

MINUTES

Of The

NINETY—FIRST SESSION

Of The

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Held With
Mt. Willing Free Will
Baptist Church
October 16, 1971

Moderator Rev. M. H. Hollis, Vernon, Al.
Ass't. Moderator Rev. Dewey Thomas, Northport, Al.

OFFICERS FOR 1972

Moderator Rev. M. H. Hollis, Vernon, Al.
Ass't. Moderator Rev. Jerry Edgill, Tuscaloosa, Al.

The next session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association
will be held with the Union Chapel F.W.B. Church, beginning at
8:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 14, 1972.

Rev. Albert Hamm to preach the key note sermon at
11:00 a.m.

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

PROCEEDINGS

The ninety-first session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was held with the Mt. Willing Free Will Baptist church on October 16, 1971. Rev. M. H. Hollis served as moderator of this meeting, Derrell R. Wheeler served as clerk.

This meeting of the Association opened with the song "The Way of The Cross Leads Home", directed by Rev. Leander McAdams. Another congregational song, "Some Day" was also directed by Rev. Leander McAdams.

The Ninety-first session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was called to order by the moderator, Rev. M. H. Hollis, Rev. A. L. Warren was called upon to offer a prayer. Next, a devotional message was presented from the 133rd Psalm. Rev. M. H. Hollis then offered a prayer. Next, we had the By Laws of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association read by Derrell Wheeler.

Reading clerks were appointed for presenting the minutes for each member church. They were Brother Pascal Yerby and Rev. Jerry Edgill.

All letters were called for and received by the clerk. Each letter was then read and accepted as read.

A move and second was received to seat the delegates as listed. (See churches and delegates listed.)

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

Appointment of the Committee on Committees was made. Those appointed were:

Rev. Leander McAdams — Chairman
Rev. Billy Sharpston
Rev. Tillis Wally

Next, we recognized the visiting ministers. (See list of visiting ministers.)

We had a congregational song, "I'll Be a Friend to Jesus", directed by Rev. Roy Barnes.

A prayer was next offered by Rev. Jerry Edgill.

A song, "That Glad Reunion Day" was directed by Rev. Roy Barnes.

Next we recognized all ministers present at the time. They were:

Rev. B. T. Alexander
Rev. Roy Barnes
Rev. Ricky Cash
Rev. Frank Collins
Rev. Jerry Edgill

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Rev. Robert Franks
Rev. W. D. Glasgow
Rev. Holcombe
Rev. James Howe
Rev. O. Z. Johnson
Rev. G. C. Lawrence
Rev. Delmus Miller
Rev. Ottis Parmer
Rev. Girley Roberts
Rev. A. L. Warren

Next, we had a congregational song, "I Want to be Ready to Meet Him", directed by Rev. Roy Barnes.

Appointments for the various committees was presented and we adjourned for a short recess.

After the short intermission, a congregational song, "Victory in Jesus" was directed by Bro. Tommy Rushing.

Following this song, a call was given for reports from the various committees.

↓ The Finance Committee report was read, received as read by vote and second and the committee was dismissed. (See reports).

↓ The Deceased Members Committee presented, the report received as read by vote and second and the committee was dismissed.

The song, "Precious Memories" was sung by the congregation in memory of the deceased members of our association. This song was followed by a prayer by Rev. M. L. Hollis.

Next, another song, "Standing on the Promises" was sung by the congregation.

Rev. Ricky Cash presented a short devotional message from St. John 15:13 followed by a prayer.

↓ The Devotion Committee report was read, the report received as read and accepted by vote and second. The committee was dismissed.

The Temperance Committee report was presented, accepted by vote and second and the committee was dismissed.

↓ The Sunday School & CTS Committee report was presented accepted by vote and second and the committee was dismissed.

Next, appointment of the ordaining council was made. They are:

Rev. Albert Hamm
Rev. M. L. Hollis
Rev. Ottis Parmer

This was followed by two congregational songs, "I Want to

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be Ready to Meet Him" and "When We all Get to Heaven" directed by Rev. Leander McAdams.

The Key Note Sermon was presented by Rev. Billy Sharpston. The message was taken from III John verses 4-6 and Philippians 2:1-11.

We were dismissed for the noon meal with a prayer by Rev. James Walden.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The meeting convened at 1:00 p.m. with the song, "Blessed Assurance" directed by Rev. Leander McAdams. The song was followed by a prayer by Rev. Dewey Thomas.

↓ We heard the report on the Board of Christian Education read, this report was accepted as read by vote and second.

Next, a report from the Business Committee was read and offered for acceptance article by article. The motion submitted to change article 3 of the Constitution was tabled. All other articles in the report were accepted as read by vote and second. The committee was dismissed.

A request was made by Rev. Dewey Thomas for the Association to appoint a trustee for the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. Rev. Thomas resigned his position as trustee to the Children's Home since he no longer pastors a church in this association. Bro. Pascal Yerby was appointed trustee replacing Rev. Thomas.

The ordination service was held for two ministers, Rev. Austin Barnes and Rev. Rickey W. Cash. The charge was given by Rev. M. L. Hollis with advice and admonition given by Rev. Albert Hamm.

↓ A report was presented by the Resolution Committee. This report was accepted as read by vote and second. The committee was dismissed.

A new member to the committee on Christian Education was appointed. This member is Rev. Jerry Edgill. Derrell Wheeler was appointed to serve on the Executive Committee with his term expiring in 1976.

The Executive Committee recommended cards of good standing be given all ministers in this association.

Next, delegates to the various Free Will Baptist Associations were appointed:

ALABAMA STATE ASSOCIATION

Mrs. Rose Mary Shelton

Mrs. E. W. Graves

Donald J. Jaggard

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Mrs. Robert Franks
Mrs. Jerry Edgill
Mrs. Jerri Mae Bobo
Mrs. Mary Weeks
Mrs. Daisey Clearman

PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION'

Rev. Jerry Edgill

JASPER ASSOCIATION

Rev. Ottis Parmer
Rev. Frank Collins

STATE LINE ASSOCIATION

Rev. Roy Barnes
Rev. Frank Collins

NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION

Rev. Tillis Wally

MT. MORIAH ASSOCIATION

Rev. Leander McAdams

Churches requesting the next meeting of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association were recognized and votes cast by the congregation. The next session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association is to be held at Union Chapel Free Will Baptist Church on October 14, 1972.

A time for our quarterly meetings, as voted in by acceptance of the Business Committee report, was established as follows:

First Quarter — January 29, 1972

Meeting in Vernon F.W.B. Church

Second Quarter — April 29, 1972

Meeting at Eastside F.W.B. Church

Third Quarter — July 29, 1972

Meeting at Mt. Harmony F.W.B. Church

The moderator was given power to appoint speakers for each quarterly meeting.

The moderator appointed a Digest Committee to study the minutes of our association. This committee consists of:

Rev. Tillis Wally — Chairman

Rev. Robert Franks

Rev. Billy Sharpston

Nomination for Association Clerk for the coming year was

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opened. Bros. Dewey Jordan, Earnest Roberts, and Raphael Yerby were nominated. Bro. Raphael Yerby was elected to serve as clerk by vote and second.

Moderator and Assistant Moderator for the coming year were elected as follows:

Moderator — Rev. M. H. Hollis

Assistant Moderator — Rev. Jerry Edgill

We next had a congregational song “I’ll Live On” directed by Rev. Leander McAdams.

An offering was taken for the Children’s Home in Eldridge, Alabama.

A motion was made and sustained by second to adjourn this session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association.

We next had a song by the Springfield Quartet followed by one by the congregation which was directed by Bro. Dewey Jordan.

A short closing devotion was presented by Rev. S. F. Lee.
Meeting Adjourned.

CHURCHES AND DELEGATES AS LISTED

Beaverton — Sisters Mary Weeks, Lisa Sizemore and Emma Harris

Belk — Sisters Iva Overton, Flora Gilreath, Bros. Rickey Cash,
R. H. Yerby, Grady Gilreath, and Laren Williams.

Davis Chapel — Sisters Euline Moore, Gladys Williamson, Barbara
Miller, Lillie Sanford, and Bros. John Miller.

Eastside — Sister Carol Ann Edgill.

Friendship — Sisters Sue Price, Lura Moore, Mary Reynolds,
Myrtle Reynolds, Bros. Loyd Turner and James
Price.

Liberty — Sisters Nettie Randolph, Sue Hester, Aileen Perkins,
Loree Butler, Dessie Perkins, Addie Dubose, and
Bro. Vern Lee Randolph.

Mt. Harmony — Sisters Flaudie Wheeler, Lona Barnes, and
Dorothy Crawford.

Mt. Pleasant — Sisters Helen Chandler, Lou Ella Cunningham,
Clarine Bush, and Bro. J. L. Sanders.

Mt. Willing — Sisters Maelene Collins, Nellie Green, Bros. James
Collins, and Douglas Chaffin.

Piney Grove — Sisters Jera Mae Bobo, Annette Eastman, Tisha
Robertson, Bros. Franklin Bobo, and Jerry Eastman.

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- ! Springfield — Sisters Ora Jordan, Dean Rushing, Lonna Faye Franks, Linda Ashby.
- ! Taylor Springs — Sisters Earline Sorrells, Deborah Cooper, Dianne Sorrells, Charlene Cooper.
- ! Union Chapel — Sisters Lucille Bradford, Rosa Shelton, Jimmie Nell Graves, Daisey Clearman and Evelyn Duckworth.
- \ Vernon — Sister Lucille Yerby, Bros. J. L. Lucas, and Bobby Turner.

COMMITTEES AND MEMBERS FOR 1971

! EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Deacon Dewey Jordan — 1972
- Deacon R. T. Mixon — 1973
- Deacon R. H. Yerby, Sr. — 1974
- Deacon P. N. Yerby — 1975
- Deacon D. R. Wheeler — 1976

| SUNDAY SCHOOL & CTS COMMITTEE

- Sister Sue Hester — Chairman
- Sister Mary Weeks
- Sister Iva Overton
- Bro. R. H. Yerby

✓ TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

- Rev. Roy Barnes
- Rev. Albert Hamm
- Bro. C. A. Barnes

✓ DEVOTION COMMITTEE

- Bro. D. G. Jordan — Chairman
- Bro. Loyd Turner
- Bro. Arnold Hester

✓ DECEASED MEMBERS COMMITTEE

- Sister Rosemary Shelton — Chairman
- Sister Emma Harris
- Sister Tisha Robertson
- Sister Earline Sorrells

✓ FINANCE COMMITTEE

- Bro. Pascal Yerby — Chairman
- Sister Nettie Randolph
- Sister Flaudie Wheeler
- Bro. R. T. Mixon

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

✓ RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

Bro. Paul Shelnut — Chairman
Bro. J. L. Sanders
Rev. Ottis Parmer

✓ BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Rev. Robert Franks — Chairman
Rev. Jerry Edgill
Rev. Billy Sharpston

✓ BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Rev. Billy Sharpston — Chairman
Rev. Robert P. Franks

✕ BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

- (1) We recommend that a digest committee be appointed to hold the reading of church letters and give a report of delegates to the association and their recommendations concerning the letters. In this way, eliminate the public reading of the church letters.
- of Ed* (2) Recommend a quarterly meeting of the Vernon F. W. B. Association.
- (3) Recommend that the Vernon F. W. B. Association begin a summer camp for children.
- (4) Recommend that each church be responsible for the monthly youth rally when they are entertaining it and plan the program in conjunction with the Christian Board of Education.
- (5) Recommend the Vernon F. W. B. Association use the church letter from the National Free Will Baptist Association.
- (6) Recommend our constitution item No. 3 be changed to read that a church license a man to preach and later request that the association ordain the man.
- (7) Concerning item No. IV of last year's Sunday School and CTS Committee report, we recommend that this be left to the local church.
- (8) That the fifteenth Article of Faith be changed to read "Lord's Day" instead of "Christian Sabbath".
- (9) That the Christian Board of Education be set up on a 3 year basis with only one man being replaced each year.

Respectfully submitted
Rev. Robert P. Franks, Chairman

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT

- (1) Be it resolved that this association extend to Mt. Willing Church our thanks for their hospitality shown us during this meeting.
- (2) That we call upon all the churches to show greater concern for the lost through personal witnessing and visitation.
- (3) We are greatly concerned with the spiritual decay of our nation today. There is a great responsibility facing our churches in our day. If we fail in that responsibility facing our churches, it will be required at our hand. II Chron. 7:14 — If my people which are called by my name shall humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and will heal their land.

Respectfully Submitted
Bro. Paul Shelnut, Chairman

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your finance committee have examined the various church letters and find that a total of \$255.00 has been sent in to this association as minute funds.

Respectfully Submitted
Bro. Pascal Yerby, Chairman
Bro. R. T. Mixon
Sister Nettie Randolph
Sister Flaudie Wheeler

COMMITTEE ON DECEASED MEMBERS

We, your committee on deceased members report the following:

Beaverton	None
Belk	None
Davis Chapel	Bro. J. F. Ford
Eastside	None
Friendship	None
Liberty	Sister Elizabeth Yerby Bro. Felix Dubose
Mt. Harmony	Bro. Larry Crawford Bro. Eston Johnson
Mt. Pleasant	Bro. Floyd Crossley
Mt. Willing	None

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Piney Grove	None
Springfield	Sister Dela Prothro
Taylor Springs	Sister Myrtie Barnes
Union Chapel	Sister Etta Collins
Vernon	None

We extend our deepest sympathy to the families of those deceased members. In Romans 15:8 we find a scripture reading that is comforting. "Whether we live, we live unto the Lord, whether we die we die unto the Lord, whether we live, therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

Respectfully Submitted
Sister Rosemary Shelton
Sister Emma Harris
Sister Tisha Robertson
Sister Erline Sorrells

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Because of the laxity and immorality of the day in which we live, we as Free Will Baptist Christians recognize a golden opportunity to teach and practice temperance in all things. Temperance should be taught in every phase of our church work and manifested in the lives of it's leadership. We are especially concerned with the declining standard of dress and feel the need of exhorting our people through love to dress modestly.

Respectfully Submitted
Rev. Roy H. Barnes, Chairman
Rev. Al. Hamm
Bro. C. A. Barnes

SUNDAY SCHOOL & C.T.S. COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Sunday School and C. T. S. Committee offer the following report.

All fourteen churches in this association have Sunday School. Most all are holding average attendance. Only six churches have C.T.S. This is a small percentage of our total membership. We would like to encourage more churches to organize a C.T.S. program and encourage a larger attendance of both programs. We would like to commend the churches for what is being done and encourage them to do more.

An active Sunday School and C.T.S. is the main strength of the Church.

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

- I. All officers and teachers be Christians — Free Will Baptist.
- II. Participation in Sunday School encourages our young people to take an active part in other church affairs.

Respectfully Submitted
Sister Sue Hester, Chairman

DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We the devotional committee recommend that Rev. Ricky Cash be responsible for a fifteen minute devotion at 10:45 a.m. and that Rev. Albert Hamm preach the 11:00 a.m. message at the next session of the association.

Bro. D. G. Jordan, Chairman
Bro. Loyd Turner
Bro. Arnold Hester

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT

The board sponsored youth meetings during the months of November, January, February, March, and April. There was good interest from the few churches who were represented. We regret that so few churches and pastors showed an interest in the youth activities sponsored by the board.

In our first meeting the following officers were elected.

President — Wesley Dubose
Vice President — Jennie Sargent
Secretary — Mike Pennington
Treasurer — Steve Butler

No district convention of C.T.S. and Sunday School was held because only one church, Springfield, had a team ready for competition. This team represented us at the state T.N.T. rally in Northport, where they were winners in the Tic-Tac-Toe event.

Springfield's Tic-Tac-Toe team represented us and the state at Nashville, Tennessee in July. They performed well but did not win. The team consisted of:

Karen Rushing
Ronnie Brown
Carol Walden
Donald Taggart

M.H. Hollis 695-7736

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

A financial statement for the Board of Christian Education follows:

Amount on hand 11/70	\$ 6.00
Youth Meeting Offerings	167.17
Special offering for Tic-Tac-Toe team	<u>85.00</u>
Total	\$ 252.17

Expenditures

Springfield Tic-Tac-Toe team	\$ 85.00
Film Rental	114.54
Paid Speaker	<u>50.00</u>
Total Paid Out	\$ 249.54

Balance on hand 10/16/71 \$ 2.63

Respectfully submitted
Rev. Billy Sharpston
Rev. Robert P. Franks

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance from 1970	Minus	\$ 10.00
Minute funds received		255.00
1% of church offerings received		170.76
Expenditures		
Moderator		10.00
Ass't. Moderator		5.00
Minutes		150.00
Clerk		50.00
State Association		105.00
Postage & Supplies		10.00
Paid deficit from 1970		10.00
Total expenditures		\$ ³ 240.00
Balance on hand		\$ 85.76

*nd Bill
Sharpston
1/1/72*

*DORRIS WHEELER
695-7844*

Churches	Pastors	Clerks	Christian Education	Members Received	Members Deceased	Total Members	No. in C. T. S.	No. in Ladies Auxiliary	Ordained Ministers	Paid Pastors	Paid Evangelists	Paid Children's Home	Paid Missions	Paid Old Age Pastors	Minute Funds	Paid for Improvements	Total Paid Out	Value of Church Property
Beaverton	Rev. Jerry Smith Beaverton, Ala. 35544	Mrs. Emma Harris Star Route North Sulligent, Ala. 35586	0	0	0	27	10	0	1	427.80	0	0	0	0	15.00	110.00	626.20	5589.00
Belk	Rev. William Baird Belk, Alabama 35545	R. H. Yerby, Sr. Rt. 6 Box 130 Fayette, Ala. 35555	90.00	6	0	115	60	30	4	5400.00	580.00	120.00	215.00	60.00	15.00	530.00	8739.52	50,000.0
Davis Chapel	Rev. Calvin Bevans 210 S. Aylette Fayette, Ala. 35555	Mrs. Barbara Miller Route 1 Berry, Ala. 35546	0	0	1	130	60	0	3	260.00	105.00	36.00	58.64	0	15.00	50.00	743.88	15,000.0
Eastside	Rev. Jerry W. Edgill 12 Crescent Lane Tuscaloosa, Al. 35401	Mrs. Betsy Phillips 515 24th Ave. E. Tuscaloosa, Al. 35401	35.00	8	0	106	96	16	1	5575.00	432.60	583.90	633.12	0	0	893.20	15968.84	75,000
Friendship	Rev. Ricky Cash Route 2 Millport, Ala. 35576	Mrs. Mary Reynolds Route 1 Steens, Miss. 39766	0	3	0	26	30	0	1	850.34	63.00	0	0	0	20.00	805.00	1950.74	15,000.0
Liberty	Rev. Tillis Wally Rt. 2 Vernon, Ala. 35592	Mrs. Ora Burnett Route 3 Sulligent, Ala. 35586	120.00	4	3	237	130	0	3	4780.00	203.50	260.73	365.00	0	15.00	131.00	5755.23	50,000.0
Mt. Harmony	Rev. M. H. Hollis Vernon Alabama 35592	D. R. Wheeler Route 1 Box 124 Vernon, Ala. 35592	0	7	2	119	76	0	1	5425.00	150.00	240.00	110.00	0	25.00	5231.27	11936.67	25,000
Mt. Pleasant	Rev. Roy Barnes Route 1 Vernon, Ala. 35592	Mrs. Helen Chandler Route 1 Vernon, Ala. 35592	0	11	1	56	30	0	1	1215.12	122.00	5.00	25.00	0	15.00	100.00	1624.68	6000.0
Mt. Willing	Rev. J. W. Spencer Route 2 Guin, Ala. 35563	Mrs. Nell Hawkins Star Route North Sulligent, Ala. 35586	0	13	0	205	60	0	3	1800.57	125.00	160.00	26.75	0	15.00	1404.83	3738.97	8,000.0
Piney Grove	Rev. Ottis Parmer Route 1 Beaverton, Ala. 35544	Fred Barnes Route 3 Sulligent, Ala. 35586	0	6	0	132	70	0	3	785.88	164.01	275.64	0	0	15.00	2100.00	3340.53	25,000.0
Springfield	Rev. Robert Franks Route 1 Vernon, Ala. 35592	Tommie Rushing Route 1 Vernon, Ala. 35592	557.25	2	1	193	80	0	1	3392.59	388.34	250.00	125.00	0	15.00	3558.47	9756.79	30,000
Taylor Springs	Rev. C. C. Berryhill Greenwood Springs, Miss.	Mrs. Charlene Cooper Route 1 Beaverton, Ala. 35544	0	2	1	31	40	0	0	551.55	114.00	0	0	0	15.00	123.00	1001.55	6,000.00
Union Chapel	Rev. L. B. Nix 622-3 Croley Dr. Nashville, Tenn.	James N. Bynum Fayette Alabama 35555	0	7	1	111	62	0	1	1970.00	225.00	220.00	122.32	0	20.00	1564.52	5420.08	21,000.0
Vernon	Rev. Billy Sharpston Vernon Alabama 35592	Mrs. Clyde Motes Vernon, Alabama 35592	132.16	12	0	181	75	0	1	4498.00	200.00	440.53	847.27	88.11	20.00	4879.18	13563.54	50,000

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

NAMES & ADDRESSES OF PRESENT MINISTERS

- Rev. C. A. Barnes, Rt. 1, Box 95A, Brilliant, Al. 35548
- Rev. T. C. Barnes, Rt. 1, Beaverton, Ala. 35544 ✓ *✓ Jerry Edgill*
- Rev. Roy Barnes, Rt. 1, Vernon, Ala. 35592 ✓ *✓ Ricky Cash*
- Rev. Frank Collins, Rt. 3, Sulligent, Ala. 35586 *✓ A. L. Thompson*
- × Rev. Robert Collins, Kennedy, Ala. 35574 *✓ William P. B.*
- Rev. Robert Franks, Rt. 1, Vernon, Ala. 35592 ✓
- Rev. W. D. Glasgow, Rt. 9, Box 223, Eightmile, Ala. ✓ *✓ Jerry Smith*
- Rev. E. W. Graves, Rt. 2, Vernon, Ala. 35592 ✓
- Rev. M. H. Hollis, Vernon, Ala. 35592 ✓
- ✓ Rev. Carl R. Johnson, P. O. Box 1306, Tuscaloosa, Ala. 35401
- Rev. G. C. Lawrence, P. O. Box 365, Winfield, Ala. 35594 ✓
- Rev. V. R. Lay, Fayette, Ala. 35555 ✓
- Rev. S. F. Lee, Rt. 1, Guin, Ala. 35563 ✓
- Rev. Lawrence Lynn, Rt. 3, Northport, Ala. 35476
- Rev. Leander McAdams, Rt. 2, Columbus, Miss. 39701
- Rev. Delmus Miller, Rt. 2, Winfield, Ala. 35594
- Rev. L. B. Nix, F.W.B. Children's Home, Eldridge, Ala. 35554 ✓
- Rev. Ottis Parmer, Rt. 1, Guin, Ala. 35563 ✓
- Rev. Billy Sharpston, Vernon, Ala. 35592 ✓
- Rev. J. W. Spencer, Rt. 2, Guin, Ala. 35563 ✓
- ✓ Rev. C. Dewey Thomas, Rt. 2, Box 75, Northport, Ala. 35476
- Rev. Tillis Wally, Rt. 2, Vernon, Ala. 35592 ✓
- × Rev. A. L. Warren, Vernon, Ala. 35592

LIST OF DEACONS

- ✓ Beaverton— J. T. Barnes, Robert Bobo *✓ Connie Smith Sulligent*
- Belk — Gardy Newman, Raphael Yerby, Dalton Gilpin
- Davis Chapel — Raymond Gray, John D. Moore, Sr., E. D. Sanford, John Pike
- Eastside (Tuscaloosa) — J. H. Thompson, Bedford Hester, Paul Jordan, Bobby Sargent

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Friendship—James Price, Loyd Turner

Liberty—R. T. Mixon, Edd Collins, John Stewart, Chelsey Poore, Lee Mixon, Henry Harrison, Henry Perkins, L. R. DuBose, Arnold Hester, Bobby J. Black.

Mt. Harmony—S. L. Cash, Olen Wheeler, Erbie Robertson, Coy Johnson, D. R. Wheeler, Odus Robertson, W. O. Graham.

Mt. Pleasant—W. M. Cooper, J. G. Adair, J. S. Crossley *DECEASED*, Raymond Pennington, Hollis Chandler

Mt. Willing—A. J. McDonald, Jeff McDonald, Emmett Lee, H. E. McDonald, J. D. Shelnut, Arlie Robert, Hart Chaffin, Elzie Guin, Obie Haney, Earnest Roberts.

Piney Grove—C. E. Robert, Arlander Shelnut, Alvada Markham, J. M. Chaffin, Ozell Cantrell, Fred Barnes, D. L. Markham *DEC*

Springfield—Dewey Jordan, J. A. Harper, Haley Wright, Dempsey Langley, Edward Walden, Tommie Rushing

Taylor Springs—Stanley Cooper, Chester Barker

Union Chapel—Cullen Collins, Harvey Clearman, James Maddox, Carlos Bradford

Vernon—B. E. Turner, Joe L. McNees *DECEASED*, P. N. Yerby, Tutus Barnes, Eris Wilson, Max Turner, Paul Shelnut

NAMES OF DECEASED DEACONS *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, Rev. K. V. Shutes, Rev. J. B. Tittle.

NAMES OF DECEASED DEACONS

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

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

1. This association shall be known as the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association of Alabama being composed of ministers, deacons and delegate 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.

X *ch 13* 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.

X 5. The officers of the association shall be moderator, assistant moderator, ~~and~~ clerk-treasurer, *only 4352. C/F/K* 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 tran-

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sacted.

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 School, Missionary work, etc. *Sunday*

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.

AS 26 CLERK ONE HALF EACH OF CLERK
13. The clerk shall superintend the printing of the minutes after each session of the association. *AND HAVE THEM DUE TO THE CHURCHES WITHIN 90 DAYS AFTER THE ASSOCIATION MEETING.*

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).

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correct 3. The officers shall be chosen by a majority of delegates at the beginning of the next session.

change 4. The moderator calls for the letters *REPLY OF THE DIGEST* from various churches, and appoints reading clerks. After reading of the letters, the delegates are enrolled by the clerk, at the discretion of the body.

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

Changed 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 of ministers 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

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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 all 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 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.

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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 is an ordinance teaching humility of universal obligation, and is 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 Lord's Day. 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 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 righteous into eternal life."

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ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR VERNON ASSOCIATION

1. New moderator takes over.
2. Devotion.
3. Call for letters. *Digest Committee Report*
Roll Call of Delegates
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. *CREDENTIALS, Digest,*
BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
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.

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ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR CHURCH CONFERENCE

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