

Minutes

_____ of the _____

THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION

— of the —

**UNION HILL ASSOCIATION OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

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Slocomb and Fadette, Ala.

OCTOBER 25-26, 1956

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**1957 SESSION WILL BE HELD
OCTOBER 25-26, 1957 NEAR
HARTFORD AND IN
SLOCOMB, ALA.**

Minutes

Of The
THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE UNION HILL ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

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Held with Union Hill Church Near
Slocomb, Alabama, and Antioch
Church near Fadtette, Alabama,
October 25-26, 1956.

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Next Session to be held in Slocomb,
Alabama, On October 25, 1957 and
BETHEL CHURCH NEAR HARTFORD,
ALABAMA, On OCTOBER 26, 1957.

GENERAL OFFICERS OF THE UNION HILL FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION FOR YEAR 1956-57

WILBURN BELL, Moderator Rt. 4, Graceville, Fla.
H. F. FARMER, Vice-Moderator Rt. 2, Bonifay, Fla.
Mrs. Veeda Dorriety Clerk

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

W. A. MORRIS Rt. 1, Slocomb, Ala.
J. S. ENFINGER Rt. 2, Hartford, Ala.
OTT TURNER Rt. 2, Hartford, Ala.

MISSION BOARD

REV. RUFUS HYMAN Rt. 1, Slocomb, Ala.
J. A. SEAY Rt. 2, Hartford, Ala.
F. W. BOLIN Rt. 1, Slocomb, Ala.
J. A. SEAY Rt. 2, Hartford, Ala.

ORDAINING COUNCIL

REV. RUFUS HYMAN Rt. 1, Slocomb, Ala.
REV. J. A. PETTIS Rt. 2, Bonifay, Fla.
REV. R. P. JONES Rt. 1, Slocomb, Ala.

ASSIGNMENT FOR COMMITTEES

—1957 Session—

Christian Education Panther Creek
Finance Bethel
Conduct of Ministers Slocomb
Missions New Concord
Spiritual Conditions of Churches Union Hill
Nominations Christian Home
Auxiliaries Antioch

PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings of the Thirty-Sixth Annual Session of the Union Hill
Association of Free Will Baptists which met with Union Hill Church
Thursday, October 25, 1956 and Antioch Church Friday, October 26, 1956

The body was opened by the Moderator, Rev. Rufus Hyman with the
songs "Jesus Is Coming This Way," and "Nothing But The Blood Of Jesus"
followed by prayer led by Rev. L. C. Mixon.

The opening Devotion was given by the Moderator. At the 11:00 Hour,
the Executive Committee asked Brother Rufus Hyman to bring the Intro-
ductory sermon as the speaker was not present as scheduled. The Scrip-
ture Lesson was taken from Romans 11:1-29 and spoke on the fall of Israel,
the calling of the church, and the final restoration of Israel. At 12:00
O'clock lunch was enjoyed by everyone on the church grounds.

THURSDAY P. M. 2:00 O'CLOCK

The afternoon session was opened with a song "I Will Sing The Wonderful Story" with prayer led by Rev. Rufus Hyman. The Association was called to order by the Moderator and the following churches responded with their letters and delegates as follows:

NEW CONCORD CHURCH, Delegates: Mamie Henderson, Tom Henderson, Comella Marlow.

SLOCOMB CHURCH, Delegates: E. L. Hidle, Mrs. E. L. Hidle, Addie Hyman.

UNION HILL, Delegates: W. A. Morris, Mrs. W. A. Morris, Mrs. Burkett Bolin, Ake Moss, Mrs. Ake Moss, Mrs. E. C. Bolin.

BETHEL CHURCH, Delegates: E. H. Watson, Jeff Bowden, Mose Peterson, Sister Cherry.

CHRISTIAN HOME CHURCH, Delegates: O. L. Turner, Mrs. O. L. Turner, Ferbie Collins, Dalton Moore, Veeda Dorriety, Mrs. J. A. Pettis.

PANTHER CREEK CHURCH, Delegates: Bea Lewis, Grace Enfinger, Viola Peters, Flora Smith.

Moved and carried, the letters were accepted and delegates seated. By motion and duly sustained, we adopted the program for the Association with the privilege of adding or changing if necessary. The Moderator called for correspondence from other Associations and the following responded:

Rev. L. C. Mixon, J. P. Conner from the State Line Association. Moved and sustained, they were seated.

Report of Ministers was called and J. B. Smith gave his report and it was accepted. (See Report).

The following Ministers were present:

J. A. Pettis, Route 3, Bonifay, Florida.

J. B. Smith, P. O. Box 195, Slocomb, Alabama

Rufus Hyman, Slocomb, Alabama.

W. A. Clark, Route 1, Black, Alabama.

R. P. Jones, Route 1, Slocomb, Alabama.

The following Deacons registered with the Association:

Wilburn Bell

E. H. Watson

F. W. Bolin

H. F. Farmer

O. L. Turner

J. S. Enfinger

Dalton Moore

J. A. Seay

W. L. Petersen

Visiting Ministers who registered:

Rev. R. O. Johnson, Freeport, Florida.

Rev. L. C. Mixon, Black, Alabama.

Panther Creek Church gave a report on conduct of Ministers and churches. (See Report). The report was accepted as partial report.

Report on Nominations was read by Bethel Church and moved and

sustained the report be taken up by sections/ First and second section was accepted but section 3 and 4 was tabled and finally defeated. Section 6 was defeated. Moved and sustained we adjourn business until Friday at 9:30 A. M. at Antioch Church.

FRIDAY 9:30 A. M. ANTIOCH CHURCH

Opening Devotional by Rev. R. O. Johnson, Text Acts 10:9.

The Body was called to order and renewed the call for churches and Antioch Church presented their letter and delegates were seated. All Ministers and Deacons who had not registered were asked to register at this time. The following visitors registered: Rev. C. A. Huckaby, from The Liberty Association, Chipley, Florida; Rev. R. O. Johnson, Freeport, Florida; Mrs. C. A. Huckaby, Mrs. Bertie Baxter, Brother J. H. Dykes. All these were seated in our body. Reports of committees were called for. Christian Home reported on Auxiliaries; New Concord on Temperance. These reports were accepted as read. Slocomb Church reported on Christian Education and their report was accepted. Antioch Church reported on Finance and their report was accepted.

Business session was called off until 1:30 P. M. for preaching services.

The 11:00 O'clock hour was conducted by Rev. W. A. Clark, Text, James 4:14. This was an old time gospel message which was enjoyed by everyone. After this fine message, lunch was enjoyed by everyone.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON 1:30 P. M.

This Session was opened by a song "I Would Not Be Denied" led by F. W. Bolin followed by prayer led by Brother L. C. Mixon, Rev. C. A. Huckaby delivered the afternoon devotion from Phil. Chapter 1.

Final report on conduct of Ministers and churches was given from Panther Creek church and accepted. (See Report). Brother Donald Elmore and Brother Bobby Register were excused from the report. They were excused from attending this Association due to being in school. A statement was given in behalf of both young Ministers.

The Executive committee report was taken off the table and it was accepted, but full report is not published in this minute since this had to do with the Decorum and By-Laws. It was voted that the Union Meetings be held each 5th Sunday (See decorum). The following were appointed to visit the various Associations: W. A. Morris, F. W. Bolin, Mrs. Bessie Hall. It was moved and duly sustained the Association be changed from meeting on Thursday and Friday, to Friday and Saturday before the 4th Sunday in October (See Decorum).

It was also carried to limit the number of delegates to 2 for the first 25 members or fraction thereof and 1 delegate for each additional 25 members or fraction thereof. (See Decorum). It was also moved and accepted we have 3 members on the Executive committee (See Decorum). The same Committee was reelected. By Motion and second we elect of-

ficers by rising vote. Wilburn Bell was elected Moderator, H. F. Farmer, Vice Moderator, Mrs. Veeda Dorriety Clerk. The Association adjourned.

Rufus Hyman, Moderator

Mrs. Bessie Hall, Clerk

Slocumb, Alabama

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

REPORT OF AUXILIARIES COMMITTEES

The Auxiliaries of the Free Will Baptist Churches, Sunday School, Free Will Baptist League, Women Auxiliaries, G.T.A., and Y.P.A. Auxiliaries, which we, as Free Will Baptists feel that these are taught by the Bible. We find that all churches have Sunday Schools. Leagues were reported from Union Hill, Panther Creek and Christian Home. No reports on any other Auxiliaries.

By Christian Home Church

TEMPERANCE REPORT

We report on Temperance the following: We ask our Ministers, Deacons, and all members to abstain from strong drink, to be sober in all walks of life. Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging, that we live by the teachings of the Bible and use our influence to help others live a clean Christian life.

by New Concord Church

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

We offer the following on Christian Education: We call your attention to the words of the Apostle Paul, to The Romans 1:13. "Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren." The Apostle Paul stated he would not have the Roman Christian Ignorant. He didn't want them ignorant so that he might have a prosperous journey by the will of God, to preach to them. It was Paul's desire to preach to the Romans. His preaching was always of the instructive and Evangelistic type. In the Old Testament, the parents were commanded to teach their religion to the children when they were eating their meals, when they were walking they were to discuss their religious teachings. It was the last thing that they were to do after they lay down at night with them in bed. And it was the first thing they were to do when they arose in the morning. So then we see that the place the Christian teachings begins in the Christian Home. The next place is in the Sunday Schools where we have Godly teachers to teach the children and young people and the adults, then it continued on through the preaching service where every one learns how to worship God and the way of salvation. We recommend that all our teachers and preachers better prepare themselves to instruct our people the way of the Cross. That parents teach their children the proper behavior in church and how

they are to give attention to the instructions. We also recommend more Bible study, that every home have one or more Bibles with good helps, Good books on Christian education, Family altars, Saying blessings before meals by thanking God, and last but not least, a good language dictionary, that we may learn the Bible meaning of words. We further recommend that our churches give at least one offering per year to our Bible college.

By Slocomb Church

FINANCE COMMITTEE

We, the Finance Committee report the following:

Antioch Church.....	13.00	Panther Creek Church.....	10.00
Union Hill Church.....	15.00	Slocomb Church.....	7.50
Bethel Church.....	10.00	Christian Home.....	7.00
New Concord Church.....	10.00		

Total\$72.50

by Antioch Church

MINISTERS REPORT

Rufus Hyman Reports:

1 Church Organized, Slocomb Church which he pastored this year. Preached 100 sermons, held 2 funerals, conducted 3 revivals, participated in 3 revivals. Money received, \$300.00.

J. B. Smith reported:

Served Panther Creek Church full time. Preached 129 sermons, conducted 3 revivals, participated in 5 revivals, baptised 4, preached 8 funerals, jointed 3 ccuples in marriage, received \$378.19 for services. Called to pastor Union Hill 1957.

J. A. Pettis reported:

Serving Beulah and Christian Home churches. Received \$100.00 for services. Due to bad health, this has limited my services.

W. A. Clark reported:

Served New Concord church, held 1 revival. Received \$60.00 for services. Called back to pastor New Concord Church.

R. P. Jones reported:

Served as Assistant Moderator of one church this year. Number baptised 1, Number sermons 13, Money received \$68.00. Ill health has limited my services.

The following Ministers did not report to Association (See Decorum, Article No. 4) Each Minister must make a report. If no report, he is not in good standing.

G. W. Dorriety

W. A. Newman

J. A. Moon

Zebe Clark

By Panther Creek, J. B. Smith, Pastor

MISSION BOARD REPORT

We report the following: We have held 1 Mission conference and organized the Slocomb Church. We recommend that each church send offerings to both Home and Foreign Missions. Let us help carry the gospel to the lost world. We hope to begin another Mission this year in one of the towns in our area. In order to do this, we must have more cooperation and support than we have had so far. We plan another Mission Conference. Time and place to be announced. We request each Minister to preach at least one sermon during the year on Missions.

By The Mission Board

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

We nominate Slocomb and Bethel Churches for Association in 1957.

By Bethel Church

DECORUM OF THE UNION HILL FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Article 1. The name of this body shall be The Union Hill Free Will Baptist Association.

Article 2. Officers. The officers of this body shall be a Moderator, Vice Moderator, Clerk, Asst. Clerk, Treasurer, Executive Committee, Ordaining Council, Mission Board, and any other officers as the needs may arise. Election of Officers: The election of officers shall be annually on the last day of the Association, and the Association shall elect officers anyway deemed best. Duties of officers: The Moderator. The Moderator shall preside over all business sessions of the Association and help make plans for the welfare of the Association. Vice Moderator. The Vice-Moderator shall assist the Moderator and preside when the Moderator is absent from the church. Clerk. The clerk shall keep a record of all business of the Association. Prepare manuscript for minutes, and do all correspondence for the Association. Asst. Clerk. The Assistant Clerk shall assist the clerk in his absence from the chair. The Treasurer. The Treasurer shall receive and hold all funds of the Association, pay all bills, and present statement when called upon. The Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have authority to do all acts for and in the name of the Association when the Association is not in session. Ordaining Council. The Ordaining Council shall examine all applicants for ordination to the Ministry, to ordain and issue all credentials, revoke said ordination whenever a Minister becomes disorderly or refuses to repent and become in order with this body. The Mission Board. The Mission Board shall work to create interest in missions, to open mission points, and to establish new churches in the bounds of this body.

Article 3. That no delegate or minister shall be allowed to absent himself from the body during any session without permission from the Moderator.

Article 4. 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 5. 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 6. That no church be considered in this body that retains minister or deacon that has more than one living wife or drinks intoxicating beverages, or fail to pay their just and honest debts, or fail to make satisfaction.

Article 7. 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 8. No person shall be disturbed while speaking so long as he keeps to the point in debate, then only by the Moderator and only to call him in 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 9. This Association shall have a treasurer and executive committee to be elected annually. And no church shall be considered in this body who shall 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 10. 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 11. That no church shall retain a minister or deacon who does not rule his own house.

Article 12. 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 13. 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 they 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 recording 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 brethren 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 brethren to seats. (3) Open the door for reception of members. (4) Call 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 brethren 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 above reproach and that he has applied for 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 brethren 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 this 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 the 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 ordinance ordinary matter of dealing.

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

ARTICLES OF FAITH UNION HILL FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

1. We believe there is just one living and true God whose name is Jehovah, 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, upright 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 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 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.

12. We believe it is possible for a Christian to make shipwreck of his faith after being saved become lost again. This is possible but not probable; therefore, we should watch and pray to make our calling and election sure.

NAME OF CHURCH	PASTOR AND ADDRESS	CLERK AND ADDRESS	Membership 1955	Increased by Baptism	Increased by Letter	Total Increase	Loss by Letter	Loss by Death	Total Loss	Male Membership	Female Membership	Total Membership	Paid Pastor	Paid Evangelist	Paid to Association Expense	Paid Other Causes Such as Orphanage etc.	Value Church Property	Sunday School Membership	League Membership	Preaching Days
Antioch	A. B. Cook Bonifay, Fla.	Mrs. Malcom Register Graceville, Fla.	62	1	1	2		1	1	23	38	61	\$ 60.00		\$13.00		\$ 3000	21		1-3
Bethel	Trim Finch Chipley, Fla.	Gladys Byrd Hartford, Ala.	75				1		1			40	150.00		10.00		2000	25	25	1
Christian Home	J. A. Pettis Bonifay, Fla.	Mrs. Ree Turner Hartford, Ala.	65							20	41	61	160.00	\$35.00	7.00	\$5.00	3000	50	50	2-4
Panther Creek	J. B. Smith Slocumb, Ala.	Mrs. Bea Lewis, Rt. 2 Newton, Ala.	81	5		5		1		40	50	90	378.29	231.29	10.00		8000	97	90	F.T.
Union Hill	Trim Finch Chipley, Fla.	Mrs. H. F. Farmer Rt. 2, Bonifay, Fla.	197				10	5	15	24	34	58	299.83	75.00	15.00		4000	88		2-4
New Concord	W. A. Clark Black, Ala.	Gertrude Clark Black, Ala.	34							13	23	36	60.00		10.00			25		
Slocumb	Rufus Hyman Slocumb, Ala.	Mrs. Grover Boutwell Slocumb, Ala.	10							4	6	10	300.00	130.00	7.50		10000	18		F.T.
Pine Log	No Report																			
TOTALS			594	6	1	7	11	7	17					271.29	72.50	\$5.00	\$31000	236	65	