

**MINUTES**  
**OF THE**  
**SEVENTY-NINTH SESSION**  
**OF THE**  
**VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST**  
**ASSOCIATION**  
**HELD WITH**  
**PINEY GROVE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**OCTOBER 16, 17, 1959**

**OFFICERS**

REV. J. B. LEDLOW, Moderator ..... Box 404, Fayette, Ala.

R. H. YERBY, Clerk ..... Rt. 6, Fayette, Ala.

The next session of this Association will be held with Mt. Willing Free Will Baptist Church, beginning at 10 o'clock on Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1960; Rev. E. M. Bevins to preach the introductory sermon- Rev. V. R Lay to be his substitute.

# VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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## PROCEEDINGS

Of The Seventy-Ninth Session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association, Held With Piney Grove F. W. B. Church,

October 16, 17, 1959.

### FRIDAY MORNING

The Association was called to order at 10 o'clock by the moderator, Rev. J. B. Ledlow.

A few songs were directed by Bro. Dewey Jordan. The moderator then read a scripture lesson from Acts 4: 31-34.

Prayer by Rev. B. T. Alexander. After a few appropriate remarks the moderator appointed the following credential committee: Bro. Mode Chaffin, Bro. W. H. Clearman and Bro. Walter Graham.

The letters from the various churches were called for and turned over to the credentials committee.

The moderator then appointed the following business committee: Rev. A. L. Warren, Rev. J. J. Barnes, Rev. Frank Collins, Bro. A. M. Wallace and Bro. R. T. Mixon.

A song was directed by Bro. Dewey Jordan.

A short but very interesting devotion was conducted by Rev. W. E. Atkinson, reading from the 7th chapter of Matthew.

Song, "Amazing Grace" was directed by Bro. Dewey Jordan.

Prayer by Rev. Elzo Bevins.

At 11 o'clock Rev. S. F. Lee brought the introductory sermon, reading from Matt. 16th chapter; text, Acts 8-37, "I believe Jesus Christ is the son of God."

At the conclusion of this sermon the song "There Is A Fountain" was sung while the congregation had a general handshaking.

The congregation was then dismissed one hour for dinner.

Prayer by Rev. Gurlie Roberts.

### AFTERNOON

The house was called to order by the Moderator. Song directed by Bro. J. B. Bobo.

The assistant moderator, Rev. Gurlie Roberts, read the 133rd Psalm as a scripture lesson and led the congregation in prayer.

The moderator appointed the following as a devotional committee: Bro. R. H. Yerby Jr., Bro. J. B. Bobo and Brother Young Shelton with the deacons of Piney Grove Church.

The following committee on committees was appointed by the moderator: Bro. Dewey Jordan, Bro. Pascal Yerby, and Bro. C. S. Collins.

The moderator called for the report of the credentials committee. They gave the following partial report.

We, your committee on credentials, make the following partial report: We have examined the letters from the various churches

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and recommend that we receive the same and seat the delegates as listed.

W. H. Clearman, Chairman

By move and second the report was received and the committee retained for further work.

The moderator appointed Rev. W. D. Glasgow and Rev. Calvin Bevins as reading clerks and the letters from the various churches were read and delegates seated as follows:

BELK—Sisters Flora Gilreath, Sarah Joe Watkins, Erdeal Gilreath and Mamie Dodson.

DAVIS CHAPEL—Sisters Lucy Gray, Elsie Channey and Marlon Evens.

FAYETTE—Bro. John Bobo and Sister Calvin Bevins.

FRIENDSHIP—Paul Shelnut.

LIBERTY—R. T. Mixon, and Rayford Perkins.

MT. HARMONY—Bob McReynolds, Walter Graham and Olen Wheeler.

MT. PLEASANT—Represented by letter.

MT. WILLING—Sisters Sue McDonald, Stacy Chaffin, Stella Reece, Ozie McDonald and Virginia Austin.

PINEY GROVE—Sister Veola Shelnut, Bros. Boyce Fuller, Covin Finch, and H. H. Gosa.

SPRINGFIELD—Bro. William Mason and Sister Ora Jordan.

TAYLOR SPRINGS—Rev. J. J. Barnes and Sister Myrtie Barnes.

UNION CHAPEL—Bro. Kell McAdams, Sisters Lucile Bradford, Effie Mae Harrison and Bro. Grady Harrison.

VERNON—Bros. Roy Crossley, Clyde Motes and Sister Lucile Yerby.

The moderator called for petitionary letters.

None were present.

The report of the devotional committee was called for.

They reported as follows: We recommend that Rev. Roy Barnes conduct a devotional service tonight at 6:30 o'clock and Rev. V. R. Lay bring the message.

R. H. Yerby Jr., Chairman.

The moderator called for visiting delegates. The following were seated with us:

State Line Association—Rev. Roy Barnes.

Jasper Association—Rev. W. E. Atkinson and Bro. H. S. Atkinson.

By move and second, the following ministers were seated with us: Rev. Calvin Bevins, Rev. Elzo Belvins and Rev. V. R. Lay.

The following ministers were appointed as an ordaining council to examine these new ministers: Rev. R. P. Ritch, Rev. S. F. Lee and Rev. W. D. Glasgow.

The association dismissed 10 minutes for recess.

After recess a song was directed by Bro. Dewey Jordan; prayer by Bro. H. S. Atkinson.

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The moderator called for the report of the ordaining council. This council made the following report:

We, your ordaining council, recommend that Rev. Elzo Bevins, Rev. Calvin Bevins and Rev. V. R. Lay be seated in this body as ordained ministers.

Rev. R. P. Ritch, Rev. W. D. Glasgow, Rev. S. F. Lee. Remarks of appreciation were made by these new ministers. The moderator called for the report of the business committee. The committee made the following report:

We, the business committee, recommend that the following items be received and adopted.

We recommend that the order of business of the Vernon Association be adopted by this body and the same printed in the minutes.

We recommend that the order of business of the church conference be adopted and that they be printed in the minutes.

Rev. A. L. Warren, Chairman.

The report was received as a partial report, reread and adopted by sections.

By move and second the business part of the association adjourned until 8 o'clock Saturday morning.

Prayer by Rev. R. P. Ritch.

### FRIDAY NIGHT

The congregation assembled in the church at the appointed time. After a short song service the congregation was led in prayer by Rev. Gurlie Roberts. After this, Rev. Roy Barnes conducted a very interesting devotional service, reading as a scripture lesson the 18th chapter of Luke.

Rev. V. R. Lay brought a very inspiring message, using as a text 2 Kings 20-40, which was enjoyed very much by all present.

The congregation was then dismissed by prayer until Saturday morning.

### SATURDAY MORNING

The house was called to order by the moderator.

Song by Rev. R. P. Ritch. A scripture lesson was read by the moderator from Luke 9: 56-62. Prayer by R. H. Yerby Sr. The clerk called the roll of delegates and the moderator declared the body ready for business.

The moderator called for petitionary letters. None present.

The body elected Rev. A. L. Warrren as a member of the executive committee for a period of three years. They also elected Rev. W. D. Glasgow to take the place of Rev. E. W. Graves on this committee.

The moderator called for visiting delegates to seats with us who were not preesent Friday. The following were seated:

Mt. Morriah Association— Rev. J. L. Lavender.

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State Line Association— Rev. L. V. Collier, Rev. Jim Howell and Bro. John Howell.

Jasper Association— Rev. O. Z. Johnson, and Bro. P. P. Barnes.

The following delegates were appointed on the committee on devotion to take the place of those who were absent: Bro. Jack Kelly, Sister Lucy Gray and Sister Lucile Bradford.

The moderator called for the report of the committee on committees.

WE, the committee on committees, offer the following appointments of committees:

Queries and Resolutions— Rev. W. D. Glasgow, Rev. Calvin Bevins, Bro. Clyde Motes, Bro. Boyce Fuller and Sister Lucy Gray.

Sunday Schools— Sister Ora Jordan, Sister Calvin Bevins, Bro. Grady Harrison and Rev. B. T. Alexander.

Temperance- Rev. Gurlie Roberts, Rev. V. R. Lay, Bro. Paul Shelnut and Bro. A. M. Wallace.

Deceased Members- Sister Effie Mae Harrison, Sister Lucile Yerby and Sister Elsie Channey.

Finance- Bros. Rayford Perkins, J. D. Shelnut, Covin Finch and H. H. Gosa.

Respectfully Submitted, D. G. Jordan, Chairman.

The report was received and the committee discharged.

The moderator called for the final report of the committee on devotion.

We recommend that Rev. Elzo Bevins preach at 11 o'clock.

Respectfully Submitted, Lucile Bradford.

The report was received and the committee discharged.

The body was dismissed 30 minutes for the committees to make their reports.

The body came together for business.

A song was directed by Rev. R. P. Ritch.

Prayer by Rev. Robert Collins.

Rev. J. B. Ledlow offered his resignation as a member of the board of trustees of the Children's Home.

The resignation was accepted and Bro. W. H. Clearman was elected to take his place.

The moderator called for the final report of the business committee.

The committee made the following report:

1. We recommend that the next session of this association meet with Mt. Willing Church.

2. We recommend that Rev. E. M. Bevins preach the introductory sermon at the next session of this association and Rev. V. R. Lay be his substitute.

3. The following article was given to this committee and report- as article No. 3:

3. We prefer that the Committee on committees be done away with and the moderator appoint the committees.

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Respectfully Submitted, Rev. A. L. Warren, Chairman

The report was received and the committee discharged.

The report was reread and considered by sections.

Section 1 and 2 were adopted. Section 3 was rejected.

The moderator called for the report of the committees on Queries and Resolutions.

We, your committee on Queries and Resolutions, make the following report:

Be it resolved that we tender our heartfelt thanks to Piney Grove Church and community for the hospitality and fellowship shown us during this session.

We recommend that we use our young people and young ministers more in the future than we have in the past.

We recommend that each church try to reach all people in their respective communities to get them to attend church, Sunday School and League.

Rev. W. D. Glasgow, Chairman.

The report was adopted and the committee discharged.

The report of the committee on Sunday Schools was called for.

We, your committee on Sunday Schools report as follows:

We recommend that each Sunday School teacher from each church visit each home that does not attend church and invite them to Sunday School.

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

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

We urge all Sunday Schools to be represented and take part in our Sunday School Convention.

We urge each pastor of each church along with the help of the deacons to see that a Sunday School be established in each church.

We recommend that each Sunday School obtain their literature from the Free Will Baptist Publishing House in Ayden, N. C.

Ora Jordan, Chairman.

The report was adopted and the committee discharged.

The report of the committee on Temperance was called for.

We, your committee on temperance make the following report:

We recommend that we abstain from the use of intoxicating beverages, that we exercise self control and be temperate in all things, 1 Cor. 9-25.

Gurle Roberts, Chairman.

The report was adopted and the committee discharged.

The moderator called for the report of the committee on deceased members.

We, your committee on deceased members report as follows:

Belk— Sister Helen Moore.

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Davis Chapel— Bro. Dock Swindle.

Mt. Willing— Sister Esther Taylor.

Piney Grove— Bro. Calvin Guin.

Springfield— Sister Duke Allen, Sister Raymeth Pennington and Bro. William Carr.

Union Chapel— Bro. Rollie Maddox and Sister Donnie Wiggins.

Vernon— Rev. T. J. Adair, Bro. Shelton Hollis and Sister Jessie Lee Robertson.

We feel that in giving up these loved ones that we should realize how close eternity really is and how much more we should be concerned about the lost. We extend our sympathy to the families of the deceased.

Respectfully Submitted, Effie Mae Harrison, Chairman.

The report was adopted as read and the committee discharged.

The body stood a moment in silent prayer for the families of the deceased.

The moderator called for the final report of the credentials committee.

We, your committee on credentials, wish to report as follows:

We find all churches in our association represented by letter and delegates for which we are glad.

We recommend that a letter of good standing be given Rev. Gurlie Roberts as he has moved to the Jasper Association.

We find all our ministers in good standing.

Respectfully Submitted, W. H. Clearman, Chairman.

The report was received and committee discharged.

The report reread by sections and adopted as read.

The body gave a rising vote of thanks for the good work Bro. Roberts has done in our association.

The body elected delegates to the state association as follows: Bro. W. H. Clearman and Sister R. P. Ritch.

The report of the finance committee was called for.

We, your committee on finance make the following report:

After collecting the minutes funds from the various churches we find a total of \$109.00.

Rayford Perkins, Chairman.

The report was adopted with \$2.00 from Taylor Springs Church to be applied to old age ministers.

The moderator appointed the following corresponding delegates to sister associations:

Jasper— Rev. A. L. Warren and Rev. Robert Collins.

State Line— Rev. Frank Collins and Rev. S. F. Lee.

Mt. Morriah— Rev. W. D. Glasgow and Bro. W. H. Clearman.

N. E. Miss.— Rev. Elzo Bevins and Rev. R. P. Ritch.

Progressive— Bro. Mode Chaffin and Bro. Pascal Yerby.

By move and second it was agreed to amend section 12 of the By-Laws to give the moderator power to appoint all committees.

The body elected the following officers for another year:

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Clerk- Bro. R. T. Mixon with Bro. D. G. Jordan, assistant.  
Moderator- Rev. R. P. Ritch.

Assistant Moderator- Rev. S. F. Lee.

The business of the association adjourned to meet with Mt. Willing Church on Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1960. Song, "Amazing Grace", directed by Bro. Bill McDonald.

Rev. J. L. Lavender conducted a short but interesting devotion, reading Col- 1:1-4. Prayer by Bro. D. G. Jordan.

After this Rev. Elzo Bevins brought the message, reading Gal. 6-15. Text Gal. 5-16.

Closing prayer by Rev. Gurlie Roberts.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. R. P. Ritch	(1960)
Rev. W. D. Glasgow	(1961)
Rev. A. L. Warren	(1962)

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance from 1958 .....	\$ 35.04
Minute Funds .....	\$109.00
Sunday School and League .....	\$ 11.82

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TOTAL .....	\$155.86
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#### Paid Out

Moderator and Clerk .....	\$ 30.00
State Association .....	\$ 26.00
Old Age Ministers .....	\$ 2.00
Printing Minutes .....	\$ 75.00

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Total Expense .....	\$133.00
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Balance on Hand .....	\$ 22.86
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### LIST OF DEACONS

Belk— L. D. Williams, Britt Belk, Jessie Overton, R. H. Yerby, Jr., Grady Newman.

Davis Chapel— John D. Moore, Sr., Raymond Gray.

Fayette— A. M. Wallace, E. E. Lewis. Reece Henderson, J. P. Kelley, Grady Kennedy.

Friendship— Not Given.

Liberty— Henry Perkins, Henry Harrison, Chelsie Poore, Lee Mixon, J. E. Collins.

Mt. Harmony— S. G. Johnson, S. L. Cash, B. C. Guin, Erbie Robertson, Titus Barnes.

Mt. Pleasant— J. G. Adair, Raymond Pennington.

Mt. Willing— Jack McDonald, Hiram McDonald, Doffie Shelnut, Emmet Lee, Arlie Roberts.

Piney Grove— C. E. Roberts, G. W. Chaffin, Alvada Markham, Arlando Shelnut, J. M. Chaffin.

# STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS	Members Received	Members Dismissed	Members Deceased	Total Members	No. In Sunday School	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
Belk	Rev. A. L. Warren	R. H. Yerby, Sr. Rt. 6, Fayette	0	4	1	152	60	35	0	1	750.00	131.50	147.00	22.00	63.00	10.	48.72	624.27	12,000
Davis Chapel	Rev. Calvin Bevins	John D. Moore Rt. 4, Fayette	4	4	1	60	40	0	0	0	303.07	124.00	13.55	.00	10.00	10.	163.15	624.27	4,000
Fayette	Rev. J. B. Ledlow	Mrs. E. E. Lewis Rt. 5, Fayette	22	4	0	112	113	50	30	5	3445.00	225.00	346.98	31.08	9.31	10.	2434.90	8985.12	47,400
Friendship	Rev. Elzo Bevins	Paul Shelnut Steens, Miss.	1	1	0	75	22	0	0	0	300.85	100.00	.00	.00	.00	5.	.00	466.63	4,000
Liberty	Rev. L. V. Collier	J. E. Collins Rt. 2, Vernon	0	0	0	216	120	0	0	1	1309.15	140.00	12.78	108.88	.00	10.	.00	1757.40	5,000
Mt. Harmony	Rev. A. L. Warren	Olen Wheeler Rt. 1, Fernbank	8	0	0	211	40	0	0	0	440.00	103.70	20.00	.00	13.61	10.	.00	719.26	10,000
Mt. Pleasant	Rev. McAdams	Linda Chandler Rt. 1, Vernon	0	0	0	66	30	0	0	0	179.74	50.00	.00	.00	.00		.00	229.74	6,000
Mt. Willing	Rev. Hudson Burleson	Clyde F. May Rt. 2, Winfield	5	0	1	209	57	0	0	1	519.20	110.00	60.00	.00	6.00	10.	376.39	1041.59	3,500
Piney Grove	Rev. C. R. Puckett	J. M. Chaffin Rt. 1, Guin	3	3	1	128	40	0	0	3	293.95	60.00	5.00	.00	.00	10.	580.22	948.98	5,000
Springfield	Rev. Roy Barnes	J. A. Harper Vernon, Ala.	2	2	3	255	45	25	0	0	508.50	102.71	68.00	.00	.00	10.	215.93	1027.81	6,250
Taylor Springs	Rev. Robert Collins	Mary Ann Barnes Beaverton, Ala.	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	2	95.00	.00	.00	.00	2.00	2.	.00	99.00	1,500
Union Chapel	Rev. Henry Crawford	Ernest Haynes Rt. 6, Fayette	7	3	2	97	60	0	0	1	680.00	100.00	75.00	15.00	15.00	10.	53.19	948.19	9,000
Vernon	Rev. R. P. Ritch	Mrs. Clyde Motes Vernon, Ala.	0	2	3	152	75	45	8	2	1850.00	100.00	62.00	63.63	16.30	10.	904.48	3024.47	3,500
<b>TOTALS</b>			52	23	12	1754	707	155	38	16	10674.46	1346.91	810.31	240.59	135.22	107.	4782.09	21094.74	148,650

\*Paid For Children Education:  
Friendship \$15.; Liberty \$176.59

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Springfield— Dempsey Langley, D. G. Jordan, Haley Wright, Claud Hollis, J. A. Harper.

Taylor Springs— C. W. Barnes, Kelsie Barnes.

Union Chapel— C. S. Collins, S. Y. Shelton, W. H. Clearman, Carlos Bradford, James E. Maddox.

Vernon— W. L. Turner, B. E. Turner, Jay Y. Turner, J. L. McNees, L. A. Crowder, P. N. Yerby, Dalton Turner.

### 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. Crawley, 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. A. Tate, Rev. E. A. Palmer, Rev. J. A. Isbell, Rev. M. E. Carpenter, Rev. T. J. Adair.

### NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PRESENT MINISTERS

Rev. S. F. Lee	Rt. 1, Guin, Ala.
Rev. E. W. Graves	Vernon, Ala.
Rev. W. D. Glasgow	Vernon, Ala.
Rev. A. L. Warren	Vernon, 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. B. T. Alexander	Rt. 8, Birmingham, Ala.
Rev. J. B. Ledlow	Box 404, Fayette, Ala.
Rev. Calvin Bevins	Fayette, Ala.
Rev. Elzo Bevins	Fayette, Ala.
Rev. V. R. Lay	Fayette, Ala.

### PROCEEDINGS OF LEAGUE AND S. S. RALLY

The League and S. S. Rally of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association met with Piney Grove Church, May 31, 1959, at 10 o'clock A.M.

Opening song service by Bro. Elvada Markham.

Prayer by Sister Lucile Bradford.

Special song by the Bradford Trio.

Opening remarks by the moderator, Rev. Gurlie Roberts.

Scripture lesson, Psalms -34.

Prayer by Bro. Garvis Moore.

Remarks on the scripture lesson by the moderator.

Union Chapel Church presented the first program.

Vernon Church rendered the second program.

Song by the congregation.

Mr. Garvis Moore, County Superintendent of Lamar County gave an interesting lecture.

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A very interesting and inspiring message was given by Rev. A. L. Warren, using as a text 1 Thes. 4-17.

Dismissed for lunch by Rev. W. D. Glasgow.

A bountiful dinner was enjoyed by all.

### AFTERNOON SESSION

Song services were conducted by Bro. Markham.

Piney Grove Church presented their program.

A talk and scripture reading of instructions to Christian workers was given by the moderator, Rev. Gurlie Roberts.

The scripture reading was taken from 2 Tim. 4th. Chapter.

Special songs were rendered by the Bradford Trio.

The following officers were elected for another year:

Moderator and associational evangelist- Bro. Arlando Shelnut.

Secretary- Pascal Yerby.

The Convention voted to hold the next meeting with Vernon Church on the second fifth Sunday in 1960, beginning at 10 o'clock.

An offering of \$11.82 was taken for minute funds.

The congregation was dismissed by Bro. C. S. Collins.

Rev. Gurlie Roberts- Moderator.

Pascal Yerby- Secretary.

### CONSTITUTION

1. This association shall be known as the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association of Alabama, being composed of ministers, deacons and delegates from the 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 for the first 50 members and one additional delegate for each 25 members or fraction thereof, 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 Treaties of Faith and practice of Free Will Baptist. This association shall have authority over all ministers in the matters of doctrine, character, etc. In case any minister in this association depart from and teach doctrine not in keeping with the Treaties of Faith and practice of Free Will Baptist the same shall be dealt with by the association as it may deem proper according to the teaching of the Bible.

3. When a church desires that one of its members should be licensed or ordained to preach the Gospel, it requests the association to examine, by council, such member. The examination for license should refer to the piety, doctrines and convictions respecting the work of the ministry, and the reputation for character and ability of the candidate. The examination for ordination should include all that is required for license, and also satisfactory examination respecting the life and labors of the candidate. No preacher shall be accepted or ordained in this association as a preacher who has

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more than one living wife.

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, assistant moderator and clerk-treasurer, who shall be chosen at each session by a majority vote of the delegates present. The officers shall be chosen at the close of each session to take office at the beginning of the next session.

6. The association shall meet annually at such time and place as may be agreed upon at 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 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 serve 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 dringing as a beverage, which is calculated to destroy his influence and usefulness, the same may be dealt with by the association as it may deem proper, according to the teaching 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 considered 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.

### BY-LAWS

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 with devotion by the previous moderator and closed by prayer.

3. The officers 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.

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4. A credential committee shall be appointed at the beginning of each session who shall receive and examine the letters and list the delegates and turn them over to the clerk with any recommendations they may wish to make.

5. The delegates shall be seated at a designated place in the assembly and a majority shall rule in all cases.

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 persons shall laugh or talk during discussions.

11. No person should absent himself from the association without permission of the moderator.

12. The moderator shall have power to appoint all committees. Each committee to consist of from three to five members.

13. Any minister of the association who fails to represent in person or by letter for a period of two years without a reasonable excuse, his name shall be dropped from our list of ordained ministers.

14. All ordinations shall be done by the association.

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

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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: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty reunication of it. 2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Saviour 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. 3. 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 of 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. Ressurrection, Judgement, and Final Retribution. The Scriptures teach 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."

## **VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

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### **ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR VERNON ASSOCIATION**

1. Open and devotion by former moderator.
2. New moderator takes over.
3. Credential committee appointed.
4. Devotion.
5. Message.
6. Lunch.
7. Report of credential committee.
8. Reading of letters and seating of delegates.
9. Call for petitionary letters.
10. Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.
11. Appoint a committee on committees.
12. Committees as follows: Business, Querries and Resolution, Sunday Schools, Finance, Deceased Members, Devotion.
13. Report of committee on committees.
14. Call for report of devotional committee.
15. Appoint ordaining committee.
16. Call for business committee report.
17. Call for committee reports (see committees).
18. Final report of business committee.
19. Delegates to state association.
20. Correpoding delegates to other associations.
21. Place for next setting of association.
22. Election of officers.

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR CHURCH CONFERENCE**

1. Call to order.
2. Call for peace and fellowship.
3. Opportunity for membership.
4. Invite visiting brothers and sisters to seats.
5. Readings of Previous minutes.
6. Unfinished business.
7. Appointment of committees.
8. Acknowledgements.
9. Committee reports.
10. New business.
11. Adjournment.