

# MINUTES

of the

Twenty - Ninth  
Annual Meeting

of the

**Union Association**

of

**Free Will Baptists**

of the

State of Oklahoma



August 7, 1982

When Convened With

The

**GERMAN FREE WILL BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

## 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. Seating of Delegates
5. Appointment of Pulpit Committee
6. Miscellaneous Business
7. Adjournment
8. Short recess
9. Introductory sermon

Saturday Afternoon

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

## Annual Meeting

Union Association held their annual meeting, Aug. 7, 1982, at the German Free Will Baptist Church.

Rev. Odie Nunley called the meeting to order. Two congregational songs, "Open My Eyes" and "The Name Jesus is so Sweet", were led by Bro. Griffie Klein with Glen Gore as pianist.

The devotional was given by Rev. Odie Nunley using John 1:1 & Acts 2:38 for the text.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Letters were read from nine churches and twenty-one delegates were seated with the right hand of fellowship. Webb church requested that James Allen Thompson be examined as a candidate for deacon.

Nine ministers were recognized. In lieu of a pulpit committee, since Rev. Edwin Wade, interim president of Hillsdale was present, Rev. Clarence Shepherd moved that time be given to Rev. Wade to report on the status of Hillsdale and also bring the morning message. Motion was seconded and carried.

We were dismissed in prayer for a short recess by Rev. Clarence Shepherd. Services reopened with the congregation singing, "Since Jesus Came into My Heart."

Rev. Wade reported a new faculty member, Dr. Henry, had been added to the commerce Dept. and that Rev. Thomas Marberry had completed his dissertation and would be receiving his Ph.D in the very near future. He expressed his appreciation for the generous and continued support of Union Association.

Two special numbers, "Where Could I Go But to the Lord" and "The Family Bible" were sung by Bro. Griffie and Greg Klein. Also a quartet from the Webb Church, Lance Stephenson, Kenneth and Connie Thompson, and Belva Mabra, sang "How Great Thou Art."

Rev. Wade used Phillipians 4:10-13 for his sermon text. The dismissal prayer and the blessing on the noon meal was given by Bro. Griffie Klein.

Following a delicious meal served by the ladies of the church, the afternoon session opened with the congregation singing, "He Lives."

Rev. Allen Mabra gave the devotional using II Tim. 1:7.

Rev. Jim Smith reported the Weatherford Mission Church had a substantial increase in attendance for the summer.

Rev. Leland Horton reported he had held services at the Sayre Church the past two Sundays.

Brenda Nunley and Sharon Watson sang "We're Not Strangers Anymore."

The Credential Committee stated they had met with James Allen Thompson and recommended him for ordination as a deacon. Rev. Paul Smith made a motion we accept the recommendation. Motion seconded and carried.

In the absence of the treasurer, Rev. Thomas Marberry gave the financial report, noting a balance of \$3,749.47 in the treasury. He moved the report be adopted. It was seconded and carried.

During the business session Rev. Thomas Marberry

made the motion we invite the Hillsdale Drama Group to the quarterly meeting in Nov. or Feb. It was seconded and carried.

Rev. Clarence Shepherd made the motion we place a full page ad in the Harvester, noting it was now \$100. Motion seconded and carried.

Designated Churches serving as host to the quarterly meetings were assigned as follows:

Nov. 6, 1982 (Prairie Bell), Feb. 5, 1983 (Antioch), May 7, 1983 (Webb), and Aug. 6, 1983 (Guymon).

Associational Officers elected for 1982-1983:

Moderator-----	Rev. Paul Smith
Asst. Moderator-----	Rev. Odie Nunley
Clerk-----	Mrs. Fern Crispin
Asst. Clerk-----	Rev. Thomas Marberry
Treasurer-----	Mrs. Melba Lynch
Reporter-----	Mrs. Belva Mabra

Elections of board members were:

5-yr. Youth Camp-----	Lester Lynch
3-yr. Home Mission-----	Lance Stephenson
5-yr. Credential-----	Rev. Clarence Shepherd
5-yr. Executive-----	Carroll Crispin
General Board Member-----	Rev. Allen Mabra

Rev. Clarence Shepherd announced each church elect a delegate to the State Convention. Send name of delegate and \$20 to the treasurer.

Rev. Clyde Hamar made a motion we give the host church a standing vote of thanks. Seconded and carried.

We were dismissed in prayer by Bro. J. C. Smith.

Delegates present: 21

Antioch	3
Clinton	3
Elk City	2
German	3
Guymon	3
Pampa	0
Prairie Bell	1
Wetherford	3
Webb	3

#### OFFICERS

Moderator----- Rev. Paul Smith  
611 S. Ninth St., Clinton, OK 73601

Asst. Moderator----- Rev. Odie Nunley  
.1411 N. Beaver, Guymon, OK 73942

Clerk----- Mrs. Fern Crispin  
R. R. 1, Putnam, OK 73659

Asst. Clerk----- Rev. Thomas Marberry  
622 E. Frank, Norman, OK 73071

Treasurer----- Mrs. Melba Lynch  
1028 Prairie Dr., Pampa, TX 79065

Reporter----- Mrs. Belva Mabra  
Rt. 1, Box 50, Camargo, OK 73835

#### HOME MISSION BOARD

Mr. Lance Stephenson, 3 years-----	Webb
Rev. Clyde Hamar, 2 years-----	Elk City
Mr. J. C. Smith, 1 year-----	Clinton

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Mr. Carroll Crispin, 5 years-----	Prairie Bell
Rev. Paul Smith, years-----	Clinton
Rev. Allen Mabra, 3 years-----	Webb
Rev. L. C. Lynch, 2 years-----	Pampa
Mr. Lester Lynch, 1 year-----	Pampa

### CREDENTIALS BOARD

Rev. Clarence Shepherd, 5 years-----	Antioch
Rev. Thomas L. Marberry, 4 years-----	Prairie Bell
Rev. Clyde Hamar, 3 years-----	Elk City
Rev. Odie Nunley, 2 years-----	Guymon
Rev. L. C. Lynch, 1 year-----	Pampa

### YOUTH CAMP COMMITTEE

Mr. Lester Lynch, 5 years-----	Pampa
Rev. Jim Smith, 4 years-----	Weatherford
Mrs. Ginger Kauk, 3 years-----	Clinton
Rev. Clyde Hamar, 2 years-----	Antioch
Rev. Odie Nunley, 1 year-----	Guymon

### STATISTICS

Number of Churches -----	9
Number of parsonages -----	0
Number of ordained ministers -----	9
Number of ordained deacons -----	13

Number of the following auxiliaries:

Sunday Schools -----	9
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Church Training Services -----	3
Women's Auxiliaries -----	2
Masters Men -----	1
Prayer Meetings -----	6
Church membership -----	489
Resident -----	355
Non-resident -----	134
Members Received -----	66
By Baptism -----	19
By letter and profession -----	47
Members dismissed -----	10
Sunday School enrollment -----	432
C.T.S. enrollment -----	62
Women's Auxiliary membership -----	34

IN MEMORY OF THOSE DECEASED

Irene Cornelson Cantrell  
October 25, 1914--November 10, 1981  
Member of Prairie Bell FWB Church

Doris Stephenson Gore  
March 4, 1914--October 24, 1981  
Member of Webb FWB Church

Livonia (Baker) Shepherd  
June 26, 1906--December 31, 1981  
Member of Clinton FWB Church

Grover Cleveland "Cleve" Shepherd  
October 25, 1891--April 9, 1982  
Member of Clinton FWB Church

## ANTIOCH CHURCH LETTER

To the annual meeting of the Union Association meeting at German FWB Church on August 7, 1982. Delegates: Kyle Shepherd, Georgeina Renison, and Earl Fawver. Period of time covered by this report: August 1, 1981-July 31, 1982.

Pastor: Rev. Clarence Shepherd, 1112 Camelot  
Clinton, OK 73601

Clerk: Betty Shepherd, Rt. 1, Butler, OK 73625

Ordained ministers: Rev. Clarence Shepherd

Auxiliaries: Sunday School

Church membership: 41 (resident: 22; Non-resident: 19)

Members received: 0 Members dismissed: 0

Average Sunday School attendance: 28

Total offerings received-----	\$10,300.00
Pastor's salary-----	5,500.00
Remodeling-----	60.00
Other local expenditures-----	2,250.00
Total Local expenditures-----	\$ 7,800.00
Cooperative plan-----	611.00
Foreign Missions-----	297.00
Youth Camp-----	30.00
Other Nat'l Ministries-----	10.00
Hillsdale-----	851.00
Home missions and Church ext.-----	446.00
Total outside expenditures-----	\$ 2,245.00
Amount enclosed with this letter-----	\$ 40.00

CLINTON CHURCH LETTER

To the annual meeting of the Union Association meeting at German FWB Church on August 7, 1982. Delegates: Mr. and Mrs. Carl Shepherd. Period of time covered by this report: August 1, 1981-July 31, 1982.

Pastor: Rev. Paul Smith, 611 S. 9th., Clinton, OK 73601

Clerk: Darlene Smith, 500 S. 8th., Clinton, OK 73601

Ordained ministers: 1 Deacons: 5  
 Auxiliaries: Sunday School, Church Training Service, Woman's Auxiliary  
 Church membership: 154 (resident: 125, Non-resident: 29)  
 Members received: 2 Members dismissed: 2  
 Average Sunday School Attendance: 93

Total offerings received -----	\$50,754.00
Pastor's salary -----	15,600.00
Staff salaries -----	1,950.00
Remodeling -----	475.00
Other local expenditures -----	12,520.00
Total local expenditures -----	\$30,545.00
Cooperative plan -----	2,943.00
Foreign Missions -----	3,048.00
Home missions and Church ext. -----	10,953.00
Hillsdale -----	16,828.00
Total outside expenditures -----	\$33,772.00
Value of Church property -----	\$195,000.00
Amount enclosed with letter -----	\$ 35.00

## ELK CITY CHURCH LETTER

To the annual meeting of the Union Association meeting at German FWB Church on August 7, 1982. Delegates: Opal Hamar, Mildred Maddox, and Deloris Leddon. Period of time covered by this report: August 1, 1981-July 31, 1982.

Pastor: Rev. Clyde Hamar, Rt. 1, Box 25, Clinton, OK  
73601

Clerk: Bonnie Yeager, 704 W. 7th., Elk City, OK  
73644

Ordained minister: 1

Auxiliaries: Sunday School, Church Training Service

Church membership: 23 (resident: 16, Non-resident:  
7)

Members received: 1 Members dismissed: 0

Average Sunday School attendance: 16

Total offerings received -----	\$11,413.69
Pastor's salary -----	5,200.00
Remodeling -----	2,136.65
Retirement -----	912.12
Other local expenditures -----	3,138.40
Total local expenditures -----	\$11,747.13
Cooperative Plan -----	645.88
Foreign Missions -----	347.87
Total Outside expenditures -----	\$ 1,272.08

## GERMAN CHURCH LETTER

To the annual meeting of the Union Association meeting at German FWB Church on August 7, 1982. Delegates: George Moore, Greg Klein, and Sam Shelton. Period of time covered by this report: August 1, 1981-July 31, 1982.

Pastor: Rev. Orville Hood, 1017 S.W. 3rd,  
Moore, OK 73160

Clerk: Beulah Klein, Rt. 1, Box 100, Butler, OK 73625

Ordained ministers: 1            Deacons: 4

Auxiliaries: Sunday School

Church membership: 50 (resident: 36, Non-resident:  
14)

Members received: 0    Members lost: 1 (deceased)

Average Sunday School attendance: 25

Total offerings received -----	\$12,539.00
Pastor's Salary -----	4,600.00
Other speakers salary -----	7,000.00
Other local expenditures -----	1,510.00
 Total Local expenditures -----	 \$ 7,110.00
 Cooperative Plan -----	 1,332.00
Foreign Missions -----	600.00
FWBBC -----	110.00
Home missions and Church ext. -----	1,800.00
Hillsdale -----	1,890.00
 Total outside expenditures -----	 \$ 5,732.00
Value of Church property -----	\$40,000.00
 Amount enclosed with letter -----	 \$    35.00

## GUYMON CHURCH LETTER

To the annual meeting of the Union Association meeting at German FWB Church on August 7, 1982. Delegates: Joe Watson, Sharon Watson, and Red Chastain. Period of time covered by this report: August 1, 1981-July 31, 1982.

Pastor: Rev. Odie Nunley, 1411 N. Beaver, Guymon,  
OK 73942

Clerk: Bill Dawes

Ordained ministers: 1

Auxiliaries: Sunday School, Woman's Auxiliary,  
Master's Men

Church membership: 74 (resident: 45, Non-resident:  
29)

Members received: 10      Members lost: 3

Total Income -----	\$29,832.54
Pastor's Salary -----	10,048.00
Remodeling -----	12,412.23
Other Local expenditures -----	2,150.00
Total Local Expenditures -----	\$24,907.11
Cooperative Plan -----	2,023.00
Foreign missions -----	331.00
Home missions -----	465.50
Church Training Service -----	367.87
Total Outside expenditures -----	\$ 3,677.37
Amount enclosed with letter -----	\$ 40.00

## PAMPA CHURCH LETTER

To the annual meeting of the Union Association meeting at German FWB Church on August 7, 1982. Period of time covered by this report: August 1, 1981-July 31, 1982.

Pastor: L. C. Lynch, 821 N. Dwight, Pampa, TX 79065

Clerk: Melba Lynch, 1028 Prairie Dr., Pampa, TX 79065

Ordained ministers: 1

Auxiliaries: Sunday School, Church Training Service,  
Woman's Auxiliary

Church membership: 51 (resident: 39, Non-resident:  
12)

Members received: 2                      Members lost: 0

Average Sunday School attendance: 28

Total Income -----	\$15,409.51
Pastor's Salary -----	3,322.91
Remodeling -----	1,381.82
Other local expenditures -----	5,131.13
 Total local expenditures -----	 \$ 9,835.86
Cooperative Plan -----	1,476.92
Foreign missions -----	371.82
Home missions and Church ext. -----	371.82
Hillsdale -----	815.94
 Total Outside expenditures -----	 \$ 3,036.50
Value of Church property -----	\$45,000.00
 Amount enclosed with letter -----	 \$     50.00

PRAIRIE BELL CHURCH LETTER

To the annual meeting of the Union Association meeting at German FWB Church on August 7, 1982. Delegates: Dwade Skelton and Clifford Haggard. Period of time covered by this report: August 1, 1981-July 31, 1982.

Pastor: Rev. Thomas L. Marberry, 622 E. Frank, Norman, OK 73071

Clerk: Bertha Haggard, R. R. 1 Putnam, OK 73659

Ordained ministers: Thomas L. Marberry

Ordained deacons: 1

Auxiliaries: Sunday School

Church Membership: 15 (resident: 12, Non-resident: 3)

Members received: 0 Members Lost: 1

Average Sunday School attendance: 8

Total offerings received -----	\$16,711.00
Pastor's Salary -----	4,025.00
Other Local Expenditures -----	1,244.00
Total Local Expenditures -----	\$ 5,269.00
Cooperative Plan -----	713.00
Foreign missions -----	1,750.00
Hillsdale -----	7,200.00
Home missions and Church ext. -----	1,341.00
Total Outside expenditures -----	\$11,004.00
Value of Church Property -----	\$30,000.00
Amount enclosed with letter -----	\$ 40.00

## WEATHERFORD MISSION LETTER

To the annual meeting of the Union Association meeting at German FWB Church on August 7, 1982. Delegates: James C. Smith, Linda Smith, and Becky Smith. Period of time covered by this report: August 1, 1981-July 31, 1982.

Pastor: Rev. Jim Smith, 522 W. Arlington, Weatherford, OK 73096.

Clerk: Jim Smith, 522 W. Arlington, Weatherford, OK 73096.

Ordained ministers: Jim Smith

Auxiliaries: Sunday School

Church membership: 28 (All resident members)

Members received: 20 (17 associate)

Members lost: 2

Average Sunday School attendance: 29

Total Offerings received -----	\$25,287.00
Pastor's salary -----	5,800.00
Remodeling -----	2,009.00
Debt Retirement -----	4,250.00
Other local expenditures -----	7,202.00
 Total local expenditures -----	 \$15,436.00
Cooperative plan -----	1,837.00
Foreign missions -----	121.00
Home missions and Church ext. -----	587.00
Hillsdale -----	843.00
 Total Outside expenditures -----	 \$ 3,387.00
Value of Church Property -----	\$127,000.00
 Amount enclosed with letter -----	 \$ 40.00



## YOUTH CAMP REPORT

Camp Director: Odie Nunley  
 Camp Evangelist: Gary Thomas  
 Camp Cooks: Bobbie Green, Melba Lynch

**Income:**

Camp Enrollment -----	\$345.00
Coke & Candy Sale -----	295.00
Mission Offering -----	29.49
Sale Food -----	25.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME -----</b>	<b><u>\$694.49</u></b>

**Camp Expenses:**

Camp Spring Lake -----	\$500.00
Evangelist -----	200.00
Cooks -----	100.00
Insurance -----	36.40
Missions-Bartles. -----	24.49
Food & Supplies -----	730.85
Food-Last year -----	85.70
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES-----</b>	<b><u>\$1769.08</u></b>
	<u>- 694.49</u>
	<b>-\$1074.59</b>

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST  
 YEARLY REPORT  
 Aug. 1, 1981 - July 31, 1982

Balance August 1, 1981 ----- - \$ 165.59

**Income:**

August - October ----- 8,838.34

November - January -----	\$14,327.81
February - April -----	29,701.63
May - July -----	20,392.78
TOTAL INCOME -----	<u>73,260.56</u>
	- 165.59
	<u>\$73,094.97</u>

Expenses:

August - October -----	\$ 7,985.70
November - January -----	14,208.91
February - April -----	29,150.46
May - July -----	18,000.43
TOTAL EXPENSES -----	<u>69,345.50</u>

Balance July 31, 1982 ----- \$ 3,749.47

Expenses:

State -----	\$66,819.16
WVI -----	441.75
Ad in Harvester -----	90.00
Printing of minutes -----	175.00
Assn. Officers -----	75.00
Camp -----	1,744.59
TOTAL -----	<u>\$69,345.50</u>

YEARLY REPORT OF CHURCHES

Antioch

Coop -----	\$ 393.84
Fees -----	45.00
Hillsdale (general fund) -----	408.84
Hillsdale (Van) -----	225.00
Okla. missions (Lawton) -----	246.25
Foreign missionaries	
Payne -----	296.85
TOTAL -----	<u>\$ 1,615.78</u>

### Clinton

Coop -----	\$ 2,942.89
Fees -----	55.00
Hillsdale (general fund) -----	4,914.33
Hillsdale (endowment) -----	10,000.00
Hillsdale (trailer) -----	1,613.26
Hillsdale (Furnishing) -----	300.00
Okla. Missions (Jernigan) -----	800.00
Foreign missions	
Wode -----	3,048.04
Home missions (Elk City) -----	1,250.00
TOTAL -----	<u>\$29,292.86</u>

### Elk City

Coop -----	\$ 674.27
Fees -----	35.00
Foreign missions (Wode) -----	338.87
WVI -----	21.75
TOTAL -----	<u>\$ 1,069.89</u>

### German

Coop -----	\$ 1,331.53
Fees -----	35.00
Hillsdale (general fund) -----	1,855.00
Hillsdale (scholarship) -----	650.00
Okla. Missions	
Weatherford -----	880.00
Lawton -----	120.00
Foreign missions	
Wode -----	120.00
Cousineau -----	120.00
Sparks -----	120.00
Haas -----	240.00
SANE -----	100.00
FWBBC -----	110.00
TOTAL -----	<u>\$5,681.53</u>

### Guymon

Coop -----	\$ 2,023.00
Fees -----	10.00
Hillsdale -----	367.87
Okla. missions	
Weatherford -----	49.00
Lawton -----	50.00
Jernigan -----	344.00
Foreign Missions	
Deeds -----	97.00
Wode -----	40.00
Payne -----	97.00
Sparks -----	97.00
Ft. Collins -----	22.50
<b>TOTAL -----</b>	<b>\$ 3,197.37</b>

### Pampa

Coop -----	\$ 1,365.71
Fees -----	35.00
Hillsdale (general fund) -----	682.84
Hillsdale (furnishings) -----	100.00
Okla. missions (Jernigan) -----	80.00
Home missions -----	248.02
Foreign missions -----	148.02
Wode -----	100.00
Webb -----	59.51
J. Smith -----	50.00
<b>TOTAL -----</b>	<b>\$ 2,869.10</b>

### Prairie Bell

Coop -----	\$ 708.00
Fees -----	35.00

Hillsdale	
General fund -----	\$ 1,925.00
Van -----	850.00
Furnishing -----	1,225.00
Travel -----	200.00
Endowment fund -----	3,000.00
Okla. Missions	
Weatherford -----	665.00
Lawton -----	135.00
Jernigan -----	185.00
Home missions -----	46.00
VanKluyve -----	10.00
Vera -----	10.00
Breedon -----	10.00
Fulcher -----	10.00
Foreign missions	
Deeds -----	400.00
Wode -----	630.00
Cousineau -----	200.00
Miley -----	50.00
Highway Helpers -----	110.00
Project 5000 -----	30.00
WVI -----	420.00
TOTAL	<u>10,854.00</u>

#### Weatherford

Coop -----	\$ 1,910.25
Fees -----	35.00
Hillsdale (general fund) -----	251.32
Hillsdale (Trailer) -----	637.23
Okla. Missions	
Weatherford -----	60.00
Lawton -----	209.36
Foreign missions	
Wode -----	151.00
Webb -----	100.00

Home missions		
Bartlesville -----	\$	190.92
Ponca City -----		233.70
Elaine Allen -----		15.00
TOTAL -----	\$	<u>3,793.78</u>

Webb

Coop -----	\$	1,816.60
Fees -----		135.00
Hillsdale		
General fund -----		532.00
Van -----		125.00
Endowment fund -----		3,000.00
Paving fund -----		2,000.00
Okla. missions (Jernigan) -----		1,000.00
Foreign missions		
Deeds -----		900.00
Webb -----		500.00
Arctic Circle -----		150.00
Way of Cross -----		500.00
Foreign missions (Arnold) -----		60.00
SANE -----		250.00
TOTAL -----	\$	<u>10,968.60</u>

GRAND TOTALS

Coop -----	\$13,166.60
Fees -----	420.00
Hillsdale	
General fund -----	10,937.20
Scholarship -----	650.00
Paving fund -----	2,000.00
Travel -----	200.00
Trailer -----	2,250.49
Van -----	1,200.00
Furnishing -----	1,625.00
Endowment -----	16,000.00

Oklahoma Missions		
Weatherford-----		\$ 6,023.34
Lawton-----		760.61
Jernigan -----		2,409.00
Home missions-----		294.02
VanKluyve -----		10.00
Vera -----		10.00
Breeden -----		10.00
Fulcher -----		10.00
Way of Cross -----		500.00
Bartlesville -----		190.92
Elk City -----		1,250.00
Ponca City -----		233.70
Artic Circle -----		150.00
Ft. Collins -----		22.50
Foreign missions-----		148.02
Cousineau -----		320.00
Allen -----		15.00
Arnold -----		60.00
Payne -----		393.85
Sparks -----		217.00
Haas -----		240.00
Judy Smith -----		50.00
Miley -----		50.00
Highway Helpers -----		110.00
SANE -----		350.00
FWBBC -----		110.00
Project 5000 -----		30.00
WVI -----		441.75
	FINAL TOTAL	\$69,342.91

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 ministers, ordained deacons, church clerks, all associational officers and three delegates from each local church elected by each church and named in the church letters.

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 an 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 on 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 cannot 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 member 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 recommendation. 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 papers, 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 papers, credentials, etc.

### Article VIII

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

### Article IX

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 infallible Word of God, and the only safe rule of faith and practice. IITim. 3:16-17. II Peter 1:20-21.

2. That there is but one true and living God, and in the Godhead of Divine Essence, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Gen. 17:1, 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 Savior, 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. 5:2, Matt. 12:12.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the body, both the just and the unjust but everyone 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 Thess. 3:16.

10. That it is our duty to be tender and affectionate to one another, and to study the happiness of the people of God 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 toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (infants and idiots accepted). Acts 20:21, Tim. 2:5-6, John 3:14-16, I Peter 3:21.

12. We believe that the Lord's people are one in Him and therefore should be one as his table. I 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 out in a Christian spirit.

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

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 Baptist of the Holy Ghost separate from regeneration or birth of the spirit.

