

MINUTES
OF THE
NINETY-FIFTH SESSION

OF THE
VERNON FREE WILL
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Held With
Liberty Free Will Baptist Church
October 18, 1975

Moderator Rev. Billy R. Smith, Belk, Alabama
Assistant Moderator Rev. L. B. Nix, Vernon, Alabama

OFFICERS FOR 1976

Moderator Rev. Billy R. Smith, Belk, Alabama
Assistant Moderator Rev. L. B. Nix, Vernon, Alabama

The next session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association will be held with
Free Will Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, beginning at 9:00 A.M. on Saturday,
October 16, 1976.

OFFICERS FOR 1976

MODERATORREV. BILLY R. SMITH
P. O. Box 8905, Belk, Alabama 35545 – Telephone 932-3144

ASSISTANT MODERATOR..... REV. L. B. NIX
Route 2, Vernon, Alabama 35592 – Telephone 695-9840

CLERKRAPHAEL H. YERBY
P. O. Box 83, Fayette, Alabama 35555 – Telephone 932-4595

PROCEEDINGS

The ninety-fifth session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was held with the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church on October 18, 1975. Rev. Billy R. Smith served as moderator and Raphael Yerby served as clerk.

The meeting of the association opened with a welcome by the moderator and a song, "The Lily of The Valley," directed by Rev. L. B. Nix, with Sis. Ora Jordan at the piano. Rev. Byron Meyer offered the opening prayer.

The Welcome was given by the host pastor, Rev. Billy Buchanan.

The ninety-fifth session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was called to order by the moderator, Rev. Billy R. Smith. Bro. Robert Carter brought the morning devotional message using scripture from Revelation 3:15-22. Prayer was by the speaker.

A motion was entertained by Rev. Byron Meyer and seconded by Rev. Roy Barnes to adopt the printed program for this session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association. The vote carried.

A motion was made by Rev. Jerry Smith to enter into the Business session of this associational meeting.

The moderator called for a report of the Digest Committee. The report was given by Rev. Billy R. Smith, chairman. A motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee.

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 call was given for petitionary letters. The Free Will Chapel Free Will Baptist Church presented a letter requesting membership in the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association. Also Rev. Joe B. Ledlow requested membership in this association and presented a letter of recommendation from the Mississippi-Alabama State Line Free Will Baptist Association. (See Credential Committee Report).

Next we recognized visitors and invited visiting Brethren to seat with us. Those present at the time were:

Rev. Leander McAdams	Bro. Ottis Smith
Sister Leander McAdams	Bro. Troy Aken
Rev. J. B. Ledlow	Bro. Roy Crossley
Bro. Charles Yeilding	Bro. Coy Franks
Bro. Randall Tice	Bro. Edward Puckett
Bro. Edsel Gideon	Bro. Jack Pollard

A report of the Committee on Committees was given by Bro. Dewey Jordan and the various committees were appointed. (See List). A motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee.

The moderator called for a report of the General Board. The report was given by Raphael Yerby, association clerk. We had a motion, second and vote carried to table the report until the afternoon session, since it dealt with constitutional changes. (See Report).

The report of the Board of Christian Education was given by Rev. Billy Sharpston. A motion, second and vote carried to receive the report as information.

The moderator called for a report of the Temperance Committee. Bro. J. H. Thompson reported that the committee had asked Rev. Billy Sharpston to speak a few minutes on the subject of Temperance. Rev. Sharpston spoke using II Peter 1:6, Galatians 5:23, and Titus 1:8 as his scripture. A motion, second and vote carried to receive the report as information.

The moderator called for a report of the State Home Mission. Rev. Billy Sharpston, Board Member of the Alabama State Home Missions, gave a very interesting report. Rev. Sharpston reported on the three missions in Alabama, Decatur, Enterprise, and Mobile. A motion, second and vote carried to receive the report as information.

We had a congregational song, "Jesus Saves," directed by Rev. L. B. Nix with Sis. Jordan at the piano.

The moderator called for a report of the Credential Committee. The report was given by Rev. L. B. Nix. This was only a partial report and a final report would be given later. A motion, second and vote carried to receive the report.

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

The moderator called for a report of the Sunday School and C.T.S. Committee. The report was given by Sis. Arlene Meyer. A motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee.

The Deceased Members Committee report was given by Sis. Sarah McDaniel. A motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee. After this report the congregation stood in a moment of silent prayer and then Rev. J. B. Ledlow led in prayer in memory of those loved ones.

A report of the Appreciation Committee was given by Sis. Sandy Carter. A motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee.

We had another congregational song, "Amazing Grace," directed by Rev. Billy Sharpston with Sis. Jordan at the piano.

Next the moderator appointed Rev. Billy Buchanan to serve a five year term on the Credential Committee.

The moderator appointed a Committee on Committees for the 1976 associational year.

The moderator called for the election of one member to the Board of Christian Education. Bro. Carrol Gibson and Rev. Jerry Smith were nominated. Rev. Jerry Smith was elected to serve a three year term.

A final report of the Credential Committee was given by Rev. L. B. Nix. A motion, second and vote carried to receive the report.

Next the moderator appointed the Executive Committee for the 1976 associational year.

We selected a meeting place for the Youth Rally each month, October through May. The meeting places are:

October 1975 – Springfield	February 1976 – Liberty
November 1975 – Mt. Harmony	March 1976 – East Side
December 1975 – Free Will Chapel	April 1976 – Mt. Willing
January 1976 – Belk	May 1976 – Union Chapel

The Youth Rally meets at 7:00 p.m. the third Saturday night in each month except for the last meeting in May 1976. We had a motion from the floor, a second and vote carried that the Youth Rally competition be held on Friday and Saturday nights in May in place of Saturday afternoon and Saturday night.

Rev. M. H. Hollis and Rev. Billy R. Smith gave a very interesting report on the progress of the Northwest Alabama Free Will Baptist Youth Camp. Each church in the association was encouraged to make the First Sunday in November as Youth Camp Sunday and receive a special offering for the construction expense of the Youth Camp.

Delegates to the Alabama State Free Will Baptist Association were appointed next. They are:

Mr. Robert Carter	Mr. J. H. Thompson
Mrs. Robert Carter	Mrs. J. H. Thompson
Mr. Jack McLemore	Mrs. Robert Franks
Mrs. Jack McLemore	Mrs. Billy Sharpston
Mr. Russell Hudson	

Corresponding delegates to other associations were appointed by the moderator. They are:

Jasper Association

Rev. Billy R. Smith

Alabama-Mississippi State Line Association

Rev. Jerry Smith

Rev. Roy Barnes

Mt. Moriah Association

Rev. M. H. Hollis

Rev. Byron M. Meyer

Rev. W. D. Glasgow

Churches requesting the next setting of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association were recognized. Three churches, Vernon, Love Joy, and Free Will Chapel requested the next meeting of the association. We had a motion, second and vote carried to vote on these three churches. The body voted to hold the next session of this association at Free Will Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. It will be held on October 16, 1976.

We were dismissed for a short recess. The dismissal prayer was by Rev. L. B. Nix.

After a short intermission and a time of fellowship, a congregational song, "Heavenly Sunlight," was directed by Bro. Edsel Gideon with Sis. Ora Jordan at the piano. Prayer was by Rev. Dewey Thomas. We had several other songs, "Have Thine Own Way Lord," "At Calvary," and "When We All Get To Heaven," all directed by Bro. Edsel Gideon with Sis. Ora Jordan at the piano.

We received an offering in the amount of \$154.77 for the Northwest Alabama Free Will Baptist Youth Camp. The offertory prayer was by Rev. L. B. Nix.

The Key Note Message was brought at 11:00 a.m. by Rev. Richard Cordell, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Guin, Alabama. The subject of his message was "Church Growth Pattern," using Acts 2:41-47 as his scripture.

After a very interesting and challenging message we were dismissed for the noon hour by Rev. Robert Franks.

AFTERNOON SESSION

After a wonderful lunch, which everyone enjoyed, we convened at 1:00 p.m. with Bro. Edsel Gideon leading in singing, "Power In The Blood," with Sis. Jordan at the piano. Prayer was by Rev. Roy Barnes. Another song, "Kneel At The Cross," was directed by Bro. Gideon with Sis. Jordan at the piano.

Rev. Fred Graham brought the afternoon devotion using Philippians 4:13, II Corinthians 12:9 and Philippians 4:19 for his scriptures. Prayer was by the speaker.

We had a final report of the General Board by the clerk. A motion was made, second and vote carried to take the report off the table and vote on it item by item. A motion, second and vote carried to adopt the report.

The Ordination Service was held next. Bro. W. H. Clearman, Bro. Quineth Haney, and Bro. Fred Graham were ordained to preach the Gospel. Rev. M. H. Hollis delivered the Ordination Message using Romans 10:14-15 as his scripture. Rev. Roy Barnes gave The Charge. The Ordination Prayer was offered by Rev. L. B. Nix. The congregation was invited to come by and shake hands with the three preachers that were ordained and their wives. During this time of hand shaking we had two congregational songs, "Standing On The Promises" and "He Lives," directed by Bro. Bobby Joe Black and Sis. Alice Ann Corruth at the piano.

We had a motion by Rev. M. H. Hollis, with a second and vote carried, that the next session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association start at 9:00 a.m.

Bro. L. C. Steedly was re-elected to serve a three year term on the Board of Directors of the Northwest Alabama Free Will Baptist Youth Camp.

Nomination was opened for Moderator of the Association for the coming year. Rev. Billy R. Smith, Rev. M. H. Hollis, and Rev. Roy Barnes were nominated. Rev. Billy R. Smith was elected to serve as Moderator.

Nominations for Assistant Moderator was called for. Rev. L. B. Nix and Rev. J. B. Ledlow were nominated. Rev. L. B. Nix was elected to serve as Assistant Moderator.

Nomination was opened for Clerk of the Association. Raphael Yerby was elected to serve as Clerk.

The moderator called for nominations for Assistant Clerk of the Association. Regina 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. We were dismissed in prayer by Rev. Fred Graham.

Meeting adjourned.

CHURCHES AND DELEGATES AS LISTED

Beaverton — Sisters Mary Weeks, Liza Sizemore, and Emma Harris.

Belk — Sisters Iva Overton, Flora Gilreath, Lorene Jordan, Louise Ham, and Bro. H. L. Williams.

Davis Chapel — Sisters Eulene Moore, Lorene Pike, Babara Collins, and Roxie Pennington.

East Side — Sisters Louise Cooper, Edna Thompson, Ophelia Tilley, Arlene Meyer, and Bro. Charles Fowler.

Friendship — Sisters Laura Moore, Avis Cline, and Bro. Charles Newell.

Free Will Chapel — Sister Edna Smith, Bros. Dan Crossley, L. D. Hall, Belton Smith, and Buddy Gideon.

Liberty — Sisters Sue Hester, Eula Mae Dubose, Ora Seay Burnette, Lazelle Stewart, Lois Perkins, Bros. Wayne Dubose, Steve Butler, and Johnny Perkins.

Love Joy — Sister Betty Sue Nix, Bros. Troy Daw and Jack Callan.

Mt. Harmony — Sisters Linda Hayes, Winnie Hester, Ellie Huguley, Bros. L. C. Steedly and Prentiss Johnson.

Mt. Pleasant — Sisters Peggy Corbell, Clara Bush, Helen Chandler, and Bro. Curtis Corbell.

Mt. Willing — Sisters Sammie Lee Roberts, Brenda Quinn, Ethel Collins, Sadie M. White, Bros. Jim Collins and Floyd Collins.

Piney Grove — Sisters Gerna Mae Bobo, Alice Ann Carruth, Bros. Freddie Carruth, Guary Taylor, Troy Cole, and David Akers.

Springfield — Sisters Dean Rushing, Sara McDaniel, Bros. Jimmy McDaniel, Roy Ashby, and Carroll Gibson.

Taylor Springs — Sisters Charlene Cooper, Eunice Perkins, and Donna Brown.

Union Chapel — Sister Lois Duck, Sister Harvey Clearman, Bros. Benny Hardy, Ronald Atkinson, and Earnest Haynes.

Vernon — Sisters Sandy Carter, Beatrice Christian, Louise Shelnut, Docia Turner, Bros. Robert Carter, Russell Hudson, and Jack McLemore.

GENERAL BOARD

Beaverton - none listed
 Belk - Bro. Don Byars
 Davis Chapel - none listed
 East Side - Bro. Paul Jordan
 Friendship - Bro. Charles Newell
 Liberty - Bro. Bobby Joe Black
 Love Joy - Bro. Quineth Haney
 Mt. Harmony - Bro. Erbie Robertson

Mt. Pleasant - Bro. Raymond Brown
 Mt. Willing - Bro. Earl McDonald
 Piney Grove - Bro. Jerry Eastman
 Springfield - Bro. Dewey Jordan
 Taylor Springs - none listed
 Union Chapel - Bro. Benny Hardy
 Vernon - Bro. Jack McLemore

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:

Belk	East Side	Liberty
Beaverton	Free Will Chapel	Love Joy
Davis Chapel	Friendship	

COMMITTEES AND MEMBERS FOR 1975

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Bro. Grady Newman - 1976
 Bro. Pascal Yerby - 1977
 Rev. Roy Barnes - 1978
 Rev. M. H. Hollis - 1979
 Rev. Billy Buchanan - 1980

YOUTH CAMP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rev. Billy Sharpston - 1976
 Rev. Billy R. Smith - 1977
 Bro. L. C. Steedly - 1978

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND C.T.S. COMMITTEE

Sister Arlene Meyer
 Sister Sue Hester
 Bro. Curtiss Corbell

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE

Sister Edna Thompson
 Sister Sandy Carter
 Sister Ora Jordan

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Rev. Billy Sharpston - 1976
 Rev. Billy Buchanan - 1977
 Rev. Jerry Smith - 1978

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. Billy R. Smith
 Rev. L. B. Nix
 Bro. Raphael Yerby
 Bro. Bobby Joe Black
 Bro. Erbie Robertson
 Bro. Benny Hardy
 Bro. Jerry Eastman

DECEASED MEMBERS COMMITTEE

Sister Daisey Clearman
 Sister Sarah McDaniel
 Sister Lonie Fay Franks

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Bro. Jack Callan
Bro. Jimmy Collins
Sister Peggy Corbell
Bro. Freddie Carruth

DIGEST COMMITTEE 1976

Rev. Robert Franks
Sister Ora Seay Burnette
Bro. Wayne Dubose

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE 1976

Bro. Russell Hudson
Bro. Jimmy McDaniel
Bro. Charles Fowler

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES 1976

Bro. Robert Carter
Bro. Laren Williams
Bro. L. C. Steedly

GENERAL BOARD REPORT

We, the General Board make the following report:

- (1) We recommend that item number 16 of the By-Laws to read as follows:
The Vernon Free Will Baptist Associational Year shall begin on the first day of September and end on the last day of August each year and hold the annual meetings on Saturday before the Third Sunday in October of each year. M.S.C.
- (2) We recommend that each church set aside 2% of their total offerings for the expense of the Northwest Alabama Free Will Baptist Youth Camp and send the offerings to the treasurer of the Youth Camp, Rev. Woodrow Matthews, Route 2, Guin, Alabama 35563 once each month. M.S.C.
- (3) We recommend that each church pay \$50.00 per year associational dues for minute funds and association expenses. M.S.C.
- (4) We recommend that we add to Item number 3 of the Constitution to read as follows: No preacher shall be accepted or ordained in this association as a preacher who uses tobacco in any form. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted
Rev. Billy R. Smith, Chairman

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Appreciation Committee make the following report:

We wish to extend to the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church our heartfelt appreciation and sincere thanks for their kindness and hospitality shown us during our associational meeting on Saturday, October 18, 1975. We sincerely appreciate the delicious meal prepared for us by the ladies of the host church. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted
Sister Sandy Carter, chairman

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Finance Committee have examined the letters from our various churches and find that a total of \$580.00 was sent to this association as minute funds. There was no balance in the treasury from 1974. Our total estimated expenditures for 1975 is approximately \$547.96. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted
Jack Callan, chairman

COMMITTEE REPORT ON DECEASED MEMBERS

We, the Committee on Deceased Members report the following:

Beaverton	Bro. Robert Bobo
Belk	Bro. Garlan Belk
	Sister Madie Williams
	Sister Laura Gilreath
Davis Chapel.	Bro. Curt Moore
	Sister Mary Logan
	Sister Carrie Morris
	Bro. Edd Sanford
East Side	None
Friendship	None
Free Will Chapel	Bro. Bobby Merchant
Liberty	Sister Nora Fowler
Love Joy	None
Mt. Harmony	None
Mt. Pleasant	Sister Laurel Crossley
Mt. Willing	Sister Lillian Hollis
Piney Grove	Sister Lona Mae Reese
Springfield	Bro. Charles Hollis
	Bro. Ross Gunnels
Taylor Springs	Bro. Kelsie Barnes
Union Chapel	None
Vernon	Sister Gurlia Turner
	Sister M. V. Shelnut

Revelation 22:5 says, "And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light; and they shall reign for ever and ever. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted
Sister Sarah McDaniel, 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 1151 with an average attendance of 921. We show a gain of 50 in Sunday School over last year.

Our C.T.S. enrollment is 420 with an average attendance of 342. We have an increase in attendance of 54, but only 6 churches participating this year in C.T.S. Since this is training of leaders for tomorrow we encourage more churches to participate in C.T.S.

We would like to commend those churches who participated in Bible Bowl, Bible Tic-Tac-Toe, Sword Drill, Essay and Declamation, and Music and Arts. Some out of this association won the State competition and went on to win honors in the National competition.

Respectfully submitted

Arlene Meyer, chairman

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT

The Board this past year sponsored eight (8) 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 fourth annual C.T.S. Rally was held this past year with the First Free Will Baptist Church, Vernon, Alabama. The interest was keen for those who took part. Again, as in the last three years, we have had representatives in the State and National levels from our C.T.S. competition.

We pray that more of our churches will get involved. We urge the pastors to get behind their youth and support them in taking some part in the competition and their related activities. We have some fifteen (15) churches in our association, there is adequate room for improved participation.

If any member of this board can be of any help to any of the churches in getting started, please feel free to contact us.

Respectfully submitted

Rev. Billy Sharpston, chairman

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Credential Committee recommend that Free Will Chapel Free Will Baptist Church be accepted in full fellowship into the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association. M.S.C.

We recommend that Rev. Joe B. Ledlow be accepted in full fellowship into the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association. M.S.C.

We recommend that Rev. Quineth Haney be ordained to preach the Gospel. M.S.C.

We recommend that Rev. Fred Graham be ordained to preach the Gospel. M.S.C.

We recommend that Rev. Harvey Clearman be ordained to preach the Gospel. M.S.C.

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

We recommend that this association grant a letter of good standing to Rev. Ottis Parmer and recommend him to the Mississippi-Alabama State Line Association. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted

Rev. L. B. Nix, chairman

REPORT OF DIGEST COMMITTEE

Statistics

Church Membership

Resident ----- 1518

Non-Resident ----- 315

Total Membership ----- 1833

Members Received

By Baptism ----- 117

By Letter ----- 50

Total Members Received ----- 167

Members Lost

Lost to Non-Free Will Baptist Ch. --- 17

Total Members Lost ----- 74

Sunday School Enrollment ----- 1161

Average Attendance ----- 881

C.T.S. Enrollment ----- 425

Average Attendance ----- 342

Women's Auxiliary Enrollment ----- 18

Average Attendance ----- 10

Master's Men Enrollment ----- 15

Average Attendance ----- 10

Mid-Week Services

Average Attendance ----- 319

Evangelistic Outreach

Visitation ----- 8

Revivals ----- 15

Others ----- 4

Vacation Bible Schools ----- 9

Enrollment ----- 595

Average Attendance ----- 532

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION				Members Received	Members Dec.	Total Members	Number in Sunday School	Number in C. T. S.	Number in Ladies Auxiliary	Ordained Ministers
CHURCH	PASTOR	Pastor's Telephone	CLERK							
Beaverton	Rev. Bud Pugh Rt. 4 Hamilton, Al 35570		Marie Hayes P. O. Box 43 Beaverton, Al 35544	8	1	25	33	0	0	0
Belk	Rev. Billy R. Smith P. O. Box 8905 Belk, Alabama 35545	932-3144	Louise M. Ham Route 1 Kennedy, Alabama 35574	5	3	132	80	60	0	2
Davis Chapel	Rev. Charles Fowler Route 5 Fayette, Alabama 35555	932-6589	Louise Cannon Route 1, Box 98 Berry, Alabama 35546	5	4	89	64	0	0	0
East Side	Rev. Byron M. Meyer 4014 6th Street East Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401	553-4763	Karen M. Wyatt 440 26th Avenue East Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401	41	0	102	81	50	18	1
Free Will Chapel	Rev. Joe B. Ledlow Route 2 Sulligent, Alabama 35586	695-9144	Reedus Wheat Route 1 Vernon, Alabama 35592	4	1	128	—	—	—	2
Friendship	Rev. W. D. Glasgow Route 3, Box 696 Vernon, Alabama 35592	695-9849	Mrs. Martha Ford Route 1 Millport, Alabama 35576	2	0	47	35	0	0	0
Liberty	Rev. Billy Buchanan Route 2 Vernon, Alabama 35592	695-9400	Steve Butler Route 2 Vernon, Alabama 35592	16	1	237	112	65	0	2

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Page 12

Love Joy			Jerri Yielding Route 1 Beaverton, Alabama 35544	20	0	39	40	0	0	2
Mt. Harmony	Rev. M. H. Hollis 201 8th Street N.E. Vernon, Alabama 35592	695-7763	Erbie Robertson Route 3, Box 295 Vernon, Alabama 35592	6	0	126	103	55	0	2
Mt. Pleasant	Rev. Roy Barnes Route 1 Vernon, Alabama 35592	695-9229	Mrs. Weslie Kyzer Route 2, Box 14 Sulligent, Alabama 35586	10	1	63	46	0	0	1
Mt. Willing	Rev. Jerry Smith P. O Box 616 Vernon, Alabama 35592	695-7418	Sadie M. White Route 2, Box 468 Winfield, Alabama 35594	5	1	174	65	0	0	4
Piney Grove			Mrs. Freddie Carruth Box 294 Sulligent, Alabama 35586	17	1	146	90	0	0	2
Springfield	Rev. Robert D. Franks P. O. Box 473 Vernon, Alabama 35592	695-7556	Tommie L. Rushing Route 1, Box 217 Vernon, Alabama 35592	7	2	201	101	65	0	1
Taylor Springs	Rev. C. C. Berryhill Route 1 Greenwood Springs, Ms 38848	256-8225	Charlene Cooper Route 1 Beaverton, Alabama 35544	0	1	40	65	0	0	0
Union Chapel	Rev. L. B. Nix Route 2 Vernon, Alabama 35592	695-9840	James N. Bynum 622 East Columbus Street Fayette, Alabama 35555	2	0	129	80	0	0	3
Vernon	Rev. Billy Sharpston P. O. Box 582 Vernon, Alabama 35592	695-9730	Mrs. Paul Shelnut P. O. Box 57 Vernon, Alabama 35592	48	2	155	169	125	0	1

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Page 13

CHURCH	Paid Pastors	Paid Children's Home	Paid Missions	Paid Christian Education	Paid Association Dues	Paid For Improvements	Total Paid Out	Value of Church Property
Beaverton	1,440.00	58.80	0	0	35.00	212.25	2,951.96	5,000.00
Belk	8,478.00	300.00	187.00	180.00	40.00	193.00	20,864.00	112,000.00
Davis Chapel	754.27	197.00	0	0	50.00	5,200.00	6,820.63	22,200.00
East Side	5,775.00	728.75	100.00	0	35.00	1,146.57	19,149.41	100,000.00
Free Will Chapel	7,887.50	60.00	0	0	0	10,663.28	19,303.99	60,000.00
Friendship	465.00	0	0	0	30.00	0	1,433.00	16,000.00
Liberty	7,393.00	971.00	517.00	229.00	40.00	682.00	23,385.00	80,000.00
Love Joy	1,231.08	0	0	0	15.00	2,073.13	3,883.61	18,000.00
Mt. Harmony	9,725.00	0	0	0	50.00	15,059.50	35,174.68	25,000.00
Mt. Pleasant	1,624.50	0	762.26	0	40.00	0	2,494.76	25,000.00
Mt. Willing	3,470.00	520.00	487.00	0	50.00	1,271.00	7,271.00	15,000.00
Piney Grove	3,095.00	883.00	0	0	30.00	3,144.00	9,138.00	32,000.00
Springfield	6,120.00	995.95	28.38	28.37	35.00	999.38	13,359.88	35,000.00
Taylor Springs	2,460.39	0	0	0	30.00	2,800.00	6,410.39	18,000.00
Union Chapel	5,625.00	220.00	50.00	0	50.00	415.05	7,867.14	38,000.00
Vernon	7,800.00	1,463.00	1,501.00	296.00	50.00	3,220.00	32,596.00	200,000.00

Number of Ordained Ministers	18
Number of Licensed Ministers	9
Number of Students at Free Will Baptist Bible College	2
Number of students at other colleges	20
Pastor Employment	
Full Time Employment	5
No Outside Employment	9

Financial

Church Finance

Total Receipts	\$191,489.54
Amount Borrowed	10,500.00
Total Receipts	\$201,989.54

Spent for Local Causes

Pastor's Salary	\$ 73,434.74
Other Staff	900.00
Paid for Remodeling and Building	47,658.16
Debt Retirement	31,136.90
Other Local Expenditures	43,740.21
Total Spent for Local Causes	\$196,870.01

Spent for Outside Causes

Foreign Missions	\$ 1,561.19
Home Missions and Church Extension	2,071.45
Bible College	733.37
Retirement and Insurance	257.00
Children's Home	6,358.70
Total Spent for Outside Causes	10,981.71

Current Value of Parsonage Property	\$105,000.00
Current Value of Church Property	\$741,200.00
Church Indebtedness	\$126,655.46

Respectfully submitted
Rev. Billy R. Smith, chairman

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance from 1974	None
Minute Funds Received	\$580.00
Total	\$580.00
Expenditures	
Moderator	None

Assistant Moderator	None
Minutes	\$327.96
Clerk	50.00
Assistant Clerk	25.00
Postage and Supplies	15.00
State Association	110.00
Total Expenditures	\$527.96
Balance	\$ 52.04

Note: The Moderator, Rev. Billy R. Smith, donated his salary of \$10.00 and the Assistant Moderator, Rev. L. B. Nix, donated his salary of \$5.00 to the association.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PRESENT MINISTERS

Rev. S. F. Lee, Route 1, Guin, Alabama 35563
 Rev. C. A. Barnes, Route 1, Box 95-A, Brilliant, Alabama 35548
 Rev. T. C. Barnes, Sulligent, Alabama 35586
 Rev. Roy Barnes, Route 1, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. Frank Collins, Route 1, Guin, Alabama 35563
 Rev. Robert D. Franks, P. O. Box 473, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. W. D. Glasgow, Route 2, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. E. W. Graves, Route 2, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. M. H. Hollis, 201 8th Street, N.E., Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. V. R. Lay, Fayette, Alabama 35555
 Rev. Delmus Miller, Route 2, Winfield, Alabama 35594
 Rev. L. B. Nix, Route 2, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. Billy Sharpston, P. O. Box 582, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. J. W. Spencer, Route 2, Guin, Alabama 35563
 Rev. Billy Buchanan, Route 2, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. Byron Meyer, 4014 6th Street East, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401
 Rev. Billy R. Smith, P. O. Box 8905, Belk, Alabama 35545
 Rev. Jerry Smith, P. O. Box 616, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. Joe B. Ledlow, Route 2, Sulligent, Alabama 35586
 Rev. W. H. Clearman, Route 3, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. Fred Graham, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. Quineth Haney, Guin, Alabama 35563

LIST OF DEACONS

Beaverton — None

Belk — Raphael Yerby, Grady Newman, Dalton Gilpin, Roy Gilreath, Mackey Watkins

Davis Chapel — Raymond Gray, John D. Moore, Sr., E. D. Sanford, John Pike
East Side — J. H. Thompson, Bedford Hester, Paul Jordan, E. A. South, Richard
Dean, James Cooper
Friendship — James E. Price, Charles Newell
Free Will Chapel — Roy Franks, Charlie Elliot, Edsel Gideon, Edward Barnes,
Connie Smith
Liberty — R. T. Mixon, John Stewart, Arnold Hester, L. R. Dubose, Bobby J.
Black, Edd Collins, Willie J. Perkins
Love Joy — Coy Robertson, Quineth Haney, Herman Yielding
Mt. Harmony — S. L. Cash, Odis Robertson, O. B. Graham, Olen Wheeler, Erbie
Robertson, Coy Johnson, Derrell Wheeler
Mt. Pleasant — W. M. Cooper
Mt. Willing — A. J. McDonald, Jeff McDonald, H. E. McDonald, Earl McDonald,
Emmett Lee, Arbie Roberts, Elzie Guin, Obie Haney, Hoyt Chaffin
Piney Grove — C. E. Roberts, Arlander Shelnut, Elvada Markham, J. M. Chaffin,
Fred Barnes, Ozell Cantrell
Springfield — Dewey Jordan, J. A. Harper, Dempsey Langley, Haley Wright,
Tommie Rushing
Taylor Springs — Stanley Cooper, Gary Sizemore
Union Chapel — James E. Maddox, Carlos Bradford, Lamon Duckworth, Don
Freeman
Vernon — B. E. Turner, P. N. Yerby, Titus Barnes, Eris Wilson, Max Turner,
Paul Shelnut, Loyd Turner

NAMES OF DECEASED MINISTERS

Rev. J. W. 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, Rev. M. L. Hollis.

NAMES OF DECEASED DEACONS

L. A. Crowder, S. Y. Shelton, J. H. Cole, Lee Mixon, J. S. Crossley, J. D. Shel-
nut, Earnest Roberts, D. L. Markham, Joe L. McNease, Johnny Williams, Johnny
Collins, Dewitt Williams, J. G. Adair, Cullen Collins, Robert Bobo

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. No preacher shall be accepted or ordained in this association as a preacher who uses tobacco in any form.
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 on Saturday before the third Sunday in October each year 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.

BY - LAWS

1. The association shall be called to order and presided over by the officers elected at the last session.

2. The moderator shall appoint a Committee on Committees, whose duty is to appoint various committees at each session. Each committee to consist of from 3 to 5 members. (See list).

3. The officers shall be chosen 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. 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.
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 the permission of the moderator.
13. All Ordination of Ministers shall be done at the association while in regular annual session, by the ordaining council.
14. The General Board along with the Credential Committee, in special called session, shall have authority to grant letters to ministers leaving our association and to receive ministers into our association, provided they are a member of a church in our association, reporting their action to the annual associational meeting, with their action being subject to final approval by the associational body.
15. No person shall be ordained by this association as a preacher unless he has been licensed by his local church for at least one year.
16. The Vernon Free Will Baptist Associational Year shall begin on the first day of September and end on the last day of August each year and hold the annual meetings on Saturday before the third Sunday in October of each year.
17. The Executive Committee shall secure a speaker for the 11:00 o'clock message and plan the program for each annual session of the association.

BY-LAWS FOR THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

1. It is the duty of this board to promote the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association Youth Rally, and other related projects.
2. This board shall, along with the duly elected officers and the host pastor, plan the programs of the rallies each month.
3. The Board of Christian Education shall work with all churches in getting them involved in the Youth Rally work and other related projects.
4. The board shall act in advisory capacity to the elected officers of the Youth Rally.
5. The board shall consist of three (3) members, with the senior member in point of service being replaced each year.
6. The board shall be responsible each year for planning the District T-N-T Rally in May.

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 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. Committee as follows: Credential, Digest, Appreciation, Sunday School and C.T.S., Finance, Deceased Members, Temperance, Board of Christian Education, Executive.
9. Call for General Board report.
10. Call for committee reports. (See committees).
11. Final report of General Board.
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, infal-
 lible 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?