

**MINUTES**  
**Of The**  
**Eighty-Nineth Session**  
**Of The**  
**Vernon Free Will Baptist**  
**Association**



**Held With**  
**FRIENDSHIP FREE WILL**  
**BAPTIST CHURCH**

**October 18, 1969**

**Moderator—Rev. Dewey Thomas**



**Officers for 1970**

**Moderator ..... Rev. Roy Barnes, Rt. 2, Vernon, Ala.**  
**Ass't. Moderator ..... Rev. Ottis Parmer, Rt. 1, Guin, Ala.**  
**Clerk ... Derrell R. Wheeler, Route 1, Box 124, Vernon, Ala.**



**THE NEXT SESSION OF THIS ASSOCIATION WILL**  
**BE HELD WITH THE SPRINGFIELD F.W.B. CHURCH,**  
**VERNON, ALA. BEGINNING AT 8:00 O'CLOCK A.M. ON**  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1970. REV. LEANDER**  
**McADAMS TO PREACH THE KEY NOTE SERMON.**

# PROCEEDINGS

The Eighty-Ninth session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was held with Friendship Free Will Baptist Church on October 18, 1969. Rev. Dewey Thomas, Moderator, Derrell R. Wheeler, Clerk.

This meeting opened with congregational singing under the direction of Rev. Leander McAdams. The song "Are You Washed in the Blood" was followed by a prayer by Bro. R. T. Mixon.

The Eighty-Ninth session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was called to order by Rev. Dewey Thomas.

Next we had congregational singing, the song, "I'll Fly Away" was directed by Rev. Leander McAdams.

Rev. Leander McAdams extended a hearty welcome to all the people attending this associational meeting at Friendship Church.

A devotional message was given by Rev. B. T. Alexander. This message was taken from St. John, chapter 10.

Congregational singing of the song "The Promised Land" was directed by Rev. Leander McAdams.

We next, had a prayer by Rev. A. L. Warren.

Letters from the various churches were called for and turned over to the clerk. Rev. Ottis Parmer and Sister Wilda McAdams were appointed as reading clerks.

After approximately one half the letters were read, the clerks paused while a prayer was offered by Rev. Henry Crawford. Reading of the letters resumed. All letters were read. Accepted as read and the delegates seated as listed. (See churches and delegates as listed.)

A call was given for petitionary letters. None were received.

Two churches in the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association have joined other associations. Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church joined the Cahaba River Association and Hubbard Springs Free Will Baptist Church joined the Mt. Moriah Association.

Appointment of the committee on committees was made. Those appointed were: Bro. Pascal Yerby, Rev. M. H. Hollis, Rev. Bert Graves, Rev. A. L. Warren.

Recognition of our oldest ministers, Rev. A. L. Warren, Rev. S. F. Lee, Rev. M. H. Hollis and Rev. W. D. Glasgow was given at this time. Each offered his comments, all of which were enjoyed by the congregation.

Next, the congregation, sang "Some Glad Day After Awhile" directed by Rev. Leander McAdams. We were then dismissed for a short intermission.

Following the intermission, the congregation sang "Press Along to Glory Land" after which Rev. Dewey Thomas offered a prayer.

We recognized the other associations represented. They were: Progressive, Northeast Mississippi and Mt. Moriah.

A call was given for reports of the various committees at this time.

The Business Committee report was read, received as read by the proper vote and seconded. The committee was dismissed. (See reports)

The Sunday School and C.T.S. committee report was read and received by proper vote and seconded. The committee was discharged. (See reports)

The Temperance Committee report was read next. The report was accepted as read by the proper vote and second. The committee was discharged. (See reports)

Next The Devotional Committee report was read and received as read by vote and second. The committee was discharged. (See reports)

The Deceased Members committee report was given and received as read by vote and second. The committee was discharged. (See reports)

A song, "Precious Memories," was sung for all the deceased members of our association, by the congregation followed by a prayer by Rev. A. L. Warren.

The Finance Committee report was read and received as read by vote and second. The committee was discharged. (See reports)

The Resolutions Committee report was read and received by vote and second. The committee was discharged. (See reports)

The Church Extension Committee report was given. Discussion of this report was tabled until after noon.

A committee of Ministers was appointed for the purpose of ordaining any ministers or deacons.

Our key note message was given by Rev. G. C. Lawrence. The text for this sermon is First John, chapter 2. Subject: "Men Shall be Lovers of Themselves."

After the key note message, the congregation sang "Is Thy Heart Right with God," followed by a prayer by Rev. Leander McAdams.

The congregation was dismissed for lunch.

### AFTERNOON SESSION

The meeting reconvened at 1:00 p.m. with a song "When I See The Blood," directed by Rev. Roy Barnes followed by a prayer by Rev. G. C. Lawrence.

Bro. R. H. Yerby, Sr. was appointed to the Executive Committee. Bro. Dewey Jordan was appointed chairman of this committee for the coming year. Other members names appear in list of committees.

An afternoon sermon was given by Rev. W. D. Glasgow.

Next a special quartet composed of Rev's. Roy Barnes, Henry Crawford, M. H. Hollis, and Leander McAdams sang "I Want to be Ready to Meet Him."

Discussion on the Church Extension Committee report resumed. The committee was changed to The Vernon Home Mission Board with a committee appointed to transact business throughout the coming year. This committee consists of: Rev. Roy Barnes, Chairman; Bro. Loyd Turner, Rev. G. C. Lawrence. The action was properly approved by vote and second of the delegated body. The committee was discharged. (See reports)

The report from the committee on committees was read, received as read by the necessary vote and second. The committee was then discharged. (See reports)

Rev. L. B. Nix gave us a report on the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Eldridge, Alabama. Rev. Dewey Thomas then reported various items needed by the children at the Children's Home.

Delegates to the Alabama State Free Will Baptist Association were appointed.



## LIST OF DELEGATES

Mrs. E. W. Graves

Mrs. Robert Franks

Mr. Clyde Motes

Mrs. Clyde Motes

Mrs. S. Y. Shelton

Mr. Loyd Turner

Mrs. Loyd Turner

Delegates were appointed to other Free Will Baptist Associations as follows:

Birmingham District Association—None

Cahaba River Association—None

East Alabama Association—None

Florida State Line Association—None

Jasper Association—Sister Hattie Mixon, Sister Alene Perkins, Sister Sue Hester.

Liberty No. 1 Association—None

Alabama-Mississippi State Line Association—Rev. Ottis Parmer, Rev. Roy Barnes.

Mt. Moriah Association—Rev. M. H. Hollis, Rev. Leander McAdams.

Northeast Mississippi Association—Rev. Roy Barnes, Rev. G. C. Lawrence, Bro. Loyd Turner.

The ordination service was held for one deacon, Bro. Ozell Cantrell. The charge was given by Rev. G. C. Lawrence. Advice and admonition was given by Rev. A. L. Warren.

This Ordination Committee then adjourned to examine Bro. Elzie Gilliam for the purpose of licensing him to preach at Davis Chapel for a period of one year.

While the Ordaining Council were interviewing Bro. Gilliam, the congregation sang, "Amazing Grace."

The Ordaining Council re-convened and recommended that Bro. Elzie Gilliam be granted a license for one year. This was authorized by the proper vote and second.

Rev. G. C. Lawrence was nominated and re-elected as the Associational Evangelist for the coming year.

Churches requesting the next meeting of The Vernon Free Will Baptist Association were recognized and votes cast by the congregation.

The body elected the following officers for the coming year.

Rev. Roy Barnes ..... Moderator

Rev. Ottis Parmer .... Assistant Moderator

Derrell R. Wheeler ..... Clerk

Rev. Leander McAdams ..... Key Note Speaker

Rev. G. C. Lawrence ..... Association Evangelist

The Executive Committee is to resolve any questions now existing at the Taylor Springs Church.

A song by the congregation was followed by a prayer by Rev. Dewey Thomas. The Association adjourned to meet with Springfield Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday, October 17, 1970.

### **Churches and Delegates as Listed**

Beaverton—Sisters, Martha Palmer, Mary Weeks and Emma Harris.

Belk—Bros. Houston Hamm and H. L. Williams; Sisters, Louise Hamm, Flora Gilreath and Iva Overton.

Davis Chapel—Sisters Euline Moore, Lillie Sanford, Flora Mae Moore and Barbara Miller.

Eastside—Bros. Coleman Robertson, Walter Spencer, James A. Hallman and Sister Susie Hester.

Friendship—Sisters Fannie Godfrey, Myrtle Reynolds, Mrs. Tilmus Clines, Mrs. Sim Moore.

Liberty—Sisters Hattie Mixon, Alene Perkins, Loree Butler, Addie DuBose; Bros. Bobby Joe Black, J. C. DuBose, Arnold Hester, Lennie DuBose and Sam Rector.

Mt. Harmony—Sisters Flaudie Wheeler, Lona Barnes, Ophelia Williams, Emma Cash.

Mt. Pleasant—Bros. Mack Cooper, John Adair, Raymond Brown; Sisters Laura Crossley and Lou Ella Cunningham.

Mt. Willing—Sisters Emma McDonald, Cora Cook, Pauline Haney and Donnie McDonald.

Piney Grove—Sisters Jeanette Cantrell, Alice Ann Corruth; Bros. Freddie Corruth, and David Lewis Markham.

Pleasant Grove—Bro. Zell Randolph; Sisters, Onyx Randolph, Minerva Jones, Doris Flack, Louise Presley, Katherine Reed.

Springfield—Bros. Roy Ashby, Kelsie Jordan, Sister Anna Banks Jordan, Bro. Lowell Hawkins as alternate.

Taylor Springs—Bro. Gary Sizemore; Sisters Mary Dell Barker, Charlene Cooper.

Union Chapel—Bro. Kell McAdams; Sisters Avis Graves, Rosemary Shelton, Hettie Maddox, Jimmie Nell Graves as Alternate.

Vernon—Sisters Maureen Turner, Ida Wilson, Drucilla Hall, Hilda Chandler.

## LIST OF COMMITTEES AND MEMBERS FOR 1970

### Executive Committee

Deacon John Crossley	.....	1970
Deacon Derrell Wheeler	.....	1971
Deacon Dewey Jordan	.....	1972
Deacon R. T. Mixon	.....	1973-Chairman
Deacon R. H. Yerby, Sr.	.....	1974

### Sunday School & C. T. S. Committee

Sister Louise Hamm—Chairman  
Sister Avis Graves  
Sister Loree Butler  
Sister Flora Gilreath

### Temperance Committee

Bro. John Adair—Chairman  
Sister Flaudie Wheeler  
Sister Maureen Turner  
Sister Mary Dell Barker

### **Devotion Committee**

Sister Anna Banks Jordan—Chairman  
Sister Hilda Chandler  
Sister Myrtle Reynolds  
Sister Addie Brown

### **Deceased Members Committee**

Sister Sue Hester—Chairman  
Sister Rosemary Shelton  
Sister Iva Overton  
Sister Ida Wilson

### **Finance Committee**

Bro. Raphael Yerby—Chairman  
Bro. James A. Hallman  
Sister Eulene Moore  
Sister Martha Palmer

### **Resolution Committee**

Bro. J. M. Chaffin—Chairman  
Bro. David Markham  
Sister Pauline Haney  
Sister Charlene Cooper

### **Business Committee**

Rev. Leander McAdams—Chairman  
Rev. Robert Franks  
Rev. Otis Parmer  
Bro. J. C. DuBose  
Bro. Eris Wilson

### **Vernon Home Mission Board**

(Formerly Church Extension Committee)

Rev. Roy Barner—Chairman  
Bro. Loyd Turner  
Rev. G. C. Lawrence



## **Business Committee Report**

We beg to report as follows:

1. We recommend that we omit the Association Committee meeting on the first Saturday night in October. We also recommend that the chairman of each committee be responsible for having his report ready as much as possible, at the opening of the association meeting.

2. We recommend that the salary of our clerk be raised to fifty dollars for his labor and the association elect an assistant clerk and pay him a salary of one-half the amount of the clerk. The reason for asking for the assistant clerk, is so that the minutes can be sent out to the churches at an earlier date. We recommend that the minutes be sent to the various churches within ninety days from the date of the association meeting.

3. We recommend that both the names of the outgoing and incoming Moderators names be printed on the cover of the minutes.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. James D. Bussey, Chairman

## **Resolution Committee Report**

We beg permission to report as follows:

1. Be it resolved that this association extend to Friendship Church and community, our thanks for the hospitality shown to evreyone.

2. That we congratulate Rev. McAdams and his co-workers for the fine work in reviving Friendship Church.

3. That we call upon all the churches and especially the pastors to plead for a greater loyalty to more interest in, and concern for the work of this Association.

4. We are greatly alarmed at the ungodly trend of conduct of our youth at home and more especially in our colleges. Therefore, we make a united plea to all the youth to stand fast in the faith and to always strive to be an example of what young a young Christian should be in conduct, in dress and in conversation. By so doing, they become living witnesses for

our Lord and earn for themselves the eternal reward promised only to the faithful.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bro. Loyd Turner—Chairman  
Bro. Billy Dockery  
Bro. R. T. Mixon  
Sister Avis Graves

### **Finance Committee Report**

We, your Finance Committee wish to report, that after hearing the reading of the letters from the various churches, that \$205.00 had been sent in as minute funds.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bro. Clyde Motes, Chairman

### **Committee on Deceased Members**

We, your Committee on Deceased Members, find that death has taken eighteen (18) of our members. We feel that giving up our loved ones makes one realize how close eternity is and that we should be concerned about those who are lost. It should behoove us to watch and pray that we will be ready when the Lord shall call for us.

We extend our sympathy to the families of the deceased.

Belk—Bro. W. J. Holliman and Sister Annie Mae Moore.

Davis Chapel—Bro. Guy Vintson and Sister Clara Scrivner.

Friendship—Bros. Hayes Cline, Grover Reynolds.

Liberty—Sisters Bertha Hester and Clemmie DuBose.

Mt. Pleasant—Mrs. Virgil Pennington and Bro. Josh Vail.

Mt. Willing—Sisters Nellie Chaffin and Alice Trentham.

Piney Grove—Sister Viola Woods, Bro. Sanders Woods.

Pleasant Grove—Bro. H. L. Hess.

Union Chapel—Sister Mattie Maddox.

Vernon—Bros. T. A. Stephenson, O. D. Turner, Sister Nora Warren.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sister Cordelia Williams, Chairman

			Christian Education	Members Received	Members Deceased	Members Dismissed	No. in S.S.	No. in C.T.S.	No. in Ladies Aux.	Ordained Ministers	Paid Pastors	Paid Evangelist	Paid Children's Home	Paid Missions	Paid Old Age Pastors	Minute Funds	Paid for Improvements	Total Paid Out	Value Of Church Property
CLERKS	PASTORS																		
BEAVERTON	Mrs. Emma Harris Star Route North Sulligent, Ala. 35586	Rev. T. C. Barnes Route 1 Beaverton, Ala. 35544	100.00	0	0	1	25	0	0	2	556.72	70.00	5.00	0	0	15.00	123.95	1034.97	4,000.
BELK	Mr.R. H. Yerby, Sr. Route 6, Box 130 Fayette, Ala. 35555	Rev. Robert Franks Belk, Ala. 35545	67.50	0	2	5	60	30	10	4	3875.00	185.00	120.00	247.32	60.00	15.00	159.70	6214.49	50,000
DAVIS CHAPEL	Mrs, Barbara A. Miller Route 1 Barry, Ala. 35546	Rev. Elzie Gilliam Route 1 Samantha, Ala. 35482	0	0	2	3	65	0	0	2	424.00	50.00	33.57	0	0	15.00	0	667.00	4,000
EASTSIDE	Rev. Byron M. Meyer 31 Lake Wildwood Rt. 2, Cottondale, Ala.	Rev. C. Dewey Thomas Route 2, Box 75 Northport, Ala. 35476	50.00	8	0	13	84	50	0	2	3000.00	324.72	172.21	142.00	0	0	74.21	12,338.96	75,000
FRIENDSHIP	Mrs. Chester Reynolds Route 1 Steens, Miss. 39766	Rev. Leander McAdams 416 Alabama Street Columbus, Miss. 39701	0	15	2	0	30	0	0	1	425.62	63.00	0	18.79	0	15.00	910.00	1566.64	10,000
LIBERTY	Mr. J. E. Collins Route 2 Vernon, Ala. 35592	Rev. Tillis Wally Route 2 Vernon, Ala. 35592	233.00	11	2	0	125	50	0	2	4200.00	100.00	200.00	0	0	15.00	0	6299.09	50,000
MT. HARMONY	Mr. D. R. Wheeler Route 1, Box 124 Vernon, Ala. 35592	Rev. M. H. Hollis Vernon, Ala. 35592	0	1	0	1	43	0	0	1	1500.00	100.00	60.00	0	0	15.00	163.27	2004.15	20,000
MT. PLEASANT	Mrs. Ruth Hayes Route 2, Box 127 Sulligent, Ala. 35586	Rev. Roy Barnes Route 1 Vernon, Ala. 35592	0	2	2	0	25	0	0	0	350.00	137.00	0	0	0	15.00	0	660.99	6,000
MT. WILLING	Mrs. Donnie McDonald Route 2 Winfield, Ala. 35594	Rev. J. W. Spencer Guin, Ala. 35563	0	2	2	1	57	0	0	1	429.80	125.00	60.00	0	0	15.00	0	848.73	5,000
PINEY GROVE	Mr. J. M. Chaffin Route 1, Box 81 Guin, Ala. 35563	Rev. Ottis Parmer Route 1 Guin, Ala. 35563	0	4	2	1	68	0	0	4	684.61	80.00	0	22.00	0	15.00	1556.59	2577.11	12,000
PLEASANT GROVE	Mrs. Kathleen Sfakianos 1132 4th. Way Pleasant Grove, Ala.	Rev. B. T. Alexander P. O. Box 23 Pleasant Grove, Ala.	0	22	1	0	60	0	15	2	890.00	314.00	0	0	0	15.00	0	7986.00	75,000
SPRINGFIELD	Mr. Tommie Rushing Route 1 Box 217 Vernon, Ala. 35592	Rev. Roy Barnes Route 1 Vernon, Ala. 35592	0	1	0	4	70	35	0	1	1269.24	264.24	235.00	211.77	111.77	15.00	3410.86	6230.31	18,500
TAYLOR SPRINGS	Mrs. Christine Sizemore Route 3 Sulligent, Ala. 35586	Rev. Frank Collins Route 1 Guin, Ala. 35563	0	3	0	0	40	0	0	0	250.00	90.00	10.00	0	0	15.00	3500.00	4260.00	6,000
UNION CHAPEL	Mr. James N. Bynum Fayette, Ala. 35555	Rev. L. B. Nix F. W. B. Children's Home Eldridge, Ala. 35554	0	0	1	0	63	28	0	1	1400.00	150.00	170.00	0	0	25.00	59.15	2537.77	18,000
VERNON	Mrs. Clyde Motes Box 351 Vernon, Ala. 35592	Rev. Billy Sharpston Vernon, Ala. 35592	289.33	2	3	1	105	50	10	2	5425.00	150.00	359.28	230.27	87.01	15.00	1339.22	9498.20	50,000

## **Temperance Committee Report**

We the Temperance Committee offer the following report.

We believe that temperance should begin with our thoughts. Proverbs 23:7-A "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he."

If we practice temperate thinking our deeds will be the same.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bro. R. H. Yerby, Chairman  
Bro. J. M. Chaffin  
Bro. J. E. Collins  
Bro. Clyde Motes  
Bro. A. J. McDonald

## **Extension Committee Report**

We, your committee on church extension offer the following recommendation: We recommend that we change this committee back to home mission work.

Respectfully submitted.  
Rev. W. D. Glasgow  
Bro. Loyd Turner

## **Sunday School & C. T. S. Committee Report**

After examining the church letters, we find each church has a Sunday School for which we are thankful. But, in checking the attendance, we find just a little over half of our membership attending Sunday School for which we are thankful. But in checking the attendance, we find just a little over half of our membership attending Sunday School. We would like to urge each church to put forth more effort to enlist the attendance of the other members in Sunday School.

We find less than half our churches with a C.T.S. program. We would like to encourage each church to organize a C.T.S. and enlist the interest of the young people.

We would recommend that each church take special care to elect christian officers and teachers in each organization.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bro. H. L. Williams, Chairman



## Financial Report

Balance from 1968 .....	\$ 45.00
Minute Funds .....	\$205.00
Offering .....	\$ 55.00
Moderator & Assistant .....	\$ 15.00
Clerk & Assistant .....	\$ 50.00
State Association .....	\$ 75.00
Minutes .....	\$110.00
Postage & Supplies .....	\$ 10.00
Total Paid Out .....	\$260.00
Balance on Hand .....	\$ 45.00

## Names and Addresses of Present Ministers

Rev. B. T. Alexander—P. O. Box 23, Pleasant Grove, Ala. 35127

Rev. Clarence Barnes—Route 1, Beaverton, Ala. 35544

Rev. Roy Barnes—Route 1, Vernon, Ala. 35592

Rev. Donald Bussey—Birmingham, Ala. 35200

Rev. Frank Collins—Rt. 3, Sulligent, Ala. 35586

Rev. Robert Collins—Kennedy, Ala. 35574

Rev. Robert Franks—Belk, Ala. 35545

Rev. W. D. Glasgow—Route 4, Theodore, Ala. 36582

Rev. E. W. Graves—Route 2, Vernon, Ala. 35592

Rev. M. H. Hollis—Vernon, Ala. 35592

Rev. G. C. Lawrence—P. O. Box 365, Winfield, Ala. 35594

Rev. V. R. Lay — Fayette, Ala. 35555

Rev. S. F. Lee—Route 1, Guin, Ala. 35563

Rev. Leander McAdams—416 Ala., St. Columbus, Miss. 39701

Rev. Delmus Miller—Route 1, Winfield, Ala. 35594

Rev. L. B. Nix—F.W.B. Children's Home, Eldridge, Ala. 35554



Rev. Otis Parmer—Route 1, Guin, Ala. 35563  
Rev. Billy Sharpeston—Vernon, Ala. 35592  
Rev. J. W. Spencer—Guin, Ala. 35563  
Rev. C. Dewey Thomas—Route 2, Box 75, Northport, Ala. 35476  
Rev. Tillis Wally—Route 2, Vernon, Ala. 35592  
Rev. A. L. Warren—Vernon, Ala. 35592

### List Of Deacons

BELK—Britt Belk, R. H. Yerby, Jr., Grady Newman, Dalton Gilpin.  
DAVIS CHAPEL—John D. Moore, Sr., Raymond Gray, Johnny Pike.  
FRIENDSHIP—James Price, Loyd Turner.  
LIBERTY—Henry Perkins, Henry Harrison, Chelsie Poore, Lee Mixon, J. E. Collins, John Stewart, R. T. Mixon.  
MT. HARMONY—S. L. Cash, Erbie Robertson, Olen Wheeler, Coy Johnson, Derrell Wheeler.  
MT. PLEASANT—J. G. Adair, John Crossley, Mack Cooper.  
MT. WILLING—Jack McDonald, Hiram McDonald, Doffie Shelnut, Emmet Lee, Arlie Roberts, Jeff McDonald.  
PINEY GROVE—C. E. Roberts, Alvada Markham, Arlando Shelnut, J. M. Chaffin, Ozell Cantrell.  
BEAVERTON—Robert Bobo, J. T. Barnes.  
FIRST F. W. B. BIRMINGHAM—Fred Reed, B. B. Alexander, Leon Crawley.  
EAST SIDE F. W. B.—(Tuscaloosa, Ala.) J. H. Thompson, Bedford Hester, Bryon Meyer, Paul Jordan.  
SPRINGFIELD—Edward Waldon, D. G. Jordan, Haley Wright, J. A. Harper, Dempsey Langley.  
TAYLOR SPRINGS—C. W. Barnes.  
UNION CHAPEL—C. S. Collins, W. H. Clearman, Carlos Bradford, James E. Maddox.  
VERNON—W. L. Turner, B. E. Turner, J. L. McNees, P. N. Yerby, Titus Barnes, Eris Wilson, Max Turner, Paul Shelnut.

## **Names Of Deceased Ministers**

Rev. W. T. Springfield, Rev. W. B. Taylor, Rev. W. R. Furman, 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. M. 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, Rev. K. V. Shutes, Rev. J. B. Tittle.

## **Names of Deceased Deacons**

L. A. Crowder, S. Y. Shelton, J. H. Cole.

## **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 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 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 be 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 & benevolent institutions such as Temperance cause, Sunday School, 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 members 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 delegates failing or refusing to do so, is and shall be 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 \$50.00 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 moderator shall appoint a committee on committees, whose duty is to appoint various committees at each session. Each committee to consist of from 3 to 5 members. (See List).

3. The officers shall be chosen by a majority of delegates present, at the close of each session to take office at the begin-

4. The moderator calls for the letters from various churches, and appoints reading clerks. After reading of the letters, the delegates are enrolled by the clerk, at the decretion of the body.

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

6. The Executive Committee shall recommend, or reject a card of good standing for the ministers. The final decision to be made by the body.

7. 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.

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

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

10. 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.

11. No person shall laugh or talk during discussion.

12. No person shall absent himself from the association without permission of the moderator.

13. All Ordination shall be done by the association, either at the association, or by the ordaining council.



## Articles of Faith

1. **THE BIBLE.** The Scripture 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 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 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 domination 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. **PERSERVERANCE.** 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 is an ordinance teaching humility of universal obligation, and is to be administered to all true believers.

14. **TITHING.** God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ endorse 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.

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 eternal punishment, but righteous into eternal life."

## **Order of Business For Vernon Association**

1. New moderator takes over.
2. Devotion:
3. Call for letters.
4. Reading of letters and seating of delegates.
5. Call for petitionary letters.
6. Appointment of Committee on Committees.
7. Invite visiting brethren to seat with us.
8. Committees as follows: Business, Querries and Resolution, Sunday Schools, Finance, Deceased Members, Devotion, Temperance, Church Extension.
9. Call for report of devotional committee.
10. Appoint ordaining committee.
11. Call for business committee report.
12. Call for committee reports (see committees).
13. Final report of business committee.
14. Delegates to state association.
15. Corresponding delegates to other associations.
16. Place for next setting of association.
17. 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 seat.
5. Reading of Prevoius minutes.
6. Unfinished business.
7. Appointment of committees.
8. Acknowledgements.
9. Committee reports.
10. New business.
11. Adjournment.