

UNION
ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL
BAPTIST
MINUTES
2019



2019
ANNUAL MINUTES

of the
94th SESSION

of the

UNION ASSOCIATION
of
GEORGIA
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Quarterly Sessions met at:

Cairo Church, February 9, 2019

Fellowship Church May 11, 2019

Greenwood Church, August 10, 2019

Midway Church, November 9, 2019

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.

2020 ASSOCIATION CALENDER

New Hope Church.....February 8, 2020
New Prospect Church..... May 9, 2020
Poulan Church.....August 8, 2020
Spring Hill Church.....November 14, 2020

UNION ASSOCIATION BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. Randy Jackson, Moderator	2021
Rev. Chuck Scarborough, Assistant Moderator	2021
Rev. Kirk Lavender, Clerk/Treasurer	2021
Rev. Wilbur Harris, Assistant Clerk/Treasurer	2021
Rev. Stuart Bundy, Mission Board Chairman	
Rev. Chuck Scarborough, Ordaining Board Chairman	
Rev. S.E. Newberry, Retirement Board Chairman	
Mrs. Kirsten Saunders, Youth Board Chairman	
Mr. Virgil Holloway, Parliamentarian	2021

MISSION BOARD

Rev. Charles Blanton	2020
Rev. Charles McCardle	2021
Rev. Stuart Bundy, Chairman	2022
Rev. Eric Mitchell	2023
Rev. Wilbur Harris	2024

ORDAINING BOARD

Rev. Herbert Waid, Chairman	2020
Rev. Charles Blanton	2021
Rev. Charles McCardle	2022
Rev. Wilbur Harris	2023
Rev. Chuck Scarborough	2024

RETIREMENT BOARD

Mr. Ike Davis, Chairman	2020
Rev. Eric Mitchell	2021
Mr. John Himioben	2022

Mr. Virgil Holloway	2023
Rev. S.E. Newberry	2024

YOUTH BOARD

Mrs. Dorothy Hardin	2020
Rev. Stuart Bundy	2021
Mr. Adam Lavender	2022
Rev. Kirk Lavender, Chairman	2023
Mrs. Kirsten Kleedehn	2024

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Mr. Virgil Holloway	2021
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SONG LEADERS

Rev. S.E. Newberry	2020
Rev. Wilbur Harris, Assistant	2020

PIANIST

Mrs. Sherrill Barge	2020
Mrs. Louvenia Kleedehn, Assistant	2020

REPRESENTATIVES TO GEORGIA STATE BOARDS

Board of Camping – Rev. Wilbur Harris	2020
Board of Christian Education-Rev. Randy Jackson	2020
Board of Missions – Rev. S.E. Newberry	2020
Board of trustees – Rev. Chuck Scarborough	2020

DIRECTORY OF PASTORS AND CLERKS

BAY CHURCH, Colquitt County

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

Mrs. Robin Shivers
444 Walter Norman Rd.
Hartsfield, GA 31756
229-941-2630

BETHLEHEM CHURCH, Colquitt County

Rev. Stuart Bundy
496 Old Doerun Rd.
Sale City, GA 31784
229-336-8021 (cell 347-9203)

Mr. Tim Whitman
P.O. Box 405
Berlin, GA 31722
229-798-2015

CAIRO, FIRST CHURCH, Grady County

Rev. Eric Mitchell
283 Woodland Rd.
Cairo, GA 39827
229-327-4385

Mrs. Glenda Bell
357 Rawls Rd.
Cairo, GA 39828
229-377-8820

FELLOWSHIP CHURCH, Worth County

Rev. Herbert Waid
P.O. Box 1844
Moultrie, GA 31776
229-985-5479 (cell 873-0620)
e-mail: blessed@moultriega.net

Mrs. Geraldine Waid
P.O. Box 1844
Moultrie, GA 31776
229-985-5479

GREENWOOD CHURCH, Mitchell County

Rev. S.E. Newberry
776 Lewis Lane
Quincy, FL 32352
850-661-0065

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

MIDWAY CHURCH, Colquitt County

Rev. Randy Jackson
2561 Lower Meigs Rd.
Moultrie, GA 31768
229-941-4063 (cell 873-1249)
E-mail: randyjackson1220@windstream.net

Mrs. Cindy S. 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 (cell 456-2306)

Mrs. Betty Barnes
2628 US Hwy 319 S
Coolidge, GA 31738
229-891-5075

NEW PROSPECT CHURCH, Turner County

Rev. Kirk Lavender
1508 Maude Williams Rd.
Ashburn, GA 31714
229-567-3743 (cell 947-2118)
E-mail: kirklav@windstream.net

Mrs. Ann Lavender
157 Cutoff Rd.
Ashburn, GA 31714
229-567-0123

POULAN CHURCH, Worth County

Rev. Charles McCardle
727 Morey Rd.
Albany, GA 31705
229-349-0739

Mr. Larry S. Waltman
1072 PT Salter Rd.
Poulan, GA 31781
229-881-3204

SPRING HILL CHURCH, Mitchell County

Rev. Charles Blanton
12143 GA Hwy 93
Baconton, GA 31716
22-449-5138

Mrs. Denna Jones
9810 Morey Hill Rd.
Albany, GA 31705
229-787-5137

SYLVESTER CHURCH, Worth County

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

Mrs. Glenda Gibbs
155 Oakland Heights Rd.
Sylvester, GA 31791
229-777-9739

Email: gibbs99739@bellsouth.net

ROLL OF ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. Charles Blanton

Rev. Stuart Bundy

Rev. Wilbur Harris

Rev. Randy Jackson

Rev. Charles Lasseter

Rev. Kirk Lavender

Rev. Charles McCardle

Rev. Eric Mitchell

Rev. S.E. Newberry

Rev. Chuck Scarborough

Rev. James Sellers

Rev. Herbert Waid

Rev. R.C. Wiggins

Spring Hill Church

Bethlehem Church

Sylvester Church

Midway Church

New Prospect Church

Poulan Church

Cairo, First Church

Bay and Greenwood Churches

New Hope Church

Grace Church

Fellowship Church

ROLL OF DEACONS

BAY CHURCH

Alex Shivers 444 Walter Norman Rd., Hartsfield, GA 31756

CAIRO, FIRST CHURCH

Kelvin Harrell 1338 Woodland Rd., Cairo, GA 39827
Ronnie Bell 357 Rawls Rd., Cairo, GA 39828

FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

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

GREENWOOD CHURCH

Jake Singleton 82 Williford Dr, Camilla, GA 31730

MIDWAY CHURCH

Darrell Gay 207 Walter Murphy Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768
Roscoe Gay 2560 Lower Meigs Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768
Art Harvin 175 Ragin Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768
Wayne R. Lacey 235 Walter Murphy Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768
Brady Mercer 594 McElroy Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768
Matt Sauls 785 Sauls Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768
Sean Sauls 29 Ridge Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768
Mark Scheuring 490-A Tree Farm Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768
Richard Spears 443 Sauls Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768

NEW PROSPECT CHURCH

Bruce Burgess 2352 Coverdale Hwy, Ashburn, GA 31714
Adam Lavender 1174 Maude Williams Rd, Ashburn, GA 31714

POULAN CHURCH

Hal Ivey	891 S Sumner Rd, Sumner, GA 31789
Jack D. Powell	335 Old Mail Rd, Sylvester, GA 31791
Wayne Carlton	468 Northwood Dr, Poulan, GA 31781
Larry S. Waltman	1072 P.T. Salter Rd, Poulan GA 31781

SPRING HILL CHURCH

Leonard Bundy	495 Old Doerun Rd, Sales City, GA 31784
Glenn Etheredge	6027 Jenkins Rd, Albany, GA 31705
Frank Hall	6210 Hummingbird Rd, Camilla, GA 31730

SYLVESTER CHURCH

J.W. Gibbs	155 Oakland Heights Rd., Sylvester, GA 31791
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ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS NOT LISTED ELSEWHERE

Mrs. Dorothy Hardin 6023 James Dr, Albany, GA 31705
229-435-5016

Rev. Thomas Holloway 901-493-5446

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

Rev. R.C. Wiggins 156 Walter Murphy Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768
229-529-4185

Rev. Charles Lasseter 1685 Moye Rd, Norman Park, GA 31771
407-624-1955

PHYSICAL ADDRESSES OF CHURCHES

Bay Free Will Baptist Church

GA Hwy 37

Moultrie, GA 31768

Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church

GA Hwy 133

Berlin, GA 31722

Cairo, First Free Will Baptist Church

7th Ave NE

Cairo, GA 39828

Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church

103 Groveland Dr

Albany, GA 31705

Greenwood Free Will Baptist Church

Greenwood Rd

Camilla, GA 31730

Midway Free Will Baptist Church

287 Lower Meigs Rd

Moultrie, GA 31768

New Hope Free Will Baptist Church

US Hwy 319 S

Moultrie, GA 31768

New Prospect Free Will Baptist Church

5000 Canon Rd

Ashburn, GA 31714

Poulan Free Will Baptist Church

280 East Church Street

Poulan, GA 31781

Sylvester, First Free Will Baptist Church

Carmen Ln

Sylvester, GA 31791

UNION ASSOCIATION STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 2019

Church	Active Members	Sunday School	CTS	WAC	Master's Men	Property Value
Bay	17					432,000
Bethlehem	46	30	25			148,322
Cairo 1 st	38	38				220,000
Fellowship	21	10		5	3	196,000
Greenwood	7					
Midway	131	65	55	13		1,000,000
New Hope	9					
New Prospect	35	25	20	10		
Poulan	31	30				
Spring Hill	91	30	20	4	4	145,000
Sylvester	10			5	3	
Totals	436	228	120	37	10	2,657,322
2018 Totals	446	242	105	27	10	2,657,322
2018 compared to 2019	-10	-14	+15	+10	0	0

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

1st Quarter Meeting

February 9, 2019 at the Cairo Church

Our meeting opened with the congregation singing, "Send the Light", led by our song leader, Brother S.E. Newberry. Rev. Charles McCardle then led us in prayer. The Moderator welcomed everyone to the meeting, followed by the host pastor greeting everyone and giving directions and instructions for the church. The moderator then introduced our speaker for the morning devotion, who was Josh Bennett, missionary from the Awaken Church in Tifton, GA. The text he used was from John 4: 46 - 53. In his devotion, we looked at the steps that the nobleman took. We learned that our biggest needs can not always be solved with money or by authority. Just like the nobleman, there are times in a person's life when they have to just come to Jesus. We must learn to bring our most difficult situations to Jesus. The nobleman believed what Jesus said without seeing what had happened.

The Digest Report was given by Mrs. Kirsten Saunders

Churches Reporting	12
Delegates	22
Deacons	3
Ministers	11
Visitors	<u>19</u>
Total	55

There was a motion and second made to receive the report and it carried.

The moderator then recognized the ministers and deacons as standing delegates. After, that, the churches elected delegates were recognized. There was a motion and second made to seat the delegates and it carried.

The clerk then read the Executive Committee Report. There was a motion made and a second to receive the report and it carried.

The Moderator appointed a Finance Committee for the day. They were: Mrs. Judy Peacock; Chairperson, Mrs. Tony Hamner, and Mr. Ike Davis.

The morning offering was then taken up; Rev. S.E. Newberry and Rev. Chuck Scarborough volunteered as ushers and Rev. Chuck Scarborough led in prayer.

STATE BOARD REPORTS: Christian Education: Rev Randy Jackson gave the report as follows: The couples retreat will be February 22 & 23, 2019; Brother Donny Miles will be the speaker. The Ministers retreat is right around the corner and he encouraged everyone to send their pastors. Mission Board: Rev. S.E. Newberry gave the report as follows: The main focus at the moment is the Tifton Mission Work and Josh Bennett is here today representing the Tifton work. The Valdosta mission work is taking care of itself now. There was a motion made and a second to receive the reports and it carried.

DISTRICT BOARD REPORTS: Mission Board Report: Rev. Stuart Bundy thanked everyone for participating in the Walk A Thon and also for supporting and making the mission conference possible. Youth Board Report: Mrs. Kirsten Kleedehn informed us that the Walk A Thon continues to be a great success each year. She also stated that if anyone needs any help understanding the rules and regulations for the youth competition, she will help in any way she can. The State Youth Competition will be the first weekend in May. There was a motion made and a second to receive the reports and it carried.

The Finance Committee Report was given by Mrs. Judy Peacock as follows:

General Fund Balance	\$1,649.43
Quarterly Dues Collected	\$1,128.00
Offering	\$ 319.00
Money Designated	\$1200.00
Youth Fund Balance	\$5,222.72
Minister's retirement Balance	\$9,421.25

The offering was designated to go to Josh Bennett's account. There was a motion and second made and it carried to receive the report.

The moderator then called for any miscellaneous business. The moderator called for volunteers to be elected for delegates to represent the Union Association at the State Meeting which will be in Savannah, GA this year. Mrs. Celia Newberry volunteered to be a delegate. The Moderator was also given the authority to appoint delegates at the State Meeting. There was a motion and second made and it carried. The moderator also suggested that we put the churches physical address in the annual minutes. Rev Charles McCardle announced that the Poulan Church will have revival on March 25-27, 2019, with the Rev. William Smith as the guest speaker.

After all business was completed, we gave a rising vote of thanks to the host church. We then took a short recess.

Morning Worship Service

We began our morning worship service with our song leader leading us in the hymn, "Only Trust Him." Mrs. Tony Hamner sang the special music, which was titled, "The Anchor Holds" and "Don't That Sound Like Heaven." After the music, Brother Josh Bennett brought the morning message. He started by telling us about the Tifton mission work. The Awaken Church started regular services on September 9,2018. They have

an average attendance of 79 people. There has been eighteen salvations and fourteen baptisms. A building has been purchased for the church and they are taking care of most of the remodeling themselves to save money. He used Acts 1:1-11 as the text for his sermon. From the scripture, he showed us how the gospel is for all people. Spreading the gospel must be the driving force behind the church's mission. Jesus is the foundation for the mission. Jesus is calling us to be His witnesses, and we should be open to share the gospel. We should also have a passion to see people saved. One thing we should not forget, it cannot be done without the power of Jesus. May the Spirit of God be upon us to be His Witnesses. After the sermon, we were dismissed in prayer and a blessing for lunch was given by Rev. Eric Mitchell.

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

January 29, 2019

The Executive Committee met January 29, 2019 at J Harvey's Restaurant in Moultrie at 6:30 p.m. Those present were: Moderator, Rev. Randy Jackson; Assistant Moderator and Ordaining Board Chairman, Rev. Chuck Scarborough; Clerk, Rev. Kirk Lavender; Assistant Clerk, Rev. Wilbur Harris; Retirement Board Chairman, Rev. S.E. Newberry; Youth Board Chairman, Mrs. Kirsten Kleedehn. Also attending were Louvenia Kleedehn, Mrs. Judy Harris, Mrs. Celia Newberry, Mrs. Kim Lavender, and Ms. Anna Lavender

Rev. S.E. Newberry opened the meeting with a prayer of thanks for the meal.

After the meal the clerk read the minutes from the last executive meeting.

The moderator then asked for any reports from the board chairmen. Mrs. Kirsten Kleedehn reported that 8 churches were represented at the Walk-a-thon this year. Rev. Randy Jackson informed us that Jr. Camp will finish up on July 4th, and that the camp rent went up some. Rev

Wilbur Harris also informed us that we would be supporting the Tifton mission work this year and that they would be at the February 9th meeting. Rev S.E. Newberry said the State mission was set to meet on February 5th. Rev Randy Jackson reporting for the C.E. Board, told us the Couples retreat would be on February 22 and 23rd. He also told us the State Competition was set for the 1st Saturday in May. They were also able to give scholarship money for students attending Welch College.

There being no other business, we adjourned and dismissed in prayer.

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

2nd Quarter Meeting

May 11, 2019 at the Fellowship Church

Our meeting opened with the congregation singing, "Home of the Soul", led by our song leader, Brother S.E. Newberry. Brother Dale Bishop then led us in prayer. The Moderator welcomed everyone to the meeting, followed by the host pastor greeting everyone and giving directions and instructions for the church.

Rev. Herbert Waid brought the morning devotion to us. His devotion title was "What is man?" The scripture was from Psalm 8:3-9. He told us to praise the Lord and honor Him, for it is He, who made us special and unique. The Lord is the One who spoke us into being. Even the Angels are mighty beings, but when we get to heaven, they will be inferior to us. Man is the object of God's love. We are the place where God dwells, we are His temple, His dwelling place. We are truly uniquely blessed.

The Digest Report was given by Mrs. Kirsten Kleedehn

Churches Reporting	11
Delegates	17
Deacons	4
Ministers	9
Visitors	<u>15</u>
Total	45

There was a motion and second made to receive the report and it carried.

The moderator then recognized the ministers and deacons as standing delegates. After, that, the churches elected delegates were

recognized. There was a motion and second made to seat the delegates and it carried.

The clerk then read the Executive Committee Report. There was a motion made and a second to receive the report and it carried.

The Moderator appointed a Finance Committee for the day. They were: Mr. John Himioben; Chairperson, Mrs. Geraldine Waid, and Mrs. Ann Lavender.

The morning offering was then taken up; Rev. S.E. Newberry and Rev. Chuck Scarborough volunteered as ushers, Rev. Chuck Scarborough led in prayer.

STATE BOARD REPORTS: Camping Board: Rev. Wilbur Harris gave the report as follows: The camping board met on March 5, 2019. Brother Chad Mentor will be the speaker for teen camp. The finances also turned out good for the camping board after everything was paid for. Brother Wilbur also encouraged everyone to send their children and teens to camp. We received the report as information. Christian Education: Rev Randy Jackson gave the report as follows: The ministers retreat went well and Brother Randy encouraged each church to send their minister to the next minister retreat. The senior citizens retreat is just around the corner and will be at Fort Gaines again. Everyone from the youth competition in

Georgia will be going to the Nationals. The board will also be looking for another person to give scholarship money to for the upcoming year. There was a motion made and a second to receive the report and it carried.

Mission Board: Rev. S.E. Newberry gave the report as follows: The Tifton mission work is a great encouragement and is steadily moving forward.

They have around 76 in attendance. They are putting a great emphasis on training those that are there, and they have 45 people training in the Word of God and service for the Lord. They are also in the process of beginning 2 morning services. There was a motion made and a second to receive the report and it carried. Dale and Sandra Bishop were also with us today, Brother Dale came forward and gave a warm introduction for Debbie Griffin, who came forward and spoke to us. Sister Debbie will be going back into the mission field to Japan for a 2nd time. She thanked everyone for their past support and asked for continued support this 2nd time. She is also president of the WNAC, she told us God is doing big things through the WNAC. She is available to come to any church that would like for her to come and speak about missions or WNAC.

DISTRICT BOARD REPORTS: Youth Board Report: Mrs. Kirsten Kleedehn informed us that the forms for Jr. Camp are here, she encouraged every church to get some forms. We will also be sending \$500.00 from the youth fund this year. The Homerville Church will also be joining Jr. Camp this year. There was a motion made and a second to receive the reports and it carried.

The Finance Committee Report was given by Mr. John Himioben as follows:

General Fund Balance	\$2,160.07
Quarterly Dues Collected	\$1,068.00
Offering	\$ 241.00
Youth Fund Balance	\$1,607.72
Minister's retirement Balance	\$9,725.81

The offering was designated to go to the Youth Fund. There was a motion and second made and it carried to receive the report.

The moderator then called for any miscellaneous business. The Moderator called for the clerk to read a letter from the Grace Free Will Baptist Church. The clerk informed everyone from the letter that the Grace church would be closing its doors. Ours hearts were saddened to hear that the Grace church would be closing. There were several heartfelt and burdened testimonies given after the letter was read: Rev. Stewart Bundy, Rev. Charles Blanton, Brother Larry Waltman, and Rev. S.E. Newberry shared their hearts with us. Rev. James Sellers also spoke on the matter and thanked everyone. Sister Bonnie Sisk also thanked everyone and said they would be traveling around looking for a new church.

After all business was completed, we gave a rising vote of thanks to the host church. We then took a short recess for refreshments provided by the host church.

Morning Worship Service

We began our morning worship service with our song leader leading us in the hymn, "Living by Faith." Sister Debbie Griffin brought the special music, which was titled, "Find US Faithful." After the music, Brother Kirk Lavender brought the morning message. The main text was from Revelations 3:14-22, The Lukewarm Church. The church of today is very much like the Laodicean church. We must take heed to this scripture or risk being rejected by Jesus. We do not need to be halfhearted and self-satisfied Christians. We have to be careful from becoming spiritually self-deluded, impoverished, naked, and blind. We must be obedient to the Lord's will, listen to the voice of the Lord, and make sure we know our Lord Jesus personally and spiritually. After the morning message, the moderator dismissed us for the day.

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

April 30, 2019

The Executive Committee met April 30, 2019 at J Harvey's Restaurant in Moultrie at 6:30 p.m. Those present were: Moderator, Rev. Randy Jackson; Assistant Moderator and Ordaining Board Chairman, Rev. Chuck Scarborough; Clerk, Rev. Kirk Lavender; Assistant Clerk, Rev. Wilbur Harris; Retirement Board Chairman, Rev. S.E. Newberry; Youth Board Chairman, Mrs. Kirsten Kleedehn. Also attending were Louvenia Kleedehn, Mrs. Judy Harris, Mrs. Celia Newberry, Mrs. Kim Lavender, Ms. Mary Grace Lavender, and Ms. Anna Lavender

Rev. S.E. Newberry opened the meeting with a prayer of thanks for the meal.

The moderator then asked for any reports from the board chairmen. Rev. Randy Jackson informed us that everything for Jr. Camp and Teen Camp is on schedule. Rev. S.E. Newberry gave some encouraging words concerning the mission work in Georgia.

After the report, we then proceeded to choose our speakers for the upcoming association meeting. We chose Rev. Herbert Waid for our morning devotion and Rev. Kirk Lavender for our morning message.

We also elected to give the morning offering to the youth fund.

There being no other business, we adjourned and dismissed in prayer.

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS 3rd Quarter Meeting

August 10, 2019 at the Greenwood Church

Our meeting opened with the congregation singing, "Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us", led by our song leader, Brother S.E. Newberry. Brother Darrell Gay then led us in prayer. The Moderator welcomed

everyone to the meeting, followed by the host pastor greeting everyone and giving directions and instructions for the church.

Rev. James Sellers brought the morning devotion to us. Brother Sellers gave a wonderful heartfelt devotion. He reminded us that Christ is still very much alive, and that we are closer to the coming of Christ than ever before. He also asked, what would we do without each other. He remembered his salvation experience and many past experiences. Before he finished his devotion, he showed his appreciation to everyone in the association and asked for continued prayers.

The Digest Report was given by Mrs. Kirsten Kleedehn

Churches Reporting	11
Delegates	20
Deacons	7
Ministers	9
Visitors	<u>13</u>
Total	49

There was a motion and second made to receive the report and it carried.

The moderator then recognized the ministers and deacons as standing delegates. After, that, the churches elected delegates were recognized. There was a motion and second made to seat the delegates and it carried.

The clerk then read the Executive Committee Report. There was a motion made and a second to receive the report and it carried.

The Moderator appointed a Finance Committee for the day. They were: Mrs. Linda Gay; Chairperson, Mrs. Kyra Himioben, and Mrs. Inez Harrell.

The Moderator appointed a Nominating Committee to report at the next meeting. They were: Rev. S.E. Newberry; Chairperson, Rev. Wilbur Harris, and Mr. Ike Davis.

The morning offering was then taken up; Rev. S.E. Newberry and Rev. Chuck Scarborough volunteered as ushers; Rev. Chuck Scarborough led in prayer.

STATE BOARD REPORTS: Christian Education: Rev Randy Jackson gave the report as follows: The senior citizens retreat is just around the corner and will be at Fort Gaines again. The deadline to sign up is October 1, 2019. Mission Board: Rev. S.E. Newberry gave the report as follows: The Tifton mission church is still working on their new building, he reminded us to continue praying for them. We were told that they are on Facebook, and that Josh went to Jr. camp and help there and that they also went to the Nationals this year. We then elected to receive the reports as information. There was a motion made and a second to receive the reports and it carried.

DISTRICT BOARD REPORTS: Mission Board Report: There being no mission report, our moderator asked Sister Debbie Griffin to come and speak with us about her calling to go back to the mission field in Japan. She has been traveling around and visiting churches and speaking with them. She has met about a quarter of her goal, and asked for continued monthly support. If the Lord wants her to return to Japan, He will provide a way. Retirement Board Report: Rev. S.E. Newberry gave the report as follows. **Report:** We the retirement board met and unanimously agreed changes should be made to the retirement program. We agreed on adding a plan for pastors on the National Association Retirement plan to have the option of receiving benefits now. In turn they would forfeit benefits of the present plan. This will not affect the pastors eligible under the present

plan. It would not change. We looked at the projections of implementing this plan to see if it was feasible and workable. And we believe it will work and possibly have great advantages if implemented. We also came up with guidelines and proposals to implement it, if the Body permits. Due to the fact we had no authority to pursue this without Constitutional Changes we agreed to ask the Association's approval before we finalized these plans. **Move:** So, we the Retirement Board make a move to the Association to give us permission and that a committee of Bro. Herbert Waid, Bro. Kirk Lavender, and Bro. S.E. Newberry work on and prepare the needed changes to the Constitution, so the Retirement Board can present it and other recommendations at the Annual Session.

Information and Clarification: This will allow Pastors to use these benefits and possibly multiply them two or three times. It will help in other Free Will Baptist works, while drawing interest for our pastors! Make good use of present funds that are sitting idle! Encourage new pastors in and to our Association and encourage Pastors to plan for retirement. Encourage churches as they see the benefit of our retirement plans. We ask for Bro. Waid and Bro. Kirk, who are not on the board, because of the need to state the wording appropriately and correctly on Constitutional items! We will be asking for a decrease in our percentage of the budget at the Annual Session! We will have the exact facts and figures in our annual report for the Associational approval! **Request: If Pastors who are now on the National retirement plan would let us know, it would help us in preparing our final report!** Youth Board Report: Rev. Randy Jackson reported on Jr. Camp. Jr. Camp was bigger than teen camp this year. Michael McClintock is transitioning to Jr. Camp Director. Even though he did not have a physical number, there were some salvations decision at Jr. Camp. We then elected to receive all the reports at once. There was a motion made and a second to receive the reports and it carried. ***Special Note*:** By receiving the reports, the Association agreed to the formation of the committee to make the constitutional changes for the retirement board.

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

General Fund Balance	\$2,732.91
Quarterly Dues Collected	\$1,080.00
Offering	\$ 240.00
Youth Fund Balance	\$1,348.72
Minister's retirement Balance	\$10,014.17

The offering was designated to go to Debbie Griffin's account. There was a motion and second made and it carried to receive the report.

The moderator then called for any miscellaneous business. The Moderator reminded each Church to give the clerk their physical address so he could put it in the minutes.

The moderator then called for any announcements. Prayer was asked for Rev Eric Mitchell and Sister Mary Mitchell, because she had just had surgery. Midway Church will have homecoming in October.

After all business was completed, we gave a rising vote of thanks to the host church. We then took a short recess for refreshments provided by the host church.

Morning Worship Service

We began our morning worship service with our song leader leading us in the hymn, "We Have Come into His House." Brother Ike Davis then led us in prayer. Rev. S.E. Newberry and Mrs. Sherrill Barge brought the special music, which was titled, "He's Been So Good to Me." After the music, Rev. Randy Jackson brought the morning message. The main text was from John 1. His message was titled "The Balanced Life." There are many churches today that seem to specialize in condemnation, and on the other hand there are churches that specialize in making everyone feel comfortable and leave out the condemnation. The true goal of a church should be a well-balanced church, that is full of grace and truth, just as Jesus is. In our own lives, we want grace, but as we look at others, we

want to extend truth to them without grace. Sinners many times do not see grace in the lives of Christians. We need to have the compassion of grace along with the conviction of truth. We are bound by scripture to tell people they are wrong, by doing it with grace and truth. Bro. Randy then ended his message with a prayer. After the morning message, we were dismissed in prayer.

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

July 25, 2019

The Executive Committee met July 25, 2019 at J Harvey's Restaurant in Moultrie at 6:30 p.m. Those present were: Moderator, Rev. Randy Jackson; Assistant Moderator and Ordaining Board Chairman, Rev. Chuck Scarborough; Clerk, Rev. Kirk Lavender; Assistant Clerk, Rev. Wilbur Harris; Retirement Board Chairman, Rev. S.E. Newberry; Parliamentarian, Mr. Virgil Holloway. Also attending were Mrs. Celia Newberry and Mrs. Kim Lavender.

Mr. Virgil Holloway opened the meeting with a prayer of thanks for the meal.

After the meal, the moderator asked the clerk to read the minutes from the previous meeting.

The moderator then asked for any reports from the board chairmen. Rev. Randy Jackson informed us that Camp went well this year and that it was a bigger youth camp since Homerville also joined the camp this year. Rev. S.E. Newberry said the Tifton Church is still moving forward with their building construction. Rev. S.E. Newberry reported from the retirement board. The retirement board met and agreed that changes should be made to the retirement program. To make these changes there needs to be some constitutional changes made to give the retirement board the authority to do so. The retirement board plans to make a move to the Association to form a committee of Bro. Herbert Waid, Bro. Kirk Lavender, and Bro. S.E. Newberry to work on the needed changes to the constitution.

After the report, we then proceeded to choose our speakers for the upcoming association meeting. We chose Rev. James Sellers for our morning devotion and Rev. Randy Jackson for our morning message. There being no other business, we adjourned and dismissed in prayer.

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

4th Quarter Meeting

November 9, 2019 at the Midway Church

Our meeting opened with the Moderator, Rev. Randy Jackson, giving everyone a warm welcome. The moderator then asked Rev. James Sellers to lead us in a word of prayer. After the prayer our song leader, Rev. S.E. Newberry, lead the congregation in singing, "Victory In Jesus".

Rev. Charles Lasseter brought the morning devotion to us. The scripture he used was from 1 Corinthians 13:1-4. His devotion was about Love. God's Love is greater than we realize, even now it is greater than our understanding. God loved us so much, He gave His son for us, we couldn't love the world enough to sacrifice our own children. We should be a beacon of light and love everyone.

The Digest Report was given by Mrs. Kirsten Kleedehn

Churches Reporting	11
Delegates	20
Deacons	4
Ministers	11
Visitors	<u>10</u>
Total	45

There was a motion and second made to receive the report and it carried.

The moderator then recognized the ministers and deacons as standing delegates. After, that, the churches elected delegates were

recognized. There was a motion and second made to seat the delegates and it carried.

Since Veterans Day would be the following Monday, our moderator took a moment to recognize our veterans, and asked each veteran in attendance to stand and be recognized.

The clerk then read the Executive Committee Report. There was a motion made and a second to receive the report and it carried.

The executive board recommended that the clerk's honorarium be changed from \$50 to \$100 per quarter. The moderator asked for a motion from the Union Association to make the change to the honorarium. There was a move and a second to make the change and it carried.

The Moderator appointed a Finance Committee for the day. They were: Mrs. Martha Rutherford; Chairperson, Mrs. Jan Parker, and Mrs. Mary Mitchell.

The morning offering was then taken up; Rev. S.E. Newberry and Bro. Jason Dees volunteered as ushers; Bro. Jason Dees led in prayer.

STATE BOARD REPORTS: Christian Education: Rev Randy Jackson gave the report as follows: The senior citizens retreat went very well, and there was wonderful fellowship. The attendance ranged from 36 to 100 people. We then elected to receive the report as information. There was a motion made and a second to receive the reports and it carried.

DISTRICT BOARD REPORTS: Mission Board Report: Rev. Stuart Bundy asked the mission board and youth board to meet during the break to discuss our missionary for the next meeting in February. Ordaining Board Report: Rev. Wilbur Harris reported that the ordaining board had reviewed and spoken with Bro. Charles Lasseter and they recommended



reinstating Bro. Charles' ordination with the Union Association. Rev Wilbur Harris made motion to reinstate him and after a second and a vote with all in favor, Bro.Charles Lasseter was given the right hand of fellowship by our moderator. Retirement Board Report: Rev. S.E. Newberry presented the changes made to the constitution by the nominated constitution committee that will give the retirement board the needed power to work on the new retirement plan for its ministers. He also asked for a decrease in the 27% taken from the dues that goes into the retirement fund and change it to 16%. The moderator then asked to table the changes until after the morning break, this would give everyone a chance to look over the changes. Youth Board Report: Mrs. Kirsten Kleedeahn reported that the youth board is getting ready for the walk-a-thon. She asked everyone for support and encouraged everyone to get geared up for the upcoming missions conference. We received the report as information.

After the district board reports, the moderator gave us a short recess.

After the recess, Rev Stuart Bundy announced that Debbie Griffin would be asked to be our guest missionary for our upcoming missions conference in February.

The Finance Committee Report was given by Rev. Kirk Lavender as follows:

General Fund Balance	\$3,513.31
Quarterly Dues Collected	\$1,077.00
Offering	\$ 250.52
Youth Fund Balance	\$1,348.72
Minister's retirement Balance	\$10,305.77

The offering was designated to go to Harvest Free Will Baptist Child Care Ministries. There was a motion and second made and it carried to receive the report.

The Nominating Committee Report was given by Rev. S.E. Newberry. No major changes, everyone was replacing themselves on the boards and committees. There was a motion and second made and it carried to receive the report.

The moderator then asked to elect the slate of nominations from the nominating committee. There was a motion and second made to elect the slate and it carried.

The clerk then read the obituary report for the year of 2019. Those who were called home are as follows: Bill Cody Tate: 2/23/1958 – 12/08/2018, Jewell Lee Shaw: 03/26/1926 – 03/28/2019, Betty Fussell: 02/19/1931 – 01/03/2019, Gladys Green: 10/31/1926 – 03/20/2019, Ronald Lewis: 01/20/1938 – 05/21/2019, Brenda Dawson: 12/01/1946 – 02/02/2019. After the report, the moderator asked for a moment of silence followed by a prayer by our moderator.

The moderator then asked for the constitutional change and the percentage decrease for the ministers' retirement to be removed from the table and to be voted in. There was a move and second to accept the changes and it carried.

The moderator then called for any miscellaneous business. Prayer was asked for Rev. Chuck Scarborough and his daughter.

After all business was completed, we gave a rising vote of thanks to the host church.

Morning Worship Service

We began our morning worship service with our song leader leading us in the hymn, "I Want to Be A Worker." Rev. Randy Jackson and Sandra Jackson sang the special for us which was titled, "When Mercy Called Me by Name." After the music, Rev. Charles Barnard, representative for Harvest Free Will Baptist Childcare Ministries brought

the message to us. His text was from Luke 19:1-10. The title of his message was, "When Jesus Passes By." He gave a wonderful message from the story of Zacchaeus, when Jesus passed by his way. He told us how Jesus sees me, Jesus knows me, Jesus wants me, and Jesus can save me. After the morning message, we were dismissed in prayer. We then had lunch provided by the host church.

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

October 29, 2019

The Executive Committee met October 29, 2019 at J Harvey's Restaurant in Moultrie at 6:30 p.m. Those present were: Moderator, Rev. Randy Jackson; Assistant Moderator and Ordaining Board Chairman, Rev. Chuck Scarborough; Clerk, Rev. Kirk Lavender; Assistant Clerk, Rev. Wilbur Harris; Retirement Board Chairman, Rev. S.E. Newberry; Youth Board Chairperson, Ms. Kirsten Kleedehn; Parliamentarian, Mr. Virgil Holloway. Also attending were Mrs. Celia Newberry, Mrs. Kim Lavender, and Ms. Anna Lavender.

Rev. Wilbur Harris opened the meeting with a prayer of thanks for the meal.

After the meal, the moderator asked the clerk to read the minutes from the previous meeting.

The moderator then asked for any reports from the board chairmen. Rev. Chuck Scarborough reported that the ordaining board has been working with Bro. Charles Lassiter to possibly reinstate his ordination credentials and the ordaining board would be presenting that item of business to the association. Rev. S.E. Newberry reported from the committee that was formed recently to make the needed changes to constitution concerning the retirement board's duties. The changes have been made and the committee will present the changes at the next association meeting to be approved by the Union Association. Rev. S.E.

Newberry also inquired as to how long it has been since the honorarium paid to the clerk has been changed. After some discussion by the executive committee, Rev. Wilbur Harris suggested changing the honorarium from fifty dollars a quarter to one hundred dollars a quarter. Ms. Kirsten Kleedehn made motion and Rev. Randy Jackson made a second to bring the honorarium increase before the association at the next meeting to be approved by the Association. Rev. Randy Jackson reporting for the State C.E. Board informed us that the senior citizens retreat will start on Monday, November 4, 2019 at Fort Gaines. Mrs. Kirsten Kleedehn reported from the youth board. She is getting everything ready for the walk-a-thon which will be held on January 25, 2020.

After the reports, we then proceeded to choose our speakers for the upcoming association meeting. We chose Bro. Charles Lasseter for our morning devotion and Bro. Charles Barnard for our morning message.

There being no other business, we adjourned and dismissed in prayer.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
OF
UNION ASSOCIATION OF THE ORIGINAL
FREE WILL BAPTISTS 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) Place 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.

Section 3

Each church shall send a report, using the form adopted by the Association.

Section 4

Each church shall be requested to pay a minimum fee of \$12.00 per active member, broken down on a quarterly basis of \$3.00 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 board of this Association shall be the following: Mission Board, Ordaining Board, Retirement 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 I – 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 association 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 the 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 1 Timothy 3:1-7.

5. MARRIAGE:

Marriage is a biblical institution established by God as clearly described in the scriptures. The Union Association of Free Will Baptists recognizes that marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime.

Accordingly, this Association, its pastors, staff and members

will not participate in same sex unions or same sex marriages, nor shall its property or resources be used for such purposes.

6. 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.

7. THE AUTHORITY TO ORDAIN:

Free Will Baptists, committed to the doctrine of congregation 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 watch-care 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 – Retirement Board

The Duties of the board shall be:

- A. To provide financial assistance to the ministers of the Union Association, who are enrolled in the National Retirement Program, under the direction of this board.

1. Qualifications of participating Ministers: All ministers participating in the National Retirement Program must be a minister in good standing with the Union Association for a period of at least one year.
 2. This provision is voluntary and any minister participating forfeits future benefits listed in Section 4 Item B.
 3. The board shall annually determine the eligibility and recommend to the association the amount of contribution.
- B. 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.
1. Qualifications of Retired Ministers:
 - i. If having obtained the age of sixty-five (65) years, and
 - ii. If having served a period of five (5) years, which the last three (3) have been with the Union Association and,
 - iii. If he is a member of and in good standing with one of our member churches and the Union Association, and
 - iv. If his church so recommends him, he may be considered.
 2. 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.
 3. 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.
 4. 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.)
 5. 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 presented in writing one conference in advance.

<h2>ASSOCIATION DECORUM</h2>

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. Members wishing to be excused from the session shall request permission from the Moderator.
4. 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. 1 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. 1 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; 2 Corinthians 5:12; Titus 3:5; 1 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; 1 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 bought 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; 1 John 5:10.

7. We believe the whole Scriptures are infallibly true, and that they are the only rules of faith and practices. 2 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 bought 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." 1 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 supported 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 judgment 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.

