion to approve both last quarter's minutes and this quarter's minutes which were mailed to the pastors. The clerk called the roll of ministers, and deacons. Church letters were received and the delegates names were called. Rev. James Sellers made a motion to seat the delegates and Rev. James Silvers seconded it. The motion carried.

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

Digest: Mr. Clint Hardin, Mr. Tim Whitman, Mr. Bill Hobby

Finance: Mr. Gordon Parrish, Mrs. Cleo Goff, Mr. Jimmy Singletary

Rev. William Smith, State Executive Secretary, gave a report of happenings in our State. He gave an update on State ministries including the **Mission Board's** vision and recent retreats held and future retreats planed by the **Christian Education Board**. He encouraged participation in the various retreats. Brother Smith also praised the Union Association's State Board Members' faithfulness in attending to the business of their respective boards. Mr. Clint Hardin made a motion to receive the report as information, Mr. Edward Baxter seconded and it carried. Mr. James Silvers noted that the State Camp Board is giving \$1,500.00 to individual District Junior Camp sessions this year. His report was received as information.

We recessed for a short break.

### **MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE**

We reconvened with singing, "Are You Washed In The Blood?." Rev. Chuck Scarborough led in prayer. The State Executive Secretary, Rev. William Smith, was asked to give a report on the status of the new State Office. He explained that the State Association voted not to proceed with the Cordele project. Instead, we have purchased the present State Office property in Colquitt, Georgia. Churches and individuals who gave to buy the land in Cordele will have options for the future use of that money. Mrs. Dorothy Hardin made a motion to equally divide the morning offering among the

churches that have youth going to the National Competition in Kansas City, Missouri, to help with their expenses. Mr. Charles Sumner seconded the motion and it carried. The offering was taken by Mr. Edward Baxter and Rev. Jim Osborn who also lead in the offertory prayer. The host church provided special music which was rendered by Mrs. Linda Watson who sang, "I've Been On The Potter's Wheel" and "I Just Want To Praise You." The morning message was delivered by Rev. S.E. Newberry. His text was taken from II Kings 7:14 and the title of his message was "Why Sit We Here Until We Die?" He used the story of the four desperate lepers in their near death situation to mirror the desperate condition of so many churches today. We need to work together while we trust God because He has all the answers. It is expedient that we do something, not just "sit here until we die." Instructions for lunch were given by Mr. Edward Baxter who also dismissed in prayer and asked the blessing on the food.

### AFTERNOON SESSION

Rev. Wilbur Harris opened the meeting by leading the congregation in singing "I Have Decided To Follow Jesus." Rev. Marshall Kennedy led in prayer. Rev. Herbert Waid brought the devotional. His message was "What The Bible Teaches About The Security of the Believer." His text was Ephesians 2:8-10. He emphasized that the Bible gives strong evidence for the security of the believer. A practicing Christian should not be in fear of losing his salvation. Never the less, the Bible has many warnings for the Christian to neither neglect nor forfeit his salvation.

There were no **State Board Reports** since the Executive Secretary had covered these areas.

**District Board Reports** were called for:

The **Mission Board** and the **Ordaining Board** had no reports.

Mr. Charles Sumner gave information for the **Superannuation Board** stating that the proposed new guidelines are to be presented at the next Quarterly Meeting.

**Youth Board** report was given by Rev. Wilbur Harris. He encouraged support and involvement in this year's summer session at Camp Tygart on June 13-18. There is a need for both prayer and financial support. He announced one more planning meeting which will be at the Grace Church on June 5. Mr. Virgil Holloway seconded the motion to receive the report and it carried.

The **Alabama Children's Home** Report was given by Mr. Charles Sumner who bragged on the Union Association's involvement. The Home is currently caring for an average of 25-30 children. Rev. Robert Simpson seconded the motion to receive this report and it carried.

## Committee Reports:

The Digest Committee Report was made by Chairman, Mr. Clint Hardin.

Churches represented		12
Delegates present	17	
Deacons present	6	
Ministers present	<u>9</u>	
Total Delegates	32	
Visitors	<u>5</u>	
Total present		37

Mr. James Silvers seconded the motion to receive and it carried.

The Finance Committee Report was made by Chairman, Mr. Gordon Parrish.

Balance Forward		\$2,474.58
Dues received	\$ 659.50	
Offering	<u>127.00</u>	
Total Receipts	\$ 786.50	
Balance in General Fund		\$3,261.08
Balance in Youth Fund		\$2,050.50
Balance in Minister's Retirement Fund		\$3,515.29

Mr. Edward Baxter seconded the motion to receive and it carried.

Rev. James Sellers made a motion to give a rising vote of thanks for the host church and everyone stood making it a unanimous vote of appreciation.

Announcements were made. We were dismissed in prayer by Rev. Wilbur Harris.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES

The Executive Committee met at the Cairo First Church on May 8, 2004 following the Second Quarter Meeting. Members present were: Rev. S. E. Newberry, Mr. Edward Baxter, Rev. Wilbur Harris, Rev. Chuck Scarborough, Mrs. Louvenia Kleedehn and Rev. Herbert Waid.

The program for the coming Third Quarter Meeting, to be held at the Fellowship Church on August 14, 2004, was discussed. The theme will be: "Lovest Thou Me?"

Morning Devotion	Rev. Chuck Scarborough
Morning Message	Rev. Randy Jackson
Afternoon Devotion	Rev. Marshall Kennedy

**UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**  
**Third Quarter Meeting, August 14, 2004 at the Fellowship Church**  
**Theme: "Lovest Thou Me?" John 21:15-17**

The meeting opened with singing, "Set My Soul Afire." Rev. M.C. Powell, visiting from the Midway Association, led in prayer. The Moderator gave a welcome and then the host pastor, Rev. Herbert Waid welcomed the Association to the Fellowship Church. Rev. Chuck Scarborough brought the Devotional using the theme text. He emphasized the need for personal service to the Lord. We all need to love and follow Jesus.

The Clerk called the roll of ministers, deacons and delegates. Mr. Clint Hardin made a motion to seat the delegates and Mr. Edward Baxter seconded the motion which was carried. A copy of the Minutes had been sent to each pastor following the last meeting and Rev. Randy Jackson made a motion to accept the minutes and Mr. Virgil Holloway seconded. The motion carried.

The Moderator recognized Rev. M.C. Powell visiting from the Midway Association and Debbie Griffin, Missionary home from Japan.

The Moderator then asked for reports from the different churches about the National Youth Competition in Kansas City. Mrs. Geraldine Waid reported for Fellowship stating that the youth participated and won as follows: Courtney Hardin, 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Power Point Computer Program; Thomas Holloway, 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Trumpet Solo (3<sup>rd</sup> time to win) — he also received a \$1,000 Scholarship to Free Will Baptist Bible College; the Instrumental Ensemble composed of Jack Barrett, Courtney Hardin and Thomas Holloway, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place; Thomas Holloway, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in Preaching; John Holloway, 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Exhibition for Sign Language — he also entered Bible Memorization but did not place. Mrs. Kirsten Saunders reported that the Bay/Grace Youth entered with a drama and did not place but had a wonderful experience. Rev. Randy Jackson reported that Midway's one entry won 1<sup>st</sup> Place which was a computer generated T-Shirt design by Christy Harper. New Prospect had an entry by Jessica Watson in the Poetry Division but did not place. The youth were commended for their participation and accomplishments.

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

Digest: Mr. Blane Fowler, Mrs. Judy Peacock, Mrs. Catherine Tomlinson

Finance: Mrs. Linda Gay, Mrs. Mary Etheredge, Mrs. Doll Baxter

Nominating Committee: Mrs. Geraldine Waid, Mrs. Louvenia Kleedehn,  
Mrs. Judy Harris

(The Nominating Committee will report at the Annual Meeting in November)

**State Board Reports:** There were no reports from the Camping, Christian Education, and Missions Boards. The Trustee Board report was given by Rev. S. E. Newberry. He reported that letters had been sent out from the State Office concerning refunds of monies given for the abandoned Cordele project. He also said he enjoyed

attending the Executive Board Committee Meeting that included Moderators of Associations that did not have a representative otherwise.

**District Board Reports:** The Superannuation Report was given by Mr. Jackie Goff. The Board met and finalized guidelines to present to the Executive Board. They hope to have the new proposed By-Laws ready for the Association's consideration soon. Other Boards had no report.

Mrs. Louvenia Kleedehn made a motion that the morning offering be given to Debbie Griffin's Account. It was seconded by Mr. Charles Sumner and the motion carried.

We were dismissed for Recess in prayer by Rev. Marshall Kennedy.

### **MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE**

The worship service opened by singing "Power In The Blood." Prayer was offered by Rev. Bill Barksdale.

Rev. S.E. Newberry gave a brief review of the National action to combine the National Departments' news into one publication so there will not be so many mail-outs and will thereby save postage. Rev. Herbert Waid gave a brief review of the new Randall House Sunday School materials, "Clear," which was unveiled at the National this year.

The offering was taken by Rev. Wilbur Harris and Rev. James Sellers who also asked God's blessings on our gifts. Special offertory music was rendered by Thomas Holloway from the Fellowship Church, who played a trumpet solo, "Beulah Land." Mrs. Beverly Wright from the Host Church then sang, "The Love Of God."

Rev. Randy Jackson brought the morning message using the theme text. He pointed out that we need to have constant, unashamed love, not like Peter who denied Christ three times. He gave a vivid 3 point description of the question Jesus asked the disciples. [1] Do you love me? Feed my lambs — nurture the little ones. [2] Do you love me — *agape* love, sacrificial, Godly love? Feed my sheep — the shepherd feeds the sheep. [3] Do you love me — *phileo* love, friendly love? Feed my sheep, the runts or culls, those with special needs.

An invitation song, "I Surrender All," was sung as we all searched our hearts.

The Host Pastor gave directions for lunch and Rev. W. G. Turner dismissed us from the morning service and asked God's blessings on the lunch.

## AFTERNOON SESSION

The afternoon session opened by singing, "Love Lifted Me." Prayer was offered by Rev. Jim Osborn. The Devotional was given by Rev. Marshall Kennedy. He used the theme text to bring out three main points: [1] Drinking the cup of the Father relating to one another; [2] Reach out to others, even to those who are different from us; [3] Be governed by the Word.

The Alabama Children's Home report was given by Mr. Charles Sumner. Mr. Edward Baxter seconded the motion to receive as information and it carried.

**District Board Reports** continued with Rev. Wilbur Harris giving the Youth Board report. He reported that at Camp Tygart in June there were 86 campers, 20 workers and there were 10 salvation decisions and 12 rededications. He reported that Mr. Gordon Parrish has left the Association to work at Family Ministries (Children's Home) in Tennessee. Rev. Herbert Waid called Margie forward and the Minister's all came and laid hands on her and Rev. Wilbur Harris led in prayer for their new ministry in Tennessee. Rev. James Sellers made a motion to accept Gordon's resignation of all positions. Mrs. Patsy Barrett seconded the motion and it carried.

### Committee Reports:

**Digest Report** was given by Mr. Blane Fowler as follows:

Churches represented		12
Delegates present	24	
Deacons present	14	
Ministers present	<u>10</u>	
Total delegates	48	
Visitors	<u>26</u>	
Total present		74

Rev. Jim Osborn seconded and it carried.

**Finance Report** was given by Mrs. Linda Gay as follows:

General Fund Balance Forward	\$2,709.33
Offering	220.00
Quarterly Dues Collected	<u>662.50</u>

Total	\$3,591.83
Youth Fund Balance	\$1,328.30
Ministers Retirement Balance	\$3,368.27

Mr. James Silvers seconded and it carried.

Rev. W. G. Turner made a motion that we give the host church a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality. It carried unanimously. Announcements were made. Rev. S. E. Newberry declared us adjourned and closed in prayer.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES

The Executive Board met after the close of the Association meeting August 14, 2004 at the Fellowship Church. The following members were present: Rev. S. E. Newberry, Rev. Chuck Scarborough, Rev. Wilbur Harris, Mr. Jackie Goff, Mr. Edward Baxter, Mrs. Louvenia Kleedehn and Rev. Herbert Waid.

There was a discussion about our surplus funds. Rev. Herbert Waid made a motion to put \$5,000 of our current funds in a Revocable Trust Fund with the Free Will Baptist Foundation. Rev. Wilbur Harris seconded the motion and it carried.

It was decided that the Mission Board have charge of next quarter's program on November 13, 2004 at the Grace Church and that we make it "Debbie Griffin Day."

The personalities for the program on February 12, 2005 at the Greenwood Church:

Morning Devotional:	Rev. W. G. Turner
Morning Message:	Rev. Wilbur Harris
Afternoon Devotional:	Rev. Bill Barksdale

No topic or text will be assigned so it will be speakers choice.

## UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Fourth Quarter Meeting

November 13, 2004, at the Grace Church

Theme: Missions - Acts 1:8

The meeting opened with singing "Send The Light." Prayer was by Mr. Jackie Goff. The welcome was given by host pastor, Rev. Marshall Kennedy and Moderator, Rev. S. E. Newberry. Debbie Griffin, Georgia Missionary to Japan, brought the morning devotional. Her text was John 3:16. Together, we all quoted the text. She spoke of God's great love in sending His Son. Then she told of the many beliefs in Japan and how empty they are. She explained the religion of Buddhism and said that most people in Japan are Buddhist.

The Clerk did the Roll Call of Churches, Ministers and Deacons. The delegates were seated after a motion by Rev. Randy Jackson and second by Rev. W. G. Turner.

The Moderator called for the report of the Retirement Board. It was given by chairman Jackie Goff. He read the updated Amendment to the Constitution which the Board presented for approval. He made a motion that the Amendment be tabled until the afternoon session. Mr. Edward Baxter seconded the motion and it carried with a standing vote.

The Nominating Committee report was given by chairperson Mrs. Geraldine Waid. Mrs. Patsy Barrett made a motion to approve the report, Rev. W. G. Turner seconded and the following board members were elected:

<b>District:</b> Mission Board, Rev. Wilbur Harris	2009
Ordaining Board, Rev. Chuck Scarborough	2009
Retirement Board, Mr. Jackie Goff	2009
Mr. Clint Hardin	2007
Youth Board, Mrs. Kirsten Saunders	2009
Rev. Jim Osborn	2008
Song Leader, Rev. Wilbur Harris	2005
Assistant Song Leader, Rev. W. G. Turner	2005
Pianist, Mrs. Louvenia Kleedehn	2005
<b>State:</b> Board of Christian Education, Rev. Randy Jackson	2007

There was a report by the Treasurer, Rev. Herbert Waid, on the money (\$5,000) transferred to a Revocable Trust Fund with the Free Will Baptist Foundation in Tennessee. He explained that the money helps Free Will Baptist Enterprises and that it can be withdrawn, in part or in whole, with two of the four signatures required on the contract.

The State Board Reports were called for. There were two Boards reporting: **Christian Education** by newly elected representative Rev. Randy Jackson. He emphasized the Retreats sponsored by the Board giving dates and encouraging our people to participate. The report was seconded by Rev. Jim Osborn and carried. **Mission Board** by Charles Sumner. He reported that the Board interviewed Brother Bill Lewis to work in

Valdosta at the Church given to the Board. They also interviewed Rev. William A. Crank from Illinois for starting another work but no decision was made at that meeting.

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

**Digest:** Mrs. Judy Harris, Mr. Virgil Holloway, Mrs. Mary Sutton

**Finance:** Mrs. Inez Harrell, Mr. Carl May, Mrs. Polly Peek

We were dismissed in prayer by Mr. Virgil Holloway for a short recess.

### MORNING SERVICE

The Worship Service began by singing "Stand Up For Jesus." Rev. Darrell Newberry led in prayer. The **Obituary Committee** was appointed: Rev. W. G. Turner, Mrs. Dorothy Hardin, Mrs. Jane Sellers. Special prayer requests were given and Rev. James Osborn led in prayer for these. An offering was taken with Rev. Marshall Kennedy and Mr. Charles Sumner serving as ushers and Rev. Bill Barksdale asking God's blessing on the offering. Special music was rendered by the Grace Church Choir that sang, "Because He Lives." The message was given by Debbie Griffin. Before giving the message she sang, "I'll Go Where You Want Me To Go." Her text was John 4:3-42, The Samaritan Woman. The woman met a God she could know and worship, one who works in Spirit and Truth. The town saw the woman change and was saved. People need to see Jesus in us. Christianity is not just a religion. Jesus is the Savior of the World. It was a very challenging message. Rev. S. E. Newberry led in prayer.

Direction for lunch was given by the host pastor. Prayer of dismissal and blessings on the food was given by Mr. Wes Starling.

### AFTERNOON SESSION

The congregation sang "I Want To Be A Worker." Prayer was offered by Rev. Randy Jackson. The Devotional was given by Debbie Griffin. Her text was Luke 2:40-49 and titled "Things Expected." We must be about our Father's business. We must first be informed and pray and then act. She challenged us to be about the Father's business of reaching people.

The Obituary Committee Report was given by Mrs. Dorothy Hardin. The following members have gone to be with the Lord this year:

Bethlehem Church Virginia Taylor, born 9/5/1947; died 4/10/2004

Cairo, First Church Ruby Mitchell, age 89

Leonia B. Roland, age 86

Midway Church Walter Sloan, born 11/3/1910; died 4/2/2004

Mary Murphy (Mrs. Paul), born, 9/3/1922; died 1/30/2004

Spring Hill Church Mrs. Lena Holton Turner

Mr. Charles Raburn

Mr. Don Walker, died 4/2004

Rev. James Sellers led in a prayer of remembrance and thankfulness for the lives of those who have left us this year.

Mr. Charles Sumner gave a report of the Alabama Children's Home. He reported that there is now only 20 young people at the Home, 12 boys and 8 girls. They are short one house parent and when that position is filled they will get another 4 or 5 that are on hold. The year ended in the black and they have purchased two vans, an 8 passenger and a 12 passenger. The vans are 2004 models and were purchased for the amount of \$36,000 for both of them. They voted to increase the salaries of employees by 2½% for a yearly cost of living consideration if funds support it. He requested prayer for one board member, Charles Walden, who has cancer. Mr. Edward Baxter seconded Brother Sumner's motion to receive as information and it carried.

Union Association Board members were asked to report. Rev. Herbert Waid gave the Mission Board report thanking the churches for responding and supporting Debbie Griffin and her time with us today. The Ordaining Board reported that the Midway Association had asked for the original Ordination Certificate for Bill Lewis. The body voted to deny this request on the grounds that 18 years ago Brother Lewis left our denomination and turned in his ordination credentials making them null and void. The Superannuation Board report was given by Mr. Jackie Goff. He made a motion to take off the table the Board's recommended Constitutional change. It was carried and is viewable in the Constitution and By-Laws. He also noted that this changes the name of the Superannuation Board to "Retirement Board." The report was seconded by Rev. Chuck Scarborough and it carried. The Youth Board report was given by the new Board Chairman, Rev. Jim Osborn. He reported that efforts are underway to secure Camp Tucker near Camilla for Youth Camp in June next summer. Rev. Randy Jackson will be the Camp Director. This report was seconded by Mr. Edward Baxter and carried.

Rev. S. E. Newberry resigned from the State Board of Trustees. Rev. James Sellers made a motion to accept his resignation and Mr. Billy Faison seconded and was carried. Rev. Chuck Scarborough was nominated to fill his unexpired term. Mr. Charlie Sumner made a motion to elect, it was seconded by Rev. W. G. Turner and carried.

Committee reports were given as follows:  
Digest by Mrs. Judy Harris:

Churches represented		12
Delegates present	23	
Deacons present	7	
Ministers present	<u>10</u>	
Total delegates		40
Visitors present		<u>23</u>
Total present		63

The motion to accept was seconded by Mr. Edward Baxter and it carried.

**Finance by Mr. Carl May:**

General Fund brought forward	\$2,964.14
Offering received	600.00
Quarterly Dues collected	<u>664.00</u>
Balance in General Fund	\$4,228.14

Youth Fund Balance \$1,725.80

Ministers Retirement Balance \$3,221.40

The motion to accept was seconded by Rev. W. G. Turner and was carried.

Mrs. Jane Sellers suggested that we help small churches with feeding the Association. After discussion it was decided that if a church needed help they could ask and all would be willing to help.

Announcements were made. It was also announced that there is a change in next year's Association Meetings due to the convenience of the churches involved:

May 14, 2005 - New Hope Church

August 13, 2005 - Midway Church

We gave a rising vote of thanks to the Grace Church for a great job of hosting today.

The Veterans present in the service were honored for their part in preserving America's freedom by coming to the front of the church. In the closing prayer by Rev. Herbert Waid, we thanked God for their service and love of our country.

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The Executive Committee did not meet because they planned next quarter's meeting, along with today service, when they met last quarter.

Speakers for the February 12, 2005 meeting were chosen as follows:

A.M. Devotional, Rev. W. G. Turner

Message, Rev. Wilbur Harris

P.M. Devotional, Rev. Bill Barksdale

There will be no set theme. Speakers will choose their own subject for their message.

## **WOMEN OF UNION ACTIVE FOR CHRIST CONVENTION**

**Annual Meeting – Grace Church**

**November 13, 2004**

The Women of Union Active for Christ (WUAC) Convention met at Grace FWB Church in Moultrie, Georgia, on November 13, 2004, from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. Sandra Jackson, District Coordinator, presided over the meeting. Melba Wishum served as Recording Secretary. Sandra Jackson led us in the hymn "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations." Judy Harris opened our meeting with prayer and Mrs Janelle Kennedy of Grace Church welcomed us to their church for the day.

The Coordinator explained the reason for our abbreviated District Convention. The reason being that we wanted Debbie Griffin to be the speaker for our meeting and she was already scheduled to speak at the District Association meeting today her at the Grace Free Will Baptist Church. This allowed Debbie to make other speaking engagements for the third Saturday in January 2005 (our normal meeting date). Also, the State Convention had requested our annual report by the end of October, there, we tried to accommodate and moved today's meeting as close to that date as possible. She also mentioned that the Resolutions Committee would want to address the possibility of changing our annual meeting date to September or October to facilitate getting our report in by the date requested by the State Secretary.

Dottie Warner and Sandra Jackson presented our special music for the meeting during which an offering of \$83.00 was received. Sandra Jackson gave a short devotion from Romans 12:1 encouraging us to offer our troubles, our sorrow, and ourselves to God as a sacrifice instead of making shrines of them.

Laurie Harper, Assistant Secretary, gave the Registration Committee Report

which is as follows: Delegates	6
Local Officers	3
District Officers	<u>6</u>
Total Voting Delegates	15
Visitors	4

Attendance by Church: Fellowship – 4; Midway – 5; New Prospect – 1; Spring Hill – 2; Cairo – 1; Grace – 5. This report was accepted as information. The delegates were seated after a motion by Geraldine Waid and a second by Dorothy Hardin. The motion carried unanimously.

The Coordinator they appointed the following committees:

Credentials:	Laurie Harper, Melba Wishum, Janelle Kennedy
Finance:	Dorothy Hardin, Connie Lacey
Resolutions:	Geraldine Waid, Juanita Weeks
Nominating:	Dottie Warner, Inez Harrell, Tammy Holloway, Jane May, Judy Harris, Latrelle Barksdale

We dismissed for a short recess and the committees met.

The Finance Committee Report was given by Dorothy Hardin. It was as follows:

Dues paid for members	\$640.00	
Offering today	<u>\$ 83.00</u>	\$723.00

The Finance Committee also submitted a recommendation to give Debbie Griffin, our speaker, a \$100.00 honorarium. The motion was made by Geraldine Waid, seconded by Latrelle Barksdale and carried unanimously.

The Treasurer's report was given by Dorothy Hardin. A copy of the report was passed out and will be included in these minutes. A balance of \$318.69 is in the treasury. The motion to adopt the report was made by Patsy Barrett, seconded by Connie Lacey and carried unanimously.

The Credentials Committee Report was given by Laurie Harper. The report was as follows:

Auxiliaries reporting	5
Members at beginning of year	54
Members added	1
Members lost	<u>4</u>
Total members at end of year	51
New Auxiliaries (Grace)	1

A motion was made by Laurie Harper to receive the report as information and was seconded by Tammy Holloway and it carried.

The Resolutions Committee report, given by Geraldine Waid, presented the following resolutions:

1. WHEREAS, Be it resolved that our District Women of Union Active for Christ meet either in September or October and the Executive Committee is to decide on a date after getting feedback from each local WAC.
2. WHEREAS, Be it resolved that we give a vote of thanks to Grace Church for hosting our abbreviated meeting today.
3. WHEREAS, Be it resolved that we give a hearty welcome, with thanksgiving, to the Grace Auxiliary.

Motion was made to accept this report and adopt the Resolutions in their entirety by Tammy Holloway, seconded by Patsy Barrett and unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Geraldine Waid, seconded by Connie Lacey, and carried unanimously for the District Coordinator to appoint our Delegates to the GWAC Convention at the Convention. The State Convention will be March 17, 2005 at Shallowford FWB Church in Marietta, Georgia.

The Coordinator appointed Geraldine Waid to serve on the State Nominating Committee from Women of Union Active for Christ.

The Nominating Committee Report was given by Dottie Warner. The new officers for the 2005-2007 term were elected as presented by the Committee after a motion by Connie Lacey and second by Dottie Warner:

Coordinator	Sandra Jackson
Assistant Coordinator	Judy Harris
Secretary	Laurie Harper
Assistant Secretary	Geraldine Waid
Treasurer	Dorothy Hardin
Assistant Treasurer	Tammy Holloway

The new officers were called to stand in front of the group for an Installation Prayer by Connie Lacey. Also, the body wished to thank Melba Wishum for her two years of service as Secretary.

Miscellaneous Business: The Coordinator reminded us that the annual meeting of Women of Union Active for Christ will be in either September or October, 2005 at the Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church, since it was skipped over for this meeting today. The Executive Committee will poll all of the auxiliaries as soon as possible, arrive at a date and notify everyone of the new date.

A motion was made by Patsy Barrett, seconded by Tammy Holloway and unanimously carried that we adjourn and join the District Association meeting for the remainder of the day.

Submitted by  
Melba Wishum, Secretary

**ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**UNION DISTRICT WOMEN ACTIVE FOR CHRIST**  
Statement of Receipts and Disbursements  
January 2004 through October 2004

Balance on hand January 1, 2004		\$ 335.19
Deposits		<u>2,485.67</u>
Total to Account for		\$2,820.86
WGAC Designated Giving	\$2,402.17	
Speaker Sandra Bishop, January Meeting	<u>100.00</u>	
Total Paid Out		<u>\$2,502.17</u>
Balance as of October 31, 2004		\$ 318.69

Breakdown of WGAC Designated:

Co-Laborer Offering	\$136.92
Emphasis Month Offering	25.00
Foreign Student Scholarship	46.75
Provision Closet Offering	63.75
WNAC Office	110.00
Lora Shutes State Project, Acts 1:8	640.25
Dot Harvey Loan Fund	76.00
Laura Belle Barnard Pre-Easter	59.50
Mexico Seminary	76.50
Dale and Sandra Bishop	345.25
Debbin Griffin	120.75
Native Mission Fund (India)	14.00
Lizzie McAdams Pre-Thanksgiving	25.00
Membership Dues for 53 members	<u>662.50</u>

Total WGAC Gifts	\$2,402.17
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Respectfully submitted  
Dorothy Hardin, Treasurer

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS  
OF  
UNION ASSOCIATION OF THE ORIGINAL  
FREE WILL BAPTIST OF GEORGIA**

**PREAMBLE**

The object and purpose of the Union Association of Original Free Will Baptists of Georgia shall be to unify and strengthen the work of the various churches composing the association; and to devise and execute measures for the extension of the Kingdom of God.

**ARTICLE I - NAME**

This Association will hereafter be known as the Union Association of Original Free Will Baptists of Georgia.

**ARTICLE II - CHURCH INDEPENDENT**

Each church in the Association shall be considered an independent body and shall control its own internal affairs having the unrestricted right to administer its own government without supervision or interference, being under Christ, essentially independent and absolute.

**ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1**

This Association shall be composed of the various Free Will Baptist churches in good standing.

**Section 2**

When member churches or ministers, whether serving a church or not, shall absent themselves from the Association for three (3) consecutive quarterly meetings:

(1) The Association Executive Committee shall investigate the church or churches and minister or ministers.

(2) If a satisfactory report is not given of the church or churches and minister or ministers they shall be appraised of their standing, namely:

(a) Placed on probation until the next quarterly meeting;

(b) No voting privileges until such church or churches and minister or ministers attend two (2) successive quarterly meetings, at which they would be reinstated as members in good standing.

## **ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS**

This body shall meet alphabetically with the churches on the second Saturday in the following months: February, May, August, and November. This body shall not adjourn formally until all business is settled.

## **ARTICLE V - REPRESENTATION**

### **Section 1**

This body shall be composed of member churches in good standing, and all ordained ministers, deacons, missionaries, and representatives of state boards shall be standing delegates.

### **Section 2**

Each church represented at this Association shall be entitled to three elected delegates who are expected to attend each session of this Association, including both morning and afternoon sessions.

### **Section 3**

Each church shall send a report two (2) weeks prior to each session, using the form adopted by the Association.

### **Section 4**

Each church shall be requested to pay a minimum fee of \$6.00 per active member; broken down on a quarterly basis of \$1.50 per active member. This fee shall include the annual church registration fee to the State Association for National representation.

## **ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE BOARD, STANDING BOARDS**

### **Section 1**

The officers of this Association shall be: Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk-Treasurer, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer and Parliamentarian. They shall be elected for a two year term on odd calendar years.

### **Section 2**

There shall be an Executive Board composed of the officers of this Association plus the Chairman of each Board.

### **Section 3**

The standing boards of this Association shall be the following: Mission Board, Ordaining Board, Superannuation Board, and Youth Board.

Each Board shall consist of 5 members, each elected for a 5 year term on a rotating basis and shall be elected yearly as terms expire.

## **ARTICLE VII - RULES**

This Association shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

## **ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS**

The constitution may be amended or altered at any regular session of the Association, by a 2/3 vote of the members present, provided that the proposed changes have been presented in writing, one conference in advance.

## **BY-LAWS**

### **ARTICLE 1 - MEMBERSHIP**

#### **Section 1**

All of the churches affiliated with this Association shall be required to adopt the Treatise of the Faith and Practice of the Free Will Baptists as adopted by the National Association. Applications for membership must contain a statement to this effect.

#### **Section 2**

Churches desiring to affiliate themselves with this Association must present a petitionary letter, and representation; adopt this Constitution and By-Laws, and conform to their usage.

### **ARTICLE II - DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS**

#### **Section 1**

The duties of the moderator shall be to preside at all meetings of the Association. He shall be empowered to appoint any committee necessary; unless requested otherwise by the body itself.

#### **Section 2**

The duties of the Assistant Moderator shall be to preside at the request or in the absence of the moderator, and shall assist him in such ways as are necessary and advisable.

### **Section 3**

The duties of the Clerk-Treasurer shall be to keep accurate minutes of the Association, to compile the minutes of the various boards and auxiliaries, to prepare and publish them. It shall further be the duty of the Clerk-Treasurer to take care of all necessary correspondence. He shall be in charge of offerings and to disburse them as directed by the Association.

### **Section 4**

The duties of the Assistant Clerk-Treasurer shall be to assume the position of the Clerk-Treasurer in the event the Clerk-Treasurer is absent or unable to perform his duties.

### **Section 5**

The duties of the Parliamentarian shall be to keep the associational meetings in accordance with the rules of the parliamentary procedure as per the Robert's Rules of Order.

## **ARTICLE III - DUTIES OF THE BOARDS**

### **Section 1 - Executive Board**

It shall be the duties of the Executive Board to transact business for the Association when not in session. Decisions made by the Executive Board shall be subject to final approval by the Association and must be recorded in the minutes. The Executive Board may be called into session by the Moderator or Assistant Moderator if the need arises.

### **Section 2 - Mission Board**

It shall be the duty of the Mission Board to supervise the missionary program of this Association, to solicit cooperation of churches and individuals, and to set up missionary conferences.

### **Section 3 - Ordaining Board**

A. The duty of this board shall be to examine candidates for the ministry according to the rules set forth by the ordination guidelines of the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists.

## **B. THE GUIDELINES OF THE GEORGIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

### **1. THE LICENSED MINISTER:**

A person must be licensed for a period of one year before he can be ordained. He must also be called to the care of one or more churches, or into other service which would require ordination.

**2. QUALIFICATIONS OF MINISTERS:**

They must possess good, natural, and acquired abilities, deep and ardent piety, be especially called of God to the work, and ordained by prayer and the laying on of hands.

**3. DUTIES OF MINISTERS:**

These are to preach the Word, administer the ordinances of the Gospel, visit their people, and otherwise perform the work of faithful ministers.

**4. THE QUESTION OF DIVORCE:**

No individual shall be ordained to the gospel ministry who has been married and divorced, and in the process has more than one living companion. No individual shall be ordained whose wife has been previously married and divorced.

*NOTE:* These regulations are set forth to comply with the Biblical standard for ministers found in I Timothy 3:1-7.

**5. THE ORDINATION OF WOMEN:**

Traditionally and historically, Free Will Baptists in the State of Georgia have not ordained women to the gospel ministry. So far as we are able to discern, this is still the true sentiment over the state. Therefore, until the thinking of our Free Will Baptist constituency becomes more definitive on this matter, we do not purpose to ordain women.

**6. THE AUTHORITY TO ORDAIN:**

Free Will Baptists, committed to the doctrine of congregational church government, understand that the authority to ordain ministers is in the local church. In practice, however, the Free Will Baptist churches in the State of Georgia work together in the matter of ordination by delegating the authority for ordination to the association of churches in which the local church holds membership. The true source of this authority should never be lost sight of.

C. An ordained minister coming to the Union Association from another denomination shall be placed on a one (1) year waiting period under the watchcare of this Association, before being accepted into the Union Association.

D. A minister coming to any church of the Union Association must be a member of that church and come before the Ordaining Council for questioning.

E. When a person is called to the Gospel Ministry and desires to be licensed to preach, he shall approach his local church and request to be licensed. The

church shall then examine him thoroughly as to the nature of his call, and request that the Ordaining Council examine the person before being licensed. At the recommendation of the Ordaining Council and after a vote in regular conference, he shall be granted a license to preach for a period of one year. At the end of one year, his license may be renewed, revoked, or ordained. (The method mentioned here is the normal practice of most churches and associations.)

F. No licentiate shall be ordained until he has been a licensed minister for the period of one year and called to the pastorate of one or more churches, or one who has become engaged in Christian service the nature of which requires the authority of an Ordained Minister of the Gospel.

G. Each church should exercise due caution in licensing, commending to ordination, and calling of a minister to fill pastoral office.

H. Ministers and/or churches not complying with the above rules shall be ruled out of fellowship with this Association.

#### **Section 4 - Superannuation Board**

A. The duties of this Board shall be to determine the eligibility of potential Retirement Fund receivers that have been recommended by their churches, and thereafter, to recommend the approval of the proposed quarterly allocation of these funds to the Union Association in session.

B. Qualifications of Retired Ministers:

1. If having obtained the age of sixty-five (65) years, and
2. If having served a period of five (5) years, which the last three (3) have been with the Union Association, and
3. If he is a member of and in good standing with one of our member churches and the Union Association, and
4. If his church so recommends him, he may be considered.

C. Any minister who by accident or sickness has been rendered permanently unable to continue as a Minister of the Gospel, may be considered; provided he meets the qualifications as stated in the above paragraph B, numbers 2, 3 and 4.

D. A Minister's Widow may be considered if she is a member in good standing of a church that is a member of the Union Association and her church recommends her.

E. Each recipient shall receive the same amount of retirement funds. (If any recipient's funds shall be raised or lowered, all recipient's funds shall be similarly adjusted.)

F. The Retirement Board shall regularly review all current cases to determine if the recipients are or are not in compliance with these guidelines.

#### **Section 5 - Youth Board**

A. Plan and promote youth camp and all activities that go with the planning of said camp.

B. Plan Associational Youth activities in order to promote fellowship among our youth.

### **ARTICLE IV - AMENDMENTS**

These By-Laws may be amended or altered at any regular session of the Association by a 2/3 vote of the members present provided that the proposed changes have been tabled in the morning session and taken off the table in the afternoon session for consideration.

### **ASSOCIATION DECORUM**

1. Any person wishing to speak shall rise and address the Moderator and be recognized before speaking. He shall confine himself to the question under consideration and avoid personalities.

2. No person can speak more than twice on any subject without permission from the Moderator.

3. When a question is under discussion, no motion or proposition shall be received except to lay on the table, to amend, or postpone indefinitely which several motions shall be preferred in the order in which they were seated.

4. Members wishing to be excused from the session shall request permission from the Moderator.

5. The Association has the right to decide what matters shall be admitted for its consideration.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. First, we believe that there is but one living, true, eternal God, the Father, of whom are all things from everlasting; glorious and immutable in all His attributes. I Corinthians 8:6; Isaiah 40:28.

2. We believe that there is one Lord Jesus Christ by whom are all things, the only begotten Son of God, born of the Virgin Mary, whom God freely sent into this world, because of the great love wherewith He loved the world; and Christ as freely gave Himself a ransom for all tasting death for every man, who was buried and rose again the third day and ascended back into Heaven, from whence we look for Him the second time in the clouds of Heaven at the last day, to judge both quick and dead. I Timothy 2:3-6; Hebrews 2:9; John 8; Acts 2:4; Ephesians 3:1; Ephesians 6.

3. We believe there is one Holy Ghost, the precious gift of the Father through His dear son, unto the world, who quickeneth and draweth sinners home to God, John 16:7-8; Acts 2:4; Ephesians 4:4-5; and He comes into our hearts. John 1:1, 12; Galatians 4:4, 16; II Corinthians 5:12; Titus; I John 5:1, 10, 13.

4. We believe in the Beginning God made man upright; and placed him in a state of glory without the least mixture of misery, from which he voluntarily by transgression, fell; and by that means brought himself a miserable and mortal state subject to death. Genesis 2:17; 3:19.

5. We believe that God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to the repentance and knowledge of the truth, that they might be saved; for which Christ has commanded the Gospel to be preached among all nations and to every creature. Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47; John 3:15; I Timothy 2:4.

6. We believe that no man shall suffer in hell for want of Christ who died for him. But, as the Scripture has said, for denying the Lord that brought them; because they believe not in the name of the only begotten Son of God. Unbelief, therefore, being the cause why the just and righteous God of Heaven will condemn the children of men. It follows against all argument that all men, at one time or another, are found in such capacity as that through the grace of God they might be eternally saved. Acts 17:30; Mark 6:6; Hebrews 3:10; I John 5:10.

7. We believe the whole Scriptures are infallibly true, and that they are the only rules of faith and practices. II Timothy 3:16-17.

8. We believe in the doctrine of General Provision made of God in Christ for the benefit of all mankind, who repent and believe in the Gospel. Luke 14:16, 20; Matthew 28:19-20; Luke 24:47; Acts 3:19; Mark 1:15.

9. We believe that sinners are drawn to God, the Father, by the Holy Ghost, who offers his divine aid to all the human family; so as all might be happy, if they would give place to His divine teachings; therefore, such who do not receive the divine impressions of His Holy Spirit, shall at a future day, seal their own condemnation, and charge themselves with their own damnation, willfully rejecting the offer of His sovereign grace. Matthew 11:27; John 6:45, 65; Psalm 1:1; Titus 2:11-12; Jeremiah 22:29.

10. We believe that men, not considered simply as, but ungodly men, were of old ordained to condemnation, consider such who turn away the grace of God unto lasciviousness, denying the only Lord God and the Lord Jesus Christ who brought them, and therefore, shall bring upon themselves destruction; but we observe that they, and such as the Apostle saith, because they received not the love of the truth that they might be saved. Therefore, the indignation and the wrath of God is upon every soul of man that doth living and dying therein, for there is no respect of persons with God. Jude 1:4; 2 Peter 2:1; 2 Thessalonians 2:11-12; Romans 2:9, 11.

11. We believe that all children dying in infancy having not actually transgressed the law of God in their own person are only subject unto the first death which was brought on them by the fall of the first Adam and not by the guilt of Adam's sin, for "of such is the Kingdom of God." I Corinthians 15:22; Matthew 18:25; Mark 9:36-37; Matthew 19:13.

12. We believe that good works are the fruits of a saving faith, and that in the use of this means of grace and not out of the use of these means, eternal life is promised to men. Revelation 22:14-15; Luke 13:34-35; Isaiah 1:19-20; Matthew 7:8; Jeremiah 6:16.

13. We believe that no man has any warrant in the Holy Scripture for justification before God through his own works, power, or ability, which he has in or of himself; only as he by grace is made able to come to God through Jesus Christ, believing the righteousness of Jesus Christ to be imputed to all believers for their eternal acceptance with God. Romans 4:24; Acts 8:20-21.

14. We believe that all things are foreseen in the wisdom of God; so that God knoweth whatsoever can or cannot come to pass upon all supposed conditions; yet not as having decreed any person to everlasting death or everlasting life, out of respect or mere choices, further, that He hath appointed the godly unto life, and the ungodly who die in sin, unto death. Hebrews 4:13; Proverbs 8:22, 31; Matthew 25:31, 46.

15. We believe as touching gospel ordinances in believers: baptism, laying on of hands, receiving of the sacrament in bread and wine, washing the saint's feet, anointing the sick with oil in the name of the Lord, fasting, prayer, singing praise to God, and the public ministry of the Word, with every institution of the Lord we shall find in the New Testament. Mark 16:15-16; Acts 8:17; Luke 22:19-20; John 13:5, 17, 5:14.

16. We believe the Gospel mode of baptism is by immersion, and believers are the only subjects for baptism. Matthew 3:16; Mark 1:9-10; Romans 6:4; Acts 3:19, 21; Colossians 2:12.

17. We believe in a general resurrection of the dead and a final judgement at the last day. John 5:28-29; 2 Corinthians 5:10.

18. We believe the happiness of the righteous are eternal and the torments of the wicked are endless. Matthew 25:46.