

# *Minutes*

of the

## **39th Annual Meeting**

of the

Union Association

of

Free Will Baptists

of the

State of Oklahoma

**August 1, 1992**

*when convened with the*

**FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
ELK CITY, OKLAHOMA**

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## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

### **Saturday Morning-10:00 a.m.**

1. Devotional
2. Reading of the minutes of the last meeting
3. Call for 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

**November 9, 1991**

LOCATION: Pampa, TX. Mission Conference speakers were: Mike Fields, Ernest Holland, Larry Haggard, and Earnie Deeds.

The business meeting was called into session by the moderator after lunch. Twelve delegates from nine churches were seated. All churches except Weatherford reported. Minutes were approved. Financial report was read and approved.

Clarence Shepherd reported that the Credentials Board had found Rev. Harry Standley true in faith, practice, and doctrine, and recommended approval for membership, pending receipt of a letter from the Tulsa Area Quarterly Meeting of the First Mission Association. Allen moved to accept the board's recommendation. Carried.

Bro. Shepherd moved to give the host church a standing vote of thanks for their hospitality. Carried.

Allen Mabra moved to add \$516 to the offering to make it \$2,000 and to split it equally among the four missionaries. Carried.

As Amy Murphy is now attending Hillsdale, her name was added to the list of scholarship recipients. Meeting adjourned.

• Belva Mabra, Clerk

**February 1, 1992**

LOCATION: German. Moderator called the meeting to order with special prayer for Clyde Hamar. Minutes were approved. Nine churches reported, with 25 delegates present. German church reported being without a pastor at present. Steve Robinson moved to seat the delegates. Carried.

Mark Coyner and O. J. Hood brought the worship messages. Rev. Jack Richey brought the devotional after lunch. Financial report was read and approved. Sonny Perriman gave the C.E. Board report on Youth Camp. He recommended each church give an offering to help with expenses each year. J. C. Smith moved to accept report. Carried.

Bro. Marberry reported Arilla Wode's retirement and moved to cease the association's support of her. Carried. He also moved to purchase a \$150 ad in the Hillsdale Harvester. Carried.

Clarence Shepherd moved to give \$1,000 to Hillsdale from the association. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Belva Mabra, Clerk

**May 2, 1992**

LOCATION: Webb. Hillsdale Bible Conference speakers were: Bill Stringer, Mike King, and Keith Hatton. Special music was brought by the New Life Singers of Hillsdale.

Moderator called the meeting to order following lunch. Minutes were approved. Nine churches reported with 22 delegates present. Harry Standley moved

to seat them. Carried.

Allen Mabra read the Treasurer's report and moved to accept. Carried. Sonny Perriman gave the C.E. Board report. He moved to pay the camp evangelist, Bobby Thomas, \$500. Carried.

Clarence Shepherd made the motion to give a standing vote of thanks to the host church for their hospitality. Carried.  
Belva Mabra, Clerk

### August 1, 1992

LOCATION: Elk City. Moderator opened the meeting with a devotional. Minutes were read and approved. Church letters read with all but Weatherford reporting. Elk City requested their new pastor, Roger Woodson, be examined for ordination by Free Will Baptists. Russel Raynor moved to seat the 15 delegates and refer Rev. Woodson to the Credentials Board. Carried.

State delegates were appointed. Bro. Marberry reported that each church's national representation fee will increase next year from \$10 to \$25 because of rising costs of hosting the national convention.

The clerk read a letter from South Grand River Association requesting a letter of good standing for Larry Haggard. Roy McCreary made a motion to grant letter. Carried.

The clerk read a letter of resignation from Thomas Marberry, Assistant Clerk, announcing his departure from Union Association at the end of August. Russel Raynor moved to accept with regret. Motion carried.

Thomas Marberry and Roger Woodson preached the worship messages.

The afternoon session opened with prayer. Allen Mabra read the Treasurer's report and moved to accept. Carried.

The Credentials Board recommended Roger Woodson be licensed to preach for one year and at that time be examined for ordination. L. C. Lynch moved to accept the Board's recommendation. Motion carried.

The Mission/C.E. Board made the following recommendations: (1) To move Hillsdale Emphasis month to February to coincide with "Have-a-Heart for Hillsdale" month. (2) To have a Minister's (Bible) Conference at the May quarterly meeting. (3) To ask each church to take an offering before the Missions Conference in November with a goal of \$2,000 for the two foreign and one home missionary coming. Clarence Shepherd moved to vote on the above recommendations item by item. Motion carried. Each item carried.

Clarence Shepherd moved to give a standing vote of commendation and appreciation to Thomas and Wilma Marberry. Carried.

Clarence Shepherd moved to give a standing vote of thanks to the host church for their hospitality. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned with prayer.  
Belva Mabra, Clerk

## 1992-93 MEETINGS

Missions Conference  
Hillsdale Bible Conference  
Quarterly Meeting  
Annual Meeting

Clinton  
Antioch  
Woodward  
Guymon

November 7, 1992  
February 6, 1993  
May 1, 1993  
August 7, 1993

## OFFICERS 1992-93

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

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

Clerk ..... Mrs. Belva Mabra  
923 34th Street, Woodward, OK 73801  
(405) 254-9197

Assistant Clerk ..... Mrs. Susie Robinson  
103 South Sunset Lane, Guymon, OK 73942  
(405) 338-1532

Treasurer ..... Mrs. Melisa Elder  
719 Cherry, Woodward, OK 73801  
(405) 254-3126

Assistant Treasurer ..... Mrs. Jane Romine  
521 16th Street, Woodward, OK 73801  
(405) 256-2285

Reporter ..... Mrs. Susan Parker  
Rt. 3, Box 224-B, Woodward, OK 73801  
(405) 256-8588

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. Clarence Shepherd, 5 years .....	Antioch
Rev. Charles Murphy, 4 years .....	Clinton
Rev. James Thomsen, 3 years (Chairman) .....	Webb
Rev. L. C. Lynch, 2 years .....	Pampa
Rev. Allen Mabra, 1 year .....	Woodward

## CREDENTIALS BOARD

Rev. Clarence Shepherd, 5 years (Chairman) .....	Antioch
Rev. Allen Mabra, 4 years .....	Woodward
Rev. James Thomsen, 3 years .....	Webb
Rev. Charles Murphy, 2 years .....	Clinton
Rev. L. C. Lynch, 1 year .....	Pampa

## MISSIONS AND EDUCATION BOARD

Mr. John Coburn, 5 years (Chairman) .....	Woodward
Mr. Sonny Perriman, 4 years .....	Webb
Mr. Victor Lyons, 3 years .....	Webb
Mr. Evan Parker, 2 years .....	Woodward
Mrs. Diane Glance, 1 year .....	Clinton

## GENERAL BOARD MEMBER 1993

Rev. Clarence Shepherd .....	Antioch
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## ORDAINED MINISTERS

Kuykendall, Bobby .....	(405) 772-8049
820 N. Proctor, Weatherford, OK 73096	
Lynch, L. C. ....	(806) 665-2916
821 N Dwight, Pampa, TX 79065	
Mabra, Allen .....	(405) 254-9197
923 34th St., Woodward, OK 73801	
Marberry, Thomas .....	(405) 794-4264
1512 S.E. 6th, Moore, OK 73160	
Murphy, Charles .....	(405) 323-6111
207 Rawlings, Clinton, OK 73601	
Nunley, Odell .....	(405) 338-3161
1411 N. Beaver, Guymon, OK 73942	
Robinson, Stephen J. ....	(405) 338-1532
103 Sunset Lane, Guymon, OK 73942	
Shepherd, Clarence .....	(405) 323-0563
1112 Camelot, Clinton, OK 73601	
Thomsen, James .....	(405) 328-5380
Rt. 2, Box 80, Taloga, OK 73667	

## **CHURCH ADDRESSES**

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

**First Free Will Baptist Church**  
700 North 13th Street  
Clinton, OK 73601  
(405) 323-4831

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

**First Free Will Baptist Church**  
1738 North Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 1707  
Guymon, OK 73942  
(405) 338-3161

**First Free Will Baptist Church**  
731 Sloan  
P.O. Box 324  
Pampa, TX 79065  
(806) 665-2545

**Webb Free Will Baptist Church**  
Rt. 1, Box 59-B  
Camargo, OK 73835  
(405) 328-5201

**Woodward Free Will Baptist Church**  
1010 40th  
Woodward, OK 73801  
(405) 256-6631

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

## **ANTIOCH CHURCH LETTER**

**Pastor:** Rev. Clarence Shepherd

**Clerk:** Mrs. Betty Shepherd  
Rt. 1, Box 37-B  
Butler, OK 73625  
(405) 664-2515

**Ordained ministers:** 2  
**Total membership:** 44  
**Sunday School average attendance:** 21

**Value of church property:** \$25,000

**Total tithes and offerings:** \$8,979.30

**Delegates:**  
Margrette Fawver  
Joy Fawver  
Pauline Shepherd

**Alternates:**  
Geraldeen Shepherd  
Kathy Gregory  
Georgina Renison

## **CLINTON CHURCH LETTER**

**Pastor:** Rev. Charles Murphy

**Clerk:** Doris Shepherd  
RR 1, Box 63  
Arapaho, OK 73620  
(405) 323-2831

**Ordained Ministers:** 2  
**Ordained Deacons:** 6  
**Number of Baptisms:** 1  
**Members added:** 4  
**Total membership:** 190  
**Sunday School enrollment:** 125  
**Sunday School average attendance:** 80

**Value of church property:** \$315,000

**Total tithes and offerings:** \$62,337.81

**Delegates:** Diane Glance  
Leta Raynor  
Russell Raynor

**State Delegate:** Doris Shepherd

## **ELK CITY CHURCH LETTER**

Pastor: Rev. Roger Woodson

Clerk: Sandy Bledsoe  
117 Herring  
Elk City, OK 73644  
(405) 225-7207

Number of Baptisms: 4  
Members added: 12  
Total membership: 66  
Sunday School enrollment: 54  
Average Sunday School attendance: 40

Value of church property: \$115,000

Total tithes and offerings: \$21,155.57

Delegates: Ray McCreary  
Jack Lourance  
Jerry Elrod

## **GERMAN CHURCH LETTER**

Pastor: None

Clerk: Mrs. Beulah Klein  
Rt. 1, Box 100  
Butler, OK 73615  
(405) 664-2025

Ordained deacons: 3  
Members lost: 1  
Total membership: 33  
Sunday School average attendance: 22

Total tithes and offerings: \$12,783.46

Delegates: Judy Moore  
Melba Klein  
Clara Fawver

Alternate: Sue Ford

## **GUYMON CHURCH LETTER**

Pastor: Rev. Stephen J. Robinson

Clerk: Mr. Joe Watson  
2205 North Beaver  
Guymon, OK 73942  
(405) 338-5783

Number of ordained ministers: 1  
Number of ordained deacons: 3  
Number of baptisms: 1  
Total membership: 79  
Sunday School enrollment: 76  
Average Sunday School attendance: 44

Value of church property: \$295,000.00

Total tithes and offerings: \$47,662.78

Delegate: Susie Robinson

## **PAMPA CHURCH LETTER**

Pastor: Rev. L. C. Lynch

Clerk: Mrs. Betty Carter  
412 North Wells  
Pampa, TX 79065  
(806) 665-2425

Ordained ministers: 1  
Ordained deacons: 3  
Members lost: 4  
Total membership: 40  
Sunday School enrollment: 30  
Average Sunday School attendance: 26

Value of church property: \$90,000.00

Total tithes and offerings: \$9,021.71

Delegates: Agnas Atchley  
Lee Gillis  
Melba Lynch

Alternate:  
Mary Waldrop

## **PRAIRIE BELL CHURCH LETTER**

Pastor: Dr. Thomas Marberry

Clerk: Mrs. Bertha Haggard  
Rt. 1, Box 5  
Putnam, OK 73659  
(405) 582-6336

Ordained ministers: 1  
Ordained deacons: 1  
Sunday School enrollment: 6  
Average Sunday School attendance: 6  
Total membership: 14

Value of church property: \$15,000.00

Total tithes and offerings: \$13,604.00

Delegates: Wilma Marberry Fern Crispin

## **WEBB CHURCH LETTER**

Pastor: James Thomsen

Clerk: Mrs. Rhonda Perriman  
Rt. 1, Box 60-A  
Camargo, OK 73835  
(405) 328-5247

Ordained ministers: 1  
Licensed ministers: 1  
Ordained deacons: 2  
Members added: 3  
Members lost: 2  
Total membership: 54  
Sunday School enrollment: 39  
Average Sunday School attendance: 30

Value of church property: \$377,000.00

Total tithes and offerings: \$77,771.64

Delegates: Susan Parker L. D. Horstkoetter  
Greg Reed

## WOODWARD CHURCH LETTER

Pastor: Rev. Allen Mabra

Clerk: Mrs. Melisa Elder  
719 Cherry  
Woodward, OK 73801  
(405) 254-3126

Ordained ministers: 1

Number of baptisms: 29

Members added: 54

Members lost: 16

Total membership: 133

Sunday School enrollment: 121

Average Sunday School attendance: 70

Value of church property: \$377,000.00

Total tithes and offerings: \$77,771.64

Delegates: Susan Parker  
Greg Reed  
L. D. Horstkoetter

## ANNUAL LETTER FROM DISTRICT ASSOCIATION TO STATE ASSOCIATION

Union Association of Free Will Baptists to Oklahoma State Association of Free Will Baptists meeting at Oklahoma City, OK on October 12-15, 1992.

Period of time this report covers: From August 1, 1991 to July 31, 1992.

Present Moderator's Name: Rev. Charles Murphy, 207 Rawlings, Clinton, OK 73601 (405) 323-6111.

Delegates:	Ray McCreary	Beulah Klein
	Susie Robinson	Melba Lynch
	Wilma Marberry	Georgia Thomsen
	Belva Mabra	Doris Shepherd

### STATISTICAL INFORMATION

No. of churches:	10		
No. churches reporting:	9		
No. of baptisms:	35		
No. of parsonages:	3		
No. churches full time pastor:	7	part time	1
No. churches: City	5	Rural:	4
No. ordained ministers:	10	Licensed ministers:	2
Combined total membership:	653		
Total members added:	73	lost:	23
Combined value churches, parsonages:	\$1,350,000.00		
No. ordained deacons:	18		
No. churches with Day Cares:	1;	Kindergartens:	1
Christian Day Schools:	1		
Sunday School enrollment:	494	Avg. Attendance:	339
CTS enrollment:	60	Avg. Attendance:	54
WNAC enrollment:	71	Avg. Attendance:	51
Master's Men enrollment:	8	Avg. Attendance:	4

### STEWARDSHIP INFORMATION

Total income of all member churches:	\$300,242.03
Number of churches with budgets:	4
Combined value of all church property:	\$1,350,000
No. of State Assn. Minutes requested:	30
Representation fee enclosed:	\$315.00

Belva Mabra, Clerk  
923 34th St.  
Woodward, OK 73801  
(405) 254-9197

# UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

## Annual Financial Report August 1, 1991—July 31, 1992

### INCOME

Balance forward .....	\$ 346.18	
Total deposits .....	57,772.62	
Interest .....	125.09	
CTS Competition fees .....	95.00	
Scholarships returned .....	200.00	
Youth Camp Income .....	3,224.89	
TOTAL .....		\$61,763.78

### EXPENSES

Giving through State .....	\$49,376.16	
Giving to Elk City .....	1,481.57	
Giving to Woodward .....	60.00	
Special gifts .....	650.00	
Mission Conference .....	2,000.00	
Youth Camp .....	4,931.58	
Treasurer's Honorarium .....	480.00	
Scholarships .....	300.00	
Hillsdale Harvester Ad .....	150.00	
Bobbi Jo Redinger .....	200.00	
Van's Printing (minutes) .....	296.50	
CTS Competition Expense .....	118.90	
Postage .....	30.44	
Woodward FWB (reimburse) .....	31.15	
TOTAL .....		\$60,106.30
BALANCE .....		1,657.48
Bookkeeping error (add) .....		11.13
CORRECTED BALANCE .....		\$1,668.61

### BREAKDOWN OF GIVING THROUGH STATE

Cooperative Plan .....	\$15,707.16
Hillsdale (General Fund) .....	10,901.64
Hillsdale Let's Go .....	35.00
Hillsdale Mexico Trip .....	65.00
Hillsdale Have-a-Heart .....	3,325.00
Hillsdale (Marberry Mexico Trip) .....	50.00
Woodward .....	2,790.00
Mexico .....	360.00

Mexico Bible Institute .....	160.00	
Hugo Mission .....	51.32	
Ivory Coast Clinic .....	250.00	
Jim Combs .....	1,183.00	
Mike Cousineau .....	933.00	
Earnie Deeds .....	1,543.17	
Larry Haggard .....	611.86	
Leatherbury & Martens .....	1,525.00	
Ernest Holland .....	90.00	
Orville Hood .....	1,956.79	
T. Hunt .....	520.21	
Lynn Midgett .....	60.00	
Darrel Nichols .....	850.00	
Steve Reeves .....	415.00	
Darrell Smith .....	235.00	
J. Smith .....	165.00	
Lonnie Sparks .....	395.00	
Arilla Wode .....	244.58	
Foreign Missions (General) .....	2,328.45	
Home Missions (General) .....	598.30	
State Missions (General) .....	160.00	
Church Representation Fees .....	350.00	
From Association General Fund		
Have-a-Heart .....	1,000.00	
Arilla Wode .....	350.00	
Hugo Mission .....	166.68	
TOTAL .....		\$49,376.16

### MISSION CONFERENCE

#### Receipts:

From Churches .....	\$1,584.00	
From Association .....	416.00	
.....		\$2,000.00

#### Disbursements:

Earnie Deeds .....	\$ 500.00	
Ernest Holland .....	500.00	
Larry Haggard .....	500.00	
Mike Fields .....	500.00	
.....		\$2,000.00

### YOUTH CAMP REPORT

Income .....	\$3,706.78	
Expenditures .....	4,931.58	
		-\$1,224.80

## DIRECT GIVING

Elk City Building Fund	
Through churches .....	\$1,481.57
Woodward FWB Church	
Through churches .....	\$ 60.00
Special Gifts	
Kimura .....	\$ 250.00
Bobbi Jo Redinger .....	400.00
.....	\$650.00

## YEARLY REPORT OF CHURCHES

August 1, 1991—July 31, 1992

### ANTIOCH

Co-op .....	\$ 418.11
Hillsdale General Fund .....	1,718.11
Hillsdale Have-a-Heart .....	200.00
Mission Conference .....	100.00
Youth Camp .....	50.00
Minutes & Fees .....	65.00

\$2,551.22

### CLINTON

Co-op .....	\$3,962.00
Hillsdale General Fund .....	5,281.79
Hillsdale—Let's Go .....	35.00
Hillsdale Have-a-Heart .....	2,475.00
Elk City .....	185.40
Woodward .....	375.00
Mexico .....	350.00
Earnie Deeds .....	20.17
Larry Haggard .....	16.50
Darrel Nichols .....	415.00
Lonnie Sparks .....	155.00
Arilla Wode .....	94.58
Foreign Missions—General .....	2,000.00
Mission Conference .....	1,044.00
Minutes & Fees .....	65.00

\$16,474.44

### ELK CITY

Co-op .....	\$1,600.51	
Earnie Deeds .....	50.00	
Larry Haggard .....	76.00	
Orville Hood .....	91.87	
Mission Conference .....	15.00	
Youth Camp .....	100.00	
Minutes & Fees .....	65.00	
		\$1,998.38

### GERMAN

Co-op .....	\$1,289.70	
Hillsdale General Fund .....	445.00	
Hillsdale Have-a-Heart .....	400.00	
Woodward .....	1,350.00	
Mike Cousineau .....	120.00	
Orville Hood .....	1,410.00	
Lonnie Sparks .....	60.00	
Arilla Wode .....	60.00	
Youth Camp .....	50.00	
Minutes & Fees .....	65.00	
		\$5,249.70

### GUYMON

Co-op .....	\$3,933.00	
Hillsdale General Fund .....	480.00	
Woodward .....	130.00	
Hugo Building Fund .....	51.32	
Jim Combs .....	530.00	
Earnie Deeds .....	205.00	
Larry Haggard .....	220.00	
Darrel Nichols .....	60.00	
Lonnie Sparks .....	180.00	
Arilla Wode .....	60.00	
Foreign Missions (General) .....	10.00	
Home Missions (General) .....	30.00	
State Missions (General) .....	80.00	
Mission Conference .....	125.00	
Minutes & Fees .....	65.00	
		\$6,159.32

### PAMPA

Co-op .....	\$1,212.11
Larry Haggard .....	54.36
T. Hunt .....	520.21
Darrel Nichols .....	80.00
J. Smith .....	140.00
Foreign Missions (General) .....	318.45
Home Missions (General) .....	378.30
Youth Camp .....	50.00
Minutes & Fees .....	65.00

\$2,818.43

### PRAIRIE BELL

Co-op .....	\$ 752.60
Hillsdale (General Fund) .....	2,545.00
Hillsdale Have-a-Heart .....	250.00
Hillsdale Mexico Trip .....	65.00
Hillsdale—Marberry Mexico Trip .....	50.00
Elk City .....	100.00
Woodward .....	995.00
Mexico .....	10.00
Mexico Bible Institute .....	150.00
Jim Combs .....	300.00
Earnie Deeds .....	560.00
Larry Haggard .....	200.00
Leatherbury/Martens .....	825.00
Ernest Holland .....	80.00
J. Smith .....	25.00
Arilla Wode .....	30.00
Home Missions (General) .....	170.00
Mission Conference .....	200.00
Union Association Deficit Fund .....	50.00
Youth Camp .....	55.00
Minutes & Fees .....	65.00

\$7,477.60

### WEATHERFORD

Co-op .....	\$ 284.92
Hillsdale General Fund .....	50.00

\$ 334.92

### WEBB

Co-op .....	\$1,196.17
Hillsdale General Fund .....	250.00
Elk City .....	1,196.17
Mexico Bible Institute .....	10.00
Ivory Coast Clinic .....	250.00
Jim Combs .....	353.00
Mike Cousineau .....	813.00
Earnie Deeds .....	708.00
Leatherbury/Martens .....	700.00
Ernest Holland .....	10.00
Orville Hood .....	90.00
Darrel Nichols .....	175.00
Steve Reeves .....	175.00
Home Mission General Fund .....	20.00
State Mission General Fund .....	80.00
Bobbi Jo Redinger .....	400.00
Kimura .....	250.00
Youth Camp .....	45.00
Minutes & Fees .....	65.00

\$6,786.34

### WOODWARD

Co-op .....	\$6,293.74
Hillsdale General Fund .....	131.74
Larry Haggard .....	45.00
Orville Hood .....	364.92
Lynn Midgett .....	60.00
Darrel Nichols .....	120.00
Steve Reeves .....	240.00
Darrel Smith .....	235.00
Mission Conference .....	100.00
Youth Camp .....	131.89

\$7,722.29

# CONSTITUTION OF THE UNION ASSOCIATION OF 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 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 his or her credentials, license, ordination, certificate, etc.

The following form must be signed by each 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 the person lodging the 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. II Tim. 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 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. 5:2; 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 excepted). Acts 20:21; I 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 at 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 Baptism of the Holy Ghost separate from regeneration or birth of the spirit.

