

# *Minutes*

— of the —  
**THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION**  
— of the —  
**UNION HILL ASSOCIATION OF  
FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

***Slocomb And Bethel, Ala.***

**OCTOBER 25-26, 1957**

**1958 SESSION WILL BE HELD  
OCTOBER 24-25, 1958 NEAR  
HARTFORD, CHRISTIAN HOME  
PANTHER CREEK, NEAR  
WICKSBURG, ALA.**

120  
160  
140  
420  
41

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# GENERAL OFFICERS OF THE UNION HILL FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION FOR YEAR 1957-58

WILBURN BELL, Moderator ..... Rt. 4, Graceville, Fla.  
BOBBY GENE REGISTER, Vice-Moderator ..... Rt. 1, Graceville, Fla.  
RUFUS HYMAN, Clerk ..... Slocomb, Ala.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OTT TURNER ..... Black, Ala.  
HUEY DORRIETY ..... Hartford, Ala., Rt. 2  
J. A. SEAY ..... Slocomb, Ala.

## ORDAINING COUNCIL

REV. RUFUS HYMAN ..... Rt. 1, Slocomb, Ala.  
REV. BOBBY GENE REGISTER ..... Rt. 1, Graceville, Fla.  
REV. J. B. SMITH ..... Slocomb, Ala., P. O. Box 195

## ASSIGNMENT FOR COMMITTEES

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

## PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings of the Thirty-Seventh Annual Session of the Union Hill  
Association of Free Will Baptists which met with Slocomb Church  
Friday, October 25th, and Bethel Church Sat. Oct. 26th, 1957.

### FRIDAY MORNING

The body was opened by the Moderator, Bro. Wilburn Bell, with a song "Bringing in the Sheaves", followed by a prayer with Bro. Cook; A message by the Moderator Bro. Bell on Love and Unity in the Church, a song, "Stand Up For Jesus."

Devotion was given by Bro. Bobby Register. Sang three songs and the Rev. Bill George brought the introductory sermon. The Scripture Lesson was taken from St. Mark 14:32. 12 o'clock lunch was enjoyed by everyone on the Church grounds.

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The afternoon session was opened with a song, "Showers of Blessings"; prayer by Bro. Mose Peterson. The Association was called to order by



the Moderator and the following Churches responded with their letters and delegates as follows:

CHRISTIAN HOME CHURCH, Delegates: O. L. Turner, Vida Dorriety and Veeda Dorriety.

BETHEL CHURCH, Delegates: Bro. Mose Peterson, Bro. Homer Watson, Sister Gladys Byrd and Sister Myra Hatcher.

ANTIOCH CHURCH, Delegates: Bro. Bobby Gene Register, Sister Lega Rutledge.

SLOCOMB CHURCH, Delegates: Bro. James Boutwell and Sister E. L. Hidle.

PANTHER CREEK, Delegates: Sister Hetty Skinner, and Bro. J. A. Seay.

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. Trim Finch from Salem:.

Reports of Ministers was called for and the following gave reports:

J. B. Smith, Slocomb, Ala., P. O. Box 195, gave the following: I have served Union Hill on 2nd and 4th Sundays. I served Panther Creek as supply pastor for 3 months and Slocomb Church on 1st and 3rd Sundays for approximately 4 months. I have Baptised 29 members. Have received 32 members. Joined 3 couples in marriage. Preached 17 Funerals. Conducted 3 revivals and participated in 5 revivals. I have preached 143 sermons, 7 sermons on stewardship, 2 on Doctrine. I have conducted 5 communion services. Organized a church choir and helped in Sunday School and League. I have received \$981.14 for services.

Rev. W. G. Dorriety, Hartford, Ala. I have one church on 4th Sunday. Conducted 2 revivals, preached 46 sermons, and received \$149.30.

Rev. Rufus Hyman, Slocomb, Ala. I have served one Church each Sunday since the first of July 1957, at Tallahassee, Fla. I was used to perfect the organization of another Free Will Baptist Church in March, 1957, at Freeport, Fla. with 17 charter members. This makes the 5th church I have associated in setting up in the area. I consider this one of the best new works yet. Have preached approximately 100 sermons, and conducted 2 revivals and visited and associated with several other churches in their meetings. Number of members received into church 20. I have received \$150.00 for services.

Rev. Bobby Gene Register, Graceville, Fla. I have preached 51 sermons. Started full time at Panther Creek 1st Sunday in June. No revivals. No funerals. Received \$50.08.

Song Amazing Grace. And dismissed by Rev. Cook.



## SATURDAY MORNING

Opened with a song, "There Is A Fountain". Prayer by Rev. Bobby Gene Register. Song, "When We All Get To Heaven." Devotional sermon by Rev. Cook, from St. John 19:1-29. A free will offering was taken up to help with the expense of the Association. A wonderful sermon was brought by the Rev. Trim Finch. Romans 12. Bro. Warren Clark asked for a letter releasing New Concord Church from the Union Hill Association, and the letter was granted to him.

Delegates were appointed to look after the general welfare of each church, to send offerings to our orphanages. Rev. J. B. Smith of Slocomb, Ala., is chairman of this county. Bethel Church, Gladys Byrd, Hartford, Ala.; Christian Home, O. L. Turner, Black, Ala.; Mrs. J. B. Smith, Slocomb, Ala.; Union Hill, Myrtle Bolin, Slocomb, Ala.; Antioch, Bobby Register, Graceville, Fla.; Panther Creek, Hetty Skinner, Slocomb, Ala. Each church turned into the association a list of all the ministers and Deacons. Reminder, each minister and deacon is a standing delegate.

Appointed delegates to the various associations, to the state association, Rev. Rufus Hyman and Bro. Mose Peterson, also to the Liberty. State Line, Bro. Bobby Gene Register to the Salem, Mose Peterson, Bucket Bolin, Billy Hatcher, Trim Finch, E. A. Watson, Rufus Hyman.

Report on Finance by Bethel Church, see Report. Dismissed for Lunch by Rufus Hyman.

Bethel Church .....	\$10.00
Slocomb F. W. Baptist Church .....	7.50
Christian Home Church .....	10.00
Antioch Church .....	10.30
Union Hill Church Members .....	5.00
Panther Creek Church .....	10.00
Free Will Offering .....	10.00

Report from visiting Associations: Bro. Cook from Liberty; Rev. Trim Finch from Salem. An offering is to be taken up on the first day of each Association day.

We want to thank Bethel and Slocomb Churches for a good lunch and the kind hospitality shown us during the Association meeting on October 25th and 26th.

## SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Opened with a song, "I'm Going That Way". Prayer by Moderator, Bro. Bell.

Mission Board: Rufus Hyman, J. A. Seay, Billy Hatcher.

### REPORT OF SLOCOMB F. W. B. CHURCH

We send as delegates to represent us in the Annual session of the



Union Hill Free Will Baptist Association when assembled the following: James Boutwell, Mrs. E. L. Hidle.

On roll at last session 10 members. Received by letter 3. We send for Association fee—\$7.50. Male members 6, female members 7, total membership 13. Paid pastor \$100.00, paid to visiting ministers \$83.00, paid for lights \$9.00, paid for literature \$18.00, other payments, building, etc. \$600.00.

Ministers holding membership with us, Rufus Hyman and J. B. Smith, Slocomb, Alabama.

Done by order of conference on October 20, 1957.

REV. J. B. SMITH, Pastor

MRS. RUFESTA BOUTWELL, Clerk

Slocomb, Alabama

#### REPORT FROM CHRISTIAN HOME CHURCH

We the Christian Home Free Will Baptist Church of Christ send greetings to the delegates and messengers of the Union Hill Association which convenes with Slocomb and Bethel Church on Friday and Saturday before the 4th Sunday in October, 1957. We are sending the following delegates to represent us in your honorable body: Mrs. W. G. Dorriety, Mrs. Huey Dorriety, Mr. O. L. Turner.

We have had the pastoral service of the Rev. Lee Mixon and have called Rev. Mixon for the coming year. We have communed and washed feet one time this year. We have the following ministers holding membership with us: Rev. Zebe Clark, Rev. W. G. Dorriety, Hartford, Ala.; Rev. J. A. Pettis, Bonifay, Fla.; Rev. Johnnie Moon, Hartford, Ala. We have enrolled in Sunday School, 18. Preaching Service every Second Sunday and Saturday night before. The spiritual condition of our church is fair. We have lost one member, Bro. Dalton Moore. We have on roll 59 members. We have paid our Pastors \$208.73. We are sending for minutes \$10.00. We value our church property at \$3,000.00. This letter ordered in conference October 12, 1957.

REV. LEE MIXON, Moderator

VEEDA DORRIETY, Church Clerk.

#### REPORT FROM ANTIOCH CHURCH

We the members of Antioch Free Will Baptist Church send greetings to the Union Hill Association these days of October 25-26, 1957.

We send as delegates: Bro. W. A. Lewis, Sister Lela Rutledge, Sister Louise Bell, and Sister Erie Register, which we deem worthy of seats. We send the sum of \$10.30 for Association expense. We have had Rev. Hubert Henderson as pastor for the past year. We have paid our pastor the sum of \$185.77. We have paid the sum of \$31.32 for Evangelist work. We have 28 male members and 38 female members, total members 66.



Received by letter 5, dismissed by letter 1.

We have communed and washed saints feet one time this year. We have two ordained Ministers: Rev. Bobby Gene Register, Graceville, Fla., Rt. 2, and Rev. R. P. Jones, Slocomb, Ala., Rt. 1.

REV. HUBERT HENDERSON, Moderator  
Niceville, Florida

MRS. MALCOLM REGISTER, Church Clerk  
Graceville, Fla., Rt. 2.

#### REPORT FROM PANTHER CREEK CHURCH

We, the United Free Will Baptist Church of Panther Creek, send greetings to the Union Hill Association convening with Slocomb and Bethel Churches October 25-26, 1957.

We have been on half time this past year with Rev. Hubert Henderson, Rev. J. B. Smith and Rev. Bobby Register as pastors. We have called Rev. Trim Finch to serve us for the coming year on 2nd and 4th Sundays.

We have a total membership of 97. We have lost 7 by letter and none by death or other reasons. Male members 40, female members 57.

We are sending to represent us in your body whom we deem worthy, the following: H. M. Skinner, Mancel Myers, Viola Peters, Vernell Hartzog, Robert Smith.

Our church property is valued at \$8,000.00. Paid to Pastor \$201.70, Paid to Evangelistic \$96.67, paid to other causes, 10.00 to Association.

Respectfully submitted,

PANTHER CREEK CHURCH

By Nellie Smith, Asst. Clerk

#### REPORT FFROM CHRISTIAN HOME CHURCH

We of Christian Home Church suggest that the Association go to Christian Home on Friday and to Panther Creek on Saturday, and we suggest that Bro. O. L. Turner, Bro. Huey Dorriety, Bro. J. A. Seay be the Executive Committee, and Rev. Rufus Hyman, Bro. J. B. Smith and Bro. Bobby Register be the Ordaining Council.

We would like very much for Bro. Wilburn Bell to continue to be Moderator and Bro. Rufus Hyman assistant clerk for the next year.

We suggest that each Church call for the Union meeting on the fifth Sunday that is most convenient for the Assistant Moderator, Bro. Bobby Gene Register.

#### REPORT FROM BETHEL CHURCH

We the Free Will Baptist Church at Bethel send greetings and delegates to represent us in your honorable body. Bro. Mose Peterson, Bro. Homer Watson, Sister Myra Hatcher and Sister Gladys Byrd whom we feel is worthy to aid and assist in any business that should come before



the Association. We also sent \$10.00 for association purposes. We have had the pastoral care of Rev. Trim Finch whom we feel is a worthy minister and we have called him for the next ensuing year. We have communed and washed feet once this year. The Statistics of our church are as follows: By Baptism none, by confession of faith 2, by letter none, by letter of dismission none, by death 1. We have paid our pastor approximately \$250.00. We value our church property at \$2,000.00. And also we have a good Sunday School and have on roll 25. Our regular meeting time is every 1st and 3rd Sunday and Sunday night. This read and adopted while in Conference.

REV. TRIM FINCH, Moderator  
GLADYS BYRD, Church Clerk

#### REPORT ON CONDUCT OF MINISTERS

We find all our ministers in good moral standing as far as we know. The following ministers have made their reports as called for by our Decorum: Rufus Hyman, J. B. Smith, Bobby Gene Register, W. G. Dorriety, Brothers R. P. Jones and J. A. Pettis made no report, they are excused due to their health. No report from Johnnie Moon, W. A. Clark, Zebe Clark.

Respectfully submitted,  
By SLOCOMB CHURCH

#### REPORT FROM MISSION BOARD

We have nothing to report as far as the establishing of new churches in our Associations.

We request our ministers to preach at least one sermon on Missions during the year, and that our churches give to both Home and Foreign Missions and prayers be offered for all Missionaries, Ministers and rules, so souls will be saved and the nations of the earth can have good orderly government.

Respectfully offered by  
THE MISSION BOARD

#### DECORUM OF THE UNION 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. It was 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. 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.

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

9. 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.

10. 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.

11. 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.

12. 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.

13. 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 acknowledgments. (6) For reference of deferred business. (7) For matters of dealing which are in order to come before the church. (8) For miscellaneous business.

14. Visiting brethren called in as help from sister churches shall be allowed to vote.

15. 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.

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

17. 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.

18. 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.

19. 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?"

20. The evidence in every case of dealing and acknowledgment shall be recorded in the church book.

21. 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.

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

23. 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.

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

25. 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.

26. 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.

27. 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.

28. 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.

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

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

31. 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.

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

33. 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 for 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.



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