

MINUTES
OF THE
EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING OF

Union Association
of the
Free Will Baptists

OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA



AUGUST 19, 1961

When Convened With
THE ENID CHURCH
Garfield County

Officers

Moderator	-----	Clarence Shepherd
Assistant Moderator	-----	Raymond Allen
Clerk	-----	Pauline Shepherd
Assistant Clerk	-----	Fern Shepherd
Treasurer	-----	Carroll Crispin
Reporter	-----	Fern Crispin

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Saturday Morning — 10:00 O'clock

1. Devotional
2. Reading of the minutes of last association
3. Call for Church letters
4. Invitation to any & all visiting brethren to be in our council
5. Appointment of Pulpit Committee
6. Miscellaneous business
7. Adjournment
8. Short recess
9. Introductory sermon

Saturday Afternoon

1. Devotional Service
2. Reading of minutes of morning session
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Minister's Report
5. Unfinished business
6. Selection of place where the next association will be held
7. Extending a vote of thanks
8. Election of Officers

MORNING SESSION

The Union Association of Free Will Baptists met in regular session at the Enid Church on August 19, 1961. Opened by singing led by Rev. Clyde Hamar.

Rev. Raymond Allen brought the morning devotional.

Minutes of the last quarterly Meeting were read and accepted. Church letters were called for and the following responded: Weatherford, Prairie Bell, Enid, Clinton, Guymon, Pleasant Valley, Webb, Sayre, German Church. Church letters were read and a motion made and seconded that we accept the letters as read and seat the delegates. Right hand of fellowship was extended to the delegates.

Invitation was extended to all visiting brethren to say anything that might benefit the association.

Bro. Barney Brown, Sister Fern Crispin and Sister Velda Langley were selected to serve on the pulpit committee.

Antioch Church letter was read and accepted.

Report of the pulpit committee was given. Rev. Ernest

Kennedy and Rev. Dan Parker were selected to bring the eleven o'clock messages.

Dismissed in prayer by Chester Hicks.

The morning worship opened by singing the song "Just What I Need Most."

Rev. Clyde Hamar led in a word of prayer.

Rev. Parker and Rev. Kennedy delivered the 11 o'clock messages.

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. Raymond Allen.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The afternoon session opened by singing led by Rev. Clyde Hamar. Rev. Elmo Smith led in a word of prayer.

Minutes of the morning session were read and accepted.

Rev. Parker gave a talk concerning the Okla. Bible College.

Rev. Kennedy, our State Executive Secretary, gave a report of the State work.

Report of the credentials committee was given. Motion made and seconded that we receive the resolution of the credentials committee, that the Minister's course preceeding recommendation of ordination be as follows: Oral examination and possession of: 1. Holy Bible. 2. Treatise. 3. Ministers Manual, by Griffit. 4. Ministerial Ethics. 5. So You Want to Preach by DeWalt.

Present to committee outline of 30 sermons preached in the last year.

Motion made and seconded that the deacons of Union Association upon being examined by the credentials committee should have in their possession: 1. Holy Bible, 2. Treatise, 3. Baptist deacon by Maylor. Deacons must give outline of service which has been led in the local church.

Motion made and seconded that we reaffirm our acceptance of the National treatise.

Motion made and seconded that the moderator of Union Association serve as the general board member in our State meetings each year.

Constitution committee gave their report concerning the changes of our constitution and by-laws, all changes were accepted.

Motion made and seconded that we give the constitution

committee a rising vote of thanks.

Motion made and seconded that the minister's oral report not be given.

Motion made and seconded that a committee be appointed to make a study to revise and amend the minutes. Rev. Clifford Schimmels, Pauline Shepherd and Rev. Hamar were placed on this committee.

The credentials report was given recommending Oran Loudermilk for license to preach. Motion made and seconded that we accept this report.

Treasurers report was read and accepted.

Motion made and seconded that each church pay \$5.00 for their State delegate and send this money to the clerk.

Bro. Audie Rice was elected for the 5 year member on the Executive Board.

Rev. Clyde Hamar was elected for the 5 year member on the Resolutions Board.

Bro. Oran Loudermilk was elected to serve on the Home Mission Board.

Rev. Earl Guinn was elected for the 5 year member on the credentials board.

Rev. Melvin Batson was elected to serve as the 4 year member on the credentials board.

Moved and seconded that the next Quarterly meeting be held at Weatherford the first Saturday in November, the following Quarterly meeting at Clinton the first Saturday in February, and the next Quarterly meeting at Pleasant Valley the first Saturday in May.

The Yearly Association will be held at Sayre church on Saturday before the third Sunday in August.

Election of officers are as follows:

Fern Crispin was retained as reporter.

Carroll Crispin was retained as treasurer.

Fern Shepherd was retained as assistant clerk.

Pauline Shepherd was retained as clerk.

Raymond Allen was retained as assistant moderator.

Clarence Shepherd was retained as moderator.

Motion made and seconded that we extend the Enid church a vote of thanks for their hospitality.

Motion made and seconded that we adjourn.

Dismissed in prayer by Ed Klein.

OFFICERS

Moderator	Clarence Shepherd, Clinton, Okla.
Assistant Moderator	Raymond Allen, Sayre, Okla.
Clerk	Pauline Shepherd, Clinton, Okla.
Assistant Clerk	Fern Shepherd, Arapaho, Okla.
Treasurer	Carroll Crispin, Putnam, Okla.
Reporter	Fern Crispin, Putnam, Okla.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Audie Rice, 5 year	Guymon, Okla.
Paul Epperly, 4 year	Webb
Roy Shepherd, 3 year	Arapaho, Okla.
Homer May, 2 year	Clinton, Okla.
Clarence Shepherd, 1 year	Clinton, Okla.

RESOLUTION BOARD

Clyde Hamar, 5 year	Weatherford, Okla.
Jasper Burnell, 4 year	Elk City, Okla.
Clifford Schimmels, 3 year	Clinton, Okla.
Melvin Batson, 2 year	Webb
Raymond Allen, 1 year	Sayre, Okla.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. Clifford Schimmels	Clinton, Okla.
Rev. Earl Gwinn	Clinton, Okla.
Rev. Raymond Allen	Sayre, Okla.
Rev. Clarence Shepherd	Clinton, Okla.
Rev. Ross Hamar	Arapaho, Okla.
Rev. Johnny Jones	Putnam, Okla.
Rev. Paul Bowser	Weatherford, Okla.
Rev. Joe Payne	Enid, Okla.
Rev. Elmo Smith	Elk City, Okla.
Rev. J. B. Fletcher	Guymon, Okla.

CREDENTIAL BOARD

Earl Gwinn, 5 year	Clinton, Okla.
Melvin Batson, 4 year	Camargo, Okla.
Eddie Klein, 3 year	Butler, Okla.
Raymond Allen, 2 year	Sayre, Okla.
Clarence Shepherd, 1 year	Clinton, Okla.

HOME MISSION BOARD

Oran Loudermilk, 3 year -----	Enid, Okla.
Josper Burnell, 2 year -----	Elk City, Okla.
Kenneth Hawkins, 1 year -----	Clinton, Okla.

MINISTERIAL REPORT

Rev. Joe Payne

Miles traveled -----	10,000
Sermons delivered -----	85
Weddings -----	5
Money received -----	\$1,492.00

Rev. Raymond Allen

Sermons preached -----	175
Miles traveled -----	6,500
Money received -----	\$1,600.00
Revivals -----	1
Conversions -----	7
Quarterly Conferences attended -----	4
Funerals -----	5
Money received from Clinton -----	\$125.00

Rev. Melvin Batson

Sermons delivered -----	90
Funerals -----	1
Baccalaureate -----	1
Money received -----	\$2,265.00
Quarterly Conferences attended -----	3
Ministers Conferences attended -----	2
Miles traveled -----	14,980

Rev. Clarence Shepherd

Miles traveled -----	6,000
Sermons -----	104
Weddings -----	3
Revivals -----	1
Money received from Clinton -----	\$2,590.00
Revival -----	\$125.00

Rev. Earl Gwinn

Sermons preached -----	88
Conversions witnessed -----	15

Number baptized	2
Funerals conducted	2
Miles traveled	6,000
Money received	\$565.00

Rev. Clyde Hamar

Sermons preached	68
Miles traveled	7,000
Baptisms	1
Weddings	1
Weddings	1
Funerals	1
Money from friends	\$28.50
Money from Weatherford Church	\$161.15
Traveling expense	\$700.00
Money received	10.00
Money received	\$10.00

Organized the Weatherford Church with the help of others. Attended the Spring semester of the Okla. Bible College. Helped with the teaching of the Primary class in the Youth Camp.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Money Received With Church Letters:

Antioch	
Clinton	\$25.00
Enid	
German	25.00
Guymon	
Pleasant Valley	25.00
Prairie Bell	25.00
Sayre	25.00
Webb	25.00
	\$175.00

Co-operative Giving:

Antioch	\$ 78.80
Clinton	397.89
Enid	25.00
German	25.00
Guymon	244.00
Pleasant Valley	354.76
Prairie Bell	340.72

Weatherford	76.52
Webb	209.00
Sayre	61.00

1,808.09

Money Earnmarked for Home and Foreign Missions:

Enid	\$ 17.07
German	20.00
Guymon	575.82
Pleasant Valley	30.00
Weatherford	27.14

\$670.03

College Fund:

Webb	\$ 10.00
Prairie Bell	11.00

\$21.00

Miscellaneous: Personal Donations for Youth Camp:

Webb	\$ 5.00
Prairie Bell	35.00

\$40.00

Headquarters Building Fund:

Union Association	\$ 150.00
Antioch	6.00
Clinton	110.00
German	36.00
Pleasant Valley	100.00
Prairie Bell	100.00
Weatherford	21.00
Webb	8.00

\$531.00

Association Newspaper: "Good Tidings"

Pleasant Valley	12.00
Prairie Bell	4.00

\$16.00

Total Receipts Sent Through Treasurer:	
August 20, 1960 Balance Brought Forward	\$ 432.56
Fee included with Church Letters	175.00
Home and Foreign Missions	385.01
Co-operative Fund	1,808.09
Personal Donations for Youth Camp	15.00
Headquarters Building Fund	335.00
College Fund	11.00
Associational Newspaper	12.00
TOTAL	\$3,173.66
Total Disbursements	3,118.94
	\$ 54.72

Disbursements:	
1960 Youth Camp	373.27
1961 Youth Camp	341.19
Sent to Co-op.	1,356.07
Sent to Missions	385.01
State Delegates Fee	45.00
Gift for E. M. Kennedy	10.00
Rent for Weatherford Church	37.00
Printing of Minutes	62.00
Association Newspaper	12.00
College Fund	11.00
Headquarters Building Fund	485.00
	\$3,118.94

YOUTH CAMP REPORT

The Union Association of Free Will Baptists held their second annual Youth Encampment at Roman Nose State Park, Watonga, Oklahoma, May 28-June 2, 1961 with 10 churches represented and 107 enrolled.

Rev. Robert Duncan was evangelist with help from Rickey Duncan. Total decisions for Christ 33.

Camp Director	Rev. Clarence Shepherd
Assistant Director	Rev. Melvin Batson
Recreational Director	Rev. Clifford Schimmels
Music Director	Sister Louise Batson
Assistant Music Director	Sister Betty Payne

Juniors	Teachers	Pupils
Boys -----	Rev. Clyde Hamar -----	16
Girls -----	Sister Mary Schimmels -----	22
Junior High	Teachers	Pupils
Boys -----	Rev. J. B. Fletcher -----	11
Girls -----	Sister Fern Crispin -----	16
Senior High	Teachers	Pupils
	Rev. Clifford Schimmels -----	18
	Rev. Joe E. Payne	

Mrs. Eva Hicks and Mrs. Mattie Holly were in charge of kitchen.

Mrs. Rochelle Gore, Mattie Hutchison, Pauline Shepherd, Opel Hamar, Velda Langley, Fern Duncan were helpers.

Two specials this year were: First, Talent Night; Second, King and Queen Youth Encampment, Miss Judy Fletcher and Mr. Ricky Duncan.

We wish to thank all who made this Youth Encampment possible.

Note: Association Treasurer will give financial report. Also we are asking for same dates and evangelist for 1962.

Signed: Committee

REPORT OF "GLAD TIDINGS"

Printed three (3) issues: May, June, July—700 copies.

Total cost \$26.05.

Ink -----	\$ 2.95
Paper -----	10.00
Stencils -----	3.10
Postage -----	9.00
Envelopes -----	1.00

\$26.05

Received: \$28.00

Pleasant Valley -----	\$12.00
German -----	6.00
Enid -----	6.00
Prairie Bell -----	4.00

\$28.00

Rev. Joe E. Payne, Editor

ANTIOCH CHURCH

We, the Antioch Free Will Baptist Church, send greetings to the Annual Meeting of the Union Association when convened with Enid Free Will Baptist Church.

Average attendance	19
Number of conversions	11
Number of rededications	2
Number baptized	11
Additions to the church	7
Pastor's salary	\$565.00
Visiting ministers	55.00
Evangelist	244.00
Cooperative Plan	68.86

We send as delegates: Karen Shepherd, Linda Higgins, Mrs. Gwinn. Alternates: Bro. Edgar, Sister Law, Sister Higgins.

We called Rev. E. J. Gwinn as pastor for another year.

We are now having Sunday night services and Wednesday night prayer meetings. They are well attended and much interest is shown.

We are looking forward to another year and have faith that it will be a fruitful year and that our church will grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord as well as in numbers.

CLINTON CHURCH

To the Annual Union Association of Free Will Baptists meeting at Enid Church on August 19, 1961.

We send as delegates: Kenneth and LaDonna Hawkins and Velda Langley. As alternates: Maxine and Dean Adams and Robert Shepherd.

Period of time covered in this report: From August 20, 1960 to August 19, 1961.

Church and address: Free Will Baptist Church, 14th and Nowahy....

Pastor's name and address: Rev. Clarence Shepherd, 1124 Blackstone, Clinton, Oklahoma.

Clerk's name and address: Mattie Hutchison, Neptune Park, Clinton, Oklahoma.

Number of ordained deacons	3
Church membership	37
Members received	5
By profession of faith	3
By letter	2

Members dismissed	2
By letter	2
Sunday School enrolment	92
Total offerings received	\$,978.72
General offerings	3,951.52
New class rooms	2,015.58
Pastor's salary	2,590.00
Evangelistic work	160.00
Heating system	142.75
Literature	72.92
Cooperative Plan	397.86
Foreign Missions	93.52
Value of Church property	13,000.00
Amount enclosed with letter	25.00

ENID CHURCH

To the Union Association of Free Will Baptists meeting at Enid on August 19, 1961:

We send as delegates: Sister V. J. Rose, Bro. Hobert Sturgill, Bro. Barney Brown. As alternates: Sister Virginia Loudermilk, Sister Nancy Snow, Bro. Floyd Cooper.

Period of time covered in this report: From August 1, 1960 to August 1, 1961.

Church and address: 128 West Wabash, Enid, Oklahoma.

Pastor's name and address: Rev. Joe Payne, 118 West Wabash, Enid, Oklahoma.

Clerk's name and address: Dorothy Brown, 706 S. Grand, Enid, Oklahoma.

Number of licensed ministers	1
Number of ordained deacons	1
Church membership	60
Non-resident	1
Resident	59
Members received	33
By profession of faith	14
By letter	12
By statement of faith	7
Members dismissed	19
By letter	3
Excluded	16
Sunday School enrolment	132

League enrolment	55
Woman's Auxiliary membership	14
Total offerings received	\$4,164.81
Pastor's salary	2,239.60
Evangelistic work	94.80
Building and repair	712.08
Literature	145.29
Miscellaneous	467.93
Utilities	351.35
Insurance	92.21
Total local expenditures	4,103.26
Coopuerative Plan	25.00
Foreign Missions	21.93
Home Missions	8.62
Education	6.00
Total outside expenditures	62.05
Value of church property	15,000.00
Amount enclosed with letter for minutes, fees	25.00

We are sending Bro. Oren Loudermilk to be examined by the Association to preach the Gospel.

GERMAN CHURCH

To the Union Association of Free Will Baptists meeting at Enid Church on August 19, 1961:

We send as delegates: Ovada Kauk, Ruth Addington, Melba Klein. As alternates: Elsie Meek, Faye Kauk and Norma Kauk.

Period of time covered in this report: From May 6 to August 19, 1961.

Pastor's name and address: Rev. J. Elmo Smith, Elk City, Oklahoma.

Clerk's name and address: Mrs. Arthur Klein, Rout 1, Butler.

Number of ordained deacons	2
Church membership	49
Resident	43
Non-resident	6
Members received	14
By profession of faith	13
By letter	1
Members dismissed	1

Deceased	1
Sunday School enrolment	48
Average Sunday School enrolment	41
League enrolment	26
Total offerings received	3,542.22
General offerings	740.55
Building fund	2,801.67
Pastor's salary	500.00
Visiting preachers	30.00
Building and repair	3,765.64
Literature	84.72
Advertising	10.00
Miscellaneous	35.00
Gifts and Flowers	43.95
Electricity	18.00
Song Books	30.00
Total local expenditures	4,517.31
Cooperative plan	25.00
Foreign missions	23.08
Associational projects	25.00
State and National projects	67.00
Total outside expenditures	140.08
Amount enclosed with letter	25.00

GUYMON CHURCH

To the Union Association of Free Will Baptists meeting at Enid Church on August 19, 1961:

We send as delegates: Bro. Melvin Rice, Sister Melvin Rice and Sister Naomi Rice. As alternate: Sharon Rice.

Period of time covered in this report: From August 1, 1960 to July 31, 1961.

Pastor's name and address: Rev. J. B. Fletcher, 1411 N. Beaver, Guymon, Oklahoma.

Clerk's name and address: Fred Keifer, 406 E. 18th, Guymon.

Number of ordained deacons	3
Church membership	68
Resident	65
Non - resident	3
Members received	31
By baptism	15

By letter	4
By statement of faith	12
Members dismissed	10
By letter	10
Sunday School enrolment	77
League enrolment	45
Woman's Auxiliary	12
Total Offerings received	\$7,853.15
Pastor's salary	2,940.00
Evangelistic work	200.00
Building and repair	369.72
Literature	158.64
Advertising	39.68
Miscellaneous	2,872.99
Supply Preachers	75.00
Insurance	108.00
Total local expenditures	6,764.03
Cooperative Plan	204.00
Foreign missions	281.51
Home missions	281.51
Education	35.72
Total outside expenditures	1,084.25
Value of church property	20,000.00
Value of parsonage property	11,500.00
Amount enclosed with letter	25.00

PLEASANT VALLEY

To the Union Association of Free Will Baptists meeting at Enid on August 19, 1961.

Period of time covered in this report: From August 17, 1960 to August 19, 1961.

Clerk's name and address: Fern Shepherd, Arapaho, Oklahoma, R. Rt. 1.

Names and addresses of ordained ministers: 429 S. 25th, Clinton, Oklahoma.

Number of ordained deacons	3
Church membership	27
Members received	2
By statement of faith	2
Conversions	7

Sunday School enrolment	45
League enrolment	30
Pastor's Salary	\$2,570.00
Evangelistic work	100.00
Literature	122.00
Church sign	36.50
Bible School	48.00
Total local expenditures	2,900.50
Cooperative Plan	411.89
Foreign missions	55.25
Headquarters Building	100.00
Total outside expenditures	567.14
Amount enclosed with letter for minutes	25.00

PRAIRIE BELL CHURCH

To the Annual Association of Free Will Baptists meeting at Enid, Oklahoma, on August 19, 1961:

We stand as delegates: Bertha Haggard, Creola Cline, Mrs. Josie Haggard. As alternates: Minnie Adair, Mrs. John Jones and Pearl Williams.

Period of time covered in this report: From August 20, 1960 to August 19, 1961.

Pastor's name and address: Bro. Bill Williams, Weatherford, Oklahoma.

Clerk's name and address: Mrs. Kenneth Cline, Putnam, Oklahoma.

Names and addresses of ordained ministers: Bro. John Janes, Putnam.

Number of ordained deacons	3
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Members dismissed	6
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Sunday School enrolment	23
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Total offerings received	1,429.46
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Pastor's salary	616.00
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Evangelistic work	200.00
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Monthly paper	4.00
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Advertising	9.00
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Miscellaneous	10.50
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Visiting Minister	160.00
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Total local expenditures	999.50
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Cooperative Plan	356.96
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Amount enclosed with letter	25.00
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SAYRE CHURCH

To the Union Association of Free Will Baptists when convening with the Enid Church on August 19, 1961:

This report covers period of time from May 15 to August 15, 1961.

Church located at 1513 North 2nd, Sayre, Oklahoma.

Clerk's name and address: Mattie Green, Rt. 3, Sayre, Oklahoma.

Ordained Ministers	2
Ordained Deacons	2
Church membership	45
Sunday School Attendance	32
Members received	2
Members dismissed	0
Women's Auxiliary membership	14
Total Income	\$716.00
Pastor's Salary	450.00
Building and repair	156.00
Literature	12.66
Utilities	54.30
Miscellaneous	38.50
Balance in bank at this time	30.00
Value of Church property	8,000.00
Enclosed with letter for minutes	25.00

WEATHERFORD CHURCH

To the Annual conference of the Union Association of Free Will Baptists meeting at the Enid FWB Church on August 19, 1961:

We send as delegates: Sis. T. L. Luster, Sis. Helen Turner, Sis. Opal Hamar. Alternates: Sis. Leona Anglin, Sis. Marget Bowser, Sis. Belvajeon Anglin.

Period of time covered in this report: From October 23, 1960 to August 9, 1961.

Pastor's name and address: Rev. Clyde Hamar, 217 Huber, Weatherford.

Clerk's name and address: Junior Bowser, 623 N. Broadway, Weatherford.

Names and addresses of ordained ministers: Rev. Paul F.

Bowser, 623 N. Broadway, Weatherford; Rev. Bill Williams,
405 W. Franklin, Weatherford.

Number of ordained deacons	1
Church Membership	27
Resident	26
Non - resident	1
Members Received	6
By profession of faith	2
By statement of faith	4
Baptized	3
Sunday School Enrolment	42
Total offerings received	\$ 898.38
Pastor's Salary	161.14
Evangelistic work	25.00
Building and Repair	17.59
Literature	46.92
Miscellaneous	40.93
Rent	250.00
Utilities	46.61
Total Local Expenditures	588.19
Cooperative Plan	76.52
Foreign Missions	19.00
Home Missions	8.14
State Headquarters	21.00
Total outside expenditures	137.66
Amount enclosed with letter	13.00

WEBB CHURCH

To the Union Association of Free Will Baptists meeting at
Enid, Oklahoma, on August 19, 1961:

We send as delegates: Sis. Louise Batson, Bro. John Holley,
Bro. Albert Bradley. Alternates: Sister Meredith Holly, Bro.
Bruce Epperly, Sis. Wanda Batson.

Period of time covered in this report: From August 20,
1960 to August 13, 1961.

Pastor's name and address: Rev. Melvin Batson, Rt. 2,
Camargo, Oklahoma.

Clerk's name and address: Eva Hicks, Rt. 2, Camargo, Okla.

Names and addresses of ordained ministers: Rev. Melvin
Batson, Rt. 2, Camargo, Okla.; Rev. Ross Hamar, Arapaho,
Oklahoma.

Number of ordained deacons	2
Church membership	29
Resident	27
Non-Resident	2
Members received	5
By profession of faith	5
Sunday School Enrolment	50
League enrolment	38
Total offerings received	\$2,961.50
Evangelistic work	141.00
Literature	51.85
Miscellaneous	321.51
Total local expenditures	2,779.35
Cooperative Plan	153.00
New Church Club	40.00
Other	8.00
Total outside expenditures	153.00
Value of church property	7,500.00
Value of parsonage property	1,000.00
Amount enclosed with letter	25.00
Pastor's SaSalary	2,265.00

State Delegate: Sis. Louise Batson.

Communion and Foot Washing Services were held April 9th with Rev. Batson and Deacons in charge.

We have just concluded a revival with Rev. J. R. Hall of Oklahoma City. Our church has been spiritually uplifted. Several of our young people rededicated their lives. We closed our revival with a baptismal service with four baptized.

REQUIREMENTS FOR MINISTERS PRECEDING ORDINATION

Oral examination and possession of:

1. Holy Bible
2. Treatise
3. Minister's Manual, by Griffitt
4. Ministerial Ethics
5. So You Want to Preach, by DeWelt
6. Present to Committee outline of 30 sermons preached in the last year.

REQUIREMENTS FOR DEACONS PRECEDING ORDINATION

Oral examination and possession of:

1. Holy Bible
2. Treatise
3. Baptist Deacon, by Maylor
4. Deacon must give outline of service which he has led in the local church.

CONSTITUTION of the UNION ASSOCIATION of the FREE WILL BAPTISTS

PREAMBLE: From our long experience, we, the members of the Free Will Baptists, realizing the necessity of a bond of union and fellowship among us as a group of churches, do hereby ordain this constitution for our progress and to perpetuate a better associational government.

Article I

NAME: This Association shall be known as the Union Association of Free Will Baptists of the State of Oklahoma.

Article II

MEMBERSHIP: This Association shall be composed of such well regulated Free Will Baptist churches who maintain Gospel order and agree with our denominational doctrine and practices; and favor the enterprises that have been endorsed by this association.

Article III

DELEGATES: Voting members of this Association shall be ordained minister, ordained deacons, Church clerks, and three delegates from each local church, elected by each church and named in the church letter.

Article IV

OFFICERS: The officers of this association shall be, a Moderator, assistant moderator, clerk, assistant clerk, treasurer to be elected annually at the close of the meeting, and executive board consisting of five members, elected so as to require one to be elected each year. To this board is delegated power to act in behalf of and for this association between conferences. The board shall have power to elect officers for its own government and between conferences fill any and all

vacancies which may occur in its own body. The executive board shall sign all deeds, bonds, notes, etc.: and any other papers or documents which by this association is become legally bound or held.

It shall be the duty of the board to meet as often as may be necessary.

No meeting of the board shall be legal with less than three members present.

Article V

MEETINGS: Five members from five or more churches shall constitute a quorum, a lesser number may adjourn until such a quorum is present.

The moderator shall have the authority to call the association into conference by notifying each church at least ten days in advance of such meeting, and the moderator shall have authority to change the place of a quarterly meeting or yearly meeting if the place previously determined can not provide for said meeting. This shall be done by notifying each church, and if possible at least ten days in advance. A written record shall be kept of all meetings and transactions.

Article VI

QUESTION: No question or resolution from any church shall come under consideration of the association unless it has first been considered in its own church.

Article VII

CREDENTIALS: A credentials board of five members shall be elected so as to require one to be elected each year, this board shall elect officers for its own government. They shall examine all ministers and deacons before they are licensed or ordained by this association and all ministers coming into this association, and make recommendations to the association concerning the examinations.

The association shall not be bound by their decision.

All ministers coming before this board must present to this board for examination his or her credentials, license, ordination, certificate, etc.

The following form must be signed by each and every minister presently a member of this association and every minister coming into this association. All such forms shall be kept by the clerk.

I do hereby solemnly promise upon the official request of this association or its credentials board to surrender all papers, certificates, cards and letters that recognize and or authorize me to be a minister of this association.

I hereby sign this form on this _____ day of _____
in the year of our Lord _____ before these witnesses.
Witness _____ Chairman _____
Witness _____ Clerk _____
Witness _____ Signature of Minister _____

Before any complaint will be heard against any minister, it must be written and signed by person lodging complaint and presented to the moderator and assistant moderator (if both are present) for consideration.

If the minister to whom the complaint is brought against is not present no final action shall be taken except for discussion, dismissal or recommendatiton. If such complaint is not dismissed by the association it shall be turned over to the credentials board, they shall as soon as possible examine, and interrogate both complaint and minister, and after such course has been followed shall have authority to dismiss the complaint, admonish the minister, refer the decision to the next called or regular meeting of the association, or request the surrender of his paper, etc.

If the minister is present whom the complaint is brought against, after he has answered the complaint, after discussion and prayer one of three courses shall be taken. Dismiss the complaint, admonish the minister or request his paper, credentials, etc.

Article X

NEW CHURCHES: Any organized Free Will Baptist Church which is scriptural and denominationally sound may be received by petitionary letter and elected delegates.

Article VIII

VOTING: Under no condition at any time shall any member of this association have authority to delegate his or her vote to anyone, and no vote shall be counted from an absent member.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the infallable Word of God, and the only safe rule of faith and practice. II Tim. 3:16-17; II Peter 1:20-21.

2. That there is but one true and living God, and in the God head of Divine Essence, Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Gen. 17:1; I John 5:7.

3. That we are fallen and depraved creatures and cannot extricate ourselves from our fallen situation by any ability we possess by nature. Rom. 5:1-19.

4. That salvation, regeneration, sanctification, justification and redemption are by life, death, resurrection, ascension and intercession of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Acts 4:12; Titus 3:5.

5. That the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal. Matt. 25:46.

6. That he that shall endure to the end the same shall be saved. Matt. 24:13; Rev. 2:10.

7. That baptism and the Lord's Supper, and the washing of the saint's feet are the ordinances of Jesus Christ, appointed in the church, and none but true believers are proper subjects and the only proper mode of baptism is immersion. Mark 1:4-9-10; Luke 22:30; John 13:14.

8. We believe in the sanctity of the first day of the week or the Lord's day, and that it ought to be observed and spent in the public worship of God, and that on it, we should abstain from our worldly concerns except in cases of necessity and mercy. Ex. 31:15; Deut. 5:12; Matt. 12:12.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the body, both the just and the unjust, but every one in his own order, those who have done evil to the resurrection of damnation, and that God has appointed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ. I Cor. 15:34; John 5:28; I Thes. 3:16.

10. That it is our duty to be tender and affectionate to one another and to singly engage to promote the honor of in general, and to singly engage to promote the honor of God. John 13:15; Gal. 6:10.

11. We believe that Jesus Christ, by the grace of God, tasted death for every man, yet none can partake of His divine benefit only by his repentance towards God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, infants and idiots accepted. Acts 20:21; Tim. 2:5-6; John 3:14-16; 1 Peter 3:21.

12. We believe that the Lord's people are one in Him and therefore should be one at His table. 1 Cor. 1:11; 27-28; John 17:11.

BY-LAWS

1. The moderator or assistant moderator, or in their absence the oldest minister present, shall call the Association into conference.

2. Each session shall be opened and closed with prayer.

3. Five members from five or more churches shall constitute a quorum. A less number may adjourn until such a quorum is present.

4. Visiting brethren are invited to seats as advisory members.

5. Those who speak shall arise and address the moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.

6. The moderator shall have authority to appoint pulpit committees.

7. Motions made and lost will not be recorded.

8. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the moderator.

9. The moderator shall not allow discussion when not carried on in a Christian spirit.

10. The ruling of the moderator may be overruled by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

11. Any minister opposed to any of the enterprises endorsed by the Association will not be entitled to a seat in Conference and we will not seat any minister in this Association who teaches the Baptism of the Holy Ghost separate from regeneration or the birth of the Spirit.

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God in faith in Christ and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant. We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid the appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world; from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages; and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness and to watch one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and to seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principal sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society, constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, or its poor, and all its beneficial work.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday Schools, and evangelistic efforts, for the salvation of souls, and the conversion of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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