

MINUTES
OF THE
SEVENTY-SIXTH SESSION
OF THE
VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION
HELD WITH
FAYETTE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
OCTOBER 20, 21, 22, 1956

OFFICERS

Rev. R. P. Ritch, Moderator-----Vernon, Ala.

R. H. Yerby, Sr., Clerk-----Covin, Ala., Rt. 1

The next session of this association will be held with Vernon Free Will Baptist Church, beginning on Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1957. Rev. A. J. Lambert is to preach the introductory sermon - Rev. Gurlie Roberts to be his substitute.

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

PROCEEDINGS

of the Seventy-Sixth Session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association, Held With Fayette F. W. B. Church,
October 20, 21, 22, 1956.

The association was called to order by the moderator, Rev. E. W. Graves.

The session was opened with song by Rev. A. J. Lambert, "Tell Me The Story of Jesus". Prayer by Rev. O. Z. Johnson.

After a few remarks by the moderator, Rev. Roy Barnes, from the State Line Association, conducted a short devotion, reading the first chapter of Psalms, followed by a general testimony service.

Welcome address by Rev. A. J. Lambert.

From 10:45 to 11 a.m. short talks were made by visiting ministers, Rev. Eldon Pauley and Rev. Chester O'Donnell.

At 11:00 a.m. Rev. R. P. Ritch preached the introductory sermon, reading from the 7th chapter of Amos, 7-15 verses. Text: Proverbs 22:28 "Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set."

At noon refreshments were served in the basement of the church.

1:00 p.m. song by Rev. R. P. Ritch.

The moderator declared a quorum present and read a scripture lesson, Phil. 2: 1-15. Prayer by Rev. A. L. Warren.

After reading the rules for holding the association, the moderator appointed Bro. Bill McDonald and Bro. William Atkinson as reading clerks and called for the letters from the various churches.

The following churches were represented by letter and delegates:

BEAVERTON- Raymond Allen, Earline Roden, Emma Blaylock,

BELK- Huston Ham, Louise Ham, Katherine Watkins.

FAIRVIEW- Lillie Belle Roberts, Willie Banister.

FAYETTE- Mrs. A. J. Lambert, Mrs. Euell Lewis and H. D. Kelley.

LIBERTY- Mrs. Hattie Mixon, Lee Mixon, and Vester Perkins.

MT. HARMONY- Letter not present.

MT. PLEASANT- W. M. Cooper, Sister Lawrence Hunnells, and Clovis Chandler.

MT. WILLING- Jim Collins, Bill McDonald, and Alvie Haney.

PINEY GROVE- Bailey Markham, Dave Markham, and Harrison Gosa.

SPRINGFIELD- Kelcy Jordan, Aubrey Hall, Verla Pinkerton.

UNION CHAPEL- Lucile Bradford, R. W. Maddox, and Kell McAdams.

VERNON- Clyde Motes, Howard Gilmore, and Mrs. M. E. Carpenter.

TAYLOR SPRINGS- not represented.

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

DAVIS CHAPEL- Inez Vinson, Louis H. House, and V. J. Glasgow.

A move was made and carried to receive the letters and seat the delegates. The moderator called for petitionary letters. None present.

A move was made and carried to elect officers for this session.

The following were elected: Rev. R. P. Ritch, Moderator; Rev. Gurlie Roberts, Assistant Moderator; R. H. Yerby, Sr., Clerk.

The body voted to receive Rev. A. J. Lambert as a minister in this association.

After a few remarks by the moderator and Rev. Lambert, the moderator called for corresponding delegates from sister associations.

The following were received and given a hand of welcome:

Jasper- William Atkinson, Eldon Paulie and O. Z. Johnson.

Mt. Morriah- M. Montgomery, W. S. Lynn, J. E. Tilly and W. M. Fields.

Progressive- W. H. Ryland.

State Line- L. V. Collier and Roy Barnes.

Liberty No. 2- Chester O'Donnell.

By move and second, the moderator was empowered to appoint all committees. The following were appointed:

Arrangements- Pascal Yerby, C. B. Bradford, and Emmet Lee, with the deacons of Fayette church.

Business- A. L. Warren, E. W. Graves, A. J. Lambert and Gurlie Roberts, with the moderator and clerk.

Credentials- Dewey Jordan, Harvey Clearman, Clyde Motes, H. E. McDonald and J. D. Shelnut.

Queries and Resolutions- Robert Collins, W. D. Glasgow, Geo. Chaffin, Willard Banister and Kell McAdams.

Sunday Schools- Lillie Belle Roberts, Willie Bannister and Sister A. J. Lambert.

Temperance- S. F. Lee, Huston Ham and Frank Collins.

Literature- Bill McDonald, Dave Markham and Obie Haney.

Finance- Lee Mixon, Kelcy Jordan and Harrison Gosa.

Deceased members- Mrs. Hattie Mixon, Mrs. Euell Lewis and Mrs. Lucile Bradford.

While the above committees were being appointed Rev. A. J. Lambert conducted a devotion.

The moderator called on Rev. W. H. Ryland, who came forward and gave an interesting report on the Children's Home.

Called for report of committee on arrangements. The committee made the following report: 9:00 a.m. Sunday, Memorial sermon by Rev. W. D. Glasgow. 10:00 a.m. Sunday School lecture by Rev. E. W. Graves. 11 am and 7:30 pm., preaching by Rev. A. J. Lambert. 1:30 p.m preaching by Rev. M. Montgomery.

Monday, 11:00 a.m. preaching by Rev. A. L. Warren. Respectfully submitted, Pascal Yerby, chairman.

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Moved and carried to adjourn the business of the association until 8 o'clock Monday morning.

Prayer by Rev. Robert Collins.

SUNDAY SERVICES

9:15 a.m. House called to order by the clerk.

Song by Katherine Watkins. Prayer by Rev. A. J. Lambert.

9:25 a.m. Rev. W. D. Glasgow brought a memorial sermon reading from Josh. 19th chapter. Subject, "Remember." Song, "Over There" by Rev. A. J. Lambert.

10:00 a.m. Sunday School lecture by Rev. E. W. Graves. Prayer by Rev. B. T. Alexander. Ten minutes intermission.

11:00 a.m. song by Rev. A. J. Lambert. Prayer by Rev. H. E. Cobb.

Sermon by Rev. A. J. Lambert, scripture reading 2nd Cor. 3rd Chapter, subject, "The Glory of the Old Covenant." Dismissed 1 hour for lunch, when a fine table was spread in the basement of the church.

At 1:00 p.m. song and prayer services were conducted by Rev. E. W. Graves. Devotion by Rev. B. T. Alexander.

At 1:45 p.m. Rev. M. Montgomery preached, using Rev. 13-14 as a text. "Here we have no continuing city but seek one to come."

Following Bro. Montgomery, Rev. Chester O'Donnell gave a lecture on "Home Missions". Closing prayer by the moderator.

Sunday night after song and prayer Rev. Chester O'Donnell gave an interesting lecture on "The League", followed by a sermon by Rev. A. J. Lambert. Text Rev. 3:13; Subject, "The Condition of the Laodicean Church".

MONDAY

At 8 o'clock Monday morning the house was called to order by the moderator. Song by Rev. A. J. Lambert.

Scripture reading from the 12th chapter of Romans, Prayer by Rev. R. P. Ritch.

The moderator called the roll of the churches and declared a quorum present. He then called the reading of the letter from Mt. Harmony church. The letter was read and received and the delegates seated.

The following names were added to the committees:

Queries and Resolutions- A. M. Wallis, B. T. Alexander, and A. J. McDonald.

Sunday School- Louise Ham, Lona Barnes and Katherine Watkins.

Temperance- Howard Gilmore.

Literature- E. J. Glasgow.

Finance- E. W. Perkins.

The association gave a recess for the committees to get together and prepare their reports.

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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

See Reports of Committees.

The body voted for the next session of this association to be held with Vernon church beginning on Friday before the third Sunday in October 1957.

The business session adjourned until 1:00 o'clock p.m. Prayer by Rev. A. L. Warren. A 10 minute intermission was given.

The house was called to order and a song by the moderator. Prayer by Rev. H. C. Killen.

Devotion was conducted by Rev. Wilburn Beasley, reading a scripture lesson from the 1st chapter of Romans.

Song by Rev. A. J. Lambert. Prayer by Rev. M. H. Hollis.

At this time Rev. A. L. Warren brought a wonderful message, reading a lesson from the 8th chapter of Acts. Text: Acts 8:8, Subject, "The Gospel and its Results." Song and prayer by Rev. A. J. Lambert.

After this another fine dinner was served in the basement of the church.

At 1:00 p.m. the house was called to order and a lesson read from 2nd Thes. 3. 1-5.

After some remarks by the moderator and prayer by Rev. Gurlie Roberts the association proceeded with the business.

The following visiting delegates were seated:

From the Northeast Mississippi Association, Rev. M. H. Hollis and Rev. Wilburn Beasley. Muscue Shoals association, Rev. H. C. Killen.

At this time the moderator called for a report of the committee which was appointed to investigate Davis Chapel Church.

The committee made an oral report and the church was accepted into the full fellowship of the association.

The moderator appointed the following committees:

Constitution and By-Laws- The business committee with Rev. S. F. Lee.

To investigate Beaverton Church- A. L. Warren, Gurlie Roberts, Robert Collins, A. J. Lambert, and R. P. Ritch.

The following corresponding delegates to sister associations were appointed:

State Line- S. F. Lee, and A. L. Warren.

Jasper- B. T. Alexander, and Frank Collins.

Mt. Morriah- Robert Collins and T. J. Adair.

Progressive- R. P. Ritch and A. J. Lambert.

The moderator appointed delegates to the State association as follows: Kelcy Jordan, R. H. Yerby, Sr., Jim Moore, Willard Banister, Mrs. Euell Lewis, Mrs. Hattie Mixon, Olen Wheeler, Mac Cooper, Emmet Lee, J. M. Chaffin, Dewey Jordan, Kelcy Palmer, Harvey Clearman and Pascal Yerby.

The body then elected the following officers to take charge

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

at the beginning of the next session of this association:

Moderator- Rev. R. P. Ritch. Assistant Moderator- Rev. S. F. Lee. Clerk- R. H. Yerby, Sr

By move and second the association adjourned to meet with Vernon Church on Friday before the third Sunday in Octboer, 1957. Prayer by Rev. Frank Collins.

Reports of Committees

Document and Order of Business.

We beg leave to report as follows:

1. We recommend that this association be governed in all its deliberations by the accepted parliamentary laws.
2. We recommend that this body adopt and abide by the Treatise of the National Association.
3. We recommend that our meeting date be changed from the present date to Friday and Saturday before the third Sunday in October each year.
4. We recommend that the officers of this association be elected at the close of each session to take charge at the beginning of the next session.
5. We recommend that all ordinations be done by the association.
6. We recommend that a committee be appointed to write a constitution and by-laws for this association, to be presented at the next session for consideration.
7. We recommend that this association adopt Beaverton church as a project; that a committee be appointed to survey the possibilities there, and if it thinks profitable, then to call upon each church to assume its share of expense of this promotion.
8. We recommend that Rev. A. J. Lambert preach the introductory sermon at the next session and that Rev. Gurlie Roberts be his substitute.
9. We recommend that the body choose the place of its next meeting.

Respectfully submitted
A. L. Warren, Chairman

CREDENTIALS

We, your committee on credentials, desire to make the following report:

After making a careful investigation of the ministers of the Vernon Association, we find that all are in good standing.

We are happy to recognize Rev. A. J. Lambert as a minister of the gospel, in good standing, and we are happy to have him as a minister of this association.

D. G. Jordan, Chairman

QUERRIES AND RESOLUTIONS

We, your committee on querries and resolutions make the

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

following report:

Be it resolved that we tender our heart felt thanks to the Fayette 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 communities to get them to attend our church. We can do this through prayer and contact with individuals.

We recommend that each member put more effort to support our pastors and church officials in their work.

Rev. Robert Collins, Chairman

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

We, your committee on Sunday Schools, make the following report:

To our regret, we find two churches in our association without Sunday Schools.

We find our Sunday Schools are the upbuilding of our churches today.

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

We urge all churches to be represented and to take part in the Sunday School Conventions.

Respectfully submitted
Louise Ham, Chairman

TEMPERANCE

We, your committee on temperance make the following report:

After a prayerful study, we wish to invite you to read the Bible on this subject. Please note Titus 2:2; 1st Cor. 9:25; Gal. 5:23; 2nd Peter 1: 5-6; and Eph. 5:18.

We further recommend that all the members of various churches of this association abstain from all intemperance and live clean sober lives.

Respectfully
Rev. S. F. Lee, 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 Ayden, N. C.

Respectfully submitted
U. A. Markham, Chairman

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS	Members Received	Members Dismissed	Members Deceased	Total Members	No. in S. S.	No. in League	No. in Ladies Auxiliary	Ordained Ministers	Paid Pastors	Paid Evangelist	Paid Children's Home	Paid Missions	Paid Old Age Ministers	Minute Funds	Paid For Improvements	Total Paid Out	Value of Church Property
Beaverton	E. W. Graves	Lucile Knight Vernon, Ala.	0	8	0	15	0	0	0	0	\$ 185.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	\$	\$	\$ 10.00	\$ 67.83	\$ 316.83	\$ 2500.00
Belk	J. L. Lavender	R. H. Yerby Sr. Covin, Ala.	0	9	6	164	60	35	0	1	\$ 665.69	\$ 65.69	\$135.00	\$ 21.60	\$23.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 126.82	\$ 1047.80	\$ 12000.00
Davis Chapel	W. D. Glasgow	J. D. Moore Jr. Berry, Ala. R-1	12	7	0	78	60	0	0	0	\$ 353.69	\$ 184.28	\$	\$ 8.24	\$	\$ 10.00	\$1325.49	\$ 1881.70	\$ 3000.00
Fairview	Gurle Roberts	Willie Banister Guin, Ala. R-1	0	0	0	49	42	0	0	0	\$ 362.58	\$ 55.00	\$ 20.00	\$	\$	\$ 10.00	\$ 78.39	\$ 525.97	\$ 2000.00
Fayette	A. J. Lambert	Mrs. H. E. Faulkner; Fayette, Ala.	3	2	0	129	102	40	20	2	\$2252.00	\$ 170.00	\$288.21	\$	\$	\$ 5.00	\$ 196.71	\$ 5984.71	\$ 45200.00
Friendship	Grover Perkins	Mrs. W. E. Ford Fernbank, Ala.	0	0	0	75	0	0	0	0	\$ 73.36	\$ 50.00	\$	\$	\$	\$ 1.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 84.36	\$ 2200.00
Liberty	L. V. Collier	Ed Collins Vernon, Ala. R-2	0	0	3	224	90	0	0	1	\$1015.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 11.72	\$ 25.00	\$	\$ 13.14	\$ 183.22	\$ 1457.63	\$ 4000.00
Mt. Harmony	Roy Barnes	Erbie Robertson Vernon, Ala.	1	8	1	206	25	0	0	0	\$ 470.35	\$ 116.00	\$	\$	\$	\$ 10.00	\$	\$ 596.85	\$ 4000.00
Mt. Pleasant	Frank Collins	J. B. Barnes B'ham., Ala.	4	4	0	75	50	0	0	0	\$ 233.77	\$ 76.00	\$	\$	\$	\$ 10.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 569.77	\$ 6000.00
Mt. Willing	W. D. Glasgow	J. E. Chaffin Guin, Ala.	1	4	2	217	51	0	0	1	\$ 316.00	\$ 140.00	\$102.36	\$	\$	\$ 10.00	\$ 58.00	\$ 689.10	\$ 3500.00
Piney Grove	B. T. Alexander	J. M. Chaffin Guin, Ala. R-1	4	4	2	132	50	0	0	0	\$ 252.50	\$ 60.00	\$	\$	\$	\$ 10.00	\$1097.01	\$ 1419.50	\$ 5000.00
Springfield	A. L. Warren	J. A. Harper Vernon, Ala. R-1	17	62	3	257	38	0	32	0	\$ 348.84	\$ 125.00	\$ 20.42	\$	\$	\$ 10.00	\$ 182.48	\$ 730.50	\$ 6100.00
Taylor Springs																			
Union Chapel	Gurle Roberts	J. E. Maddox Vernon, Ala. R-2	1	4	1	110	55	0	0	2	\$ 704.03	\$ 85.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 70.78	\$	\$ 10.00	\$ 113.40	\$ 1033.48	\$ 6000.00
Vernon	R. P. Ritch	Mrs. Earl Robertson; Vernon, Ala.	4	0	2	156	80	45	0	2	\$1955.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 71.39	\$ 71.06	\$	\$ 10.00	\$ 448.75	\$ 2790.33	\$ 16000.00
TOTAL			45	88	16	1983	722	120	20	12	\$9168.08	\$1377.47	\$734.10	\$196.70	\$23.00	\$129.14	\$4138.10	\$19128.53	\$117500.00

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

FINANCE

We, your committee on finance, make the following report:
After calling for the minute funds from the various churches
we have collected \$129.14.

Respectfully submitted
Lee J. Mixon, Chairman

DECEASED MEMBERS

We, your committee on deceased members, report as follows:
Belk- Bro. J. T. Williams, Sisters Kate Williams, Florence
Johnson, Minnie Porter, Rachel Harton, Bro. Clanton Gilbreath.
Liberty- Sisters Minnie Shufford, Etta Younghance, Bro. Jack
Price.

Mt. Willing- Bros. Charlie Guin, Roy Burnett.

Springfield- Sister Mattie Wright. Bros. D. C. Hall, M. E.
Hollis.

Vernon- Sister Rena Edgeworth.

Mt. Harmony- Sister Emma Mitchell.

We feel in giving up these loved ones, that we should realize
how close eternity really is, and how much more concerned we
should be for the lost.

Respectfully submitted
Mrs. Hattie Mixon, Chairman

After receiving this report the congregation gave a rising vote
in memory of the deceased, and also of thanks to the Fayette
church for the kindness and hospitality shown during this session
of the asociatoin.

PROCEEDINGS OF LEAGUE AND S. S. RALLY

The league and Sunday School Rally of the Vernon Free Will
Baptist Association met with Springfield church, April 29, 1956.

The house was called to order by the moderator, Rev. A. L.
Warren. Song by Ed Collins. Scripture reading by moderator,
Acts 8: 4-8. Prayer by Rev. Gurlie Roberts. Welcome address by
Sister Iva Jordan. Response by Sister Clyde Motes.

The moderator called the roll of churches and the following
responded with programs: Belk, Union Chapel, Liberty, Vernon,
Springfield and Fayette.

A very inspiring program was given by Union Chapel- "The
Life of Saul".

Song by Junior Harper. Program by Vernon church. Readings
and recitations. Song by the Markham Quartet- "This Old World
Is Rocking In Sin". Song by Sarah Jordan- "In The Garden".

Program by Belk Church- "A Certain Just Man". Song by Rev.
E. W. Graves.

Program by Liberty Church- "The Saviour Cares". Song by
the Bradford Trio- "There is Only One Way", Prayer by Rev. A.

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

L. Warren.

Program by Piney Grove Church- "Armed For The Conflict". Song by Rev. W. D. Glasgow.

Lecture by Rev. N. A. Patterson. Subject: "The Nature of the Superannuation Board". An offering of \$19.39 was taken for superannuation. Prayer by Rev. Robert Collins. Dismissed 1 hour for lunch. A fine lunch was enjoyed by all.

After lunch the house was called to order by the moderator. Song by Bro. Harvey Clearman. Prayer by Sister Lucile Knight. Program by Springfield Church- "A Conversion". Song by Bro. Gosa.

Program by Fayette Church- "The Five Crosses, and Stewardship".

The rally held a short business session and elected the following officers for another year: Moderator, Rev. A. L. Warren; Secretary, Rev. Robert Collins.

The convention voted to hold its next rally with Belk church on the 2nd Fifth Sunday in 1957.

Rev. W. D. Glasgow was elected as League and Sunday School Evangelist.

Song by Junior Harper- "God Be With You". Prayer by Rev. O. Z. Johnson.

Rev. A. L. Warren, Moderator
Rev. Robert Collins, Secretary

LIST OF DEACONS

Beaverton- Arlie Roberts, Belk-- L. D. Williams, J. L. Collins, Brit Belk, Jessie Overton, R. H. Yerby Jr., Grady Newman. Fairview- E. A. Roberts, Willard Banister. Fayette- A. M. Wallace, J. C. White, John Williams, Reece Henderson, Grady Kennedy. 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, Erbye 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- Dempsey Langley, D. G. Jordan. Taylor Springs- not given. Union Chapel- W. H. Clearman, C. S. Collins, Carlos Bradford, S. Y. Shelton, James Maddox. Vernon- J. L. McNees, L. A. Crowder, M. D. Turner, Jay Y. Turner, Edgar Turner, Loyd Turner, Pascal Yerby.

NAMES OF DECEASED MINISTERS

Rev. W. T. Springfield, Rev. W. B. Taylor, Rev. W. R. Turman, Rev. Tom Butler, Rev. J. R. Robertson, Rev. M. 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.

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

J. A. Tate, Rev. E. A. Palmer, Rev. J. A. Isbell, Rev. M. E. Carpenter.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PRESENT MINISTERS

REV. S. F. LEE Rt. 1, Guin, Ala.
REV. A. L. WARREN Vernon, Ala.
REV. E. W. GRAVES Vernon, Ala.
REV. W. D. GLASGOW Vernon, Ala.
REV. T. J. ADAIR Vernon, Ala.
REV. GURLIE ROBERTS Rt. 2, Covin, Ala.
REV. W. C. RAYBURN Guin, Ala.
REV. J. J. BARNES Rt. 1, Beaverton, Ala.
REV. ROBERT COLLINS Kennedy, Ala.
REV. FRANK COLLINS Guin, Ala.
REV. CLARENCE BARNES Beaverton, Ala.
REV. R. P. RITCH Vernon, Ala.
REV. H. E. COBB Fayette, Ala.
REV. J. B. LEDLOW Fayette, Ala.
REV. B. T. ALEXANDER Birmingham, Ala.
REV. A. J. LAMBERT 128 Richards St., Fayette, Ala.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance from 1956	\$ 72.60
Minute Funds	\$129.14
League and Sunday School	\$ 2.00
TOTAL	\$203.74
PAID OUT	
Moderator and Clerk	\$ 30.00
State Association	\$ 30.00
Minutes	\$ 65.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$125.00
BALANCE	\$ 78.74

PROGRAM FOR HOLDING ASSOCIATION

1. The association shall be called to order and preceded over by the officers elected at the last session.
2. The association shall be opened and closed with singing and prayer.
3. The moderator and clerk shall be chosen by a majority of delegates present, at the close of each session to take office at the beginning of the next session.
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

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

in the reception of churches, then it shall 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 shall appoint someone to the chair while he is speaking.

7. Only one person shall speak at a time and he shall rise and address the moderator and after recognition by the moderator shall proceed.

8. No person 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 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 at the previous session and shall not ad-

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

journal 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 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 circulating 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 the 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 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. The Bible. The scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. God. There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe, and in the scripture as Father, Son and Holy Ghost, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore and obey.

3. Christ. Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature, truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified, He is now risen and glorified, and is our ever present Savior and Lord.

4. The Holy Spirit. The scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God.

5. The Government of God. God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of men requires.

6. The Sinfulness of Man. Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity therefore, inherit a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability, sin and become guilty before God.

7. The Work of Christ. The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death, and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free, and is the ground of salvation by faith.

8. The Terms of Salvation. The conditions of salvation are: 1st Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. 2nd Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith, the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin, and becomes a child of God. 3rd Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

9. Election. God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

10. Freedom of the Will. The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.

11. Salvation Free. God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all and whosoever will may come and take the water of life freely.

12. Perseverance. All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.

13. Gospel Ordinances. Baptism, or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel. Feet washing, an ordinance teaching humility of universal obligation, and to be ministered to all true believers.

14. Tithing. God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament: Jesus Christ endorsed it in the Gospel (Matt. 23:23), and the apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him" (1 Cor. 16:2).

15. The Christian Sabbath. The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works, and activities, and for personal communion with God.

16. Resurrection, Judgement, and Final Retribution. The scripture teaches the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

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Elyde Mates

John D. May

Mad. Clappin

St. John

St. John

Women

MT. Mansfield

W. P. Jackson

John

J. F. Lee

Proctor

G. B. Jackson

North East Min.

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Warren

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