

Minutes
of the
Ninety-Seventh
Session
of the
Vernon Free Will
Baptist Association

held with
Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church

OCTOBER 15, 1977

ModeratorRev. M. H. Hollis, Vernon, Alabama

OFFICERS FOR 1978

ModeratorRev. M. H. Hollis, Vernon, Alabama

Assistant ModeratorRev. Edward Puckett, Sulligent, Alabama

The next session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association will be held with Sulligent Free Will Baptist Church, beginning at 9:00 A.M. on Saturday, October 14, 1978.

OFFICERS FOR 1978

MODERATOR.....REV. M. H. HOLLIS
208 - 8th Street N.E., Vernon, Alabama 35592
Telephone 695-7736

ASSISTANT MODERATOR.....REV. EDWARD PUCKETT
Route 1, Box 45-A, Sulligent, Alabama 35586
Telephone 698-8177

CLERK.....RAPHAEL H. YERBY
P. O. Box 83, Fayette, Alabama 35555
Telephone 932-4595

PROCEEDINGS

The ninety-seventh session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was held with Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church on October 15, 1977. Rev. M. H. Hollis served as moderator and Raphael H. Yerby served as clerk.

The meeting opened with a song, "Come Unto Me", directed by Rev. T. M. Scott. The opening prayer was offered by Bro. Raphael H. Yerby.

The Welcome was given by the host pastor, Rev. Larry Shotts.

The morning devotion was given by Rev. Byron Meyer, using Philippians 4:8-9 as his scripture. Prayer was by the speaker.

The ninety-seventh session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was called to order by the moderator, Rev. M. H. Hollis. The moderator welcomed everyone to this session of the association and used Psalm 133:1 in his opening remarks.

The moderator called for a report of the Digest Committee. The report was given by Bro. Reedus Wheat. 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.

At this time the Committee on Committees was dismissed by the moderator to complete their report and report back to the body.

The moderator called for petitionary letters. None were received.

Next we had a song, "The Love Of God", directed by Rev. Roy Barnes. Prayer was offered by Rev. Dennis Kizzire. We had another song, "Just A Little Talk With Jesus", directed by Bro. Barnes.

Next we recognized visiting brethren and invited them to seat with us during this session of the association. Those present were:

Rev. Roy Plyman
Rev. Charles Yielding
Bro. Dale Ford
Bro. E. T. Sargent
Rev. Larry Shotts
Bro. Jack Carter
Rev. Dennis Kizzire

The moderator asked for another song while we waited for the Committee on Committees' report. Rev. Roy Barnes directed the song, "I Never Shall Forget That Day". We had another song, "Victory In Jesus", directed by Bro. Barnes.

The moderator called for a report of the Committee on Committees. The report was given by Bro. James Price, chairman, and the various committees were appointed. (See List.) We had a motion, second, and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee.

Next the moderator appointed a Committee on Committees for the 1978 associational year. (See List.)

We were dismissed by the moderator for a short recess and for the various committees to make their reports. The dismissal prayer was offered by Rev. Robert Franks.

After a short intermission and time of fellowship, a congregational song, "I Have Found A Friend In Jesus", was directed by Bro. Dale Ford.

In the absence of all members of the Board of Christian Education and no report from this board, the moderator asked Rev. Robert Franks, who has worked very closely with this board, to give an oral report of the activities of the Board of Christian Education for this year. (See Reports.) A motion, second, and vote carried to receive the report as information.

The moderator called for a report of the Credential Committee. A partial report was given by Bro. Pascal Yerby, chairman. A motion, second, and vote carried to receive the report as a partial report.

The Deceased Member Committee report was given by Sister Kitty Taylor. A motion, second and vote carried to receive the report. After the report the congregation stood and sang "Precious Memories", directed by Rev. Roy Barnes, in memory of these loved ones.

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

Just before the 11:00 A.M. message we had a couple of congregational songs, "Amazing Grace" and "Revive Us Again", directed by Rev. Roy Barnes.

The Key Note Message was brought at 11:00 A.M. by Rev. Roy Plyman from the Mt. Moriah Association. The subject of his message was "Where There Is No Vision The People Perish" (Proverbs 29:18), using Isaiah 6:1-8 as his scripture text. Prayer was by the speaker.

After a very interesting message, we had a song of invitation, "Just As I Am", directed by Rev. Roy Barnes, and then we were dismissed for the noon hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION

After a delicious lunch, which everyone enjoyed, and the noon hour of fellowship, we convened at 1:00 P.M. with Rev. Roy Barnes leading a couple of congregational songs.

The moderator called for a report of the Temperance Committee. The report was given by Sister Verla Otts, using Galatians 5:22-25 for her scripture. A motion, second, and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee.

Next we had a report of the Finance Committee. The report was given by Bro. Dewey Jordan, Chairman. A motion, second, and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee.

The moderator called for a final report of the Credential Committee. The final report was given by Bro. Pascal Yerby, chairman. A motion, second, and vote carried to receive the report.

A report of the Appreciation Committee was given by Sister Sandra Williams. We had a motion, second, and vote carried to give the Piney Grove Church a rising vote of appreciation for their fine hospitality.

The moderator reported, as chairman of the General Board, that the Board did not have a report to make due to the fact that it did not have any new business to bring before the association. He then called for any items of business from the floor. None were offered.

Next, the moderator appointed the Executive Committee for the 1978 associational year.

Bro. Pascal Yerby was elected to serve a five year term on the Credential Committee.

The moderator called for nomination for one member to serve out the unexpired term of Rev. Billy Buchanan on the Credential Committee. Rev. Edward Puckett and Rev. Dennis Kizzire were nominated. Rev. Edward Puckett was elected to serve.

Next, the moderator called for nomination for one member to serve a three year term on the Youth Camp Board of Directors. Rev. Byron Meyer and Rev. Walter Jaggers were nominated. Rev. Walter Jaggers was elected to serve.

The moderator called for nomination for one member to serve a three year term on the Board of Christian Education. Rev. Dennis Kizzire and Rev. Fred Graham were nominated. Rev. Fred Graham was elected to serve. The moderator asked for nomination for one member to serve out the unexpired term of Rev. Charles Hollingshead on the Board of Christian Education. Rev. Byron Meyer, Rev. Larry Shotts, and Rev. Dennis Kizzire were nominated. Rev. Dennis Kizzire was elected to serve.

Next, the moderator called for the election of one member to serve a seven year term on the Youth Camp Committee. Rev. Byron Meyer and Rev. Milton Gann were nominated. Rev. Milton Gann was elected to serve. The moderator also called for the election of one member to serve out the unexpired term of Sister Shirley Sharpston on the Youth Camp Committee. Bro. Roger Lucas and Rev. Byron Meyer were nominated. Bro. Roger Lucas was elected to serve.

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

October, 1977 - Springfield
November, 1977 - Sulligent
December, 1977 - Piney Grove
January, 1978 - Free Will Chapel
February, 1978 - Belk
March, 1978 - Eastside
April, 1978 - Vernon
May, 1978 - Union Chapel

The Youth Rally meets at 7:00 P.M., the third Saturday night in each month except for the meeting in April, 1978. The Youth Rally Competition will be held on the third Friday and Saturday nights in April, 1978.

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

Mrs. T. M. Scott	Mrs. J. H. Thompson
Mrs. Jack McLemore	Mrs. Walter Jagers
Mrs. Dennis Kizzire	Mr. Charles Fowler

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

Alabama - Mississippi State Line Association

Rev. Roy Barnes
Rev. Edward Puckett
Bro. Olen Wheeler
Rev. Clarence Barnes
Bro. Roy Chandler

Mt. Moriah Association

Rev. Byron Meyer
Rev. M. H. Hollis

Progressive Association

Rev. Walter Jagers
Mrs. Walter Jagers

The moderator called for election of officers for the next year. First, nomination was opened for moderator of the association for the coming year. Rev. M. H. Hollis was elected to serve as moderator.

Nomination was opened for assistant moderator for the next year. Rev. Byron Meyer, Rev. Fred Graham, and Rev. Edward Puckett were nominated. Rev. Edward Puckett was elected to serve as assistant moderator.

The moderator called for nomination for clerk of the association. Bro. Raphael Yerby was elected to serve the association as clerk.

Nomination was opened for assistant clerk of the association. Regina Yerby was elected to serve as assistant clerk.

Churches requesting the next setting of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association were recognized. Eastside Church, Vernon Church, and Sulligent Church all requested the next meeting of the association. The body voted to hold the 1978 session of this association at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Sulligent. The meeting will be held October 14, 1978.

We had a motion, second, and vote carried to adjourn this session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association. We had a song, "Glad Reunion Day", directed by Rev. Roy Barnes. We were dismissed in prayer by Bro. Roger Lucas.

Meeting adjourned.

CHURCHES AND DELEGATES LISTED

- BEAVERTON - Sisters Mary Weeks, Emma Harris and Nora Smith.
 BELK - Sisters Lovie Jagers, Lorene Jordan, Lois Howard, Flora Gilreath and Bro. H. L. Williams.
 DAVIS CHAPEL - Sisters Eulene Moore, Lorene Pike, and Jessmer Nelson.
 EASTSIDE - Sisters Edna Thompson, Arlene Meyer, Estelle Miller, Bros. Charles Fowler and Robert Miller.
 FREE WILL CHAPEL - Sisters Lona Elliott, Sandra Carter, Bros. Albert Elliott, Robert Carter and Reedus Wheat.
 FRIENDSHIP - Sisters Lura Moore, Avis Cline and Agatha Reynolds.
 LIBERTY - Sisters Janice Sorrells, Amelia Jane Black, Kay Dubose, Sula Gann, Loree Christain, Ida Belle Perkins, Lois Perkins, Bros. Roy Perkins and Steve Butler.
 LOVE JOY - Sisters Shirley Berryhill, Sara Taylor, and Bro. Robert Taylor
 MT. HARMONY - Sister Peggy Gault, Bros. Prentess Johnson and Clyde Motes.
 MT. PLEASANT - Sister Judy Outz, Bros. George Outz, Raymond Brown and Hollis Chandler.
 MT. WILLING - Sisters Sammie Roberts, Margie Lee, Carol Sue Lynn, Bros. Harkins Garrison, Jim Collins, Roger Rye and Larry Meharg.
 PINEY GROVE - Sisters Gera Mae Bobo, Rosa Robertson, Annette Eastman, Edna Markham, Lucille Chaffin, Bros. Danny Atkinson, and George Gilland.
 SPRINGFIELD - Sisters Ora Jordan, Delan Rushing, Linda Ashby, Sandra Williams, Bros. Carroll Gibson and Roy Ashby.
 SULLIGENT - Sisters Robbie Birmingham, Elsie Boyett, Kitty Taylor, Margaret Price, Bros. Snowball Taylor, James Price and David Clifton.
 TAYLOR SPRINGS - Sisters Eunice Perkins, Shelia Perkins, and Bro. David Hankins.
 UNION CHAPEL - Sisters Joyce Hardy, Daisey Clearman, Lucille Bradford and Bro. Bennie Hardy.
 VERNON - Sisters Helen McLemore, Paulette Scott, Beatrice Christian, Louise Shelnut, Bros. Jack McLemore, Roger Lucas, Mike Rogers and Sister Pascal Yerby.

GENERAL BOARD

- BEAVERTON - None Listed
 BELK - Bro. Don Byars
 DAVIS CHAPEL - None Listed
 EASTSIDE - Bro. Paul Jordan
 FREE WILL CHAPEL - Bro. Reedus Wheat
 FRIENDSHIP - Bro. Randy Junkin
 LIBERTY - Bro. Bobby Joe Black
 LOVE JOY - Bro. Gary Berryhill
 MT. HARMONY - Bro. Erbie Robertson
 MT. PLEASANT - Bro. Raymond Brown
 MT. WILLING - None Listed

PINEY GROVE - None Listed
SPRINGFIELD - Bro. Dewey Jordan
SULLIGENT - None Listed
TAYLOR SPRINGS - Bro. Gary Sizemore
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.

BEAVERTON
BELK
DAVIS CHAPEL
EASTSIDE

FREE WILL CHAPEL
FRIENDSHIP
LIBERTY
LOVE JOY

COMMITTEE AND MEMBERS FOR 1977

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Rev. Roy Barnes - 1978
Rev. M. H. Hollis - 1979
Rev. Edward Puckett - 1980
Bro. Dewey Jordan - 1981
Bro. Pascal Yerby - 1982

YOUTH CAMP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bro. L. C. Steedley - 1978
Rev. M. H. Hollis - 1979
Rev. Walter Jagers - 1980

DIGEST COMMITTEE 1978

Sister Elsie Boyett
Sister Kitty Taylor
Sister Dorothy Giddeon

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND C.T.S. COMMITTEE

Bro. Roger Lucas
Sister Margaret Price
Bro. Harkins Garrison

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN

EDUCATION

Rev. Jerry Smith - 1978
Rev. Dennis Kizzire - 1979
Rev. Fred Graham - 1980

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. M. H. Hollis
Rev. Edward Puckett
Bro. Raphael Yerby
Bro. Bobby Joe Black
Bro. Reedus Wheat
Bro. Paul Jordan
Bro. Jack McLemore

DECEASED MEMBERS COMMITTEE

Sister Kitty Taylor
Sister Amelia Jane Black
Bro. Reedus Wheat

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Bro. Dewey Jordan
Sister Annette Eastman
Sister Eulene Moore

YOUTH CAMP COMMITTEE

Bro. L. C. Steedley - 1978
 Bro. Robert Carter - 1979
 Bro. Roger Lucas - 1980
 Sis. L. C. Steedley - 1981
 Rev. M. H. Hollis - 1982
 Sis. Lonie Fay Franks - 1983
 Rev. Milton Gann - 1984

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE

Sister Sandra Williams
 Sister Lovie Jagers
 Sister Janice Sorrells

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE 1978

Bro. Robert Carter
 Bro. Bobby Joe Black
 Sister Benny Hardy

COMMITTEE ON

COMMITTEES 1978

Bro. James Price
 Rev. Edward Puckett
 Rev. L. B. Nix

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Appreciation Committee make the following report:

We wish to extend to the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church our sincere appreciation for the warm hospitality and fellowship, and give a rising vote of thanks for the delicious meal.

We also want to praise the Lord for the way the business was carried out in a Christian manner and the wonderful message that was a real blessing and challenge to each of us. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted
 Sister Sandra Williams

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Finance Committee have examined the letters from our various churches and find that a total of \$815.00 was sent to this association as minute funds. There is a balance in the treasury from 1977 of \$175.81. Our total estimated expenditures for 1978 is \$620.00. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted
 Bro. Dewey Jordan

COMMITTEE REPORT ON DECEASED MEMBERS

We, the Committee on Deceased Members report the following:

BEAVERTON - Bro. George Harris
 BELK - Bro. S. L. Moore
 DAVIS CHAPEL - None

EASTSIDE - None
FRIENDSHIP - None
FREE WILL CHAPEL - None
LIBERTY - Sis. Minnie Perkins
LOVE JOY - None
MT. HARMONY - Sis. Frances Fields, Bro. J. T. Mitchell
MT. PLEASANT - Sis. Mary Atkins, Bro. Burris Cowart
MT. WILLING - Sis. Velma Burnette, Sis. Kate Vaughn, Bro. Hoyt Chaffin, Bro. James Underwood, Rev. S. F. Lee
PINEY GROVE - Bro. Bob Simmons
SPRINGFIELD - Sis. Gertrude Gunnels, Bro. Dempsey Langley
SULLIGENT - None
TAYLOR SPRINGS - None
UNION CHAPEL - Mrs. James Maddox
VERNON - Sis. Polly Hudson, Bro. Pat Murphy

This committee recommends that we use the examples of these loved ones to encourage us to follow their examples. M.S.C.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND C.T.S. COMMITTEE REPORT

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

Our Sunday School enrollment is 1,302, with an average attendance of 1,146. We show a decrease of 13 members enrolled but a gain of 6 in the average attendance.

Our C.T.S. enrollment is 374 with an average attendance of 378. We show a decrease in enrollment of 119 people. We show a decrease in average attendance of 47 people.

We would like to encourage more of our churches to start a C.T.S. program and we ask that all churches that have a C.T.S. to promote the program in every way possible. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted
Roger Lucas, chairman

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT

Rev. Robert Franks was asked to give an oral report for the Board of Christian Education. Bro. Franks gave a very informative report of the activities of the Board of Christian Education. He encouraged every church and every member to support and attend the Youth Rallies, and to be a good example before our young people. He also reported on a very successful Summer Youth Camp this last year and encouraged every one to work, attend and support our Youth Camps. M.S.C.

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Credential Committee are happy to recommend the acceptance into the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association of Rev. Thomas M. Scott, Rev. Milton Gann, Rev. Doyle Chandler, Rev. Dennis Kizzire, and Rev. Larry Shotts.

Each of these ministers come to us with a letter of good standing from their respective associations.

We also recommend that each minister of the Vernon Association be given a card of good standing for the coming year. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted
Bro. Pascal Yerby, chairman

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Because of the freedom of immorality of the day in which we live, we as Christians should recognize a good opportunity to teach and practice temperance in all things. Temperance should be taught in our churches, our work and manifested in the lives of all people.

Galatians 5:22-25

Verse 22, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith."

Verse 23, "Meekness, temperance, against such there is no law."

Verse 24, "And they that are Christ's have crucified the affections and lust."

Verse 25, "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit."

REPORT OF DIGEST COMMITTEE

Statistics

Church Membership

Resident.....	1878
Non-Resident.....	269
Total Membership	2147

Members Received

By Baptism	70
By Letter.....	115
Total Members Received	185

Members Lost

Lost to Non - Free Will Baptist Churches	9
Total Members Lost	75

Sunday School Enrollment

Number Enrolled.....	1302
Average Attendance	1146

C.T.S. Enrollment

Number Enrolled	374
Average Attendance	378

Women's Auxiliary Enrollment

Number Enrolled.....	12
Average Attendance	9

Master's Men Enrollment

Number Enrolled.....	14
Average Attendance	8

Mid - Week Service

Average Attendance	296
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Evangelistic Outreach

Visitation	8
Revivals	14
Others.....	4

Vacation Bible Schools

Enrollment.....	448
Average Attendance	651

Number of Ordained Ministers	19
Number of Licensed Ministers.....	6
Number of Students at Free Will Baptist Bible Colleges.....	3
Other Colleges	14

Pastors

Full Time Employment	3
No Outside Employment	5
Part - Time Employment	3

Financial

Church Finances

Total Receipts, Tithes, and Offerings	\$258,003.16
Amount Borrowed.....	22,154.96
Total Receipts	\$328,902.54

Spent For Local Causes

Pastor's Salary	\$ 96,637.81
Other Staff	2,700.00
Paid for Remodeling and Buildings	69,062.75
Debt - Retirement	40,371.65
Other Local Expenditures	62,248.26
Total Spent For Local Causes	\$278,435.17

Spent For Outside Causes

Executive Offices	\$ 64.40
Foreign Missions	3,890.06
Retirement and Insurance Board	283.93
Other National Ministries	50.00
Free Will Baptist Bible College	2,698.32
Home Missions	3,479.14
Designated District or State Ministries	7,557.02
Total Spent For Outside Causes	\$ 19,627.25

Respectfully submitted
Leon Sizemore, chairman

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance from 1976	\$175.81
Minute Funds Received	\$815.00
Total	\$990.81
Expenditures	
Moderator	\$ 10.00
Clerk	50.00
Assistant Clerk	25.00
Minutes	390.00
State Association	120.00
Postage and Supplies	30.00
Total Expenditures	\$625.00
Balance	\$365.81

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

CHURCH	PASTOR	PASTOR'S TELEPHONE	CLERK	Members Received	Members Deceased	Total Members	Number In Sunday School	Number in C.T.S.	Number In Ladies Auxiliary	Ordained Ministers
BEAVERTON	Rev. Bud Pugh Route # 4 Hamilton, Ala. 35570	921-3994	Emma Harris P. O. Box 43 Beaverton, Ala. 35544	4	1	30	40	0	0	0
BELK	Rev. Walter D. Jagers P. O. Box 31 Belk, Ala. 35545	932-3144	Rosa Lea Atkins P. O. Box 45 Belk, Ala. 35545	10	1	137	90	60	0	1
DAVIS CHAPEL			Pat Sanford Route # 5, Box 193 Northport, Ala. 35476	8	0	98	64	0	0	1
EASTSIDE	Rev. Byron M. Meyer 4014-16th Street East Tuscaloosa, Ala. 35401	553-4763	Karen M. Wyatt 440-26th Ave. East Tuscaloosa, Ala. 35401	10	0	134	65	50	12	1
FREE WILL CHAPEL	Rev. L. B. Nix Route 2 Sulligent, Al. 35586	695-9840	Reedus Wheat Route # 1 Vernon, Ala. 35592	11	0	143	120	0	0	1
FRIENDSHIP	Rev. James C. Newell Vernon, Ala. 35592	695-6101	Lura Moore Route # 1 Steens, Miss. 39766	1	0	58	20	0	0	2
LIBERTY	Rev. Milton Gann Route 2 Vernon, Ala. 35592	695-9400	Steve Butler Route # 2 Fayette, Ala. 35555	10	1	231	130	70	0	1

LOVE JOY	Rev. Charles Yielding Route # 1 Hamilton, Ala. 35570	921-4428	Ellie Ruth Mixon Route # 1 Beaverton, Ala. 35544	12	0	60	50	0	0	3
MT. HARMONY	Rev. M. H. Hollis P. O. Box 183 Vernon, Ala. 35592	695-7736	Erbie Robertson Route 3, Box 295 Vernon, Ala. 35592	10	2	128	99	43	0	1
MT. PLEASANT	Rev. Roy Barnes Route # 1 Vernon, Ala. 35592	695-9229	Peggy Corbell Route # 1 Caledonia, Miss. 39740	2	2	72	47	0	0	1
MT. WILLING	Rev. Doyle Chandler Route # 5 Hamilton, Ala. 35570	921-4872	Malene Collins P. O. Box 604 Winfield, Ala. 35594	3	5	174	60	0	0	2
PINEY GROVE	Rev. Larry Shotts Route # 3, Box 104-B Hamilton, Ala. 35570	921-3002	Mrs. Danny Atkinson Route # 1, Box 85-A Guin, Ala. 35563	5	1	144	100	50	0	3
SPRINGFIELD	Rev. Dennis Kizzire Route # 3 Vernon, Ala. 35592	695-6354	Tommie Rushing Route # 1, Box 217 Vernon, Ala. 35592	25	1	213	77	45	0	2
SULLIGENT	Rev. Edward Puckett Route # 1, Box 45-A Sulligent, Ala. 35586	698-8177	Margaret Price P. O. Box 681 Sulligent, Ala. 35586	23	0	142	80	60	0	1
TAYLOR SPRINGS	Rev. C. C. Berryhill Route # 1 Greenwood Springs, Ms. 38848	256-8225	Christine Sizemore Route # 3, Box 80 Sulligent, Ala. 35586	24	0	90	60	0	0	0
UNION CHAPEL	Rev. Fred Graham Route # 2 Vernon, Ala. 35592	695-9631	James E. Maddox Route # 2 Vernon, Ala. 35592	3	1	119	75	0	0	1
VERNON	Rev. Thomas M. Scott P. O. Box 582 Vernon, Ala. 35592	695-9730	Mrs. Paul Shelnut P. O. Box 57 Vernon, Ala. 35592	24	1	174	135	91	0	1

CHURCH	Paid Pastors	Paid Childrens Home	Paid Missions	Paid Christian Education	Paid Association Dues	Paid For Improvements	Total Paid Out	Value Of Church Property
BEAVERTON	2,742.00	25.00	0	0	50.00	206.80	5,033.80	15,000.00
BELK	8,375.00	278.98	634.55	317.53	50.00	0	25,275.53	125,000.00
DAVIS CHAPEL	1,516.40	175.00	100.00	100.00	50.00	0	3,496.89	22,200.00
EASTSIDE	7,100.00	966.00	386.40	193.20	35.00	0	21,240.00	120,000.00
FREE WILL CHAPEL	8,790.00	487.35	515.29	171.87	50.00	9,591.00	26,410.74	90,000.00
FRIENDSHIP	0	41.01	0	0	30.00	0	808.23	14,000.00
LIBERTY	10,359.00	709.00	1,302.00	695.00	50.00	0	22,987.00	118,000.00

LOVE JOY	1,899.79	0	82.15	0	50.00	0	10,841.90	65,000.00
MT. HARMONY	11,375.00	0	165.00	473.77	50.00	0	26,071.12	25,000.00
MT. PLEASANT	2,600.00	50.00	0	0	50.00	0	4,176.77	25,000.00
MT. WILLING	5,400.00	269.88	0	0	50.00	0	6,995.50	20,000.00
PINEY GROVE	5,000.00	915.00	480.00	10.00	50.00	7,375.00	16,020.00	50,000.00
SPRINGFIELD	6,900.00	414.83	166.02	255.93	50.00	0	21,741.79	35,000.00
SULLIGENT	9,100.00	481.02	962.04	481.02	50.00	50,000.00	71,064.13	140,000.00
TAYLOR SPRINGS	3,205.62	303.00	0	0	50.00	1,000.00	5,408.62	20,000.00
UNION CHAPEL	5,525.00	120.00	0	0	50.00	0	7,756.95	70,000.00
VERNON	6,750.00	1,846.29	2,786.93	0	50.00	889.95	33,682.23	200,000.00

NAME AND ADDRESSES OF PRESENT MINISTERS

Rev. Roy Barnes, Route 1, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. T. C. Barnes, Sulligent, Alabama 35586
 Rev. Frank Collins, Route 1, Guin, Alabama 35563
 Rev. M. H. Hollis, P. O. Box 183, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. W. D. Glasgow, Route 2, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. Robert D. Franks, P. O. Box 473, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. Delmus Miller, Route 2, Winfield, Alabama 35594
 Rev. L. B. Nix, Route 2, Sulligent, Alabama 35586
 Rev. J. W. Spencer, Route 2, Guin, Alabama 35563
 Rev. Byron Meyer, 4014-6th Street East, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401
 Rev. Jerry Smith, P. O. Box 616, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. W. H. Clearman, Route 3, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. Fred Graham, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. Quineth Haney, Guin, Alabama 35563
 Rev. Charles Fowler, Route 5, Fayette, Alabama 35555
 Rev. Edward Puckett, Route 1, Box 45-A, Sulligent, Alabama 35586
 Rev. Walter D. Jagers, Belk, Alabama 35545
 Rev. Charles Hollingshead, 3705-29th St., Northport, Alabama 35476
 Rev. James C. Newell, Route 1, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. Herman Yielding, Route 1, Beaverton, Alabama 35544
 Rev. Thomas M. Scott, P. O. Box 582, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. Milton Gann, Route 2, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. Doyle Chandler, Route 5, Hamilton, Alabama 35570
 Rev. Larry Shotts, Route 3, Box 104-B, Hamilton, Alabama 35570
 Rev. Dennis Kizzire, Route 3, Vernon, Alabama 35592

LIST OF DEACONS

BEAVERTON - Robert Bobo, Bud Woods, Roland White.
 BELK - Raphael Yerby, Grady Newman, Dalton Gilpin, Roy Gilreath, Mackey Watkins
 DAVIS CHAPEL - Raymond Gray, John Pike, Belton Nelson.
 EASTSIDE - J. H. Thompson, Bedford Hester, Paul Jordan, E. A. South, Richard Dean, James Cooper.
 FREE WILL CHAPEL - Charlie Elliott, Sr., Edsel Gideon, L. D. Hall, Daniel Franks
 FRIENDSHIP - James E. Price.
 LIBERTY - Bobby J. Black, L. R. Dubose, Willie J. Perkins, Roy Guyton, Wayne Sorrells.
 LOVE JOY - Coy Robertson.
 MT. HARMONY - S. L. Cash, Olen Wheeler, Odis Robertson, O. B. Graham, Coy Johnson, Erbie Robertson, Derrell Wheeler.
 MT. PLEASANT - Hollis Chandler, W. M. Cooper.
 MT. WILLING - A. J. McDonald, Jeff McDonald, H. E. McDonald, Earl McDonald, Arlie Roberts, Emmett Lee, E. O. Shelnut, Elzie Guin, Obie Haney.
 PINEY GROVE - Elvada Markham, Arlanda Shelnut, J. M. Chaffin, C. E. Roberts, Fred Barnes, Ozell Cantrell, Jerry Eastman, Tommie Robertson.

SPRINGFIELD - Dewey Jordan, J. A. Harper, Haley Wright, Tommie Rushing.
SULLIGENT - Ray Birmingham, Clarence Birmingham, Hezzie Harrison, Richard Mansell, John Q. Boyett.
TAYLOR SPRINGS - Gary Sizemore, Stanley Cooper.
UNION CHAPEL - James E. Maddox, Carlos Bradford, Lamon Duckworth, Don Freeman.
VERNON - B. E. Turner, P. N. Yerby, Titus Barnes, Eris Wilson, Loyd Turner, Paul Shelnut.

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. J. A. Isbell, Rev. G. B. Taylor, Rev. A. White, Rev. E. A. Palmer, Rev. M. E. Carpenter, Rev. T. J. Adair, Rev. J. Barnes, Rev. K. V. Shutes, Rev. B. J. Tittle, Rev. M. L. Hollis, Rev. E. W. Graves, Rev. S. F. Lee.

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. McNees, Johnny Williams, Johnny Collins, Dewitt Williams, J. G. Adair, Cullen Collins, John D. Moore, Sr., R. D. Franks, Hoyt Chaffin, and Dempsey Langley.

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(a). 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.

9(b). No member of this association shall be eligible to serve as moderator of the association until he has been a member of the association for at least two (2) years.

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 shall 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.

15(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 distributing 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 rules 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.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **The Bible.** The Scripture of the Old and New Testament 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, Preservor, 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.
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 effected all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

8. **The Terms of Salvation.** The conditions of salvation are: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Saviour and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the domination of sin, and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

9. **Election.** God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

10. **Freedom of 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 has prospered him." (I Cor. 16:2).

15. **The Lord's Day.** The devine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works, and activities and for personal communion with God.

16. **Resurrection, Judgement, and Final Retribution.** The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but righteous into eternal life."

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.

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.

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?

