

HILLSDALE CONFERENCE – WOODWARD, MARCH 3, 2001

The Union Association of Free Will Baptists met in conjunction with the Hillsdale Conference at Woodward Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday, March 3, 2001. Pastor Allen Mabra welcomed everyone to the meeting, and Moderator Sandy Shepherd led in prayer.

The New Life Ministry Team from Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College blessed with songs and testimonies for the first hour of worship. A break followed and a congregational song, "The Solid Rock." We then entered into the ordination service for Bro. Jeremy Lightsey, youth minister at Woodward Free Will Baptist Church and recent graduate of Hillsdale. Sister Lori Hale sang, "Ten Thousand Angels Cried," and Bro. Michael Lightsey, Jeremy Lightsey's father, sang "Beulah Land." Bro. Bill Jones, Jeremy's childhood pastor and former Hillsdale college president, brought the message from II Timothy chapters 1-3. Bro. Allen Mabra gave the charge using I Timothy 1:18-19. Bro. Charlie Murphy of Clinton gave the presentation of the Bible, using II Timothy 3:14-17. Bro. Bill Jones invited all the ordained who were present to join him in the laying on of hands, as he led in the ordination prayer. Bros. Sandy Shepherd, Bill Jones, Eugene Hamilton, Allen Mabra, and Charlie Murphy signed Bro. Jeremy's ordination certificate. Bro. Jones thanked Bro. Allen for teaching and training both Jeremy and Jill during the last two years while they have been at the Woodward church. Jeremy's and Jill's families were asked to stand up front along with them and receive the right hand of fellowship from the congregation after the dismissal prayer led by Bro. Hewitt of Guymon.

After lunch, the business meeting began with a congregational song, "I Know Whom I Have Believed." Bro. Johnny Conyers led in prayer. Moderator Charlie Murphy asked Jack Richey to report on the Hillsdale Have a Heart program. Enrollment is up, and classroom space is "used up." The new building is badly needed. Have a Heart helps the budget to operate in the black, and it also helps where the general fund cannot. A goal of \$8,000 has been set for the Union Association, which needs to be in by June 1. The yearly goal is \$175,000.

Bro. Allen Mabra reported on two Hillsdale projects: (1) "One Brick at a Time," which allows individuals or groups to purchase bricks for \$100 each, to be placed in front of the new chapel when it is built. They may be designated for Alumni, Memorial, or Donor. (2) The second annual Hillsdale Auction will be held April 20th, from 6:00 to 10:00 pm. Donations to the auction were encouraged.

Bro. Allen also reported from the State Mission Board. This is the third year of our TSP (Total Support Program) program. Before the program was implemented, overall mission giving in the state was \$300,000. Last year in December a total of \$801,000 was reported during the year. This shows that the program is working. A total of \$1,000,000 is needed to support all the missionaries from Oklahoma. Our next state work will probably be around Claremore.

The moderator asked for the reading of the minutes of the last meeting. Clerk Belva Mabra read the minutes and the letters from member churches. Delegates were present from Antioch, Clinton, Enid, German, Guymon, Pampa, and Woodward. A letter was read from the Webb Church, telling of their decision to close the church. Most of the members have moved their membership to the Woodward Church. Bro. Johnny Conyers moved to accept the minutes and seat the delegates.

The Treasurer's Report was given. Bro. John Hewett moved to accept the report. Bro. Allen then gave the Executive Board Report. They offered five recommendations: (1) Give \$2,000 to the Have a Heart campaign. (2) Give \$2,000 to Hillsdale's General Fund. (3) Split today's \$310 offering equally between the two Hillsdale funds. (4) Give \$100 to the Hillsdale Chapel fund from the Union Association as a donor, and (5) Give \$200 to Bro. Bill Jones for traveling expenses. Bro. Tom Smith made the motion to accept the report and approve the recommendations item by item. All five were approved.

The auxiliary report was given by Belva. She told of the state retreat coming in April at Tulsa with Mrs. J.C. Watts and Jenny Broughton as guest speakers. She reminded the churches that anyone interested in CTS competition needed to contact her soon.

Bro. Sandy moved to give a "standing" vote of thanks to the host church. The motion carried. Following announcements, Bro. Gary Kirk dismissed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Belva Mabra, Clerk

Associational Meeting--Sept. 15, 2001

The meeting began with a congregational song, "Higher Ground", led by Scott Gaston. Gary Stambaugh let in prayer next. Another congregational song, "Revive Us Again" was sung.

Bro. Allen M. welcomed everyone and introduced Curt Holland from the Ivory Coast, Thomas and Wilma Maberry, Jim Puckett, and Bob Thomson.

Ronna McCubbin sang a special, "Hallelulah"

Curt Holland was our first speaker and preached from II Cor. 4:1-6, II Cor. 6: 4-10, II Cor. 4:7-10. He spoke on 4 reasons why to have a missions conference and why to have missionaries come to your church. 1. importance of the Gospel and the power 2. missionaries themselves--to hear their testimonies 3. to hear about mission fields around the world that need to hear the gospel 4. Christ deserves to be worshipped around the world. Curt ended his message with a prayer.

We had a small break.

Scott G. let in singing 2 congregational songs: "Mansion Over the Hilltop" and "When We All Get to Heaven". A special was sung by Belva and Scott: "Bowed on my Knees and Cried Holy". A special was also sung by Scott: "The Anchor Holds".

Thomas Maberry was our next speaker and preached from Luke 7:36-50. His message was "What It Takes to be a Christian". The 3 requirements in order to be a child of God: 1. we need to develop a great humility of heart--to go anywhere and do anything for God, 2. a great sense of personal need to be saved and our need for Jesus, 3. a great love for Jesus and His work.

We dismissed in prayer and had lunch.

Scott G. led the congregation in singing "How Great Thou Art". Kendra Parker sang a special, "Is There a Heaven For Me?" Bob Hale sang a special, "Paid in Full".

Bro. Charlie M. called the business session to order. Bro. Jim Puckett spoke again and used the verses, Rom. 5: 6-8. He told how bad mankind is and that is why the terrorists acted like they did in New York City. They need Jesus. Then Bro. Jim prayed. He gave some information about TSP. It is working because it is now paying 95% of missionaries' salaries and expenses. We need to teach our kids to give to missions; 85% of the people giving to missions are born before 1945.

Bro. Curt Holland spoke again and told about how the Ivory Coast church is growing. The govt. is still not stable, the crime rate is high, the economy is low, but the church is thriving.

Bro. Thomas Maberry spoke again and told us about the work in Mexico.

Bro. Charlie M. expressed appreciation for all the reports from missionaries, Curt and Thomas, and Bro. Jim P.

Bro. Bob Thomson, who is in charge of institutional advancement at Hillsdale, spoke next. He mentioned the record enrollment at the college this year and told of several students and their sacrifices to be there.

Bro. Charlie M. officially called the meeting to order and began the business part. He gave a last call for church letters and handed them to Belva. He mentioned that the dues of \$110 are needed to be paid if not already done so.

Belva read the minutes of the last meeting and they were approved as read. A correction was made of the Hillsdale Scholarship amount being raised from \$200 to \$400.

Delegates from the churches:

Antioch: Georgina

State delegate: Pauline Shepherd

Clinton: Janie Murphy

State delegate: Russell Rainer

Enid: ?

State delegate: Bill Sawyer

Guymon: Naomi Rice, Joan Brooks, Lavina Chastine

State delegate: Red Chastine

Pampa: ?

State delegate: Sharon Smith

German: ?

State delegate: Leta Rainer

Woodward: Scott Gaston, Larry Brooks, Bob Hale

State delegate: Belva Mabra

A motion (by whom?) was made to seat the delegates. Bro. Allen (not sure it was he) seconded the motion and it carried. Bro. Allen gave the financial report. Tom Smith made the motion to accept the report, ? seconded it and it carried. The executive board report was given. Two motions were put before the people: (1.) to give \$3,000 and the amount from today's meeting

to TSP, ? made the motion, ? seconded it, and it carried, (2.) Hillsdale needs \$3.9 million by Nov. to receive \$150,000 from Mabee in Tulsa--the Union Association commits to give \$5000 a year for 10 years for the Hillsdale chapel and this would meet our goal. ? made the motion, ? seconded it, and it carried. Bro. Allen mentioned that Thomas and Wilma are supported by TSP and they had to drive up from Mexico instead of fly, and he made the motion to give \$200 to them to help with expenses. Tom Smith seconded it and it carried.

Mission Education Board gave a short report. Youth camp dates will be changed next year to the week after the 4th of July. Letters will be sent out to remind everyone. A report was given of 6 saved and 9 rededicated at camp this year.

Election of officers: Bro. Allen made the motion to retain all the officers and re-elect people going off. There was some discussion of several people needing to be replaced. Jan Brooks resigned the asst. treasurer's position. The moderator and asst. moderator positions were switched. Bro. Sandy Shepherd is now the moderator and Bro. Charlie Murphy is the asst. moderator. Sis. Jill Lightsey is elected as the reporter. A motion was given to rescind the reporter not being re-elected in the minutes. The motion was to allow the reporter to serve more than one term. Sis. Missy Elder was elected as asst. treasurer. Bro. Tom Smith was elected to replace Bro. John Hewett on the executive credentials board. Bro. Allen made the motion again to retain the remainder of the officers and it passed. Bro. Sandy Shepherd was elected general board member for 2002. Sis Belva M. gave a women's auxiliary report and mentioned the date of the next district auxiliary meeting on Oct. 13. The next Union Association meeting is planned for Saturday, March 9, 2002.

Information given out: Nov. 11-17 is a state wide emphasis on prayer meeting and pastors will receive information about this in the mail, there will be a youth rally in Clinton on Saturday, Sept. 29, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with Joshua Harris as the speaker, and Guymon needs a pastor.

A motion was made to give the Woodward church a standing vote of thanks. Bro. Jeremy Lightsey dismissed with prayer.