

UNION
ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL
BAPTIST
MINUTES
2022

2022
ANNUAL MINUTES
of the
97th SESSION
of the
UNION ASSOCIATION
of
GEORGIA
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Quarterly Sessions met at:

Bay Church, February 12, 2022

Bethlehem Church, May 14, 2022

Cairo Church, August 13, 2022

Greenwood Church, November 12, 2022

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.

2023 ASSOCIATION CALENDER

Midway Church.....February 11, 2023
New Prospect Church.....May 13, 2023
Poulán Church.....August 12, 2023
Springhill Church..... November 11, 2023

UNION ASSOCIATION BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. Randy Jackson, Moderator	2023
Rev. Chuck Scarborough, Assistant Moderator	2023
Rev. Kirk Lavender, Clerk/Treasurer	2023
Rev. Wilbur Harris, Assistant Clerk/Treasurer	2023
Rev. Stuart Bundy, Mission Board Chairman	
Rev. Wilbur Harris, Ordaining Board Chairman	
Rev. S.E. Newberry, Retirement Board Chairman	
Rev. Kirk Lavender, Youth Board Chairman	
Rev. Wilbur Harris, Parliamentarian	2023

MISSION BOARD

Rev. Eric Mitchell	2023
Rev. Wilbur Harris	2024
Rev. Charles Blanton	2025
Rev. Charles McCardle	2026
Rev. Stuart Bundy, Chairman	2027

ORDAINING BOARD

Rev. Wilbur Harris, Chairman	2023
Rev. Chuck Scarborough	2024
Rev. Herbert Waid	2025
Rev. Charles Blanton	2026
Rev. Charles McCardle	2027

RETIREMENT BOARD

Mr. Virgil Holloway	2023
Rev. S.E. Newberry, Chairman	2024
Mr. Ike Davis	2025

Rev. Herbert Waid	2026
Mr. John Himioben	2027

YOUTH BOARD

Rev. Kirk Lavender, Chairman	2023
Mrs. Kirsten Kleedeahn	2024
Mrs. Dorothy Hardin	2025
Rev. Stuart Bundy	2026
Mr. Adam Lavender	2027

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Rev. Wilbur Harris	2023
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SONG LEADERS

Rev. S.E. Newberry	2023
Rev. Wilbur Harris, Assistant	2023

PIANIST

Mrs. Sherrill Barge	2023
Mrs. Sandra Jackson, Assistant	2023

REPRESENTATIVES TO GEORGIA STATE BOARDS

Board of Camping – Rev. Wilbur Harris	2025
Board of Christian Education-Rev. Randy Jackson	2023
Board of Missions – Rev. S.E. Newberry	2025
Board of trustees – Rev. Chuck Scarborough	2023

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 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
737 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	Spring Hill Church
Rev. Stuart Bundy	Bethlehem Church
Rev. Wilbur Harris	Sylvester Church
Rev. Randy Jackson	Midway Church
Rev. Charles Lasseter	
Rev. Kirk Lavender	New Prospect Church
Rev. Charles McCardle	Poulan Church
Rev. Eric Mitchell	Cairo, First Church
Rev. S.E. Newberry	Bay and Greenwood Churches
Rev. Chuck Scarborough	
Rev. Herbert Waid	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
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

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, Sale City, GA 31784
Tim Bundy	497 Old Doerun Rd, Sale 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
229-733-4001
- Mrs. Kirsten Kleedehn 369 Faison Rd, Hartsfield, GA 31756
229-941-2117
- 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 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 2021

Church	Active Members	Sunday School	CTS	WAC	Master's Men	Property Value
Bay	15					758,000
Bethlehem	47	20	20			
Cairo 1 st	41	23				220,000
Fellowship	16	7		4	3	160,000
Greenwood	8					
Midway	108	60	40	14		1,000,000
New Prospect	35	25	20	10		
Poulan	19	23				
Spring Hill	20	5	5	3	3	145,000
Sylvester	10			5	3	
Totals	319	168	85	34	9	2,283,000
2021 Totals	331	183	105	38	10	1,957,000
2021 compared to 2022	-12	-15	-20	-4	-1	

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

1st Quarter Meeting

February 12, 2022 at the Bay Church

Our meeting opened with the congregation singing, "Send the Light", led by our song leader, Rev. S.E. Newberry. Brother Jason Dees then led us in prayer. The Moderator welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Brother Doug Bishop, who then came up to speak during our devotion time.

Brother Doug Bishop, who is a Free Will Baptist Missionary to Japan, began by telling us a story World War II and how it greatly marked a new era for the Japanese people. It opened the door for the missionaries to come in and preach the gospel and minister to Japan. He read the Great commission from Matthew 28. We were informed that the spiritual need is still great among the Japanese people and laborers are very few. Although the work is great, Doug is excited about the New Life team and church and the new members that are joining them to spread the gospel. He ended with a wonderful story of a salvation decision by a gentleman that had been prayed for, and also reading from John 3:16.

The moderator then called for the digest report. The Digest Report was given by Rev. Kirk Lavender

Churches present	9
Delegates	16
Deacons	7
Ministers	9
Visitors	<u>16</u>
Total	48

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. Betty Lewis, and Mr. Patty Davis.

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

STATE BOARD REPORTS: C.E. Board: Rev. Randy Jackson informed us that the retreats were still on the schedule and the couples retreat would be happening real soon. The State Youth competition would be in May. We received the report as information.

DISTRICT BOARD REPORTS: Retirement Board: Mr. John Himioben reported that the retirement board recommended giving the pastors that were in the retirement plan a \$500.00 gift to each of their retirement accounts. The recommendation was made into a move and there was a second and it carried to send the \$500.00 gifts. Youth Board: Rev. Kirk Lavender reported on the funds given through the Miles for Missions and Church gifts for the Missions Conference. Even though the Miles for Mission event was canceled because of weather, the giving was outstanding. There was a total of \$8800.00 given to the Miles for Missions and \$1200.00 given from the church \$100.00 gift donations The

total came out to be \$10,000.00 and the funds were given to the Master's Men Disaster Relief Team. Rev. Randy Jackson also added that Jr. Camp would be at camp Tygart on July 11-14, 2022. The report was received as information.

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

General Fund Balance	\$2,277.48
Quarterly Dues Collected	\$ 967.50
Offering	\$ 664.00
Youth Fund Balance	\$1,359.72
Minister's retirement Balance	\$10,751.42

The offering was designated to help pay the \$500.00 honorarium for our guest speaker, Bro. Ken Akers, and the rest would go into the general fund. There was a motion and second made and it carried to receive the report.

The moderator then called for any miscellaneous business. There was none.

The State meeting will be March 17-18, 2022. The moderator asked for volunteers to act as delegates for the state meeting. Since there were no volunteers, there was a move and second and the body voted to give the moderator the power to be able to appoint a delegate at the time of the meeting.

Mrs. Sandra Jackson announced the WAC retreat would be April 22-23, 2022.

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, "Jesus Saves." We had some special music that was sung for us. First, Mr. Tatum Shivers sang, "Because He Lives," and then Mrs. Joy Shearer sang, "The Father's Love." After the music, our guest speaker, Bro. Ken Akers, director of the NAFWB Master's Men Disaster Relief Team, came up to speak to us. He shared with us his verse that he uses for the disaster relief ministry and it was from Nehemiah 4:6. And just like the people in that day, we need a mind to work we go out to minister. God's calls us all to do something. He showed us a slide show of various times the team went out to minister and work during disasters. As he ended the message, he reminded us to remember Jesus and as we go out not to forget Him as we witness.

After the message, Rev. Kirk Lavender dismissed in prayer and asked the blessing for the wonderful lunch, that was provided by the host church.

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

January 25, 2022

The Executive Committee met January 25, 2022 at Midway Free Will Baptist Church in Moultrie at 7:00 p.m. Those present were: Moderator, Rev. Randy Jackson; Assistant Moderator, Rev. Chuck Scarborough, Clerk and Youth Board Chairman, Rev. Kirk Lavender; Assistant Clerk, Rev. Wilbur Harris; and Ordaining Board Chairman, Rev. Charles McCardle, Mission Board Chairman; Rev. Stuart Bundy, and Retirement Board Chairman; Mr. John Himioben.

Before the meeting, Rev. Randy Jackson provided everyone with a delicious meal.

Rev. Wilbur Harris opened the meeting with prayer.

Our Moderator ask for any reports from our board chairmen.

Rev. Stuart Bundy informed everyone that the mission board had chosen to focus on and send support to the recent tornado victims up around the Kentucky area. The funds raised and donated for the mission's conference would be used for the victims through the Free Will Baptist Masters Men disaster relief program.

Rev. Randy Jackson reminded us of the upcoming retreats, and he also informed us that Jr. Camp would be at Camp Tygart and teen would possibly be held at a camp up around pine mountain.

Rev. Kirk Lavender informed everyone that the Miles for Missions walk a thon would be Saturday, January 29 if the weather permitted. The funds raised for the walk a thon would also be sent to the tornado victims.

We then proceeded to choose our speakers for the next meeting. Brother Randy volunteered to reach out to Bro. Ken Akers, the National Free Will Baptist Master's Men director, and ask him if he would be able to come speak at our upcoming association/mission conference meeting.

There being no other business, we were adjourned.

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

2nd Quarter Meeting

May 14, 2022 at the Bethlehem Church

Our meeting opened with the congregation singing, "Fill My Way with Love", led by our song leader, Rev. S.E. Newberry. Brother Clint Hardin 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, which was Rev. Charles McCardle.

Brother Charles read from the book of 2 Kings. He read about King Hezekiah's trouble and how the odds were not in his favor and that things were not in his control. Just like Hezekiah, America is in trouble, and the solution is for God's people to do just like Hezekiah. He went to God in prayer at the Lord's house. He went there in earnest, knowing that prayer was essential and that is where he left his trouble in God's hands. America's Christian people need to evaluate themselves and get their prayer life right. He ended his devotion in prayer.

The moderator then called for the digest report. The Digest Report was given by Rev. Kirk Lavender

Churches present	10
Delegates	12
Deacons	4
Ministers	8
Visitors	<u>8</u>
Total	34

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

The moderator then recognized the ministers and deacons. There was a motion and second made to seat the delegates and it carried.

The clerk then read the Executive Committee Report. It was received as information

The Moderator appointed a Finance Committee for the day. They were: Mrs. Sandra Jackson; Chairperson, Mrs. Michelle Delgado, and Mr. Martha Rutherford.

The morning offering was then taken up; Rev. Chuck Scarborough and Rev. Stuart Bundy volunteered as ushers and Rev. Chuck Scarborough led in prayer.

STATE BOARD REPORTS: Camping Board: Rev. Wilbur Harris informed us that teen camp will be on July 7-9, 2022 at Forrest Hill in North Georgia and that Jr. Camp will be July 1-6, 2022 at Camp Tigert. There was a motion and second made and it carried to receive the report. C.E. Board: Rev. Randy Jackson informed us that the ministers retreat had good attendance and Dr. Eddie Moody was the guest speaker. Youth competition was held on May 7, 2022 at the Awaken Church. The C.E. Board is also looking into changing the name of the Senior Citizens Retreat. There was a motion and second made and it carried to receive the report. Mission Board: Rev. S.E. Newberry informed us that Dale Bishop resigned from the board. He is retiring and will be moving back home, so the board will need to find a new chairman.

The Finance Committee Report was given by Mrs. Sandra Jackson as follows:

General Fund Balance	\$2,607.43
Quarterly Dues Collected	\$ 965.38
Offering	\$ 253.00
Youth Fund Balance	\$1,359.72
Minister's retirement Balance	\$10,756.22

There was a motion and second made and it carried to receive the report. The offering was designated to go into the youth fund. There was also a motion made to send \$500.00 to Jr. Camp from the youth fund. There was a motion and second made and it carried.

The moderator then called for any miscellaneous business. There will be a ministers prayer meeting at the Bay Church on May 26, 2022 at 7:00 pm. Bethlehem and Spring Hill will have a joint revival on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

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, "I Want to Know More About My Lord." We had some special music that was sung for us. Mrs. Amy Moore and Stuart Bundy sung, "In the Garden." After the music, Rev. S.E. Newberry brought the morning message to us. He read from Matthew 5:13-16. He showed us how the church needs to be a city on a hill, an influence in the world. Cities built on hills cannot be hidden but are seen by everyone that looks at it. Cities are built on hills for reasons, some of which are for safety and to set the standards for all who come to dwell in it. The church and the Free Will Baptists should be no different. We need to be a light to the world, especially when the world is at its darkest. The church should be looked up to because of its influence, its dress, its distinction, and its doctrine. It should be above the worldly standards. All the while, it should use that influence to spread the gospel to reach the lost, making sure that we always are in fellowship with God and each other.

After the message, we were dismissed in prayer and blessing was asked for the wonderful lunch, that was provided by the host church.

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

April 28, 2022

The Executive Committee met April 28, 2022 at Midway Free Will Baptist Church in Moultrie at 7:00 p.m. Those present were: Moderator, Rev. Randy Jackson; Assistant Moderator, Rev. Chuck Scarborough, Clerk and Youth Board Chairman, Rev. Kirk Lavender; and Assistant Clerk, Rev. Wilbur Harris.

Rev. Chuck Scarborough opened the meeting with prayer.

Our Moderator ask for any reports. Rev. Randy Jackson informed us that the youth competition will be on May 7, 2022. He also informed that Teen camp will be at Forest Hill Resort on July 7-9, 2022.

We then proceeded to choose our speakers for the next meeting. We chose Rev. Charles McCardle for our devotion and Rev. S.E Newberry for our main message.

There being no other business, we were adjourned.

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

3rd Quarter Meeting

August 13, 2022 at the Cairo Church

Our meeting opened with the congregation singing, "Praise Him, Praise Him", led by our song leader, Rev. S.E. Newberry. Rev. Charles McCardle then led us in prayer. The moderator welcomed everyone to the meeting, followed by the host pastor, Rev. Eric Mitchell, greeting everyone and giving directions and instructions for the church.

After the welcome, Rev. Eric Mitchell shared the morning devotion with us. Brother Eric's text came from the book of Acts. He shared with us 4 things about Pentecost. The Lord Jesus had to ascend into Heaven, the Holy Spirit had to descend, the Gospel had to go out into the world, and

the saved were brought into the church. Some other thoughts from the devotion were that, God wants us to praise and adore Him, the Holy Spirit came to comfort us. Also, God fearing preachers must preach the Word, and it is even possible for the rocks to cry out unto God if no one else will. After his devotion, Brother Eric brought it to an end with a prayer.

The moderator then called for the digest report. The Digest Report was given by Rev. Kirk Lavender

Churches present	10
Delegates	11
Deacons	3
Ministers	9
Visitors	<u>8</u>
Total	31

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

The moderator then recognized the ministers and deacons. After that, 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 and second made to receive the report and it carried.

The Moderator then proceeded to appoint some committees. He appointed a Finance Committee for the day. They were: Mr. John Himioben; Chairperson, Mr. Robert Adams, and Mrs. Dorothy Hardin. He also appointed a nominating committee to report back at the next meeting, they are as follows: Rev. S.E. Newberry; Chairperson, Rev. Chuck Scarborough, and Rev. Wilbur Harris.

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

STATE BOARD REPORTS: Camping Board: Rev. Wilbur Harris informed us that the next meeting will be in October. C.E. Board: Rev. Randy Jackson informed us that the C.E. Board is looking into changing the name of the Senior Citizens Retreat. He also informed us that the State Youth Competition went well. Mission Board: Rev. S.E. Newberry encouraged everyone to continue to pray for our state mission work. Trustee Board: There was no report, although there was a question asked about some storm damage done to the front porch of the state office some years ago and it was concluded that it has already been repaired. After all discussion was over, we received it all as information.

UNION ASSOCIATION BOARD REPORTS: There were reports at this meeting.

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

General Fund Balance	\$3,071.81
Quarterly Dues Collected	\$ 960.88
Offering	\$ 231.00
Youth Fund Balance	\$1,112.72
Minister's retirement Balance	\$ 9,760.78

The offering was designated to go into 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. Announcements were then called for: The Sylvester Church will have

homecoming in September and the 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.

Morning Worship Service

We began our morning worship service with our song leader leading us in the hymn, "Redeemed." We had some special music that was sung for us. Brother Tony from the Cairo church sung, "This is the Day." Sister Linda from the Cairo church sung, a song that she wrote. After the music, Rev. Chuck Scarborough brought the morning message to us. His text came from Jeramiah chapter 2. The Title, "Comparing Judah to the United States." He began by reminding us that our world has changed so much over the years. As we think of that we have to wonder how long our own nation can stand. Even our own children are exposed to so much more that we were at their age. As we think of all that, and even though we know God is loving and merciful, He is also Holy, just, and righteous, and judgment will surely come soon. As we look at Jeramiah, his days were much like our days. We preach and spread God's word, but many times it looks as if there are no results. Just as it was back then, God blessed Israel, and He has blessed us. The likeness of the signs of the them falling away from God are the same. There is no fear of God, there is none seeking after God, many are rebellious against God. Even though things are this way, we must continue to remember that all hope is not lost. Our hope rests in God. A God that still wants the lost people to come to Him.

After the message, we were dismissed in prayer and the blessing was asked for the wonderful lunch, that was provided by the host church.

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

July 21, 2022

The Executive Committee met July 21, 2022 at Midway Free Will Baptist Church in Moultrie at 7:00 p.m. Those present were: Moderator, Rev. Randy Jackson; Assistant Moderator, Rev. Chuck Scarborough, Clerk and Youth Board Chairman, Rev. Kirk Lavender; and Assistant Clerk, Rev. Wilbur Harris, Ordaining Board Chairman, Rev. Charles McCardle; and Retirement Board Chairman, Mr. John Himioben.

Rev. Charles McCardle opened the meeting with prayer.

Our Moderator asked for any reports. Rev. Randy Jackson and Rev. Wilbur Harris informed us that everyone had a great time at Jr. Camp and there were 2 salvation decisions.

We then proceeded to choose our speakers for the next meeting. We chose Rev. Eric Mitchell for our devotion and Rev. Chuck Scarborough for our main message.

There being no other business, we were adjourned.

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

4th Quarter Meeting

November 12, 2022 at the Greenwood Church

Our meeting opened with the congregation singing, "Standing on the Promises", led by our song leader, Rev. S.E. Newberry. Rev. Charles Lasseter then led us in prayer. The moderator welcomed everyone to the meeting, followed by the host pastor, Rev. S.E. Newberry, giving directions and instructions for the church.

After the welcome, Rev. Randy Jackson informed us that Rev. Herbert Waid could not make it today because he was sick with the covid and that today was also brother Waid birthday. Brother Randy then shared the morning devotion with us. His devotion text came from Psalm 136:1 and his main thought was "Thanksgiving." Unfortunately, we often find ourselves more ungrateful for the things that we have, when we should be thankful and grateful for the things God has blessed us with. We should be thankful for His goodness toward us. May we also remember that we have many reasons to be grateful and let's not base our gratitude on our external circumstances. In everything let us give thanks. He ended by leading us in the song, "He's Been So Good to Me."

The moderator then called for the digest report. The Digest Report was given by Rev. Kirk Lavender

Churches present	10
Delegates	11
Deacons	3
Ministers	9
Visitors	<u>7</u>
Total	30

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

The moderator then recognized the ministers and deacons. After that, 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 and second made to receive the report and it carried.

The Moderator then proceeded to appoint a Finance Committee for the day. They were: Mrs. Sandra Jackson; Chairperson, Mrs. Kathy Allen, and Mrs. Sandra Lasseter.

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

STATE BOARD REPORTS: Camping Board: Rev. Randy Jackson informed us that Jr. Camp would be at Camp Tygart on July 10-13, 2022 with Nick Johnson serving as camp director. We received it as information. C.E. Board: Rev. Randy Jackson reported to us that the C.E. Board is looking into changing the name of the Senior Citizens Retreat. He also reported that the ministers retreat, the minister's wives retreat, and the couples retreat are still on the schedule. We received it as information. Mission Board: Rev. S.E. Newberry reported on the Tifton church. He said there was good news that they were in a way beginning to be self-sufficient, but they are not quite there yet and are not totally on their own yet. There was a move and a second to receive the report and it carried.

The Finance Committee Report was given by Mrs. Sandra Jackson as follows:

General Fund Balance	\$3,532.86
Quarterly Dues Collected	\$ 956.88
Offering	\$ 194.00
Youth Fund Balance	\$1,343.72
Minister's retirement Balance	\$ 9,764.52

The offering was designated to go into the general fund. 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. There were no new nominations for this year and all the present officers would be nominated again. There was a move and second to accept the whole slate and it carried.

The obituary report was read by Rev. Kirk Lavender. They are as follows: Bay Church: Louvenia Faison Kleedehn: December 19, 1933 – November 27, 2021 (charter member of Bay FWB Church since 1950); Janie Gay Parker: July 24, 1940 – March 30, 2022 (charter member of Bay FWB Church since 1950); Cairo Church: Samantha Vickers: March 19, 1966 – June 22, 2022; Midway Church: Bobbie Sloan Carter: June 29, 1939 – December 23, 2021; Steven Randall Spells: March 14, 1955 – March 30, 2022; Virginia Carolyn Gay: January 16, 1951 – March 19, 2022; Roscoe Pery Gay: December 17, 1941 – August 8, 2022. After the report, Rev. Chuck Scarborough prayed while we had a moment of silence in memory of those that have passed on.

The moderator then called for any miscellaneous business. Announcements were then called for: Mrs. Inez Harrell asked everyone to continue to remember Rev. Eric Mitchell in their prayers. The Midway Church will have a revival this upcoming week with Rev. Clint Adams 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 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, "I Know Who Holds Tomorrow." We had some special music that was sung for us. Mrs. Sherrill Barge from the Greenwood church sang, "My Tribute" for us. After the music, Rev. Charles Blanton

brought the morning message to us. His text came from 1 Kings 17:1-7. The Title, "When the Brook Dries Up." Most of the time our attitudes are great when everything is going well, but what about when the brook dries up, how do we react then? Do we still rely upon God to sustain us then to and let our faith take hold even then. It seemed as though Elijah was a victim of his own message, but when the brook dried up God did not forsake him. He will do the same for us, just like He also did for Job, who never turned from God. Just like He did for John the Baptist, even though he was killed for telling the truth, and just like He did for His son, Jesus, when He spent His last moments in the Garden of Gethsemane.

After the message, we were dismissed in prayer.

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

October 25, 2022

The Executive Committee met October 25, 2022 at Midway Free Will Baptist Church in Moultrie at 7:00 p.m. Those present were: Moderator, Rev. Randy Jackson; Assistant Moderator, Rev. Chuck Scarborough, Clerk and Youth Board Chairman, Rev. Kirk Lavender; and Assistant Clerk, Rev. Wilbur Harris.

Rev. Chuck Scarborough opened the meeting with prayer.

Rev. Randy Jackson confirmed with everyone that the upcoming association meeting will be held at the Greenwood Church. The Fellowship will not be able to host this time because the road construction beside the church has taken away most of their parking lot at moment, leaving no parking room for a lot of vehicles.

Our Moderator asked for any reports, there were none

We then proceeded to choose our speakers for the next meeting. We chose Rev. Herbert Waid for our devotion and Rev. Charles Blanton for our main message.

There being no other business, we were adjourned.

**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.

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. 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 diving 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.

