

MINUTES
OF THE
NINETY-SECOND SESSION
OF THE
VERNON FREE WILL
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Held With
Union Chapel Free Will Baptist Church
October 14, 1972

Moderator Rev. M. H. Hollis, Vernon, Alabama
Assistant Moderator Rev. Jerry Edgill, Tuscaloosa, Alabama

OFFICERS FOR 1973

Moderator Rev. Billy Sharpston, Vernon, Alabama
Assistant Moderator Rev. Robert Franks, Vernon, Alabama

The next session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association will be held with Belk Free Will Baptist Church, beginning at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 20, 1973.

Rev. J. W. Spencer to preach the key note sermon at 11:00 a.m.

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

PROCEEDINGS

The ninety-second session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was held with the Union Chapel Free Will Baptist church on October 14, 1972. Rev. M. H. Hollis served as moderator of this meeting and Raphael Yerby served as clerk.

This meeting of the Association opened with the song "The Old Gospel Ship," directed by Rev. Leander McAdams. Rev. Roy Barnes led in prayer. Rev. McAdams directed another song "The Glory Land Way."

The Ninety-second session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was called to order by the moderator, Rev. M. H. Hollis. Rev. Jerry Edgill brought a devotional message using Ephesians 5:21-32. Prayer was by the speaker.

A report of the Digest Committee was called for. The report was given by Rev. Robert Franks. A motion, second and vote carried to receive the report, seat the delegates and discharge the committee. Next, we had a roll call of the delegates, by the clerk.

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. Tillis Walley

Rev. Roy Barnes

Next, we recognized the visiting Ministers. They were:

Rev. Jerry Smith

Rev. O. Z. Johnson

Rev. Bill Dunkin

Rev. W. C. Rayburn

Rev. Gurley Roberts

Rev. James Walden

Rev. B. T. Alexander

Rev. Herbert Tilley

Rev. Jerry Edgill directed a congregational song, "Send The Light." Rev. S. F. Lee lead in prayer. Bro. Donald Taggart brought a devotional message using James 4:1-8. Rev. Albert Lee Hamm directed another congregational song, "Blessed Assurance."

Next, all Deacons present at this meeting were recognized and given an opportunity to give a word of testimony.

A report from the Committee on Committees was given and the various committees were appointed. (See list). We had a congregational song "I'll Fly Away," directed by Bro. Dewey Jordan. Rev. Gurley Roberts led in prayer and we adjourned for a short recess.

After a short intermission, a congregational song, "When I See The Blood" was directed by Rev. Jerry Edgill. Following this song, a call was given for reports from the various committees.

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The Sunday School & C.T.S. Committee report was given, a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and dismiss the committee. (See reports).

The Devotion Committee report was presented, a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and dismiss the committee.

The Finance Committee report was read, a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee.

A report was presented by the Resolution Committee, a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee.

The Board of Christian Education gave a report, a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report.

A report from the Business Committee was read in two parts and offered for acceptance. A motion, second and vote carried to accept the report item by item. Another motion, second and vote carried to table item number 1 of part 2 of this report until later in the day.

After the report of the Business Committee, Rev. Jerry Edgill directed a congregational song, "At Calvary." Rev. Rickey Cash brought a very inspiring devotional message using Numbers 13:30-33. Prayer was by the speaker.

The devotional message was followed by a song, "Jesus Saves," directed by Rev. Jerry Edgill.

The Key Note Sermon was presented by Rev. Albert Lee Hamm. The subject of the message was, "The Lord Jesus Christ." The message was taken from Hebrews 3:1, First Peter 1:3, 1:19 and 2:21-25. Prayer was by the speaker.

After the message the congregation sang an invitation song, "Surrender All."

We were dismissed for the noon meal with prayer by Rev. Ottis Parmer.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The meeting convened at 1:00 P.M. with a song, "Victory In Jesus," directed by Rev. Roy Barnes. A Special in song was rendered by Rev. Roy Barnes, Rev. M. H. Hollis, Bro. Dewey Jordan and Sister Bynum.

Next, the Temperance Committee report was given, a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and dismiss the committee.

The Deceased Members Committee report was presented, a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee.

After the report of Deceased members, we had a congregational song, "Precious Memories," in memory of the deceased members of our association. This song was followed by a prayer by Rev. James Walden.

The Executive Committee recommended that all ministers in this association be given a card of good standing. The committee also recommended that Rev. William O. Baird be received into the Association, pending a letter from the Progressive Association. A motion, second and vote carried to receive the report.

Next, a final report of the Business Committee was given. A motion, second and vote carried to take item number 1, of part 2, of the report off the table

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for a final vote. A motion, second and vote carried to accept this item of the report.

A motion, second and vote carried to change the wording of item No. 6 of the Bylaws from Executive Committee to read Credential Committee.

A motion, second and vote carried to correct the Bylaws and Order of Business of this association to conform to the instructions of the Business Committee.

Next, delegates to the Free Will Baptist Associations were appointed.

ALABAMA STATE ASSOCIATION

Mrs. Robert Franks
Mrs. Rose Mary Shelton
Mrs. Docia Turner
Mrs. E. W. Graves
Mr. Clyde Motes

PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION

Rev. Jerry Edgill

JASPER ASSOCIATION

Rev. Robert Franks
Rev. Ottis Parmer

STATE LINE ASSOCIATION

Rev. L. B. Nix

MT. MORIAH ASSOCIATION

Rev. V. R. Lay
Rev. Leander McAdams
Rev. Jerry Edgill

Churches requesting the next meeting of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association were recognized. Two churches, Beaverton and Belk requested the next meeting. A vote was cast by the congregation. The next session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association is to be held at Belk Free Will Baptist Church on October 20, 1973.

Next, the moderator appointed the Digest Committee for the next year. (See committees).

Nomination for Moderator of the Association for the coming year was opened. Rev. Robert Franks and Rev. Billy Sharpston were nominated. Rev. Billy Sharpston was elected to serve as Moderator and Rev. Robert Franks was elected to serve as Assistant Moderator.

Nomination for Association Clerk was opened. Raphael Yerby was elected to serve as Clerk and Mrs. Raphael Yerby was elected to serve as Assistant Clerk.

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The moderator was given power to appoint the Credential Committee and their term of office. (See Committee listing).

A motion, second and vote carried to adjourn this session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association.

We had a closing song, "I'm Bound For That City," directed by Rev. Roy Barnes. The closing prayer was offered by Bro. S. L. Cash.

Meeting adjourned.

CHURCHES AND DELEGATES AS LISTED

Beaverton — Sisters Mary Weeks, Liza Sizemore and Bro. Joe Barnes.

Belk — Sisters Iva Overton, Flora Gilreath, Bros. Grady Gilreath, Roy Gilreath and R. H. Yerby, Sr.

Davis Chapel — Sisters Barbara Collins, Eulene Moore and Gladys Williamson.

Eastside — Bros. Harry Kepler, James Cooper and Cecil Lancaster.

Friendship — Sisters Idell Ray, Sue Price and Mary Reynolds, Bros. James Price and Loyd Turner.

Liberty — Sisters Addie Dubose, Loree Butler, Ollie Mae Hankins, Sue Hester, Loree Oakes, Hattie Mixon, Jewel Perkins, Louise Couch and Bro. Steve Butler.

Mt. Harmony — Bros. W. D. Crawford, J. L. Wheeler, T. H. Taggart, L. C. Steedley and Sister Idora Hall.

Mt. Pleasant — Bro. Raymond Brown, Sisters Addie M. Brown, Helen Chandler and Robert McClure.

Mt. Willing — Bros. Douglas Chaffin, Floyd Collins, Quineth Haney, Leonard McDonald, Garvin Chaffin, and Harkens Garrison.

Piney Grove — Sisters Glenda Robinson, Florence Akers, Annette Bobo, Bros. Bonnie Robinson, David Akres and Franklin Bobo.

Springfield — Sisters Janie Walden, Joyce Gibson, Lonnie Fay Franks and Dean Rushing.

Taylor Springs — Sister Dorthy Callan and Bro. David Hankins.

Union Chapel — Sisters Lucille Bradford, Karen Bynum, Martha Bynum, Bros. Kell McAdams, Don Freeman and Earnest Hanes.

Vernon — Sisters Ruby Turner, Cocia Turner, Rebba McDaniel, Gurla Turner and Bro. Jay Y. Turner.

COMMITTEES AND MEMBERS FOR 1972

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Rev. Roy Barnes — 1973

Rev. Robert Franks — 1974

Rev. William O. Baird — 1975

Bro. Grady Newman — 1976

Bro. Pascal Yerby — 1977

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

DIGEST COMMITTEE (1973)

Rev. Robert Franks - Chairman
Rev. William O. Baird
Rev. Roy Barnes

DEVOTION COMMITTEE

Bro. Loyd Turner - Chairman
Bro. Floyd Collins
Rev. Ottis Parmer

SUNDAY SCHOOL & C.T.S. COMMITTEE

Sister Joyce Gibson - Chairman
Sister Lonnie Fay Franks
Sister Helen Chandler
Bro. Kell McAdams

DECEASED MEMBERS COMMITTEE

Sister Sue Hester - Chairman
Sister Virginia McClure
Sister Mary Weeks
Sister Annette Bobo

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

Bro. R. H. Yerby, Sr. - Chairman
Bro. Roy Gilreath
Rev. L. B. Nix

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Bro. James Cooper - Chairman
Bro. Donald Taggart
Bro. Garvin Chaffin
Sister Janie Walden

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Rev. Billy Sharpston - Chairman
Rev. G. C. Lawrence
Rev. Ricky Cash
Rev. Albert L. Hamm

BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Rev. Billy Sharpston - Chairman
Rev. Robert Franks
Rev. Ricky Cash

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

Rev. Robert Franks - Chairman
Bro. Pascal Yerby
Bro. Steve Butler

BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT, PART I

- (1) We recommend that Article 13 of the Constitution that was adopted in 1969 be carried out. (M.S.C.)
- (2) We recommend that Article 5 and 12 of the Constitution that was voted on in 1969 be up dated as of this session. (M.S.C.)
- (3) We recommend that Article No. 8 of the Constitution be up dated to read Sunday School instead of Sabbath School as adopted in Business Committee report in 1968. (M.S.C.)
- (4) We recommend that the Clerk insert to the side of all adopted business the letters, M.S.C., meaning motion, second and carried.
- (5) We recommend that Article No. 2 of the 1971 Business Committee report be dropped. (M.S.C.)

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PART II

- (1) We recommend the appointment of a Credential Committee, consisting of five (5) persons with the senior member in point of service being replaced each year. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to Examine All Ministers who become a part of this body, either by Ordination or by letter. Any item of business pertaining to Ministers or the conduct of Ministers must originate with this committee.

This committee shall consist of three (3) Ministers and two (2) Laymen.

This committee replaces the present Executive Committee. (M.S.C.)

- (2) The creation of a General Board, which shall consist of the Moderator and Clerk, along with one person from each church. Each person from the local church shall serve for two (2) years, with one-half being elected each year as specified in the printed minutes. When this Association is not in session this board shall have power to act as a body, but such action must be approved by the association (M.S.C.)
- (3) We recommend that the application for Ministers approved by the National Association be used by the Credential Committee in the examination of men for Ordination. (M.S.C.)
- (4) We recommend that items 1, 2, and 3 of this report become a part of our constitution. (M.S.C.)

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Billy Sharpston - Chairman

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT

We the resolution committee make the following report.

- (1) Be it resolved that this association extend to Union Chapel Free Will Baptist Church our thanks for their kind hospitality shown us during our association meeting.
- (2) Be it further resolved that the Clerk indicate in some manner, in the printed minutes, if each individual motion was either carried or lost.

Respectfully submitted,
Bro. Pascal Yerby - Chairman

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your finance committee have examined the various Church letters and find that a total of \$265.00 has been sent in to this association as minute funds.

Respectfully submitted,
Bro. James Cooper - Chairman

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

COMMITTEE ON DECEASED MEMBERS

We, your committee on deceased members report the following:

Beaverton	None
Belk	None
Davis Chapel	None
Eastside	None
Friendship	None
Liberty	Bro. J. C. Dubose Bro. Lee Mixon Bro. Emmit Perkins Sister Annie Perkins Bro. Buren Fowler Bro. Verdo Dubose
Mt. Harmony	Sister Lovie Robertson
Mt. Pleasant	Bro. John Crossley
Mt. Willing	Bro. Earnest Roberts Bro. Doffie Shelnut Sister Arilla Motes
Piney Grove	Bro. David Markham Sister Joan Markham Sister Clistee Barnes Bro. Terry Atkinson
Springfield	Sister Hattie Jordon Bro. Lee Pennington
Taylor Springs ...	None
Union Chapel	None
Vernon	Sister Lucille Yerby Bro. Joe Lee McNease

We extend to the families of our deceased members our deepest sympathy. In First Samuel 20:3C "But truly as the Lord liveth and as thy soul liveth, there is but a step between me and death."

If we will only realize this, we might be more concerned about our lost loved ones and witness to them now.

Respectfully submitted,
Sister Sue Hester- Chairman

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We as Free Will Baptist Christians recognize a great 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 its leadership.

We are especially concerned with the declining standards of dress and feel the

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need of exhorting our people, through love, to dress modestly.

We recommend that men be masculine in both dress and appearance.

Respectfully submitted,

Bro. R. H. Yerby, Sr. - Chairman

SUNDAY SCHOOL & C.T.S. COMMITTEE REPORT

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

All churches have Sunday School. Our enrollment is 1150 with an average attendance of 871.

Our C.T.S. enrollment is 343 with average attendance of 258.

We recommend that those churches that don't have a C.T.S. organize one.

We highly recommend that more churches participate in the competitive field of C.T.S., Bible Bowl, Bible Tic Tac Toe, Sword Drill, Essay and Declamation.

We would like to commend those churches that have competed.

We also recommend that Sunday School and C.T.S. records be as complete as possible as to assist the digest committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Sister Joyce Gibson - Chairman

DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the devotional committee recommend that Rev. Jerry Smith be responsible for a fifteen minute devotion at 10:45 A.M. and that Rev. J. W. Spencer preach the 11:00 a.m. message at the next session of the association.

Respectfully submitted,

Bro. Loyd Turner - Chairman

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT

The board this year sponsored youth meetings during the months of October, November, January, February, March, April and May.

There was a growing interest in the meetings with an increase in the number of churches taking part and the attendance at the meetings growing each month to a record of 174.

Our first district convention of C.T.S. was held with the First Free Will Baptist Church of Vernon in May. The following teams and individuals won in the competition:

DECLAMATION — Barry Baird, Belk

SWORD DRILL — Regina Yerby, Belk

BIBLE TIC TAC TOE — Springfield Team

Terry Pennington, Rena Pennington, Carrol Walden and Derby Rushing

BIBLE BOWL — Springfield Team

Tim Hudson, Mike Pennington, Karen Rushing and Ronnie Brown

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In the State T.N.T. rally at Northport, Barry Baird and Regina Yerby took first place along with Springfield's Bible Bowl team to represent the State of Alabama in Fort Worth, Texas in the National Competition.

In National competition the Springfield team was beaten in First Round play offs, however Barry Baird of Belk took 3rd place in Declamation and Regina Yerby of Belk took 2nd place in Sword Drill.

These young people should be commended for their work in representing their churches, our Association and our State in competition.

It is the hope of this board that more churches this year will interest their young people in these activities.

The board also this year along with the Jasper Association Board, sponsored a youth camp. We had 21 people from our association in camp with 10 children from the home in Eldridge whose fees were paid by the following churches: Springfield, Belk, Eastside, Liberty and Mt. Pleasant. We trust that future youth camps will meet with greater response from all our churches.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Billy Sharpston - Chairman

REPORT OF DIGEST COMMITTEE

Statistics

Church Membership	
Resident	1,442
Non-Resident	283
Total Membership	1,725
Members Received	
By Profession of Faith	125
By Letter	43
By Statement of Faith	21
Total Members Received	189
Members Dismissed	
By Letter	30
Excluded	3
Deceased	19
Total Members Dismissed	52
 Sunday School Enrollment	 1,150
Average Attendance	871
C.T.S. Enrollment	343
Average Attendance	258
Women's Auxiliary Enrollment	15
Average Attendance	8
Master's Men Enrollment	12
Average Attendance	12
Mid-Week Service	
Average Attendance	262

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Number of Ordained Ministers	26
Number of Licensed Ministers	4
Number of Ordained Deacons	63

Financial

Spent For Local Causes:

Pastor's Salary	\$ 44,825.40
Evangelistic Work	3,372.39
Building & Repair	45,700.26
Literature	4,772.40
Other	9,740.89
Total Spent For Local Causes	\$108,411.34

Spent For Outside Causes:

Cooperative Plan	\$ 1,450.00
Foreign Missions	1,211.66
Home Missions	740.88
Education	2,437.41
Orphanage	2,575.96
Superannuation	204.04
Associational Projects	166.00
State & National Projects	990.75
Total Spent for Outside Causes	\$ 9,776.40
Total Expenditures	\$118,187.40
Value of Church Property	\$337,000.00
Value of Parsonage Property	\$ 85,000.00

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Tillis Wally - Chairman

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance from 1971	\$ 85.76
Minute Funds Received	265.00
Total	350.76
Expenditures	
Moderator	\$ 10.00
Assistant Moderator	5.00
Minutes	196.00
Clerk	50.00
State Association	105.00
Postage & Supplies	10.00
Total Expenditures	\$ 376.00
Balance	Minus \$ 25.24

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

NAMES & ADDRESSES OF PRESENT MINISTERS

Rev. S. F. Lee, Rt. 1, Guin, Al. 35563
Rev. C. A. Barnes, Rt. 1, Box 95A, Brilliant, Al. 35548
Rev. T. C. Barnes, Rt. 1, Beaverton, Al. 35544
Rev. Roy Barnes, Rt. 1, Vernon, Al. 35592
Rev. Frank Collins, Rt. 3, Sulligent, Al. 35586
Rev. Robert Franks, Rt. 1, Vernon, Al. 35592
Rev. W. D. Glasgow, Rt. 1, Box 223, Eightmile, Al.
Rev. E. W. Graves, Rt. 2, Vernon, Al. 35592
Rev. M. H. Hollis, Vernon, Alabama 35592
Rev. G. C. Lawrence, P. O. Box 365, Winfield, Al. 35594
Rev. V. R. Lay, Fayette, Alabama 35555
Rev. Lawrence Lynn, Route 3, Northport, Al. 35476
Rev. Leander McAdams, Route 2, Columbus, Ms. 39701
Rev. Delmus Miller, Rt. 2, Winfield, Al. 35594
Rev. L. B. Nix, 622-3 Croley Drive, Nashville, Tenn.
Rev. Ottis Parmer, Rt. 1, Beaverton, Al. 35544
Rev. Billy Sharpston, Vernon, Al. 35592
Rev. J. W. Spencer, Rt. 2, Guin, Al. 35563
Rev. Tillis Wally, Rt. 2, Vernon, Al. 35592
Rev. William O. Baird, Belk, Al. 35545
Rev. Ricky Cash, Rt. 1, Fernbank, Alabama
Rev. Jerry Edgill, 4102 Vassie Drive, Tuscaloosa, Al. 35401
Rev. Albert L. Hamm, Nashville, Tennessee

LIST OF DEACONS

Beaverton — J. T. Barnes, Robert Bobo, Connie Smith
Belk — Grady Newman, Dalton Gilpin, Raphael Yerby
Davis Chapel — Raymond Gray, John D. Moore, Sr., E. D. Sanford, John Pike
Eastside (Tuscaloosa) — J. H. Thompson, Bedford Hester, Paul Jordan, Bobby
Sargent
Friendship — James Price, Loyd Turner
Liberty — R. T. Mixon, Edd Collins, John Stewart, Chelsey Poor, 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, Raymond Pennington, Hollis Chandler
Mt. Willing — A. J. McDonald, Jeff McDonald, Emmett Lee, H. E. McDonald,
Arlie Roberts, Hoyt Chaffin, Elzie Guin, Obie Haney
Piney Grove — C. E. Roberts, Arlander Shelnut, Alvada Markham, J. M. Chaffin,
Ozell Cantrell, Fred Barnes

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION			Members Received	Members Deceased	Total Members	Number in Sunday School	Number in C.T.S.	No. in Ladies Aux.	Ordained Ministers	Christian	Paid Pastors	Paid Evangelist	Paid Children's Home	Paid Missions	Paid Old Age Pastors	Minute Fund	Paid For Improvements	Total Paid Out	Value of Church Property
CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK																	
Beaverton	Rev. Jerry Smith Route 1 Vernon, Al. 35592	Shirley Corbit Sulligent 35586	33	0	54	54	0	0	1		995.00	89.38	10.00	0	0	15	1,119.79	2,536.35	8,000
Belk	Rev. Wm. O. Baird Belk, Al. 35545	R. H. Yerby, Sr. Route 6 Fayette 35555	32	0	143	90	60	0	4	158	6,375.00	265.00	195.00	262.51	60.00	25	499.06	11,033.32	50,000
Davis Chapel	Rev. J. M. Harbin Townley, Al.	Ann Moore Route 1 Berry 35546	1	0	130	64	0	0	3		385.13	91.00	81.00	0	0	15	1,568.09	2,212.68	15,000
Eastside	Rev. Jerry Edgill 4102 Vassie Dr. Tuscaloosa 35401	Betsy Phillips 515 24th Ave. E. Tuscaloosa 35401	45	0	127	143	65	15	1		7,639.33	586.21	397.57	322.78	0	25	7,110.00	19,231.65	65,000
Friendship	Rev. Rickey Cash Route 1 Fernbank, Al.	Mrs. Mary Reynolds Route 1 Steens, Ms. 39766	13	0	37	30	0	0	1		1,020.51	308.00	0	0	0	20	1,357.59	3,385.33	15,000
Liberty	Rev. T. M. Scott Route 2 Vernon 35592	Mrs. Ora Burnett Route 3 Sulligent 35586	3	7	231	138	50	0	2	25	4,979.28	300.00	197.25	240.00	0	15	1,244.15	7,715.24	50,000
Mt. Harmony	Rev. M. H. Hollis Route 2 Vernon 35592	Derrell Wheeler Rt. 1, Box 124 Vernon 35592	8	1	126	96	48	0	1	21	7,150.00	175.00	240.00	60.00	0	25	11,775.48	20,995.42	25,000
Mt. Pleasant	Rev. Roy Barnes Route 1 Vernon 35592	Mrs. Rob. McClure Route 2 Sulligent 35586	8	1	63	42	14	0	1		1,068.19	162.00	25.00	39.40	0	15	11,211.21	12,871.41	15,000
Mt. Willing	Rev. J. W. Spencer Route 2 Guin, Al. 35563	Sadie M. White Route 2 Winfield 35594	5	3	204	65	0	0	4		1,400.25	125.00	120.00	0	0	15	901.84	2,775.88	8,000
Piney Grove	Rev. Ottis Parmer Route 1 Beaverton 35544	Mrs. Freddie Carruth, Rt. 1 Beaverton 35544	6	3	134	80	0	0	3		1,199.36	234.95	220.00	22.00	0	15	146.24	2,752.91	25,000
Springfield	Rev. Robert F Franks, Rt. 3 Vernon 35592	Tommie Rushing Route 1 Vernon 35592	5	2	186	98	44	0	2	9	4,553.35	499.85	150.00	97.00	0	25	2,096.78	10,056.16	30,000
Taylor Springs	Rev. C. C. Berry- hill, Greenwood Springs, Ms.	Mrs. Charlene Cooper, Rt. 1 Beaverton 35544	5	0	36	59	0	0	0		1,150.00	81.00	0	0	0	15	156.00	1,782.00	6,000
Union Chapel	Rev. L. B. Nix 622-3 Croley Dr. Nashville, Tn.	James N. Bynum Fayette 35555	6	0	116	75	0	0	2		2,750.00	175.00	170.00	0	0	20	3,026.20	7,103.56	25,000
Vernon	Rev. Billy Sharp- ston Vernon 35592	Mrs. Paul Shelnut P. O. Box 57 Vernon 35592	19	2	138	116	62	0	1	281	4,160.00	280.00	770.14	908.85	144.04	20	3,487.00	13,698.75	85,000

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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, 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. 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, Lee Mixon, J. S. Crossley, J. D. Shelnut,
Earnest Roberts, D. L. Markham, Joe L. McNease, Johnny Williams, Johnny
Collins, Dewitt Williams.

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 practices 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 will be the responsibility of the local church to license the member and later request the association to ordain the member. The examination for license should refer to the piety, doctrines and convictions

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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 the Application For Ministers approved by the National Association of Free Will Baptist. 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, clerk-treasurer and assistant clerk, 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 usage.

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, 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 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 delegates failing or refusing to do so is and shall be considered to be a party to the enforcement of the same.

12. The moderator shall receive \$10.00, the assistant moderator \$5.00, the clerk \$50.00 and the assistant clerk one-half that of the clerk for their services.

13. The clerk shall superintend the printing of the minutes after each session of the association and have them out to the churches within 90 days after the association meeting.

14. The moderator shall appoint a Credential Committee, consisting of five (5) persons with the senior member in point of service being replaced each year. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to Examine All Ministers who become a part of this body, either by ordination or by letter. Any item of business

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pertaining to ministers or the conduct of ministers must originate with this committee. This committee shall consist of three (3) ministers and two (2) laymen.

15. The association shall have a General Board, which shall consist of the moderator and clerk, along with one person from each church. Each person from the local church shall serve for two (2) years, with one-half being elected each year as specified in the printed minutes. When this association is not in session this board shall have power to act as a body, but such action must be approved by the association.

BYLAWS

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 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.

4. The moderator calls for the report of the Digest Committee and a roll call of the delegates. After a reading of the report, 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.

6. The Credential 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 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 Savior and Lord.

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

5. The Government of God. God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the 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 Works of Christ. The Son of God by His incarnation, life sufferings, death and resurrection affected 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 unreserved comital 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.

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12. Perseverance. All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, having 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 Digest Committee report and roll call of delegates.
4. 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: Credentials, Digest, Business, Querries and Resolution, Sunday Schools, Finance, Deceased Members, Devotion, Temperance, 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 brothers 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.

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APPLICATION FOR MINISTERS

GENERAL

Briefly tell of your conversion and give reasons for your assurance of salvation.

How long have you been a Free Will Baptist?

Why do you want to be ordained?

Give a short account of your call to preach.

Do you meet the qualifications of I Timothy 3:1-7?

Do you have a family? _____ Number of children _____

Have you or your wife ever been divorced?

What is the extent of your education? Elementary grades _____ High
School _____ College _____ Other _____

What is your attitude toward intoxicating beverages, tobacco, drugs or worldly amusements?

DOCTRINE

Do you believe without reservation that the Bible is the verbally inspired, infallible Word of God and that it is the only rule of faith and practice?

What do you believe about evolution and the Genesis account of Creation?

What is the gospel?

What is salvation?

How would you proceed to explain the way of salvation to a lost soul?

Explain your views on baptism?

What is the meaning of the Lord's Supper?

Should feet washing be observed? Explain.

What do you believe about apostasy and the perseverance of the believer?

What is the church?

Who is eligible for membership?

How should the church discipline a member?

How should the work of the church be financed?

What are the duties of a minister?

What is the mission of the church in the light of Matthew 28:19-20?

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GIVE YOUR INTERPRETATION OF THE FOLLOWING DOCTRINES:

God
Diety of Christ
The Virgin Birth of Christ
The Work of the Holy Spirit
Repentance
Faith
Justification
Regeneration
Atonement
Sanctification
Final Judgement
Heaven
Hell
Satan
Second Coming
Resurrection

DENOMINATION

Who is a Free Will Baptist?

What is meant by the term "free moral agent"?

Have you read the Treatise completely and do you subscribe to the doctrines and practices that are outlined in it?

Is there anything in the treatise that you do not believe or would not teach?

If you ever changed your views on any of these doctrines what would you do?

What are the grounds for relinquishing your ordination credentials?

What is the relationship of the local church to the denomination?

Give three character and three credit references.

Do you solemnly pledge to earnestly contend for the faith once delivered to the saints and to faithfully uphold the Free Will Baptist doctrines outlined in the Treatise?

