

# MINUTES

OF THE

## 32nd Annual Session

OF THE

## Union Hill Free Will Baptist Association

WHICH CONVENED WITH

## Christian Home Church

Near Hartford, Ala., Friday and Saturday

OCTOBER 24 and 25, 1952



### Presiding Officers

REV. RUFUS HYMAN, Moderator ..... Slocomb Ala.  
REV. J. A. PETTIS, Ass't. Moderator ..... Bonifay, Fla.  
F. W. BOLIN, Clerk ..... Slocomb, Ala.

### Executive Committee

H. F. FARMER, Chairman ..... Rt. 2, Bonifay, Fla.  
F. W. BOLIN ..... Slocomb, Ala.  
EDWARD PETERS ..... Slocomb, Ala.

### Ordaining Council

REV. RUFUS HYMAN ..... Slocomb, Ala.  
REV. J. A. PETTIS ..... Bonifay, Fla.  
REV. R. P. JONES ..... Rt. 4, Graceville, Fla.



Next session will convene with Union Hill Church, near Slocomb, Ala., on Friday, October 23, 1953, with Rev. J. M. Rich to bring the message; and on Saturday, October 24, 1953, with Antioch Church, near Slocomb, Ala., on the Slocomb-Graceville Highway. Remember this is a split session and instead of being with one church it will be held with two churches in 1953 session.

# Proceedings

Proceedings of the 32nd Annual Session of the Union Hill Free Will Baptist Association which convened with Christian Home Church, near Hartford, Ala., October 24, 1952.

## FRIDAY — 10 A. M.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. Rufus Hyman. We had song and prayer service. Prayer by Rev. Lee Mixon. We had another song, "Heavenly Sunlight". Brother Rufus Hyman read a portion of the 24th chapter of Luke. Then Rev. H. L. Roberts offered prayer. After song and prayer we had several testimonies and after the Praise Service Rev. Lee Mixon brought the Introductory Message. The message was greatly enjoyed.

After the message we recessed until 1:30 p.m. for the noon hour.

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The body was called to order by the Moderator. After Song and Prayer, the roll of churches was called and the following churches represented:

Union Hill — Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Bowlin, Bessie Hall, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Farmer, Bessie Hall, Addie Hyman, Lillie Bolin, J. E. Bass, W. A. Morris and wife.

Panther Creek — James Waters, Edward Peters, Willie Mae Waters.

Pine Log — J. W. Mixon, W. S. Sketo.

Antioch Church — Evie Register, Malcom Register, Katie Ruth Register, Alice Peacock, Main Register, Johnnie Simmons.

Christian Home — Mr. and Mrs. Huey Doriety, Johnnie Moon, Fairbee Collins, Vida Doriety. Brothers F. W. Bolin and Alvin Pettis acted as reading clerks. Motion and carried delegates be seated and letters accepted.

Moderator called for correspondence from Sister Associations, and Rev. C. A. Huckaby was present from the Liberty Association of Fla.; from State Line Association of Ala. and Fla., Rev. Lee Mixon and wife; Rev. H. L. Roberts from Midway Association of Ga.; Southern Union, Rev. G. W. Martin; from Salen (Fla.) Association, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Broom.

Next item was election of officers and the following were nominated and elected: For Moderator, Rev. Rufus Hyman; for Assistant, Rev. J. A. Pettis; for Clerk, F. W. Bolin.

The following were appointed, as committees:

Auxiliaries, Delegation from Union Hill Church.

For Temperance, Christian Home Delegates.

On Nomination, Antioch Delegates.

Education, Delegates from Panther Creek.

Finance Committee, Huey Dorriety, Malcom Register, James Waters, Addie Hyman.

Obituaries, Addie Hyman, Mrs. H. L. Farmer, Edward Peters, Vida Dorriety.

Character of Ministers and Standing of Churches, Huey Dorriety, Edward Peters.

Mission Committee, Rev. Rufus Hyman, F. W. Bolin and H. F. Farmer.

Christian Home Church for Divine Service. At this time the committee reported that Rev. J. B. Bloss would bring the afternoon message and Brother G. W. Martin would bring the message at 7:30 P. M.

The Association was recessed till 9:30 Saturday morning.

Rev. J. B. Bloss brought a fine message on "Do Good". At 7:30 P. M. Rev. G. W. Martin brought a fine message on Ruth.

## **SATURDAY MORNING — 10 O'CLOCK**

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, reading from Genesis 24 and commented on a "Bride for Isaac." Prayer by Brother J. W. Mixon.

Renewed call for correspondence and received none.

Appointment of delegates to Sister Association as follows:

To Southern Union, Rev. J. A. Pettis, Liberty Association, Rev. J. A. Pettis, Rev. Rufus Hyman.

State Line, Rev. Rufus Hyman, F. W. Bolin.

Florida State Association — by letter and fee of \$10.00 was paid.

Recessed till 1:30 P. M. The 11 o'clock message was brought by Revs. Ziglor and Talbert. At 12 o'clock hour we had a splendid meal.

## SATURDAY AFTERNOON — 1:30

The house was called back together by the Moderator. After congregational singing we had prayer by Brother F. W. Bolin. Called for report of committees and committee on Education made their report (see report).

Committee on Character of Ministers and Standing of Churches was read and adopted.

Obituary Committee made report and it was accepted.

Finance Committee made report and it was adopted.

Temperance Committee made their report and it was adopted.

Committee on Suggestions made report and it was adopted.

Church roll called again of absent churches with no response.

Miscellaneous business was next entered into and the following was placed on Executive Committee: Bros. H. F. Farmer, chairman; F. W. Bolin Huey Doriety, W. G. Doriety, Edward Peters. The following were elected for Ordaining Council: Revs. J. A. Pettis, Bonifay, Fla.; Rufus Hyman, Slocomb, Ala.; R. P. Jones, Rt. 2, Graceville, Fla. Nominating Committee made report and it was adopted. Moved and carried that Minutes of Union meetings for 1952-53 be placed in Associational Minutes for 1953. It was requested that location of churches be placed in minutes so people attending a Union or Association would know how to get there.

Moved and carried we give a vote of thanks to Christian Home Church and community for kindness shown us while in their midst. Moved to adjourn with Parting Hand.

REV. RUFUS HYMAN, Moderator  
Slocomb, Ala.

F. W. BOLIN, Clerk, Slocomb, Ala.



## DIGEST OF CHURCH REPORTS

### Union Hill Church

Statistics increased by baptism, 1; by letter, none; by restoration, none; lost by death, 1; by letter, 1; communed number of times, 4. Financial report: paid to pastor \$293.46. Paid Bible college, none; To Children's Home, \$146.36. To Cooperative Program, \$389.16.

Rev. Paul Mallory, Pastor  
Mrs. H. F. Farmer, Clerk, Rt. 2,  
Bonifay, Fla.

**Bethel Church, Hartford, Ala.**

Not represented.

**New Concord, Black, Ala.**

Not represented.

**Christian Home Church**

Statistics — by baptism, 1; by letter, none; by restoration, none; dismissed by letter, none; lost by death, none; male members, 19; female, 36; total 55. In S. S., 51. We have had Lord's Supper 1 time. Financial Report — Paid pastor \$127.50. Value of Church Property, \$10,000. For Asso. Expenses \$10.00.

Rev. J. A. Pettis, Pastor

Huey Doriety, Clerk, Hartford, Ala. Rt. 3

**Antioch Church**

Statistics — By baptism, none; male members, 17; female, 25; total, 42; By letter, none; by restoration, none; dismissed by letter, none; lost by death, none. Financial report — Paid Pastor \$155.00; value of church property, \$2000. For Associational Expense \$10.00.

Rev. Trim Finch, Pastor

Mrs. Esther Simmons, Clerk,

Route 3, Graceville, Fla.

The last session of the Register Reunion was adopted by the Anitoch Church to convene as it always has.

**Pine Log Church**

Statistics — Increased by baptism, none; by letter, none; lost by letter, none; by death, 1; number male members, 11; number female members, 14; total, 25. Time of meeting, 3rd Sunday. Financial report — Paid pastor \$60.00; paid to Foreign Missions, none; to orphanage, none; value church property, \$1,000. Associational expense \$5.00.

Rev. A. B. Cook, Pastor

D. A. Mixon, Clerk, Rt. 2, Westville, Fla.

**Panther Creek Church**

Statistics — Increased by baptism, none; by letter, none; lost by death, 1. Membership, males, 8; females, 20; total, 28. Time of meeting, 1st Sunday. Financial report: paid pastor \$50.55. To miscellaneous expense, \$58.00. Value church property \$2000. For Associational expense \$10.00.

Rev. A. B. Cook, Pastor

Bea Lewis, Clerk, Rt. 2, Slocomb, Ala.



## **Report On Suggestions**

We suggest the following:

1. The Association be held at two different churches as we feel that this will help in different ways.

2. That our Moderator conduct a promotional revival in each church in the Association some time in the next year (1952-53) to help stimulate greater interest in our Association.

We recommend the host church take offerings for expenses for same.

We also recommend that our churches conduct three revivals a year, one in the fall, spring and summer. The April revival be in cooperation with National Revival Month. We feel that this will make our churches stronger.

3. We suggest that our Union meeting be held on each Saturday before the 5th Sunday of the month, the host churches to be named by the nominating committee and the names of the ministers to bring the Introductory Message.

By your committee.

F. W. Bolin  
H. F. Farmer  
J. A. Pettis

## **Auxiliary Report**

We ask that each church have a good Sunday School, a prayer meeting, Ladies Auxiliary, and also League for our young people. We know that each church will be stronger that will endeavor to have all the auxiliaries.

Your Committe,  
Delegates Union Hill Church

## **Temperance Report**

We, the Christian Home Church, report the following on temperance. We ask all men to be temeptrate in all things. And to abstain from strong drink. Also to be sober in all walks of life. Solomon said, "Wine is a mocker and strong drink is raging."

Delegates Christian Home Church

## **On Nominations**

We make the following report: That the next session of the Association be a split session. The first day, Friday, Oct. 23, 1953, be with Union Hill Church, near Slocomb, Ala., just off from the Slocomb-Esto Highway, with Rev. John M. Rich

to bring the message at 11 o'clock. The second day, Saturday, Oct. 24, 1953, be held with Antioch Church, near Slocomb, Ala., on the Slocomb-Graceville Highway. The first Union meeting be with Pine Log Church on Highway 81, Nov., 1952, with Rev. J. A. Pettis for the message.

The second Union meeting, March 28, 1953, be with Panther Creek, with Rev. Rufus Hyman for the message. Church near Slocomb, Ala. The third Union meeting be with Christian Home Church near Hartford, Ala., on Black-Hartford Highway, May 30, 1953, with Rev. H. L. Roberts for the message.

The fourth Union meeting be with Union Hill Church, near Slocomb, Ala., on Esto-Slocomb Highway, Nov. 28, 1953, with Rev. C. A. Huckaby for the message.

By your committee, Antioch Church.

#### **Obituary Report**

We, the Committee on Obituary, make the following report: We have lost the following from Union Hill: Brother W. L. Ward, from Pine Log; Brother Columbus Hobbs.

Respectfully,  
Mrs. H. F. Farmer  
Edward Peters  
Vida Dorriety  
Mrs. Rufus Hyman

#### **Report On Education**

We offer the following report. First, that we place good Christian literature in our homes. We recommend family alters as a place for Christian training and spiritual development; that our people take the Free Will Baptist, a weekly paper, subscription price \$2.00 per year, from the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, N. C. Also the Alabama paper which is \$1.00 and also our Bible College paper which is free from the Free Will Baptist Bible College, 3609 Richland Avenue (5) Nashville, Tenn.

Respectfully your Committee,  
Panther Creek Church Delegates

#### **Committee on Standing of Churches and Character of Ministers**

We, your committee, report all our churches in good

standing and the character of our ministers are good as for as we have learned. We find all our churches represented except Bethel and New Concord.

Your Committee,  
H. F. Farmer  
Huey Doriety  
Edward Peters

**Report on Finance**

We, your Committee, report \$45.00 received from the following churches:

Union Hill .....	\$10.00
Antioch .....	10.00
Pine Log .....	5.00
Panther Creek .....	10.00
Christian Home .....	10.00
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Total .....	\$45.00

By your Committee,  
Delegates Union Hill Church

**Ministers Who Registered**

Rufus Hyman .....	Slocumb, Ala.
C. A. Huckaby .....	Chipley, Fla.
B. H. Champion .....	Graceville, Fla.
G. W. Martin .....	Brewton, Ala., Rt. 4
J. A. Pettis .....	Bonifay, Fla., Rt. 4
R. P. Jones .....	Graceville, Fla.
J. B. Bloss ..	311 W. 15th St., Columbia, Tenn.
R. R. Zigler .....	Andalusia, Ala., Rt. 5
L. C. Mixon .....	Black, Ala.
G. L. Tolbert .....	Brewton, Ala.
J. W. Barefoot .....	DeFuniak Springs, Fla.
S. E. Carroll .....	Chipley, Fla.
H. L. Roberts .....	Colquitt, Ga.
W. S. Sketo .....	Westville, Fla.
W. G. Doriety .....	Hartford, Ala.



## **List of Ordained Ministers of the Union Hill Association**

J. A. Pettis ..... Rt. 2, Bonifay, Fla.  
Rufus Hyman ..... Slocomb, Ala.  
W. A. Clark ..... Black, Ala.  
W. S. Sketo ..... Rt. 1, Westville, Fla.  
J. W. Barefoot ..... DeFuniak Springs, Fla.  
R. P. Jones ..... Graceville, Fla., Rt. 4  
S. E. Carroll ..... Wausau, Fla.  
A. J. Carr ..... Marianna, Fla.

### **Licensed Ministers**

W. L. Collins ..... Jacksonville, Fla.  
W. G. Dorriety ..... Hartford, Ala.  
Reece Register ..... Graceville, Fla.  
Zebbie Clark ..... Westville, Fla.



## **ARTICLES OF FAITH**

1. We believe there is just one living and true God whose name is Jehova, the Maker and Ruler of the Universe.
2. We believe there is one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom all things and by whom salvation is made secure.
3. We believe in the beginning God made man unright and placed him in a state of holiness under the laws of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression of his own he fell from that holy and happy state.
4. We believe that no man shall suffer in hell for the lack of Christ.
5. We believe that the Holy Scriptures are the Word of God and that they are the only rule of faith and practice.
6. We believe that sinners are drawn to God the Father by the Holy Ghost through Jesus Christ His Son.
7. We believe that good works are the fruit of faith and faith without works is dead.
8. We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free and may be obtained by all mankind.
9. We believe that commemoration and feet washing are the ordinances of Christ and immersion only is baptism.
10. We believe that all Christians should unite in performing the sacred ordinances.
11. That the end of the world is approaching when Christ will descend from Heaven and raise the dead from the graves to final retribution, that a solemn separation will take place, the righteous being adjudged to everlasting happiness and the wicked to endless punishment and that judgment will fix forever the final state of man in Heaven or Hell on principles of righteousness.

## DECORUM OF THE UNION HILL FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Article 1. The Association shall be composed of delegates and preachers from churches in good standing only and shall be called together by the Moderator of the last session if present. If absent, by his assistant or someone elected by the body.

Article 2. This Association shall be opened and closed by the Moderator who shall officiate until the body is organized and new officers elected by any way Association deems best.

Article 3. The Moderator shall call the body to order and see that order is observed. Submit all motions to the body. He shall have the right of speech as any other member, but must appoint some other brother chairman while speaking. He shall not have any right to vote, unless it be in case of a tie, then he shall cast the deciding vote.

Article 4. The delegates shall be enrolled by a clerk as they are seated in the body and the roll shall be called each morning and all not answering to their names marked absent.

Article 5. That no delegate or minister shall be allowed to absent himself from the body during any session without permission from the Moderator.

Article 6. That each minister shall make a report of how many churches he is serving, if any, and what each church has paid him for his services.

Article 7. That no minister shall be considered in good standing that officiates in the rites of matrimony where either party has been divorced except it be for fornication.

Article 8. That no church be considered in this body that retains a minister or deacon that has more than one living wife or drinks intoxicating beverages.

Article 9. All business shall be disposed of according to good usage. But no move shall be submitted to the body where there is a move before the house unless the first one be withdrawn by the person who made such a move and no person shall be allowed to speak more than ten (10) minutes each time without move and second carried by the body.

Article 10. No person shall be disturbed while speaking so long as he keeps to the point in debate only by the Moderator and then only to call him to order. Only one person shall be allowed to speak at a time and he must rise to his feet and address the Moderator and he must not use abusive language or personal reflection upon anyone.

Article 11. This Association shall have a treasurer and executive committee to be elected annually. And no church shall be considered in this body who shall or have retained a minister that has stepped aside from his obligations in any form (as in 1st Timothy, chapter 3) unless said minister has shown by his actions that he has repented of the former evil.

Article 12. That any minister who will voluntarily step aside must immediately turn his credentials over to the Executive Committee and said Executive Committee shall visit the various churches to see if they are in good standing or not and help them to retain good order.

Article 13. That no church shall retain a minister or deacon who does not rule his own house.

Article 14. That no church shall be recorded in this body who does not commune and wash feet at least one time a year and each church state in its associational letter as to whether this ordinance has been kept or not. And state also how much it has paid and all ministers serving churches shall preach one sermon a year on doctrine and rules of Holy living.

Article 15. Any preacher belonging to this body who sends an appointment of serving churches who fails to meet at the appointed hour shall be due acknowledgement to the congregation or church.

## CHURCH DECORUM

1. The church may choose a pastor annually at the last conference in Association year, or if they prefer, it may choose a pastor for an indefinite length of time to continue from year to year, as long as he may deem it proper to keep up the connection.

2. When it becomes necessary, a pastor may be chosen at any given time, but if the choice be made at a special conference the time must be appointed at a monthly meeting of the church.

3. The pastor shall be moderator of the church, but when the moderator is absent or does not sit, a suitable brother shall be appointed in his place.

4. There shall be two or more deacons in the church whose duty it shall be to superintend the collection and distribution of all contributions made by the church for the pastor, etc., and to distribute the bread and wine in administration of the Lord's Supper.

5. The deacons shall take notice of such members as refuse or neglect to partake of the Lord's Supper and endeavor to ascertain the cause that the same may be laid before the church in conference if necessary.

6. Some suitable member shall be appointed clerk and it shall be his duty to do all the recordings and writing pertaining to the business of the church and to preserve a file of the minutes of Association.

7. When a clerk is appointed, all of the books, minutes, etc., belonging to the clerk, shall be immediately delivered to him by his predecessor.

8. When it becomes necessary, a committee of not less than three male members, well acquainted with business, shall be appointed, whose duty it shall be to give advice to bretheren who apply to them relative to cases of dealing, etc., with the church.

9. The church holds a two days' meeting embracing Saturday and the Lord's Day following, the first of which shall be the regular time of the conference.

10. It shall be the duty of every church member, male or female, to attend each conference meeting, if they can, for on that day the pastor is expected to instruct the church in a certain manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on doctrine, discipline, and the rules of Holy living.

11. Any male member who shall fail to attend three successive conferences and any member who may be generally remiss in attending meetings of the church according to covenant (Article 10), shall be cited to appear in conference and answer for his conduct, but may exempt members from this if necessary.



12. Conferences shall be opened and conducted as follows: (1) Prayer, unless divine service has just been concluded, and generally then. (2) Invite visiting bretheren to seats. (3) Open the door for reception of members. (4) Call of absentees. (5) For acknowledgements. (6) For reference of deferred business. (7) For matters of dealing which are in order to come before the church. (8) For miscellaneous business.

13. Visiting bretheren called in as help from sister churches shall be allowed to vote.

14. Any ordinary member of the Baptist Church who does not hold this church in fellowship may be received into the church without a letter when it is made apparent that his Christian character is unapproachable and that he has applied for a letter and could not obtain it because he desires to join this or some sister church. All other persons must join by letter or baptism.

15. We receive members by experience of baptism; or confession of faith, by letter or restoration.

16. When the moderator calls for absentees the clerk shall inform the church what members have been absent from three successive conferences and the moderator shall appoint some brother or bretheren to cite each of them to the next conference.

17. No member shall be expelled unless he has been cited verbally or in writing to attend his trial provided his residence be known to the church.

18. When a witness, not a member of the church, is introduced he shall not be examined until the question has been put to the church: "Will you hear the testimony of the witness?"

19. The evidence in every case of dealing and acknowledgement shall be recorded in the church book.

20. Members dismissed from the church by letter who become disorderly or continue to hold their letters without good reason shall be cited to conference to answer their conduct.

21. Expelled members shall be restored to membership on their petition if their walk since expulsion has convinced the church that they have seriously repented for their former evil.

22. A vote shall not be taken upon question without a move and a second and on all important questions the vote shall be taken by rising to the feet.

23. No motion shall be made while a move and second is before the conference.

24. It shall be considered disorderly for any member to absent himself from conference when an important question is to be decided but a member, upon request, may be exempted by the chairman from voting on either side in peculiar cases.

25. No member shall leave the house during conference without a sufficient cause, nor engage in conversation or whispering without being subject to be called to order by the moderator.

26. All discussions in conference must be conducted with calmness and good feeling. Those who speak must rise to their feet, and keep to the point in debate.

27. No one shall speak more than three times on the same question without permission from the moderator, nor shall the remarks of anyone be unreasonably long.

28. When the moderator speaks he must designate some brother to act in his stead.

29. No one shall be interrupted while speaking unless it is to call the speaker to order.

30. We believe it to be the duty of the church to commune, wash saints' feet as often as the church sees fit, the expense to be paid by the church.

31. Members not in good standing should not commune, but the administration should not be deferred on account of any ordinary matter of dealing.

32. Public fasting, humiliation and prayer shall be observed on proper occasion.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Introductory.
2. Moderator calls the body to order.
3. Call for corresponding letters and enroll delegates.
4. Appointing Committees on Divine Service.
5. Call for Petitionary Letters.
6. Call for Corresponding Letters from Sister Associations.
7. Call for election of new officers.
8. Appointment of Committees.
9. Appoint Delegates to Sister Associations.
10. Call for Reports of Committees.
11. Miscellaneous Business.
12. Adjournment.



## ASSOCIATIONAL LETTER

(Church Clerks will please fill out this letter and return to the Associational Clerk on or before the next Annual Session.)

We, the ..... Free Will Baptist Church  
of ....., send greetings to the Union Hill  
Association, convening with .....

We are sending to represent us in your honorable body the following, whom we deem worthy of seats .....

We had the Pastoral service of Rev. ....  
for the past year and have called the Rev. ....  
for the ensuing year.

We have communed and washed Saints' feet ..... times this year.

The spiritual condition of our church is .....

We have the following ministers holding membership with us:

We have enrolled in Sunday School..... We have..... Ladies' Aid.

We have a Prayer Meeting .....

We have preaching services on ..... Sunday.

We hand in the statistics of our church as follows:

Members on roll last report..... Received by Baptism.....

By letter..... By Restoration .....

We lost membership as follows: By Death .....

Dismissed.....; Dismissed by letter .....; Expelled.....

We have a membership as follows: Males ....., Females.....,

Total Membership .....

(Over)

## ASSOCIATIONAL LETTER (Continued)

We have paid our pastor \$..... We paid for evangelistic services \$..... We paid to miscellaneous expenses, etc. \$.....

We sent for Foreign Missions \$..... We sent for Ala. F. W. B. Orphanage \$.....; Superannuation \$.....; Cooperative Programs \$.....

\$..... For any expenditures not listed above \$.....

The value of our church property is \$.....

We are sending to this session for the Association purposes the sum of \$.....

This letter ordered in conference this the ..... day of .....

Rev. or Bro. .... Moderator and adopted as read on the .....

Clerk .....

Address .....

(Please attach report of deaths to this letter.)