

**MINUTES**  
**OF THE**  
**EIGHTY FIRST SESSION**  
**OF THE**  
**VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST**  
**ASSOCIATION**  
**HELD WITH**  
**SPRINGFIELD FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**OCTOBER 12, 13, 1961**

**OFFICERS**

Rev. A. L. Warren, Moderator ..... Vernon, Ala.  
R. T. Mixon, Clerk . .... Rt. 2, Vernon, Ala.

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The next session of this Association will be held with Fayette Free Will Baptist Church, beginning at 9 o'clock on Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1962. Rev. K. V. Shutes to preach the introductory sermon - Rev. B. T. Alexander to be his substitute.

# VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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## PROCEEDINGS

of The Eighty First Session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association, held with Springfield F. W. B. Church, October 12, 13, 1961.

Moderator- Rev. A. L. Warren; Assistant Moderator- Rev. R. P. Ritch; Clerk- R. T. Mixon.

### FRIDAY MORNING

Service opened with Rev. A. J. Lambert leading the singing. Songs were "Blessed Assurance" and "Alas and Did My Savior Bleed".

Called to order by former Moderator, Rev. R. P. Ritch. Prayer by Rev. T. L. Walker. Devotional: Rev. R. P. Ritch reading from 2nd chapter Titus.

The Moderator, Rev. A. L. Warren, declared the eighty-first session of this association in order and took charge by reading the By-Laws of this association. The following credential committee was appointed: Brothers Jack McDonald, Clyde Motes, Dewey Jordan, W. H. Clearman, Walter Graham and A. M. Wallace. The letters from various churches were called for and turned over to the credential committee.

Devotional by, Rev. K. V. Shutes. At this time about ten minutes was spent in a testimonial service. Song, "Amazing Grace", without piano, was very much enjoyed by all present.

Prayer by Rev. H. E. Cobb.

The Moderator called for visiting Brothers from other associations. The following were present and given a hand of welcome: Mt. Morriah- Rev. T. L. Walker, W. C. Oswalt, A. W. McGee and O. L. Fields; Miss. State Line- Rev. L. V. Collier, Roy Barnes; Progressive- Rev. A. J. Lambert and wife; Birmingham District- Bro. Curtis Williams. Hand of welcome given by Moderator, Assistant Moderator and Clerk.

Call for petitionary letters. None present.

Song by Rev. A. J. Lambert.

The following Committee on Committees was appointed: Bros. Dempsey Langley, Dewey Johnson and Hiram McDonald. Business Committee: Rev. R. P. Ritch, W. D. Glasgow and S. F. Lee.

Song by Rev. A. J. Lambert, "Oh How I Love Jesus".

At 11 a.m. Rev. S. F. Lee brought the introductory sermon reading from Rev. 22:2. Subject, "The Tree of Life."

Dismissed by Rev. L. V. Collier.

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Service opened with Bro. H. H. Gosa leading the singing. Songs "Leaning on the Everlasting Arm" and "Nothing but the Blood".

Prayer by Rev. Grover Perkins, pastor of Springfield Church.

Scripture reading by Moderator A. L. Warren from Psalms 133.

Short talk by Rev. S. F. Lee. Subject: "Prayer in Unity".

By move and second the report was received and the committee retained.

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At this time the Moderator called for report of the Credential Committee. They gave the following report. We your committee on credentials make the following report: 1. We recommend that all the letters be received and all the delegates be seated. 2. We recommend Bro. K. V. Shutes' name be added to the list of ordained ministers and Bros. J. B. Ledlow and Elzo Beving names be dropped from the list. 3. We find all our ministers of this association in good standing and that each one be given a card to show the same. D. G. Jordan, chairman, W. H. Clearman, Walter Graham, Clyde Motes, A. M. Wallace.

The Moderator appointed Rev. A. J. Lambert and Clerk R. T. Mixon as reading clerks. Letters read and motion carried to seat the delegates as follows:

BELK- Bro. Grady Gilreath, Sisters Iva Powell, Brinda Newman, Linda Gilreath, Cordelia Williams.

DAVIS CHAPEL- Sisters Eulene Moore, Roxie Pennington, Lucy Gray.

FAYETTE- Sisters A. M. Wallace, George Rushing, John Williams, K. V. Shutes, Bros. Douglas Stripland, Bruce Adams.

FRIENDSHIP- Sisters Idell Ray, Fannie Godfrey.

LIBERTY- Sisters Ora C. Burnett, Ollie Mae Hankins, Loree Butler, Bros. John C. Dubose, Choyce Perkins.

MT. HARMONY- Bros. Walter Graham, Coy Johnson, Dewey Johnson, Olen Wheeler, Sister Flaudie Wheeler.

MT. WILLING- Sisters Polly Collins, Charlene Hayney, Barbara Pinkerton, Bros. Bill McDonald, Ellis Guin, Harkin Garrison.

MT. PLEASANT- Sisters Ida Dees, Hilda Chandler, Helen Chandler.

PINEY GROVE- Bros. H. H. Gosa, W. S. Woods, C. M. Fuller, Sister Viola Shellnut.

SPRINGFIELD- Bros. W. M. Mason, Aubrey Hall, Kelcy Jordan and Sister Bena Langley.

TAYLOR SPRINGS- Sisters Myrtie Barnes, Frances Burnette.

UNION CHAPEL- Bros. Kell McAdams, Murray A. Graves, Sisters Earnest Haynes, Carolyn Bradford.

VERNON- Bros. E. W. Rogers, Clyde Motes, Sisters Ethel Rogers, Ruth Langley.

BEAVERTON- Sisters Mary Weeks, Mary Ann Cantrell, Earline Roden, Bros. Edd Alexander, Robert Bobo.

HUBBARD SPRINGS- Sisters Frank Parker, Francis Owens, Bro. Houston Owens.

The Moderator appointed the following committees.

Devotional Committee- Brothers Pascal Yerby, Walter Fields, and Deacons of Springfield Church.

Ordaining Council- Rev. S. F. Lee, Rev. K. V. Shutes, Rev. Bert Alexander.

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Song, "I'll Fly Away", was led by Brother H. H. Gosa. At this time Rev. A. J. Lambert from the Children's Home was recognized.

A collection was taken for payment on truck. The amount received was \$103.00.

The Moderator called for the report of committee on committees. They made the following report.

1. Committee on Resolutions, Brothers W. S. Woods, Grady Gilreath, Sisters Earline Roden, Viola Shelnut.

2. Committee on Sunday Schools, Sisters A. M. Wallace, Bena Langley, Eulene Moore, Brothers Kelsey Jordan, George Rushing.

3. Committee on Temperance, Sister Helen Chandler, Brothers John C. Dubose, Robert Bobo, Paul Shelnut, R. H. Yerby.

4. Committee on Deceased, Brothers Dewey Johnson, John Bobo, William Mason, Sisters Ida Dees and Carolyn Bradford.

5. Committee on Finance, Sisters Loree Butler, Cordelia Williams, Brothers Carlos Bradford, Coy Johnson.

The report was received and committee discharged.

The Moderator called for report of Business Committee. They made the following partial report.

1. We recommend that we begin our sessions in the future at 9 a.m. each day.

2. We recommend that the churches revise their membership roll, keeping an active and inactive roll.

3. We recommend that L. C. Graham be questioned and if found worthy, license him to preach the gospel. We recommend that Olen Wheeler, Coy Johnson, Jeff McDonald, Olen Markham, Douglas Stripland be questioned and if found worthy, ordained as Deacons.

The report was received and committee retained. The report was reread and considered by sections. All sections were adopted.

R. P. Ritch, Chairman

By move and second it was ordered that Rev. K. V. Shutes' name be listed as an Ordained Minister of this Association. The body elected Rev. K. V. Shutes to serve on the Executive Committee. Time to expire 1963. Rev. W. D. Glasgow was reelected on the committee, time to expire 1964.

Song by Rev. R. P. Ritch.

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

Prayer by Rev. J. B. Tittle.

## FRIDAY NIGHT

Song by Brother Dewey Jordan.

Prayer by Rev. W. D. Glasgow. Devotional by Rev. Roy Barnes reading 1st John, 3rd Chapter. Subject: "Service".

Song by Brother Dewey Jordan.

Message by Rev. R. P. Ritch, reading from Proverbs 22 chapter, 28 verse, subject, "Land Marks Practice and Not Practiced by the Free Will Baptist".



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The communion and feet washing was carried out in an orderly way according to previous arrangements and was enjoyed by more than fifty people.

Prayer by Rev. A. J. Lambert.

### SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Song by Rev. A. J. Lambert.

Prayer by Rev. L. C. Wallace. Called to order by Moderator.

The roll was called and a Quorum declared present. Some adjustments were made as to the delegates present.

Song by Rev. A. J. Lambert, "When All God's Singers Get Home."

Rev. L. C. Wallace was recognized as a visiting Minister.

At this time about 10 minutes were spent in a testimonial service, which was uplifting and enjoyed by everyone.

The final report on Devotional Committee was called for. The committee reported as follows: We your committee on Devotional recommend that Brother L. C. Graham bring the Devotional at 10:30 a.m. and that Rev. K. V. Shutes bring the message at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Pascal Yerby, Chairman

The report was received as read and committee discharged.

The final report of the business committee was called for. They reported as follows.

1. We recommend that Brother Paul Shelnut be questioned and if found worthy, ordained as a Deacon.

2. We recommend that the next session of the association meet with the Fayette Church.

3. We recommend that Rev. K. V. Shutes preach the introductory sermon next year and that Rev. B. T. Alexander be the substitute.

4. We recommend that Rev. W. D. Glasgow preach the Communion and feet washing sermon.

R. P. Ritch, Chairman

The report was received and committee discharged. The report was reread and considered by sections. All sections were adopted.

The reports of the committees were read and received and committee discharged. (See Reports of Committee).

The body stood one minute in silent prayer for the deceased.

The following committee was appointed to carry out article 3 in the Sunday School report. Rev. R. P. Ritch, Chairman, R. T. Mixon, Rev. W. D. Glasgow, Rev. A. L. Warren, Rev. K. V. Shutes.

The following corresponding delegates to sister associations were appointed. Jasper- Sister R. P. Ritch; State Line- Rev. A. L. and Sister Warren; Mt. Morriah- Rev. W. D. Glasgow, Brother W. H. Clearman; Progressive- Rev. R. P. Ritch, Rev. A. L. Warren, Brother and Sister A. M. Wallace; South Miss.- Rev. K. V. and Sister Shutes; Northeast Miss.- Brother John E. Alexander. Rev. Leander McAdams from Mt. Morriah, Rev. O. Z. Johnson from the Jasper Associations were recognized as being present at this association.

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The body elected the following officers for another year.

Moderator- Rev. R. P. Ritch.

Vice Moderator- Rev. K. V. Shutes.

Clerk- R. T. Mixon.

The business of the association adjourned to meet with the Fayette Church on Friday before third Sunday, October 1962, time 9 a.m.

The ordaining council made the following report. We the ordaining council recommend the following Brethern for License: L. C. Graham, Route 1, Fernbank, Ala., and the following Brethern for Deacons: Paul Shelnut, Vernon, Ala., Olen Markham, Route 1, Guin, Ala., Coy Johnson, Route 1, Fernbank, Ala., Olen Wheeler, Fernbank, Ala., Douglas Stripling, Route 5, Fayette, Ala., Jeff McDonald, Guin, Ala.

Rev. S. F. Lee, Chairman

By move and second the report was received.

Song by Rev. A. J. Lambert. Devotional was given by Brother L. C. Graham reading Rev. Chapter 2, Verses 1 thru 6.

Song "At The Cross". Message by Rev. K. V. Shutes. Subject, "What Do We Believe?" Special song by Sister Shutes "How Great Thou Art".

At this time the council came forward and did the ordination as requested.

Rev. S. F. Lee giving the charge. Rev. K. V. Shutes reading. Prayer by B. T. Alexander.

Closing prayer by Rev. A. L. Warren.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. A. L. Warren- 1962.

Rev. K. V. Shutes- 1963.

Rev. W. D. Glasgow- 1964.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance from 1960 .....	21.92
Minute Funds .....	120.25
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>142.17</b>
Paid Out:	
Supplies .....	4.85
Moderator and Clerk .....	30.00
State Association .....	30.00
Minutes .....	92.00
Postage .....	4.54
<b>TOTAL PAID OUT</b>	<b>161.39</b>
Balance on Hand	-19.22

Churches	Pastors	Clerks	S. S. Collection	Christian Education	Members Received	Members Dismissed	Members Deceased	Total Members	No. In S. S.	No. In League	No. In Ladies Auxiliary	Ordained Ministers	Paid Pastors	Paid Evangelists	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	690	0	9	1	1	159	60	40	0	1	795	100	301	15	25	10	0	1246	25000
Davis Chapel	Rev. Curtis Williams	Betty Bevins Fayette	32	0	0	3	0	120	60	0	0	0	433	44	20	0	0	10	6	513	4000
Fayette	Rev. K. V. Shutes	Euel F. Lewis Rt. 5, Fayette	0	1365	35	11	0	135	125	50	12	3	3795	241	432	28	0	10	402	6822	50000
Friendship	Rev. Robert Collins	Mrs. Paul Shelnut Vernon	40	0	0	0	0	66	20	0	0	0	373	38	0	0	0	2	15	460	4500
Liberty	Rev. L. V. Collier	J. E. Collins Rt. 2, Vernon	1361	127	10	3	0	222	110	0	0	1	1322	124	15	0	0	10	353	1950	5900
Mt. Harmony	Rev. Roy Barnes	Olen Wheeler Fernbank	0	0	2	2	2	204	30	0	0	0	540	100	15	0	0	10	266	968	10000
Mt. Pleasant	Rev. Leander McAdams	Linda Chandler Vernon	26	0	0	1	1	61	21	0	0	0	300	0	0	0	0	5	0	300	6000
Mt. Willing	Rev. Hudson Burleson	Clyde F. May Rt. 2, Winfield	90	0	11	3	0	224	57	0	0	1	495	163	60	0	0	10	5	829	3500
Piney Grove	Rev. J. F. Walden	J. M. Chaffin Rt. 1, Guin	99	0	6	2	1	131	50	0	0	2	362	50	0	0	0	10	280	701	5000
Springfield	Rev. A. L. Warren	J. A. Harper Vernon	389	0	1	7	2	244	54	35	0	0	659	103	34	0	0	10	178	1268	12000
Taylor Springs	Rev. Calvin Bevins	Mary Ann Barnes Beaverton	88	0	1	0	1	10	35	0	0	0	119	26	0	0	0	3	252	397	2000
Union Chapel	Rev. H. E. Crawford	Earnest Haynes Fayette		0	4	1	2	100	60	0	0	0	692	104	137	0	0	10	38	981	10000
Vernon	Rev. R. P. Ritch	Mrs. Clyde Motes Vernon	809	50	5	0	0	161	80	48	18	2	2700	100	259	96	33	10	580	4213	35000
Beaverton	Rev. B. T. Alexander	Earline Roden Beaverton		0	8	0	0	22	0	0	0	1	257	38	0	0	0	5	98	392	3000
Hubbard Springs	Rev. V. R. Laye	Francis Owens Centreville		0	6	0	0	24	0	0	0	1	234	0	0	0	0	5	0	244	2000
TOTALS			4989	177	98	34	10	1883	762	173	30	12	13076	1231	1273	139	58	120	2468	21184	177900

## VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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### TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We your committee on Temperance make the following report.

In as much as the Bible warns of the danger of the use of intoxicating drinks because of its widespread use, we recommend that Christians set an example for our younger generation to abstain from its use and be temperate in all things. 1 Cor. 9:25.

Helen Chandler, Chairman

### SUNDAY SCHOOLS COMMITTEE REPORT

We your committee on Sunday Schools report as follows:

We recommend that all teachers contact each home that doesn't attend church or Sunday School and invite them to come. We recommend that you urge all the Sunday School to stay for church services.

We urge each pastor of each church along with the deacons to see that a Sunday School be established in each church. We find that Sunday Schools are the upbuilding of our churches.

We recommend that a Sunday School field person be elected for the purpose of teaching or seeing that Sunday School courses be taught, in this association, also be capable of teaching.

We recommend that all teachers be members of the Freewill Baptist Church, be a consecrated Christian and loyal to the church.

Sister A. M. Wallace, Chairman

### REPORT OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

We your committee on Resolutions make the following report.

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to Springfield and the community for their hospitality and fellowship shown us during this session.

We recommend that we use our young people and young ministers more in our churches and give them more spiritual encouragement.

We recommend we encourage our children to associate more with Christian people that they may obtain spiritual training and encouragement to live better lives.

We recommend the Bible as the best reading for the young and old.

W. S. Woods, Chairman

### REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

We your committee on finance make the following report. After calling for the minute funds from the various churches we have collected \$120.25.

Respectfully submitted,  
Loree Butler, Chairman

### DECEASED MEMBERS

We your committee on deceased members report as follows:

BELK- T. J. Moore

PINEY GROVE- Sister Nancy Chaffin

TAYLOR SPRINGS- Rev. Jessie J. Barnes



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SPRINGFIELD- Miss Josie Pennington, Evans Jackson

MT. PLEASANT- Sister Celia Crossley

UNION CHAPEL- Mrs. Delia Yerby, Mr. Sam Lollar

MT. HARMONY- Bro. S. G. Johnson, Bedford Guin

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

We extend our sympathy to the families of the deceased.

Respectfully submitted,

Dewey Jordan, Chairman

### PROCEEDINGS FOR THE LEAGUE & SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY

The League and Sunday School Rally of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association met with the Springfield Church on April 30, 1961 at 10:00 a.m.

The Moderator, Bro. Arlando Shelnut, was in charge of the services throughout the day. He did a good job and the day was enjoyed by all present. Bro. W. H. Clearman gave an interesting lecture on the Sunday School lesson.

Liberty and Union Chapel Churches presented their programs during the morning services. A good dinner was enjoyed at the noon hour on the church grounds.

The afternoon session was composed of class songs by the congregation and special singing rendered by the Belk Trio. Four interesting programs were presented by the following churches, respectfully; Piney Grove, Friendship, Fayette and Springfield.

A short business session was held. Belk church was selected for the next meeting place in 1962. Bro. Arlando Shelnut was reelected moderator and Pascal Yerby, Secretary.

The moderator asked for a contact council member from each church in the association for another year.

Dismissed by Rev. James Waldon.

Moderator- Arlando Shelnut; Clerk- Pascal Yerby

### 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, Douglas Stripland.

FRIENDHIP- Paul Shelnut.

LIBERTY- Henry Perkins, Henry Harrison, Chelsie Poore, Lee Mixon, J. E. Collins.

MT. HARMONY- S. G. Johnson, S. L. Cash, Erbie Robertson, Titue Barnes, Olen Wheeler, Coy Johnson.

MT. PLEASANT- J. G. Adair, Raymond Pennington.

MT. WILLING- Jack McDonald, Hiram McDonald, Doffie Shelnut, Emmet Lee, Arlie Roberts, Jeff McDonald, Olen Markham.

PINEY GROVE- C. E. Roberts, G. W. Chaffin, Alvada Markham, Arlando Shlnut, J. M. Chaffin, nut, J. M. Chaffin.

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HUBBARD SPRINGS- Huston Owens.

BEAVERTON- Robert Bobo, J. T. Barnes, Jim Trentham.

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. Mc-Nees, L. A. Crowder, P. N. 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. 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, Rev. J. J. Barnes.

### NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PRESENT MINISTERS

Rev. S. F. Lee	Rt. 1, Guin, Ala.
Rev. W. D. Glasgow	Rt. 2, Vernon, Ala.
Rev. A. L. Warren	Vernon, 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. Calvin Bevins	Fayette, Ala.
Rev. V. R. Laye	Fayette, Ala.
Rev. J. B. Tittle	Centerville, Ala.
Rev. K. V. Shutes	Fayette, Ala.

### 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.

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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 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 drinking 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.

# VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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## 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.

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.

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 renunciation 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 everyone 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.

## VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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16. Resurrection, 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."

### 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. Corresponding 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.