

MINUTES
OF THE
SEVENTY-FIFTH SESSION
OF THE
VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION
HELD WITH
LIBERTY CHURCH

OCTOBER 15, 16, 17, 1956

1955

OFFICERS

Rev. E. W. Graves, Moderator ----- Vernon, Ala.
D. G. Jordan, Clerk ----- Vernon, Ala.

The next session of this Association will be held with Fayette Church, beginning on Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1956. Rev. R. P. Ritch is to preach the Introductory Sermon - Rev. J. B. Ledlow to be his alternate.

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

PROCEEDINGS

of the Seventy-Fifth Session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association, Held with Liberty F. W. B. Church,
October 15-16-17, 1955

The Association came to order with Rev. E. W. Graves the Moderator, officiating.

The session opened with a song by Rev. Billie Glasgow, and prayer by Rev. J. M. Cobb, after which the Moderator read a scripture from Acts 15; 1-17, then used a few minutes in a matter of getting acquainted.

At 10:45 a.m. Rev. J. B. Ledlow pastor of the Fayette Church held a short devotional, directed from the 133rd Psalm on unity.

Rev. L. V. Collier, the pastor of Liberty Church, gave a warm welcome address to the delegated body, which was followed by A. L. Warren at 11:00 a.m. Text Heb. 13-1.

An hour of refreshments were enjoyed at 12:00.

At 1:00 p.m. under the direction of E. W. Graves, the body reassembled, and after a Scripture reading from Phil. 2; 1-10 the body entered into business.

A. J. Lambert and L. V. Collier were appointed as reading clerks and the following churches were represented with Letter and delegates.

BEAVERTON- Earline Roden, Estus Blaylock, and Lucile Knight.

BELK- Houston Hamm, Louise Hamm, and Wilma Yerby.

FAIRVIEW- Willie Banister, Lillie Bell Roberts and Covin Finch.

FAYETTE- Bro. and Sis. Reese Henderson and Bro. and Sis. Lewis.

LIBERTY- Ellie Jenkins, R. T. Mixon, E. C. Dubose and Edd Collins.

MT. HARMONY- Alda Crawford, Florence Johnson, Daniel Johnson and Roosevelt Crawford.

MT. PLEASANT- Hollis Chandler, Ida Dees, Hilder Chandler and Bobby Crossley.

MT. WILLING- Cly May, Olen Markham, Emmett Shelnut and Clay Reese.

PINEY GROVE- Edna Markham, Sanders Woods and Grady Reese.

SPRINGFIELD- Onnie Hall, J. A. Harper, Ruby Hall and Amanda Jordan.

UNION CHAPEL- Della Yerby, Alice Maddox, Ernest Haynes, and Mrs. S. Y. Shelton.

VERNON- Mrs. M. E. Carpenter, Ross Gunnells, Howard Gilmore and Zadus Turner.

Coming in late was Friendship Church with the following Delegates, Mrs. John Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Lewis and Mrs.

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Quinton Rector.

TAYLOR SPRINGS- Myrtie Barnes and Cora Barnes.

A move was made and carried to receive the letters and seat the delegates.

Petitionary letters were called for and Davis Chapel came in under the watch care of the Association, with the following delegates: Flossie Snow, Lucy Gray, Euline Moore, Inez Vinston and Opal Burrell.

A move was made and carried to enter the names of R. P. Ritch and J. B. Ledlow and B. T. Alexander to list of Ministers of Vernon Association, after which a hand of welcome was given them.

Sister associations and delegates represented were-

MT. MORRIAH- W. W. Montgomery, J. E. Tilly and M. Montgomery.

STATE LINE- L. V. Collier, Roy Franks.

PROGRESSIVE- A. J. Lambert.

JASPER- N. A. Patterson.

BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT- C. D. Burrell.

After the above delegates were seated, a move was made to elect officers which resulted in E. W. Graves as moderator, S. F. Lee assistant moderator, and D. G. Jordan clerk.

The following committees were appointed by the moderator:

ARRANGEMENTS- W. H. Clearman, Verdo Dubose, W. Bannister with Deacons of Liberty Church.

BUSINESS- W. D. Glasgow, Gurlie Roberts, S. F. Lee, A. J. McDonald, Pascal Yerby and J. B. Ledlow.

CREDENTIAL- D. G. Johnson, A. M. Wallace, Doffie Shelnut, Annie Hall and Ross Gunnells.

QUIERRIES AND RESOLUTIONS- Erline Roden, Huston Hamm, Covin Finch, Wilma Yerby and Reese Henderson.

SUNDAY SCHOOL- Lucile Knight, Willie Bannister, Lillie Bell Roberts, Ellie Jenkins and Mrs. Lewis.

TEMPERANCE- A. L. Warren, Hilder Chandler, Bobby Crossley, Mrs. S. J. Shelton and Eulene Moore.

LITERATURE- Howard Gilmore, Lucy Gray, Edna Markham, Louise Hamm and Florence Johnson.

FINANCE- T. J. Adair, E. E. Lewis, Olen Markham, Emmett Shelnutt and Herman McDonald.

DECEASED MEMBERS- Ruby Hall, J. A. Harper, Delia Yerby, Sanders Woods and Inez Vinston.

While the above committees were being arranged Rev. McDonald and Rev. Shutes preached to the congregation.

An offering was taken for the college and Superannuation which were respectively \$21.01 and \$7.94. This ending the business for Saturday, arrangements were made for McDonald and K. V. Shutes to preach Saturday night at 7.00.

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SUNDAY A.M.

On Sunday morning at 9:00 O. Z. Johnson preached from Exodus 12-13.

At 10:00 a devotional was had and at 10:30 A. L. Warren preached a memorial message and at 11:00 Rev. M. Montgomery from the Mt. Morriah Association brought a Soul stirring message from Acts 10-34.

At 12.00 a fine table was spread of which all enjoyed.

Sunday afternoon Rev. Frank Collins and Rev. Jessie Barnes brought some great messages.

Sunday night Rev. B. T. Alexander preached to an attentive congregation.

MONDAY A.M.

Monday morning, after some songs and prayers and appropriate remarks, the body entered into the business of the association.

The lists of committees were read and committees began to arrange their reports.

When committees returned with reports they were read and received and committees discharged.

See Reports of Committees

Rev's Warren, Ritch and Ledlow were appointed to ordain Bro. Moore as a Deacon.

An executive Committee was appointed as follows: Verdo Dubose, T. J. Adair, A. L. Warren, J. B. Ledlow and Pascal Yerby.

It was moved to pay Sis. Ledlow \$15.00 as expense money to State Association.

The next fifth Sunday meeting goes to Vernon Church.

Rev. W. D. Glasgow was chosen as associational Evangelist.

Corresponding Delegates

JASPER- Rev. S. F. Lee, A. L. Warren and J. B. Ledlow.

STATE LINE- Gurlie Roberts, Arlando Shelnut.

MT. MORRIAH- R. P. Ritch, Robert Collins.

PROGRESSIVE- B. T. Alexander.

STATE- Mr. J. B. Ledlow.

The executive committee was ask to make some investigation about Davis Chapel Church.

At this time a move was made to drop O. L. Fields and J. M. Cobb's names from the list of ministers, also to inform L. Q. Larwood that he was not a member of this association and cannot be given a letter of transfer.

This being all the business of the association a move was made and carried to adjourn until next session.

Reports of Committees

1. Document and Order of Business

2. Credentials

3. Querries and Resolutions

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4. Sunday School
5. Temperance
6. Literature
7. Finance
8. Deceased

DOCUMENT AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. We recommend the former order of Business.
2. That Rev. R. P. Ritch preach the introductory sermon and L. B. Ledlow be alternate.
3. We recommend either Rev. W. D. Glasgow or Rev. S. F. Lee be elected association Evangelists.
4. That the Association convene with Fayette Church.
5. That the clerk have 600 minutes printed.
6. That no offering be taken in this association except for associational purposes. And if any church wishes to give to any cause they may send a special offering for that purpose.
7. That another article be added to our constitution which shall read as follows: No preacher shall be accepted or ordained in this association as a preacher who has more than one living wife.
8. We recommend that this body select an Executive Committee to serve until the officers are elected year by year.

No Signature

CREDENTIALS

We your committee on Credentials make the following report:

We having made a careful investigation of all our ministers finding all are in good standing. We recommend that this body add to their list of ordained ministers R. P. Ritch, J. B. Ledlow, and B. T. Alexander. We also recommend to send a committee to ordain John D. Moore as a Deacon at Davis Chapel Church.

A. M. Wallace, Chairman

QUERRIES AND RESOLUTIONS REPORTS

We your committee on Querries and Resolutions make the following report:

Be it resolved that we extend our heart felt thanks to the Liberty Church and community for the hospitality and fellowship shown us during this session.

We recommend that each church try to reach all people in their respective community to get them to attend some church. We could do this through prayer and contact with individuals.

We recommend that each member put more effort to support one pastor and church official in their work.

Houston B. Hamm, Chairman

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SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

We your committee on Sunday School make the following report:

After careful investigation we find that all of our churches have Sunday Schools except one and we do urge them to organize one at the earliest date.

We find our Sunday Schools are the up building of our Churches today.

We recommend that every effort be made in each church to use only Christians as Teachers and Superintendent.

We urge all Churches to be represented and to take part in the Sunday School Convention.

Respectfully Submitted
Mrs. Lily Belle Roberts
Chairman

TEMPERANCE

We the committee report as follows:

We feel it is the will of God and is commended in his word that we be temperant in all things. If we will obey the following scriptures we will find them to be helpful to us in living a life of Temperance:

Titus (2:2) First Cor. (9:25) Gal. (5:23). 2nd Peter 1; 5,6,7 and Eph. 5:18.

We recommend that our Pastors Preach at least once a year on Temperance.

A. L. Warren, Chairman

LITERATURE

We your committee on Literature make this report:

We recommend the churches in the Vernon Association to use the Literature printed at Ayden, N. C., by the Free Will Baptist press.

We urge that all Christians teach our children to make it a practice to read good wholesome literature. We also urge that more people read the daily Bible readings as listed in our Quarterlies. We also recommend that more people subscribe for the Free Will Baptist paper printed at Nashville, Tennessee.

Respectfully Submitted
Louise Hamm, Chairman

FINANCE

We your committee on Finance beg leave to submit the following report:

After calling for the minute funds from the various churches we find we have collected \$125.90.

Respectfully Submitted
Bro. T. J. Adair

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES PASTORS CLERKS			Members	Members Added	Members Removed	Ordained Ministers	No. In S. S.	No. In League	No. In Ladies' Auxiliary	Value of Church Property	Paid Pastors	Paid Evangelist	Paid Children's Home	Paid to Missions	Paid Old Aged Ministers	Paid for Improvements	Paid for Minutes Funds	Total Paid Out
Beaverton	E. W. Graves	Lucile Knight Beaverton, Ala.	24	1	1	1	0	0	0	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 205.00	\$ 37.00	\$ 30.00	\$	\$ 4.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 318.50
Belk	O. Z. Johnson	R. H. Yerby Sr. Covin, Ala. Rt. 1	179	4	2	1	60	35	0	12,500.00	651.00	63.00	139.05	41.50	15.86	105.50	10.00	1,025.41
Davis Chapel	C. D. Burrell	L. W. House	50	6	1	0	42	0	0	2,000.00	733.97	197.73	10.00	4.61		106.00	10.00	1,169.36
Fairview	Gurlie Roberts	Willie Banister Beaverton, Ala.	49	0	1	1	42	0	0	2,000.00	369.07	40.00	15.00			45.85	10.25	481.29
Fayette	J. B. Ledlow	Mary M. Lewis Fayette, Ala. Rt. 1	124	8	5	2	75	25	12	45,000.00	1,357.47	242.50	250.00	10.00		205.24	8.55	2,069.21
Friendship	J. L. Lavender	Mrs. W. E. Ford Steens, Miss. Rt. 1	80	0	1	0	25	0	0	2,200.00	109.81	25.00	3.00			73.14	2.50	213.45
Liberty	L. V. Collier	J. E. Collins Vernon, Ala. Rt. 2	223	2	0	1	120	0	0	4,000.00	623.15	122.50	20.00	109.45	17.56	1,305.68	10.00	2,208.34
Mt. Harmony	M. L. Hollis	Erbie Robertson Vernon, Ala.	223	1	2	0	35	0	0	4,000.00	500.00	110.00		9.00			10.00	619.00
Mt. Pleasant	Frank Collins	Johnnie Barnes B'ham., Ala.	71	1	2	1	30	0	0	3,000.00	259.88	74.18				125.00	8.00	467.06
Mt. Willing	W. D. Glasgow	J. E. Chaffin Guin, Ala.	207	3	0	0	60	0	0	3,500.00	250.25	106.75	60.36			775.57	10.00	1,295.16
Piney Grove	A. L. Warren	J. M. Chaffin Guin, Ala.	134	0	1	3	60	0	0	2,000.00	207.18	55.00		7.50		734.23	10.00	1,006.41
Springfield	A. L. Warren	J. A. Harper Vernon, Ala. Rt. 1	281	0	2	0	40	0	0	6,100.00	292.63	101.00	33.35				10.00	457.48
Taylor Springs	Robert Collins	Hershell Sorrells Beaverton, Ala.	39	0	0	0	30	0	0	1,500.00	96.00	33.00				16.00		145.00
Union Chapel	Gurlie Roberts	James E. Maddox Vernon, Ala. Rt. 2	110	0	1	1	50	0	0	6,000.00	541.00	61.78	60.00	61.77			10.00	734.55
Vernon	R. P. Ritch	Mrs. Earl Robertson Vernon, Ala.	147	6	0	2	80	45	10	16,000.00	1,603.15	206.31	93.99	426.87	50.00	229.65	10.00	3,594.90
TOTAL			1941	32	19	14	762	105	22	\$110,122.00	\$7,799.56	\$1,475.80	\$714.75	\$670.70	\$87.42	\$3,781.86	\$129.30	\$15,805.12

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DECEASED

We your committee on deceased members report as follows:

BELK- E. B. Belk, Sister Susie Johnson.

LIBERTY- Eliza Hester.

FAYETTE- Mrs. Ella Williams.

UNION CHAPEL- Mrs. Lettie Collins, J. F. Maddox.

SPRINGFIELD- J. O. Boover, Sister Mary Bolton.

MT. HARMONY- Sister Janie Wheeler.

MT. WILLING- Rosie Roberts.

MT. PLEASANT- B. M. Sanders, Mrs. M. L. Adair, W. N. Crossley.

DAVIS CHAPEL- Sister Rosie Simmons.

Our loss is their eternal gain.

Respectfully Submitted

J. A. Harper, Chairman

PROCEEDINGS OF LEAGUE AND S. S. RALLY

The League and Sunday School Rally of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association met with Vernon Church May 29, 1955.

The meeting was called to order by the moderator Rev. A. L. Warren. Song by J. M. Cobb. Prayer by T. J. Adair. Scripture reading, Psalms 133. Welcome address by Sister Clyde Motes. Response by Sister Helen Taylor.

The moderator called the roll of churches and the following churches with programs: Belk Piney Grove, Springfield, Union Chapel and Vernon.

Song by Rev. J. M. Cobb.

Program by Belk Church, "A Challenge to Youth."

Song by the Jordan Trio.

Song by the Vernon Duet.

Program by Union Chapel Church.

Song by the Jordan Trio.

Offering for Children Home \$36.43.

The House called to Special Prayer by request for Sister Turner and all the sick every where.

Program by Springfield Church.

Song by Rev. Glasgow.

Song by Sister Wallace.

Song by Brother Harvey Yerby.

Song by Brother Turman.

Dismissed for lunch by Rev. C. D. Burrell from Birmingham Association.

A fine dinner was enjoyed by all.

Moderator called the house to order.

Song by Rev. Graves.

Song by Rev. Glasgow. Prayer by Sister Cole.

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Song by Eddie Dean Gosey.

Program by Piney Grove Church, "Just for the Asking."

Song by Rev. Cobb. Prayer by Rev. O'Donall.

Program by Vernon Church, "Practicing Our Faith."

A message on Home Mission by Rev. O'Donall.

An offering received for home mission \$20.35.

Song by Vernon Trio.

Election held and Elected Rev. A. L. Warren, moderator.

Elected Rev. Robert Collins as Secretary.

Sunday School Evangelist, Rev. Glasgow.

Delegates to State Sunday School Rally elected as follows:

VERNON- Maxine, Turner, Sister Clyde Motes and Howard Gilmore.

Vote to hold the next meeting at Springfield Church.

Dismissed by Rev. Robert Collins.

No Signature.

CLERK'S REPORT

Balance Minute fund from	53	\$ 42.84
D. A. P. fund from	54	54.02
D. A. P. fund	55	4.00
Orphanage fund	55	23.00
Minute funds	55	148.40

TOTAL

\$276.26

PAID OUT

D. A. P.	\$ 25.00
Moderator and Clerk	30.00
State fee and Delegate Expense	35.00
Orphanage	23.00
Minutes	61.50

TOTAL EXPENSE

\$174.50

BALANCE

\$101.76

LIST OF DEACONS

BEAVERTON- Arlie Roberts. BELK- J. T. Williams, L. D. Williams, J. L. Collins, Brit Belk, R. H. Yerby Jr., Grady Newman, Jessie Overton. FAIRVIEW- A. E. Roberts, Williard Banister. FAYETTE- Fred Hamm, Grady Kennedy, Reece Hinderson. FRIENDSHIP- Not given. LIBERTY- Henry Harrison, Henry Perkins, Karl Randolph, Verdo Dubose, Chelsea Poore. MT. HARMONY- S. L. Cash, S. G. Johnson, B. C. Guin, Odus Robertson, Erby Robertson, Titus Barnes. MT. PLEASANT- J. G. Adair, Raymond Pennington. MT. WILLING- J. W. Garrison, H. E. McDonald, E. B. Lee, J. D. Shelnut, A J McDonald. PINEY GROVE- Arlander Shelnut, Elvada Markham, C. E. Roberts, G. W. Chaffin. SPRINGFIELD- M. E. Hollis, Dempsey Langley, D. G. Jordan. TAYLOR SPRINGS- Not given. UNION CHAPEL- W. H. Clearman, C. S.

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Collins, Carlos Bradford, S. Y. Shelton, James Maddox, VERNON-J. L. McNees, L. A. Crowder, M. D. Turner, Jay Y. Turner, Edgar Turner, Loyd Tuner, Pascal Yerby.

NAME OF DECEASED MINISTERS

Rev. W. B. Taylor, Rev. Tom Butler, Rev. W. R. Turman, Rev. J. R. Robertson, Rev. W. D. McGee, Rev. J. R. Baker, Rev. W. B. Crowley, Rev. A. J. Brown, Rev. S. M. Perkins, Rev. T. G. Harrison, Rev. D. G. W. Hollis, Rev. J. W. Porter, Rev. T. M. Lollar, Rev. C. A. Chaffin, Rev. G. B. Taylor, Rev. J. A. Tate, Rev. E. A. Palmer, Rev. J. A. Isbell, Rev. W. T. Springfield, and Rev. M. E. Carpenter.

NAME AND ADDRESSES OF PRESENT MINISTERS

REV. B. T. ALEXANDER	.....
REV. S. F. LEE	..... Rt. 1, Guin, Ala.
REV. R. P. RITCH	..... Vernon, Ala.
REV. E. W. GRAVES	..... Vernon, Ala.
REV. W. C. RAYBURN	..... Guin, Ala.
REV. W. D. GLASGOW	..... Vernon, Ala.
REV. T. J. ADAIR	..... Vernon, Ala.
REV. J. J. BARNES	..... Rt. 1, Beaverton, Ala.
REV. A. L. WARREN	..... Vernon, Ala.
REV. ROBERT COLLINS	..... Kennedy, Ala.
REV. GURLIE ROBERTS	..... Guin, Ala.
REV. FRANK COLLINS	..... Guin, Ala.
REV. H. E. COBB	..... Vernon, Ala.
REV. CLARENCE BARNES	..... Beaverton, Ala.
REV. J. B. LEDLOW	..... Fayette, Ala.

PROGRAM FOR HOLDING ASSOCIATION

1. The Association shall be called to order and presided over by the officers elected at the last session.

2. The Association shall be opened and closed with singing of the delegates present.

3. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by ballot immediately after the beginning of each session, by a majority of delegates present.

4. The names of delegates from different churches shall be enrolled and called as often as necessary during the session.

5. A majority of the delegates shall rule in all cases, except in the reception churches, then it should be unanimous.

6. The Moderator shall not be entitled to vote except in case of a tie and then he shall cast the deciding vote. He shall be entitled to speak on any question, after others have spoken provided he appoints someone to the chair while he is speaking.

7. Only one person shall speak at a time and he shall rise and

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address the Moderator and after recognition by the Moderator shall proceed.

8. No brother shall be interrupted while speaking unless he depart from the subject under discussion or use words of personal reflection.

9. No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject without the authority of the Association nor more than fifteen minutes.

10. No person shall laugh or talk during discussions.

11. No person shall absent himself from the Association without permission of the Moderator.

CONSTITUTION

1. The Association shall be known as the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association of Alabama, being composed of ministers, deacons and delegates from different churches forming the same. All having full power to vote on all questions which come before the Association. Each church being entitled to three delegates in addition to ministers and deacons.

2. This Body shall be considered an advisory council, having no authority over the internal affairs of the churches unless they depart from the Articles of Faith of this Association. This Association shall have authority over all ministers in the matters of doctrine, character and etc. In case any minister in this Association depart from and teach doctrine not in keeping with the Articles of Faith of this Association the same shall be delt with by the Association as it may seem proper according to the teaching of the Bible.

3. Each church of this Association shall be considered an advisory body and shall control its own internal affairs in matters of discipline, etc. If any Brother feels impressed to preach the Gospel, the church shall recommend such Brother to the Association and upon examination of the Brother's qualifications, if in judgement of the Body, the Brother would be useful, they shall confer ordination, same being done at the Association by a legal Presbytery.

4. All questions of doctrine and general interest shall be settled by a majority vote of the Association, and the decision shall be final.

5. The officers of the Association shall be Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer, who shall be chosen at each session by a majority vote.

6. The Association shall meet annually at such time and place as may be agreed upon att the previous session and shall not adjourn finally until all business matters are transacted.

7. Churches wishing to become members of this Association must adopt its Articles of Faith and conform to its usages.

8. We agree as churches of this Association to use our best

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influence to promote the interest of all moral and benevolent institutions, such as temperance cause, Sabbath Schools, Missionary work, etc.

9. No member of this Association shall be eligible to serve as Moderator for more than two consecutive sessions unless no other member be competent to act in that capacity.

10. Any member of this Association who shall be guilty of circulating reports of any nature or aiding in the circulating of any report that is untrue on a brother minister, that is circulated to injure his moral reputation and religious influence, the same shall be dealt with by this Association. Any minister of this Association who is known to be guilty of using intoxicating spirits by drinking as beverage, which is calculated to destroy his influence and usefulness, the same shall be dealt with by the Association as it may deem proper, according to the teachings of the Bible.

11. The Association shall be in all cases in the transaction of all business brought before it, be governed by a majority of all delegates present, and any church or delegate failing or refusing to do so is and shall be considered by the Association as being out of order. Each member is to be a party to the enforcement of same.

12. The Moderator shall receive \$10.00. The Assistant Moderator, \$5.00, and the Clerk \$15.00 for their services.

13. The Clerk shall superintend the printing of the minutes after each session of the Association.

14. No preacher shall be accepted or ordained in this Association as a preacher who has more than one living wife.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe there is one true and living God, who is the Supreme ruler of Heaven and earth, self-existent Creator of all things, revealed under personal distinction of Father, Son and Holy Ghost equal in every divine perfection and existing in distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

2. We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and in a treasure of instructions; that it has God for its author, truth for its matter and salvation for its end, that it reveals principles upon which God will judge the center of Christian unions, the supreme standards by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions will be tried.

3. We believe that man was created holy, under the law of his Maker, but from voluntary transgression, fell from that holy state, in consequence of which all mankind is now deprived and unable of his own free will and ability to recover from the fallen state which he is by nature.

4. We believe that God has not fixed the future state of mankind by an absolute and unconditional decree but salvation is offer-

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ed in the Gospel free to all, and if sinners are lost forever it will be their own fault.

5. We believe that Christ by His death and suffering made an atonement for the sins of mankind in general and every individual in particular who believes in Him can partake of the Divine benefit.

6. We believe that true faith cannot proceed from the exercise of our own free will, since man, in consequence of his natural corruption is incapable of thinking or doing anything spiritually good.

7. We believe in the general applicant of the grace of God to fallen men sufficiently to enable him morally and actually to obey the requirement of the law of liberty (James 1:5; this the Act-saving Faith; John 1:9. However, none but those who believe in Christ will be saved thereby; Acts 17:22; Romans 2:19; John 3:9).

8. We do not believe under the gospel dispensation that any soul is elected to eternal life unconditionally, but that those who by faith persevere to the end will be saved; that it is possible for men who have been converted to make shipwreck of faith, turn again to sin and be finally lost, Luke 9:62.

9. We believe the visible Church of Christ is a congregation of believers, associated by covenant in the fellowship of the Gospel observing the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His word; that its only proper offices are bishops, pastors and deacons whose qualification and duties are defined in the epistle of Timothy and Titus.

10. We believe that Christian baptism is immersion in water in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and that believers are the proper subjects.

11. We believe the Lord's Supper is a perpetual obligation by which members of the church are to commemorate together, in the form of bread and wine, the dying love of Christ, preceded always by solemn self-examination.

12. We believe in open and free communion, and the churches of our body are authorized, through their pastors to invite all Christians of orthodox churches, who are in good standing in their respective churches, to commune with us at the Lord's table.

13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and the general judgement; that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal, upon the principles of grace and justice.

14. Concerning the washing of the Saint's feet as a Gospel ordinance, each member shall have the right to participate in such ordinance, as he can best answer his own conscience to God without criticism on the part of anyone.