

MINUTES

OF THE

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

OF THE

**VERNON FREE WILL
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Held With
Belk Free Will Baptist Church
October 20, 1973

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

OFFICERS FOR 1974

Moderator Rev. T. M. Scott, Vernon, Alabama
Assistant Moderator Rev. Billy Sharpston, Vernon, Alabama

The next session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association will be held with Beaverton Free Will Baptist Church, beginning at 8:00 A.M. on Saturday, October 19, 1974.

PROCEEDINGS

The ninety-third session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was held with the Belk Free Will Baptist Church on October 20, 1973. Rev. Billy Sharpston served as moderator and Raphael Yerby served as clerk.

The meeting of the association opened with a welcome by the moderator and a song, "Take The Name of Jesus With You," directed by Rev. Roy Barnes. Other songs directed by Bro. Barnes were "Brethren, We Have Met to Worship," and "Praise Him! Praise Him!"

The ninety-third session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was called to order by the moderator, Rev. Billy Sharpston. Bro. Paul Smith brought a devotional message using James 1:1-14. His subject was "Witnessing For The Lord." Prayer was by the speaker.

We had a roll call of the delegates to the association by the clerk. A motion, second and vote carried to seat the delegates.

A motion was made and second to adopt the printed program for this session of the association. The vote carried.

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

Appointment of the committee on committees was made at this time. Those appointed were:

Rev. Ricky Cash, chairman

Rev. M. H. Hollis

Rev. Ottis Parmer

Next, we recognized and invited visiting Brethren to seat with us. Those present were:

Rev. Ken Walker

Rev. G. C. Lawrence

Rev. Jack Harder

Rev. William Atkins

Rev. Eugene Seals

Rev. Jerry Smith

Rev. Harold Pitts

Rev. Billy Ray Smith

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 and discharge the committee.

We had a very informative report on State Home Missions by Rev. Ken Walker. Bro. Walker reported on his work at the Mobile Mission, the growth and progress of the Mission, using as his subject II Thessalonians 3:1. A motion was made and second and vote carried to put the name and address of the Mobile Mission in our minutes. It is: First Free Will Baptist Mission of Mobile, 1251 Navco Road, Mobile, Alabama 36605. We received an offering for State Home Missions, Rev. Ken Walker account, in the amount of \$118.85.

We had several songs directed by Bro. Dewey Jordan. They were: "Kneel At The Cross," "Love Lifted Me," and "Amazing Grace." Then we had prayer by

Bro. William Atkins.

Bro. T. M. Scott held a short testimonial service, by first giving his testimony and then calling for testimonies from the congregation.

A report from the committee on committees was given by Rev. Ricky Cash and the various committees were appointed. (See list). A motion, second and vote carried to receive the report. The committees were dismissed to prepare their reports. Bro. Dewey Jordan directed two songs, "I Am Resolved" and "Victory In Jesus" and we adjourned for a short recess.

After a short intermission, a congregational song, "At Calvary", was directed by Rev. Ken Walker. Following this song a call was given for reports from the various committees.

The Sunday School and C.T.S. Committee report was given by Sister Sue Hester. A motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and dismiss the committee. (See reports).

The Temperance Committee report was given by Bro. R. H. Yerby, Sr.. A motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and dismiss the committee.

A congregational song, "How Great Thou Art" was directed by Rev. Ken Walker. Rev. Jerry Smith brought a devotional message on "The Senses That A Man Has" using Luke 16:24-26. Prayer was by the speaker.

A partial report of the Business Committee was given by Rev. Robert Franks. A motion, second and vote carried to table the report until the afternoon session.

The Deceased Members Committee report was presented by Sister Paulette Scott. A motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee. After the report the congregation stood in a moment of silent prayer and then Rev. M. H. Hollis led in prayer in memory of those loved ones.

The report of the Board of Christian Education was given by Rev. Robert Franks. A motion, second and vote carried to receive the report.

Bro. Walker led in singing, "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms" and "Joy Unspeakable" and the offering was received for Home Missions. Prayer was by the moderator, Rev. Billy Sharpston. After the offering Bro. Walker directed another song, "Saved By The Blood."

The Key Note Sermon was brought at 11:00 A.M. by Rev. J. W. Spencer. The subject of the message was, "Walking With Christ Is The Answer To All Things" using First John 2:6. Prayer was by the speaker.

After the message the congregation sang an invitational song, "Have Thine Own Way Lord." We were dismissed for the noon meal with prayer by Rev. Ottis Parmer.

AFTERNOON SESSION

After a wonderful lunch which was enjoyed by all we convened back at 1:00 P.M. with a song, "Heavenly Sunlight", directed by Rev. M. H. Hollis. Prayer was by Bro. Donald Taggart.

We had a final report of the Business Committee. A motion was made, second and vote carried to take the report off the table and vote on it item by item. (See report).

Item No. I, Motion Defeated

Item No. II, M.S.C.

Item No. III. Amended to include item number three of the By-Laws, M.S.C.

Item No. IV, M.S.C.

Item No. V, M.S.C.

Item No. VI, M.S.C.

Item No. VII, Motion Defeated

We had a motion that the Temperance Committee be appointed one year in advance for the purpose of preparing a more detailed Temperance report.

Item No. VIII, amended to include the Credential Committee, M.S.C.

The Finance Committee report was given by Bro. J. H. Thompson. A motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee.

The report of the Appreciation Committee was given by Bro. Pascal Yerby. A motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and dismiss the committee.

The Credential Committee report was given by Rev. Robert Franks. Motion, second and vote carried to receive the report.

Next the Ordination Service was held. Bro. Ottis Jacobs, Jr. and Bro. Donald Taggart were ordained to preach the Gospel. Prayer was by Rev. L. B. Nix. After prayer Bro. Nix read First Timothy chapter three and made a few brief comments. The Charge was given by Rev. Ray Barnes, using Titus 2:11-15 as his scripture. Rev. Robert Franks presented the Bible and its use. The Ordination Prayer was offered by Rev. Robert Franks. The congregation was invited to come by and shake hands with the two preachers that were ordained and their wives.

As recommended by the Business Committee and approved by this body, the place of meeting for the Youth Rally each month was set. The Youth Rally meets at 7:00 P.M., the third Saturday night in each month, October through May. The meeting places are:

October, 1973 — Springfield
November, 1973 — Friendship
December, 1973 — Liberty
January, 1974 — Vernon

February, 1974 — Mt. Willing
March, 1974 — Union Chapel
April 1974 — Mt. Pleasant
May, 1974 — Belk

The association held a short service honoring Rev. S. F. Lee as the oldest minister of the association. The moderator, Rev. Billy Sharpston, gave a brief history of the life and work of Bro. Lee in the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association and presented him a Certificate of Appreciation for his work and dedication to this association. Bro. Lee gave a word of testimony and appreciation to the association.

Delegates to the Free Will Baptist Association were appointed:

Alabama State Association

Mrs. Dewey Jordan
Mrs. S. Y. Shelton
Mrs. Eulene Moore
Mrs. Sue Hester
Mrs. T. M. Scott
Mrs. Addie Dubose
Mrs. E. W. Graves

Mr. R. A. Miller
Mr. Albert L. Christian
Mr. Larry Hudson
Mrs. Evelyn Duckworth
Mrs. Roy Perkins
Mr. Tim Cooper
Mr. Pete Cicero

The moderator appointed the Digest Committee and the Temperance Committee.

Churches requesting the next meeting of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association were recognized. Three churches, Mt. Harmony, Beaverton and Springfield requested the next meeting. The body voted to hold the next session of this association at the Beaverton Free Will Baptist Church. It will be held on October 19, 1974.

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

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

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

The closing prayer was offered by Rev. L. B. Nix.

Meeting adjourned.

CHURCHES AND DELEGATES AS LISTED

Beaverton — Sisters Ethel Seals, Liza Sizemore, Mary Weeks and Bro. Kenneth Gosa

Belk — Sister Iva Overton, Bro. Grady Gilreath, Laren Williams, Houston Ham and R. H. Yerby, Sr.

Davis Chapel — Sisters Barbara Collins, Lorene Pike and Euline Moore.

Eastside — Bro. J. H. Thompson, Sister Edna Thompson, and Bro. R. A. Miller.

Friendship — Sisters Sue Price, Mary Reynolds and Lura Moore.

Liberty — Sisters Dessie Perkins, Sue Hester, Loree Oaks, Louise Couch, Eula Mae Dubose, Paulette Scott, Hattie Mixon and Bro. Steve Butler.

Mt. Harmony — Sisters Anne Patrick, Annie Lou Robertson, Bro. Fred Graham, Floyd Taggart, Elie Huguley and Jimmy Hayes.

Mt. Pleasant — Sisters Mary Barnes, Addie Brown, Edna Crossley, and Bro. Raymond Brown.

Mt. Willing — Sisters Ellis Guin, Pauline Haney, Bro. Harkins Garrison and Douglas Chaffin.

Piney Grove — Sisters Gera Mae Bobo, Jeanette Cantrell, Bro. Jerry Eastman, Tommy Robertson, and Danny Atkinson.

Springfield — Sisters Ora Jordan, Ethel Hollis, Wanda Hall, Karen Rushing, and Bro. Tim Hudson

Taylor Springs — Sisters Christine Sizemore, Earline Sorrells, and Charlene Cooper.

Union Chapel — Sisters Lucille Bradford, Rose Mary Shelton, Daisy Clearman, Mabel Smith, and Bro. Benny Hardy.

Vernon — Sisters Gira Turner, Louise Shelnut, Docia Turner, Bros. Jack McLe-more, and Larry Hudson

The following churches will elect a new member to serve a two (2) year term on the General Board and send them to the next session of the association:

Beaverton

Davis Chapel

Liberty

Belk

Eastside

Mt. Harmony

Friendship

COMMITTEES AND MEMBERS FOR 1973

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Rev. Robert Franks - 1974

Rev. L. B. Nix - 1975

Bro. Grady Newman - 1976

Bro. Pascal Yerby - 1977

Bro. Roy Barnes - 1978

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. T. M. Scott

Rev. Billy Sharpston

Bro. Raphael Yerby

Bro. Dewey Jordan

Bro. Lamon Duckworth

Bro. Jack McLemore

Bro. Earl McDonald

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

Rev. Ricky Cash, chairman

Rev. M. H. Hollis

Rev. Ottis Parmer

SUNDAY SCHOOL & C.T.S. COMMITTEE

Sister Sue Hester, chairman

Sister Anne Patrick

Sister Mary Reynolds

Sister Giral Turner

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

Bro. R. H. Yerby, Sr., chairman

Sister Jeanette Cantrell

Sister Rose Mary Shelton

Sister Christine Sizemore

DECEASED MEMBERS COMMITTEE

Sister Paulette Scott, chairman

Sister Lucille Bradford

Bro. Raymond Brown

Bro. Danny Atkinson

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Bro. Harwood Thompson, chairman

Sister Annie Lou Robertson

Bro. Bobby Joe Black

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Rev. Robert Franks, chairman

Rev. Roy Barnes

Rev. Leander McAdams

Bro. Dalton Gilpin

Bro. L. R. Dubose

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Rev. Billy Sharpston, chairman

Rev. T. M. Scott

Rev. Ottis Jacobs, Jr.

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE

Bro. Pascal Yerby, chairman

Bro. Tim Hudson

Bro. Steve Butler

DIGEST COMMITTEE (1974)

Rev. Robert Franks, Chairman

Rev. M. H. Hollis

Rev. Ottis Parmer

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE (1974)

Rev. T. M. Scott, chairman

Bro. Pascal Yerby

Bro. Dewey Jordan

BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

- (1) We recommend that the wording, give three credit references, be deleted from the application for ministers. Motion Defeated.
- (2) We recommend the appointment of an Executive Committee, consisting of the Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, and four (4) members from the General Board. We recommend this become a part of item number fifteen (15) of the Constitution. M.S.C.
- (3) We recommend that the last sentence of item number five (5) of the Constitution and item number three (3) of the By-Laws be changed to read as follows:

The officers shall be chosen at the close of each session to take office at the close of that session, with the outgoing clerk being responsible for the printing and distribution of the minutes. M.S.C.

- (4) We recommend that each standing board be instructed to outline for the minutes and to become a part of the By-Laws, the purpose and responsibilities of their boards. This will make it possible for those serving on the board in the future to know what their duties are. M.S.C.
- (5) We recommend that a place of meeting each month for our Youth Rally be set at the annual association meeting and that be printed in our minutes. M.S.C.
- (6) We recommend that the present Resolution Committee be discontinued and be replaced with an Appreciation Committee. M.S.C.
- (7) We recommend that the Temperance Committee be discontinued. Motion defeated.
- (8) We recommend that the General Board, along with the Credential Committee, be empowered to grant letters to ministers leaving our association and receive ministers into our association, reporting their action to the annual associational meeting, with their action being subject to final by the associational body. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Robert Franks, chairman

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Appreciation Committee make the following report:

We wish to extend to the Belk Free Will Baptist Church our deepest appreciation and sincere thanks for their kind hospitality shown us during our associational meeting. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,
Bro. Pascal Yerby, chairman

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Finance Committee have examined the letters from our various

churches and find that a total of \$235.00 was sent to this association as minute funds. The balance from 1972 was minus \$25.24, which would leave a total of \$209.76. Our total expenditures for 1973 is approximately \$415.00. We recommend that each church pay \$30.00 or more each year to the minute fund of our association. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,
J. H. Thompson, chairman

Note: Additional money was received.

COMMITTEE ON DECEASED MEMBERS

We, your committee on deceased members report the following:

Beaverton	Bro. Dean McGough
Belk	Sister Lucille Faulkner
Davis Chapel	None
Eastside	Sister Effie Winters
	Bro. Daniel Mims
Friendship	Bro. Joe Grisham
	Bro. Chester Reynolds
Liberty	Sister Beulah Cargile
	Bro. Rufus Christian
	Bro. Van Hester
	Bro. Raymond Lawrence
	Bro. Floyd Yerby
Mt. Harmony	Sister Mellie Wheeler
	Sister Myrtle Draper
Mt. Pleasant	Bro. Leslie Sanders
Mt. Willing	Sister Carrie Gosa Collins
	Bro. Clifton Guin
Piney Grove	None
Springfield	Sister Ola Hollis
	Sister Icy Jordan
	Bro. J. H. Robertson
Taylor Springs	None
Union Chapel	Bro. Lattie Maddox
Vernon	Sister J. L. McNease

We extend to the families of our deceased members our deepest sympathy. First Thessalonians 4:14 says, "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him."

This verse plainly tells us that the saints which depart this life are asleep in Christ. If we will only accept the words of Jesus we will find comfort for our sad hearts. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,
Paulette Scott, Chairman

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your Temperance Committee feel that the practice of temperance in our present changing times is more important now than it has ever been. With the increasing drug problems, we feel that parents today should be willing to practice temperance as well as teach it in all aspects of life. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,
R. H. Yerby, Sr., chairman

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND C.T.S. COMMITTEE REPORT

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

Our enrollment in Sunday School is 1,056 with an average attendance of 846. We see a need of more participation in this work. All fourteen churches have an active Sunday School.

Our C.T.S. enrollment is 316 with an average attendance of 272, which is a very good average for a small enrollment. We encourage all churches to participate in the C.T.S., since this is a Church Training Service. Only seven churches have a C.T.S.

We would like to commend those churches who participated in Bible Bowl, Bible Tic Tac Toe, Sword Drill, Essay, and Declamation. Some out of this association won the State Competitions and went on to win high honors in the National Competition. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Hester, chairman

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT

The board this past 72-73 season sponsored seven (7) Youth Rallies. We would like to thank the churches who have taken part in these rallies and those churches and their people who have invited us to meet with them.

Our second annual convention of C.T.S. was held again this year with the First Free Will Baptist Church of Vernon. The interest in our competition was very high. Again this year, as well as last year, we have members of our Youth Rallies representing our local association at the State level and then going on to National levels.

Again we pray that somehow, more of our churches and pastors will be able to see the value in these activities and do everything possible to get their people involved. At any time that any member of this board may be of help to anyone in becoming actively involved, please feel free to call us. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Billy Sharpston, chairman

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Credential Committee recommend that Rev. T. M. Scott be accepted as a member of this association. M.S.C.

We recommend that Bro. Ottis Earl Jacobs, Jr. and Bro. Donald Wayne Taggart be ordained as ministers by this association. M.S.C.

We recommend that this association grant a letter of good standing to Rev. G. C. Lawrence and recommend him to the State Line Association. M.S.C.

We recommend that a card of good standing be granted to the ministers on our roll of ministers. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Roy Barnes, chairman

REPORT OF DIGEST COMMITTEE

Statistics

Church Membership	
Resident	1,353
Non-Resident	406
Total Membership	1,759
Members Received	
By Profession of Faith	54
By Letter	59
By Statement of Faith	18
Total Members Received	131
Members Dismissed	
By Letter	43
Excluded	18
Deceased	19
Total Members Dismissed	80
Sunday School Enrollment	1,056
Average Attendance	846
C.T.S. Enrollment	316
Average Attendance	272
Women's Auxiliary Enrollment	9
Average Attendance	5
Master's Men Enrollment	10
Average Attendance	8
Mid-Week Service	
Average Attendance	350
Number of Ordained Ministers	21
Number of Licensed Ministers	6
Number of Ordained Deacons	66

Financial**Spent for Local Causes:**

Pastor's Salary	\$54,142.00
Evangelistic Work	4,308.35
Building and Repair	43,722.23
Literature	5,562.07
Other	23,179.14
Total Spent for Local Causes	\$131,027.89

Spent for Outside Causes:

Cooperative Plan	None
Foreign Missions	\$ 2,086.15
Home Missions	884.46
Education	1,280.24
Orphanage	2,136.33
Superannuation	233.84
Associational Projects	70.00
State and National Projects	1,425.00
Total Spent for Outside Causes	8,262.29
Total Expenditures	\$139,087.62
Value of Church Property	477,700.00
Value of Parsonage Property	85,000.00

Respectfully submitted

Rev. Robert Franks, chairman

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance from 1972	Minus 25.24
Minute Funds Received	<u>410.00</u>
Total	410.00
Expenditures	
Moderator	None
Assistant Moderator	None
Minutes	228.96
Clerk	50.00
Assistant Clerk	25.00
Postage and Supplies	10.00
State Association	<u>105.00</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>418.96</u>
Balance	Minus 8.96

The moderator, Rev. Billy Sharpston, donated his salary of \$10.00 and the assistant moderator, Rev. Robert Franks, donated his salary of \$5.00 to the association. The clerk donated the deficiency of \$25.24 from 1972.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PRESENT MINISTERS

Rev. S. F. Lee, Rt. 1, Guin, Alabama 35563
Rev. C. A. Barnes, Rt. 1, Box 95-A, Brilliant, Alabama 35548
Rev. T. C. Barnes, Rt. 1, Beaverton, Alabama 35544
Rev. Roy Barnes, Rt. 1, Vernon, Alabama 35592
Rev. Frank Collins, Rt. 3, Sulligent, Alabama 35586
Rev. Robert D. Franks, Rt. 1, Vernon, Alabama 35592
Rev. W. D. Glasgow, Rt. 2, Vernon, Alabama 35592
Rev. E. W. Graves, Rt. 2, Vernon, Alabama 35592
Rev. M. H. Hollis, Vernon, Alabama 35592
Rev. V. R. Lay, Fayette, Alabama 35555
Rev. Leander McAdams, Rt. 2, Columbus, Mississippi 39701
Rev. Delmus Miller, Rt. 2, Winfield, Alabama 35594
Rev. L. B. Nix, 622-3 Corley Drive, Nashville, Tennessee
Rev. Ottis Parmer, Rt. 1, Beaverton, Alabama 35544
Rev. Billy Sharpston, Vernon, Alabama 35592
Rev. J. W. Spencer, Rt. 2, Guin, Alabama 35563
Rev. Ricky Cash, Nashville, Tennessee
Rev. Jerry Edgill, 4102 Vassie Drive, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401
Rev. Albert L. Hamm, Columbus, Mississippi
Rev. T. M. Scott, Rt. 2, Vernon, Alabama
Rev. Ottis E. Jacobs, Jr., Rt. 1, Millport, Alabama
Rev. Donald W. Taggart, P. O. Box 57, Vernon, Alabama

LIST OF DEACONS

Beaverton — 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 J. Sargent
Friendship — James Price
Liberty — R. T. Mixon, L. R. Dubose, Arnold Hester, Bobby J. Black, Edd Collins, John Stewart, Henry Harrison, Chelsea Poore, Henry Perkins
Mt. Harmony — S. L. Cash, Olen Wheeler, Erbie Robertson, Coy Johnson, D. R. Wheeler, Odus Robertson, O. B. Graham
Mt. Pleasant — W. M. Cooper, J. G. Adair, Raymond Pennington
Mt. Willing — A. J. McDonald, Jeff McDonald, Emmett Lee, H. E. McDonald, Arlie Roberts, Hoyt Chaffin, Elzie Guin, Obie Haney, Earl McDonald
Piney Grove — C. E. Roberts, Arlander Shelnut, Elvada Markham, J. M. Chaffin, Ozell Cantrell, Fred Barnes
Springfield — Dewey Jordan, J. A. Harper, Haley Wright, Dempsey Langley, Tommie Rushing

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									
CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK								Paid Pastors	Paid Evangelist	Paid Children's Home	Paid Missions	Paid Old Age Pastors	Minute Fund	Paid for Improvement	Total Paid Out	Value of Church Property
Beaverton	Rev. Eugene Seals P.O. Box 64 Detroit, Al.	Emma Harris Star Route N. Sulligent, Al. 35586	11		46	47	0	0	0	1,225.00	180.00	10.00	0	0	30	490.10	2,193.66	9,000
Belk	Rev. Billy R. Smith Belk, Al. 35545	R. H. Yerby, Sr. Route 6 Fayette, Al. 35555	21	1	146	90	60	0	3	8,155.00	810.00	127.50	135.00	60.00	30	14,344.34	28,512.73	110,000
Davis Chapel	Rev. J. M. Harbin Route 1 Townley, Al.	Ann Moore Route 1 Berry, Al. 35546	20		130	64	0	0	0	315.75	40.00	51.00	0	0	30	976.01	1,411.33	15,000
Eastside	BYRON MEYER 4014 6th St. Tuscaloosa, Al.	Betsey Phillips 515 24th Ave. E. Tuscaloosa, Al.	16	2	116	60	30	9	0	6,500.00	455.00	75.00	26.21	0	30	4,374.45	13,885.52	90,000
Friendship 662-3416	Rev. Ottis E. Jacobs, Jr., Rt. 1 Millport, Al.	Mrs. Mary Reynolds, Rt. 1 Steens, Ms. 39766	3	2	54	31	0	0	2	1,305.00	500.00	0	0	0	30	1,810.20	4,280.60	15,700
Liberty 695-9400 See Sat	Rev. T.M. Scott Route 2 Vernon, Al. 35592	Mrs. Ora Burnett Rt. 3, Sulligent, Al. 35586	11	5	212	112	50	0	2	5,622.32	210.00	358.55	394.06	0	40	1,027.50	14,914.10	80,000
Mt. Harmony 195-7736	Rev. M.H. Hollis Rt. 2, Box 72-B Vernon, Al. 35592	Erbie Robertson Rt. 3, Box 622 Vernon, Al. 35592	7	2	129	100	47	0	1	9,725.00	200.00	0	152.94	0	30	3,250.00	14,597.19	25,000
Mt. Pleasant 695-9229	Rev. Roy Barnes Rt. 1 Vernon, Al. 35592	Miss Vicki Crossley Rt. 1 Vernon, Al. 35592	1	1	63	46	0	0	1	1,518.80	308.00	0	0	0	30	2,612.34	4,891.42	25,000
Mt. Willing 695-7418	Rev. Jerry Smith Route 1 Vernon, Al. 35592	Sadie M. White Route 2 Winfield, Al. 35594	6	2	191	60	0	0	4	1,251.29	130.00	120.00	0	0	30	148.00	2,266.48	8,000
Piney Grove	Rev. Ottis Parmer Rt. 1, Beaverton Al. 35544	Mrs. Freddie Caruth, Rt. 1, Beaverton, Al. 35544	3	0	135	80	0	0	3	1,318.58	150.00	240.00	30.00	0	15	3,886.06	6,574.83	29,000
Springfield See Sat.	Rev. Robert D. Franks, P.O. Box 473, Vernon, Al.	Tommie Rushing Route 1 Vernon, Al. 35592	6	2	183	91	50	0	2	5,940.26	230.29	150.00	50.00	0	35	1,498.06	12,244.29	30,000
Taylor Springs	Rev. C.C. Berryhill Route 1, Greenwood Sprgs, Ms.	Christine Sizemore Rt. 3, Sulligent Al. 35586	7	0	50	60	0	0	0	1,350.00	91.00	15.00	0	0	15	750.00	2,780.00	6,000
Union Chapel 569-9840	Rev. L.B. Nix 622-3 Corley Dr. Nashville, Tn. 37207	James N. Bynum Fayette, Al. 35555	11	0	127	85	0	0	2	5,675.00	275.00	120.00	100.00	0	30	1,007.80	9,057.14	35,000
Vernon 695-9730	Rev. Billy Sharpston Vernon, Al. 35592	Mrs. Paul Shelnut P. O. Box 57 Vernon, Al. 35592	32	1	164	130	79	0	1	4,240.00	729.06	869.28	2,082.40	173.84	35	7,597.37	21,508.34	85,000

Taylor Springs — Stanley Cooper, Chester Barker

Union Chapel — Cullen Collins, W. H. Clearman, James F. Maddox, Carlos Bradford

Vernon — B. E. Turner, P. N. Yerby, Titus Barnes, Eris Wilson, Max Turner, Paul Shelnut, Loyd Turner

NAMES OF DECEASED MINISTERS

Rev. W. T. Springfield, Rev. W. B. Taylor, Rev. W. R. Turman, Rev. Tom Butler, Rev. J. R. Robertson, Rev. M. D. McGee, Rev. J. R. Baker, Rev. W. B. Crawley, Rev. A. J. Brown, Rev. S. M. Perkins, Rev. T. G. Harrison, Rev. D. G. W. Hollis, Rev. J. W. Porter, Rev. T. M. Lollar, Rev. C. A. Chaffin, Rev. G. B. Taylor, Rev. A. Tate, Rev. E. A. Palmer, Rev. J. A. Isbell, Rev. M. E. Carpenter, Rev. T. J. Adair, 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 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 close of that session, with the outgoing clerk being responsible for the printing and distribution of the minutes.
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 associational 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 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. (A) 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.

(B) The association shall have an Executive Committee, consisting of the moderator, assistant moderator, clerk and four (4) members from the General Board.

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 close of that session, with the outgoing clerk being responsible for the printing and distribution of the minutes.
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.
14. The General Board along with the Credential Committee shall have power to grant letters to ministers leaving our association and to receive men into our association, reporting their action to the annual associational meeting, with their action being subject to final approval by the associational body.

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.

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." (I 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."

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: Credential, Digest, Business, Appreciation, Sunday School and C.T.S., Finance, Deceased Members, Temperance, Board of Christian Education, Executive
9. Call for Business Committee report.
10. Call for committee reports (See committees).
11. Final report of Business Committee.
12. Delegates to State Association
13. Corresponding delegates to other associations
14. Place for next setting of association
15. 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 Previous minutes.
6. Unfinished business.
7. Appointment of committees.
8. Acknowledgements.
9. Committee reports.
10. New business.
11. Adjournment.

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?

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?

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