

# **Minutes**

*of the*

**37th  
Annual  
Meeting**

*of the*

**Union Association**

*of*

**Free Will Baptists**

*of the*

**State of Oklahoma**

**AUGUST 6, 1990**

*when convened with the*

**FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
WEATHERFORD, OKLAHOMA**

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

Saturday Morning -- 10:00 a.m.

1. Devotional
2. Reading of the minutes of the last meeting
3. Call for the church letters
4. Seating of delegates
5. Appointment of pulpit committee
6. Miscellaneous business
7. Adjournment
8. Short recess
9. Sermon

Saturday Afternoon

1. Devotional
2. Treasurer's report
3. Woman's Auxiliary report
4. Selection of association meeting places
5. Election of officers
6. Extending a vote of thanks

MINUTES OF THE THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL  
MEETING OF THE UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE  
WILL BAPTISTS OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

The Union Association of Free Will Baptists met August 4, 1990 at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Weatherford for its annual meeting.

Moderator Rev. Charles Murphy called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., and we were led in prayer by Brother Sonny Perriman. Dr. Thomas L. Marberry led the congregation in singing "Power in the Blood," and the moderator, Rev. Charles Murphy delivered a devotion taken from the Free Will Baptist Articles of Faith.

Clerk Jan Clay read the minutes of the previous meeting, and they were accepted as read. Dr. Thomas Marberry read the church letters and twenty-two delegates were seated. The moderator then recognized all ordained deacons and church clerks who were present.

The moderator appointed Rev. Sandy Shepherd, Rev. Mike Parrott, and Brother Evan Parker to the pulpit committee; they chose Rev. Allen Mabra and Rev. Mike Parrott to preach.

Dr. Thomas Marberry gave a report from Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College. He announced that the college had received considerably more applications than in previous years. He also announced that the Missions Conference will be held November 5-7, 1990, with Lonnie Sparks, Judy Smith, Mike Cousineau, and Clint Morgan as speakers.

Rev. Allen Mabra gave a report on the National Association in Phoenix, Arizona. He reported good preaching and harmonious business. Dr. Marberry added that the delegates had authorized the National Executive Committee to either relocate or remodel the present Headquarters Building.

Rev. Allen Mabra reported that the Woodward Mission had lost some members due to relocation of jobs, etc., but that souls have been saved, and finances have improved during the summer.

Rev. Larry Haggard reported that two had been saved and two rededicated during the past month in the Elk City Mission. He reported that the church owed \$7,500 on its building.

Rev. Larry Haggard gave the Christian Education/Missions Board report. He reported a good spirit and attendance in the recent youth camp.

The association then recessed for fifteen minutes. At 10:55 a.m. the association reconvened with Brother Russell Rayner leading the congregation in singing "I Am Resolved." The Guymon Quartet sang "Just A Little Talk With Jesus," and Brother Russell Rayner sang "Then I Met The Master."

Rev. Allen Mabra brought the first message from Psalm 139:13-18. He challenged the congregation to know what the Bible says about the "Right to Life" issue.

Sister Donna Parrott sang "Shadow of the Steeple." Rev. Mike Parrott brought the second message from I Corinthians 2:12-3:1. He preached about three kinds of people: natural men, carnal men, and spiritual men.

The association was dismissed in prayer for lunch by Brother Bob Wall at 12:10 p.m.

The congregation reconvened at 1:30 p.m.; Brother Russell Rayner led the group in singing "Onward Christian Soldiers." The Webb Duet sang "Two Winning Hands." Sister Connie Thomsen and Sister Belva Mabra sang "I Belong to Him."

Brother Sonny Perriman brought the afternoon devotion from I Corinthians 15:3-4. His subject dealt with using our spiritual power to witness to the lost.

Sister Ladonna Roedell gave the quarterly and annual treasurer's reports. A motion was made to accept these reports; this motion was seconded and carried.

The credentials committee reported that they had met with Rev. Mike Parrott and Brother Victor Lyons and found them to be sound in doctrine and practice. The committee recommended that Victor Lyons be licensed to preach for one year. It also recommended that Rev. Mike Parrott be received into the fellowship of the association pending the arrival of a letter of recommendation from the Poteau River Valley Association. A motion was made to accept these recommendations. This motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. Chris Clay gave a report on the Christian Education/Missions Board's plans for the November Missions Conference with missionaries Bob Thomas, Mike and Deleen Cousineau, Clint Morgan, and Judy Smith. The Board also challenged each church to raise \$400.00 for the conference. Brother Chris Clay explained the "Build My Church" campaign currently being conducted by the the Home Missions Department. They challenged each church to give \$100.00 toward this project for a total of \$1,000.00 from Union Association.

The Christian Education/Missions Board also recommended that the Missions Conference and a Hillsdale Conference be held in alternate years. A motion was made to accept this recommendation; the motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. Chris Clay presented a proposed budget of \$10,000.00 for the work of the Christian Education/Missions Board for the coming year. A motion was made to accept this proposed budget; this motion was seconded and carried.

Sister Belva Mabra gave the report of the Woman's Auxiliary; she announced that the District Retreat would be held September 14-15, 1990, at the Northwest Baptist Campgrounds. She reported that the District Women's Auxiliary annual meeting would be held in conjunction with the retreat.

The moderator conducted the annual election of officers and state delegates. The state

delegates elected were: Pauline Shepherd, Doris Shepherd, Rose Haggard, Dolly Horton, Jan Clay, Melba Lynch, Wilma Marberry, Donna Parrott, Georgia Thomsen, and Belva Mabra. The body elected Rev. Clarence Shepherd as the 1991 General Board Member to the State Association.

Rev. Clarence Shepherd made a motion that the association give the host church a standing vote of thanks for their hospitality.

The meeting was adjourned in prayer to meet again on November 10, 1990, at the Guymon church.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Clay, Clerk

Rev. Charles Murphy, Moderator

DELEGATES PRESENT

Antioch	1	Pampa	3
Clinton	3	Prairie Bell	3
Elk City	1	Weatherford	2
German	1	Webb	3
Guymon	2	Woodward	3

OFFICERS 1990-1991

Moderator ----- Rev. Charles Murphy  
207 Rawlings, Clinton, OK 73601  
(405) 323-6111

Asst. Moderator ----- Rev. Clarence Shepherd  
1112 Camelot, Clinton, OK 73601  
(405) 323-0563

Clerk ----- Mrs. Jan Clay  
809 N. Roosevelt, Guymon, OK 73942  
(405) 338-6494

Asst. Clerk ----- Rev. Thomas Marberry  
1512 SE Sixth St., Moore, OK 73160  
(405) 794-4264

Treasurer ----- Mrs. Ladonna Roedell  
718 North Caddo, Weatherford, OK 73096  
(405) 774-0966

Asst. Treasurer ----- Mrs. Donna Parrott  
522 W. Arlington, Weatherford, OK 73096  
(405) 772-8457

Reporter ----- Mrs. Connie Thomsen  
Rt. 2 Box 79, Taloga, OK 73667  
(405) 328-5380

## QUARTERLY MEETING PLACES FOR 1990-1991

November 10, 1990 ----- Guymon  
February 2, 1991 ----- Elk City  
May 4, 1991 ----- Woodward  
August 3, 1991 ----- Clinton

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. James Thomsen, 5 years ---- Webb  
Rev. L. C. Lynch, 4 years ----- Pampa  
Rev. Allen Mabra, 3 years ----- Woodward  
Mr. Carroll Crispin, 2 years --- Prairie Bell  
Rev. Charles Murphy, 1 year ---- Clinton

## CREDENTIALS BOARD

Rev. Mike Parrott, 5 years ----- Weatherford  
Rev. Charles Murphy, 4 years --- Clinton  
Rev. L. C. Lynch, 3 years ----- Pampa  
Rev. Clarence Shepherd, 2 years- Antioch  
Rev. Thomas Marberry, 1 year --- Prairie Bell

## MISSION AND EDUCATION BOARD

Rev. Chris Clay, 5 years ----- Guymon  
Rev. Eugene Richards, 4 years -- Pampa  
Mrs. Diane Glance, 3 years ----- Clinton  
Rev. Larry Haggard, 2 years ---- Elk City  
Bro. Sonny Perriman, 1 year ---- Webb

## MINISTERS

- Chris Clay ----- (405) 338-6494  
809 N. Roosevelt, Guymon, OK 73942
- Larry Haggard ----- (405) 225-0347  
204 Magnolia, Elk City, OK 73644
- Clyde Hamar ----- (405) 323-4837  
1705 Neptune Drive, Clinton, OK 73601
- Leland Horton ----- (405) 670-6994  
4224 SE 49th., Oklahoma City, OK 73135
- L. C. Lynch ----- (806) 665-2916  
821 N. Dwight, Pampa, TX 79065
- Allen Mabra ----- (405) 254-9197  
Indian Creek S. #23, Woodward, OK 73801
- Thomas Marberry ----- (405) 794-4264  
1512 SE Sixth St., Moore, OK 73160
- Charles Murphy ----- (405) 323-6111  
207 Rawlings, Clinton, OK 73061
- Odie Nunley ----- (405) 338-5279  
1411 N. Beaver, Guymon, OK 73942
- Walter E. (Gene) Richards -(806) 845-2000  
P.O. Box 143, Mobittee, TX 79061
- Clarence Shepherd ----- (405) 323-0563  
1112 Camelot, Clinton, OK 73061
- Mike Parrott ----- (405) 772-8457  
522 W. Arlington, Weatherford, OK 73096

James Thomsen ----- (405) 328-5380  
Rt. 1 Box 80, Taloga, OK 73667

#### CHURCH ADDRESSES

Antioch Free Will Baptist Church  
Rt. 1 Box 37-B  
Butler, OK 73625

Clinton Free Will Baptist Church  
700 North 13th St.  
Clinton, OK 73601 (405) 323-4831

First Free Will Baptist Church  
522 N. Main  
Elk City, OK 73644 (405) 225-7133

German Free Will Baptist Church  
Rt. 1 Box 100  
Butler, OK 73625

Guymon Free Will Baptist Church  
2112 North Oklahoma P.O. Box 1701  
Guymon, OK 73942 (405) 338-3161

Pampa First Free Will Baptist Church  
326 North Ryder St.  
Pampa, TX 79065 (405) 665-2545

Prairie Bell Free Will Baptist Church  
Rt. 1 Box 5  
Putnam, OK 73659

First Free Will Baptist Church  
402 North Custer  
Weatherford, OK 73096 (405) 772-3699

Webb Free Will Baptist Church

Rt. 1

Camargo, OK 73835 (405) 328-5201

Woodward Free Will Baptist Church

1010 40th.

Woodward, OK 73801 (405) 256-6631

ANTIOCH CHURCH LETTER

August 1, 1989 - July 31, 1990

Pastor: Rev. Clarence Shepherd

Clerk: Mrs. Betty Shepherd  
Rt. 1 Box 37-B  
Butler, OK 73625

Ordained ministers - 2

Total Membership - 44

Value of church property: \$25,000.00

Total tithes and offerings: \$9,471.68

Delegates:

Margrette Fawver

Joy Fawver

Pauline Shepherd

Alternates:

Earl Fawver

Kathy Gregory

Georgeina Renison

CLINTON CHURCH LETTER

August 1, 1989 - July 31, 1990

Pastor: Rev. Charles Murphy

Clerk: Doris Shepherd  
Rt. 1 Box 63  
Arapaho, OK 73620

Ordained ministers - 1  
Ordained deacons - 6  
Number of baptisms - 2  
Members added - 2  
Members lost - 1  
Total membership - 185

Value of church property: \$315,000.00

Total tithes and offerings: \$53,906.13

Delegates:  
Diane Glance  
Darlene Smith  
Russell Rayner

State delegate: Doris Shepherd

ELK CITY CHURCH LETTER

August 1, 1989 - July 31, 1990

Pastor: Rev. Larry Haggard

Clerk: Rev. Larry Haggard  
204 Magnolia  
Elk City, OK 73644

Ordained ministers - 1

Licensed ministers - 1

Sunday School enrollment - 117

Sunday School average attendance - 60

Number of baptisms - 17

Members added - 32

Members lost - 8

Total membership - 90

Value of church property: \$75,000.00

Total tithes and offerings: \$19,000.00

Delegates:

Rose Haggard

GERMAN CHURCH LETTER

August 1, 1989 - July 31, 1990

Pastor: Rev. Leland Horton

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

Ordained ministers - 1

Ordained deacons - 3

Sunday School enrollment - 29

Sunday School average attendance - 19

Total church membership - 37

Total tithes and offerings: \$12,032.03

Delegates:

Mrs. Dollie Horton  
Clara Fawver  
Sue Ford

Alternates:

Melba Klein  
Judy Moore  
Debbi Klein

GUYMON CHURCH LETTER

August 1, 1989 - July 31, 1990

Pastor: Rev. Chris Clay

Clerk: Mr. Joe Watson  
2205 N. Beaver  
Guymon, OK 73942

Ordained ministers - 1

Ordained deacons - 3

Sunday School enrollment - 114

Sunday School average attendance - 42

Number of baptisms - 10

Total church membership - 77

Value of church property: \$250,000.00

Total tithes and offerings: \$46,915.13

Delegates:

Joe Watson  
Sharon Watson  
Red Chastine

Alternates:

Bill Dawes  
Vonie Dawes  
Lavena Chastine

PAMPA CHURCH LETTER

August 1, 1989 - July 31, 1990

Pastor: Rev. L. C. Lynch

Clerk: Denise Carter  
412 N. Wells  
Pampa, TX 79065

Ordained ministers - 2

Ordained deacons - 3

Sunday School enrollment - 28

Total church membership - 37

Value of church property: \$50,000.00

Total tithes and offerings: \$19,878.51

Delegates:

Sis. Ruth Richards

Sis. Ethel White

Sis. Melba Lynch

Alternates:

Sis. Agnes Atchley

PRAIRIE BELL CHURCH LETTER

August 1, 1989 - July 31, 1990

Pastor: Rev. Thomas L. Marberry

Clerk: Mrs. Bertha Haggard  
Rt. 1 Box 5  
Putnam, OK 73659

Ordained ministers - 1

Ordained deacons - 1

Sunday School average attendance - 7

Total church membership - 16

Value of church property: \$30,000.00

Total tithes and offerings: \$22,373.00

Delegates:

Wilma Marberry

Fern Crispin

Dwade Skelton

WEATHERFORD CHURCH LETTER

August 1, 1989 - July 31, 1990

Pastor: Rev. Mike Parrott

Clerk: LaDonna Roedell  
718 N. Caddo  
Weatherford, OK 73096

Ordained ministers - 3  
Ordained deacons - 1  
Sunday School enrollment - 60  
Sunday School average attendance - 25  
Number of baptisms - 4  
Members added - 6  
Members lost - 1  
Total church membership - 47

Value of church property: \$130,000.00

Total tithes and offerings: \$27,025.73

Delegates:

Tommy Taylor  
Allen Blaine  
Donna Parrott

WEBB CHURCH LETTER

August 1, 1989 - July 31, 1990

Pastor: Rev. James Thomsen

Clerk: Rhonda Perriman  
Rt. 1 Box 60-A  
Camargo, OK 73835

Ordained ministers - 1

Ordained deacons - 2

Sunday School enrollment - 41

Sunday School average attendance - 30

Members lost - 1

Total church membership - 55

Value of church property: \$93,000.00

Total tithes and offerings: \$51,350.41

Delegates:

Connie Thomsen

Kenny Thomsen

Sonny Perriman

WOODWARD CHURCH LETTER

August 1, 1989 - July 31, 1990

Pastor: Rev. Allen L. Mabra

Clerk: Rev. Allen L. Mabra  
Indian Creek South #23  
Woodward, OK 73801

Ordained ministers - 1  
Sunday School enrollment - 60  
Sunday School average attendance - 45  
Number of baptisms - 22  
Members added - 30  
Members lost - 4  
Total church membership - 77

Value of church property: \$377,000.00

Total tithes and offerings: \$36,704.39

Delegates:

Belva Mabra  
Evan Parker  
Bob Wall

IN MEMORY OF THOSE DECEASED

Clinton Free Will Baptist Church

Dennis Flynn Earles --

May 22, 1900 - January 8, 1990

Birdie Metheny Williams

June 7, 1905 - July 27, 1990

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS  
 Annual Financial Report  
 August 1, 1989 - July 31, 1990

Balance Forward 7/31/89	\$ 2,077.31
Income 8/1/89 - 7/31/90	68,217.70
Disbursements 8/1/89 - 7/31/90	68,095.44
Balance Forward 7/31/90	2,199.57

Giving Through the State Association

Coop	14,954.22
Hillsdale general fund	10,273.16
Let's Go	1,150.00
Founders Club	10.00
CEP	100.00
National Home Missions	2,163.08
National Foreign Missions	753.00
20 x 20	50.00
Highway Helpers	245.00
Mabra	6,139.00
Haggard	645.00
Combs	2,031.87
Deeds	487.87
Wode	1,122.89
Nichols	2,240.00
Holland	175.00
Leatherbury & Martens	2,017.85
Cousineau	1,020.00
Sparks	512.87
Midgett	1,543.00
J. Smith	98.00
Banks	240.00
Vera Land Fund	65.00
Reeves	850.00
Hunt	288.00

Johnson	50.00
Mexico	881.00
Mexico Bible Institute	125.00
World Mission	295.00
Leatherbury & Martens Car	166.00
Hillsdale Mexico Trip	750.00
Hillsdale Scholarship	200.00
Crosby	245.00
Bob Thomas, CO	20.00
Mark Thomas	132.00
McLain	40.00
Stephens	1,022.75
Fields	1,047.00
Inscoe	80.00
Payne	60.00
Bunch	11.00

TOTAL \$54,299.56

Misc. Expenses

CTS Convention Expenses	73.99
Treasurer's Honorarium	460.00
Scholarships	500.00
Printing of Minutes	256.20
Representation Fee	350.00
Checks	18.99
Hillsdale Harvester Ad	150.00
Speakers - Bible Conference	225.00

TOTAL \$2,034.18

Youth Camp Report

Income	4,632.63
Disbursements	4,404.26
Balance	228.37

## Mission Conference Report

Total offering	3,610.00
Offering through churches	2,241.56
Offering through association	684.54
Offering at conference	473.90
Designated offering	210.00

## Disbursements

Mike Fields	850.00
Lynn Midgett	850.00
Jim Combs	850.00
Ken Stephens	850.00
Designated	210.00

Total disbursements 3,610.00

## Elk City Building Fund

Through churches	4,177.70
Through association	2,414.66
Knock A Thon	765.08
TOTAL	7,357.44

## YEARLY REPORT OF CHURCHES August 1, 1989 - July 31, 1990

### ANTIOCH

COOP	421.28
Hillsdale	821.28
National Home Missions	250.00
Mabra	400.00
Elk City Building Fund	400.00

Combs	\$ 25.00
Midgett	25.00
Stephens	25.00
Fields	197.00
Representation Fee	65.00
TOTAL	2,629.56

#### CLINTON

COOP	3,793.56
Hillsdale	3,182.88
Let's Go	50.00
Founders Club	10.00
Mabra	1,070.00
Elk City Building Fund	724.61
Wode	381.00
Nichols	485.00
Sparks	161.00
Mexico	490.00
Crosby	40.00
Missions Conference	457.83
Representation Fee	65.00
TOTAL	10,910.88

#### ELK CITY

COOP	542.00
CEP	100.00
Highway Helpers	70.00
Mabra	95.00
Nichols	85.00
Leatherbury & Martens	280.00
Cousineau	40.00

Sparks	180.00
J. Smith	45.00
McLain	40.00
Vera Land Fund	40.00
Mexico	45.00
Crosby	120.00
Inscoe	80.00
Mission Conference	590.00
Mark Thomas	132.00
TOTAL	2,484.00

#### GERMAN

COOP	1,183.20
Hillsdale	180.00
National Home Missions	220.00
Mabra	1,800.00
Haggard	480.00
Wode	120.00
Cousineau	120.00
Sparks	60.00
Banks	240.00
Representation Fee	65.00
TOTAL	4,468.20

#### GUYMON

COOP	3,715.00
Hillsdale	440.00
National Foreign Missions	115.00
National Home Missions	55.00
Mabra	505.00
Haggard	55.00
Elk City Building Fund	275.00

Combs	601.87
Deeds	166.87
Wode	111.89
Nichols	155.00
Sparks	111.87
Payne	60.00
Russell Johnson	50.00
Missions Conference	200.00
Hillsdale Trip to Mexico	350.00
Mark Thomas	20.00
Representation Fee	65.00
TOTAL	7,052.50

#### PAMPA

COOP	1,969.00
Hillsdale	984.00
National Foreign Missions	518.00
National Home Missions	658.58
Nichols	50.00
Judy Smith	53.00
Tom Hunt	288.00
Stephens	147.75
Missions Conference	135.00
Representation Fee	65.00
TOTAL	4,868.33

#### PRAIRIE BELL

COOP	974.00
Hillsdale	4,365.00
Let's Go	1,100.00
National Foreign Missions	30.00
National Home Missions	608.00

Highway Helpers	175.00
Mabra	1,845.00
Haggard	60.00
Elk City Building Fund	925.00
Combs	275.00
Deeds	275.00
Wode	110.00
Nichols	530.00
Holland	135.00
Leatherbury & Martens	590.00
Midgett	125.00
Crosby	85.00
Missions Conference	200.00
Hillsdale Trip to Mexico	400.00
Hillsdale Scholarship	200.00
Hillsdale Scholarship (Redinger)	100.00
Mexico Bible Institute	30.00
Representation Fee	65.00
World Missions	295.00
20 x 20	40.00
TOTAL	13,537.00

#### WEATHERFORD

COOP	3,121.13
Mabra	139.00
Elk City Building Fund	155.00
Deeds	46.00
Nichols	50.00
Bunch	11.00
Leatherbury & Martens	19.00
Midgett	108.00
Reeves	6.00
Mexico	46.00

Missions Conference	538.73
Mexico Bible Institute	75.00
Representation Fee	65.00
TOTAL	4,379.86

WEBB

COOP	1,398.09
Hillsdale	300.00
National Foreign Missions	60.00
National Home Missions	320.00
Mabra	285.00
Haggard	50.00
Elk City Building Fund	1,398.09
Combs	280.00
Nichols	285.00
Holland	40.00
Leatherbury & Martens	1,118.85
Cousineau	870.00
Reeves	785.00
Mexico Bible Institute	20.00
Leatherbury & Martens Car	166.00
Representation Fee	65.00
20 x 20	10.00
Elk City Knock A Thon	765.08
Youth Camp	10.00
TOTAL	8,226.11

WOODWARD

COOP	2,821.73
National Foreign Missions	30.00
National Home Missions	51.50
Elk City Building Fund	300.00

Nichols	\$ 300.00
Midgett	435.00
Vera Land Fund	25.00
Reeves	59.00
Mexico	300.00
Missions Conference	120.00
Representation Fee	65.00
TOTAL	4,507.23

GRAND TOTALS - REPORT OF CHURCHES

COOP	\$19,938.99
Hillsdale	10,273.16
Let's Go	1,150.00
Founders Club	10.00
CEP	100.00
National Foreign Missions	753.00
National Home Missions	2,163.08
Highway Helpers	245.00
Mabra	6,139.00
Haggard	645.00
Elk City Building Fund	4,177.70
Combs	1,181.87
Deeds	487.87
Wode	722.89
Nichols	1,940.00
Holland	175.00
Bunch	11.00
Leatherbury & Martens	2,007.85
Cousineau	1,030.00
Sparks	512.87
Payne	60.00
Midgett	693.00
J. Smith	98.00

Banks	\$ 240.00
McLain	40.00
Vera Land Fund	65.00
Reeves	850.00
Russell Johnson	50.00
Tom Hunt	288.00
Mexico	881.00
Stephens	172.75
Fields	197.00
Crosby	245.00
Inscoe	80.00
Missions Conference	2,241.56
Hillsdale Trip to Mexico	750.00
Hillsdale Scholarship	200.00
Hillsdale Scholarship (Redinger)	100.00
Mark Thomas	152.00
Mexico Bible Institute	125.00
Leatherbury & Martens Car	166.00
Representation Fees	585.00
20 x 20	50.00
World Missions	295.00
Elk City Knock A Thon	765.08
Youth Camp	10.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$63,063.67

Misc. Income --

CTS Competition Proceeds	57.50
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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, and assistant 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.

