

**ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH
SESSION**

of the

**VERNON FREE WILL
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

held with

**LIBERTY FREE WILL BAPTIST
CHURCH**

1984 Minutes

OFFICERS FOR 1984
ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH SESSION

MODERATOR..... REV. THOMAS M. SCOTT
ASSISTANT MODERATOR..... REV. EDWARD PUCKETT
CLERK..... BRO. RAPHAEL YERBY

The next session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association will be held with Love Joy Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday, March 16, 1985. The annual session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association will be held with Mt. Harmony Free Will Baptist Church, beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 19, 1985.

OFFICERS FOR 1985

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

ASSISTANT MODERATOR..... REV. M. H. HOLLIS
P. O. Box 183, Vernon, Alabama 35592
Telephone.....695-7736

CLERK..... BRO. RAPHAEL YERBY
Route 3, Box 6, Fayette, Alabama 35555
Telephone.....932-4595

PROCEEDINGS

The one hundred and fourth session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was held with the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church on October 20, 1984. Rev. Thomas M. Scott served as moderator, Rev. Edward Puckett served as assistant moderator, and Bro. Raphael Yerby served as clerk.

The meeting opened with a song, "Sunlight," directed by Bro. James Dunbar. The opening prayer was by Rev. Edward Puckett. We had two more songs, "Love Lifted Me" and "He Keeps Me Singing," directed by Bro. James Dunbar and prayer by Rev. M. H. Hollis.

We were welcomed to Liberty Free Will Baptist Church by the host pastor, Rev. Milton Gann. The response was given by Bro. Pascal Yerby of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Church.

We had another song, "Amazing Grace," directed by Bro. Dunbar.

The morning devotion was brought by Rev. Dickie Dees, pastor of the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, using Luke 19:13, Hebrews 10:23-25, and Revelation 12:12 as his scripture. His subject was "Occupy Until I Come." Prayer was by the speaker.

The one hundred and fourth session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was called to order by Bro. Raphael Yerby, clerk of the association.

The moderator gave a special welcome to everyone to this session of the association. He used Psalm 126:1-6 as his scripture in his opening message to the association. His subject was "Winning Souls." Prayer was by the speaker.

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

We had a report of the Digest Committee by Bro. Robert Carter, chairman of the committee. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee.

The moderator called for petitionary letters. None were received.

The moderator recognized visiting brethren and invited them to seat with us during this session of the association. Those present were Rev. Harvey Luke, Rev. Jim Martin, and Rev. Eugene Waddell.

Next we had a report of the Committee on Committees by Rev. Billy Wilson, chairman, and the various committees were appointed. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee.

We had a report of the Board of Christian Education by Bro. James Dunbar, chairman of the board. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report as information.

We had a report of the Vernon District Woman's Auxiliary by Sister Elwanda Oakes. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report as information and to place the report in our minutes.

We were dismissed by the moderator for a short recess and time of fellowship, and the various committees were dismissed to make their reports. The dismissal prayer was by Rev. Thomas Scott.

After recess we had a song, "Shall We Gather At The River," directed by Bro. James Dunbar. Prayer was by Rev. Jim Martin.

We had another song, "All That Thrills My Soul," directed by Bro. Dunbar.

We received a special offering to help pay the expense of our guest speaker. The offeratory prayer was by Rev. Charles Fowler.

Just before the 11:00 a.m. message we had a special in song, "Leaving On My Mind," by Sister Nina Gann of the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church.

The key note message was brought at 11:00 a.m. by our guest speaker, Rev. Eugene Waddell, Associate Director of Foreign Missions of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Nashville, Tennessee. His scripture was I Corinthians 15:33-34. His subject was "Spiritual Alarm Clock." Prayer was by the speaker.

After a very challenging message, we had a song of invitation directed by Bro. James Dunbar.

We were dismissed for the noon hour. The dismissal prayer and the blessing of the food was by Rev. M. H. Hollis.

AFTERNOON SESSION

After a delicious and bountiful lunch that everyone enjoyed and the noon hour of fellowship, we convened back at 1:00 p.m. to finish the business of the association. We had two songs, "Follow On," and "Stand Up For Jesus," directed by Bro James Dunbar. Prayer was by Rev. L. B. Nix.

The afternoon devotion was brought by Rev. Jerry Smith of Free Will Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, using I Corinthians 1:17 and 2:4 as his scripture text. Prayer was the by the speaker.

The moderator called for a report of the Credential Committee. The report was given by Rev. Milton Gann, chairman of the committee. The report was given item by item. Each item of the report was adopted by the body.

Next, we had a report of the Finance Committee by Bro. Steve Butler, chairman of the committee. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and to discharge the committee.

The Sunday school and C.T.S. Committee report was given by Sister Lois Dubose, chairperson. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and to discharge the committee.

The moderator called for a report of the Deceased Members Committee. The report was given by Bro. Robert Carger, chairman. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and to discharge the committee and that we stand and have a moment of silent prayer

and sing "Precious Memories" in memory of these loved ones.

We had a report of the Temperance Committee. An interesting report was given by Sister Paulette Scott, chairperson. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report as information and discharge the committee.

We had a report of the Youth Camp Board of Directors by Rev. M.H. Hollis. The report was of the conditions and needs of the youth camp. The report was received as information.

The moderator called for a report of the Appreciation Committee. The report was given by Sister Elwanda Oakes, chairperson. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report, discharge the committee and give the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church a rising vote of appreciation for their fine hospitality.

We had a report of the General Board by Bro. Raphael Yerby, clerk of the association. One item was for information to the body of action the board had taken during the year. We had one item to be acted on by the body. This item was adopted.

A committee was appointed by the moderator to plan the first Vernon Free Will Baptist Association Thanksgiving service. Those appointed were: Rev. M. H. Hollis, Rev. Billy Wilson, and Bro. James Dunbar. The service will be held at Springfield Free Will Baptist Church on Tuesday night, November 20, 1984 at 7:00 p.m.

the moderator appointed Rev. Edward Puckett to serve a five year term on the Credential Committee.

The moderator called for the election of one member to serve a five year term on the Board of Christian Education. Bro. James Dunbar was elected to serve on this board.

We then elected one member to serve out the one (1) year unexpired term of Rev. Willard Pless on the Board of Christian Education. Rev. L. B. Nix was elected to serve this term.

The moderator called for the election of one member to serve a three (3) year term on the Youth Camp Board of Directors. Rev. Dickie Dees was elected to serve on this board.

We elected one member to serve out the one (1) year unexpired term of Rev. Willard Pless on the Youth Camp Board of Directors. Rev. Dennis Kizzire was elected to serve this term.

Delegates to the Alabama State Association were appointed next. Those appointed were:

Bro. Robert Carter
Sister Sandra Carter
Sister Paulette Scott
Sister Ambers Aldridge
Bro. Lewis Hindman
Sister Jane Hindman

Bro. James Dunbar
Sister Dorothy Hollis
Sister Glenda Wilson
Sister Sue Yerby
Bro. Raphael Yerby

The moderator shall have power to appoint any others from our association as delegates that are attending the State Association.

Corresponding delegates to other associations were appointed next.
State Line Association:

Rev. Edward Puckett

Rev. Ambers Aldridge

Rev. Jerry Smith

Rev. Delmus Miller

A place was chosen for the next two (2) meetings of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association. Love Joy Church requested the March meeting. The body voted to hold the March, 1985 meeting at Love Joy Free Will Baptist Church. This meeting will be on Saturday, March 16, 1985.

Mt. Harmony Free Will Baptist Church and Belk Free Will Baptist Church both requested, by letter, to host the annual session of the association in 1985. The body voted to hold this meeting at Mt. Harmony Free Will Baptist Church. The meeting will be on Saturday, October 19, 1985.

The moderator called for the elections of officers of the association for the next year. First was the nomination for moderator of the association for next year. Rev. M. H. Hollis and Rev. Edward Puckett were nominated. Rev. Edward Puckett was elected to serve as moderator.

Next, nomination was opened for assistant moderator. Rev. M. H. Hollis was the only nominee and was elected by acclamation to serve as assistant moderator.

Nomination for clerk of the association was opened next. Bro. Raphael Yerby was the only nominee and was elected by acclamation to serve as clerk of the association.

We had a motion from the floor, by Rev. Don Taggart, to send a letter to all the churches asking them to send the names of their delegates for the annual meeting in October to the chairman of the Committee on Committees before the March, 1985 meeting, so the Committee on Committees can appoint the various committees at the March meeting to make their reports at the annual meeting in October.

We had 160 people that signed the register for the association meeting and several others that did not get their names on the register.

We had a motion, second and vote carried to adjourn this session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association. We were dismissed in prayer by Rev. Howard Simmons.

Meeting adjourned.

The first semi-annual meeting of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was considered to be a very successful meeting. Free Will Chapel Free Will Baptist Church hosted this meeting on Saturday, March 17, 1984. We had a good attendance for this meeting. We had a lot of good singing, fine preaching and good Christian fellowship.

Rev. Harold A. Pitts, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Tuscaloosa was the key note speaker. He brought a very inspiring message on "Revival," using II Chronicles 7:14 as his scripture.

We all enjoyed a delicious lunch at the noon hour served by the Free Will Chapel church.

CHURCHES AND DELEGATES AS LISTED

BEAVERTON - Bro. Joe Mack Weeks and Sister Bettie Conner.

BELK - Sisters Sue Yerby, Dee Williams, Glenda Wilson, Ora Mae Overton, Bros. Laren Williams and Lamar Overton.

COOPER - Bro. Tim Graben, Sisters Nelda Kizzire, Gail Rye, Shela Graben, Lena Mae Rye.

DAVIS CHAPEL - Sisters Nelson, Pike, Pennington, Moore, Betty Gray and Bro. Leland Fulmer.

DEPRIEST CHAPEL - Sisters Sheila Wise, Patricia Turman, and Mary Ann Easter.

EASTSIDE - none listed.

FREE WILL CHAPEL - Bros. Jim Davis, Wallace Harris, W. G. Stanford, Sisters Barbara Smith, Sue Stanford, and Pebble Davis.

FRIENDSHIP - Sister Lura Moore.

LIBERTY - Bros. Steve Butler, Bill Lanier, Lloyd Dubose, Roy Perkins, Terry Dubose, Sisters Lois Dubose, Loree Christain, Louise Couch, Sula Gann, Louise Price, and Jo Nina Lanier.

LOVE JOY - Sisters Laura Carter, Linda Barnes, Alisa Barnes and Sara Taylor.

MT. HARMONY - Sisters Frances Beasley, Kay Steedley, Carla Hamilton, Natalie Cantrell, Nina Otts, and Helen Robertson.

MT. PLEASANT - Bro. Don Parker and Sister Mary Parker.

MT. WILLING - Bros. Lucion Flynn, Roger Rye, Sonny Campbell, Sisters Audra Flynn, Dorothy Rye, Debra Campbell and Margie Lee.

PINEY GROVE - Bros. Clyde Weeks, Troy Cole, Sisters Sally Cole and Carol Barnes.

SPRINGFIELD - Sisters Ruby Wright, Sandra Williams, Joyce Gibson, Margie Hall and Bro. Richard Johnson.

SULLIGENT - Sisters Alice Ann Carruth, Sandra Carter, Una Pennington, Lessie Mae White, Mattie Lou Crosby, Robbie Birmingham, Brenda Lucas, Kittee Taylor, Bros. Robert Carter and James Dunbar.

TAYLOR SPRINGS - Bro. J. C. Young and Sister Eunice Perkins

TUSCALOOSA - Bros. Denny Atcherson, Trim Guy, Denny Atcherson, Jr., and Sister Leona Guy.

UNION CHAPEL - Sisters Lucille Bradford, Carol Claudus, Bros. Vic Claudus, Dean Maddox and Claudus Collins.

VERNON - Sisters Elwanda Oakes, Beatrice Christian, Frances Moore, Ina Yerby, Mildred Gilmore, Fay Lucas, Avis Hall, Paulette Scott, Linda Richards, Louise Shelnut, Ollie Wilson, Chapel Barnes, Jean Dubose, Frances Christian, Bros, Clyde Motes and Nobel Christian.

GENERAL BOARD

BEAVERTON - None Listed

BELK - Bro. Lewis Hindman

COOPER - Rev. Dennis Kizzire

DAVIS CHAPEL - None Listed.

DEPRIEST CHAPEL - Bro. Joe P. Hollis

EASTSIDE - Bro. Adolph South

FREE WILL CHAPEL - Bro. Jerry Mays

FRIENDSHIP - None Listed.

LIBERTY - Bro. Bobby Joe Black

LOVE JOY - Bro. Guary Taylor

MT. HARMONY - Bro. Leonard Corbett

MT. PLEASANT - Bro. Gary Springfield

MT. WILLING - Bro. Lucion Flynn

PINEY GROVE - Bro. Tommy Robertson

SPRINGFIELD - Bro. Gene Pennington

SULLIGENT - Bro. Quinton Boyett

TAYLOR SPRINGS - None Listed

TUSCALOOSA - Bro Denny Ray Johnson

UNION CHAPEL - Bro. Bennie Hardy

VERNON - Bro. Zadus Turner, Jr.

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 annual session of the association.

Mt. Harmony

Mt. Pleasant

Mt. Willing

Piney Grove

Springfield

Sulligent

Taylor Springs

Tuscaloosa

Union Chapel

Vernon

COMMITTEE AND MEMBERS FOR 1984

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Rev. Thomas M. Scott - 1985
Bro. Bobby Joe Black - 1986
Bro. Pascal Yerby - 1987
Rev. Harold A. Pitts - 1988
Rev. Edward Puckett - 1989

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND
C. T. S. COMMITTEE

Sister Lois Dubose
Sister Shelia Wise
Sister Gail Rye
Sister Linda Barnes

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Bro. Steve Butler
Bro. Wallace Harris
Sister Sue Yerby
Sister Bettie Conner

DECEASED MEMBERS
COMMITTEE

Bro. Robert Carter
Sister Frances Beasley
Bro. Lucion Flynn
Sister Joyce Gibson
Bro. Troy Cole

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION

Rev. L. B. Nix - 1985
Rev. Dennis Kizzire - 1986
Rev. Don Taggart - 1987
Rev. Billy Wilson - 1988
Bro. James Dunbar - 1989

YOUTH CAMP COMMITTEE

All pastors of the Vernon
Association.

COMMITTEE ON
COMMITTEES, 1985

Rev. M. H. Hollis
Rev. Dexter Guin
Rev. Fred Graham

DIGEST COMMITTEE 1985

Bro. Richard Johnson
Bro. Clyde Weeks
Bro. Tim Graben
Sister Pebble Davis
Sister Robbie Birmingham

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE

Sister Elwanda Oakes
Sister Sandra Carter
Sister Margie Lee

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

Sister Paulette Scott
Sister Dorothy Rye
Sister Sandra Williams
Bro. W. G. Stanford

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. Edward Puckett
Rev. M. H. Hollis
Bro. Raphael Yerby
Bro. Zadus Turner, Jr.
Bro. Bennie Hardy
Bro. Tommie Robertson
Bro. Lewis Hindman

YOUTH CAMP BOARD
OF DIRECTORS

Rev. Dennis Kizzire - 1985
Rev. M. H. Hollis - 1986
Rev. Dickie Dees - 1987

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND C.T.S. COMMITTEE REPORT

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

Our Sunday School enrollment is 1,618, with an average attendance of 1,288. We show an increase of 190 members in enrollment and an increase of 127 members in average attendance.

Our C.T.S. enrollment is 663, with an average attendance of 558. Our C.T.S. enrollment is down by 112 and the average attendance is down by 38. We had eight churches without a C.T.S. program last year. We are down by one more, with nine churches not having a C.T.S. program this year. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,
Sister Maggie Lois Dubose
-Chairperson

GENERAL BOARD REPORT

We, the General Board, met on September 17, 1984, at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Vernon. We make the following report and recommendations to the association:

- I. We discussed ways to raise the \$2,000.00 that we have been asked to raise to help pay the expense of the National Association to be held in Birmingham in 1987. We had a motion and second vote to send a letter to all the churches of our association asking them to send \$100.00 each, or what they could send to the association meeting to pay this expense.
- II. We discussed having a Vernon Association Thanksgiving service. We recommend that we have an association Thanksgiving service on Tuesday night before Thanksgiving. We also recommend that the moderator appoint three (3) people to plan the meeting and secure the speaker and have a mass choir from all the churches of the association. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Thomas Scott - Chairman

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Finance Committee wish to make the following report:

A total of \$1,169.00 was send in by our churches as dues this associational year. There was a balance remaining from last year of \$291.42. Total expenses for last associational year were \$1,311.76. A balance remains of \$148.66.

A total of \$726.88 was paid in to the Board of Christian Education of which the associational clerk is to disburse according to the various needs of the Board of Christian Education. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Butler, chairman

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Temperance Committee, would encourage you through Christ as written in Galatians 5:22-23, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness and faith; meekness, temperance against such there is no law", to live a pure and righteous life before the world.

We remind you as Free Will Baptists, as stated in our covenant, "We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusement, and unholy conformity to the world, and from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages and to provide things honest in the sight of all men." M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,
Sister Paulette Scott - Chairperson

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your Credential Committee make the following report:

We have examined the following men of God who have petitioned our association for membership and recommend their acceptance into our association, pending a letter of good standing from their respective associations:

Rev. Louie B. Nix, coming from North Mississippi Association and assuming pastorate of the Mt. Harmony Free Will Baptist Church.

Rev. Dickie Dees, coming from the Progressive Association to pastor the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church.

Rev. Charles Fowler, coming from the Jasper Association to pastor the Mt. Willing Free Will Baptist Church.

Rev. Jim Martin, coming from the Jasper Association and assuming pastorate of the Union Chapel Free Will Baptist Church.

We also request a letter of good standing and recommendation be granted to Rev. Milton Gann from the Vernon Association to the North Alabama Association to pastor the First Free Will Baptist Church of Decatur, Alabama.

We also unanimously agree the following exhortation to be passed along as word of exhortation:

Be it exhorted that, where as the use of tobacco is proven to be harmful to one's health, and to use it would be defiling the body which is the temple of the Holy Spirit, and whereas the same scriptural qualifications pertain to the deacon as to the minister, and according to our constitution, the use of tobacco is forbidden for the minister, that the same restrictions be applied to the deacon. Be it further exhorted, those who serve as deacons in our churches at the present time either stop the use of it or resign his office. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Milton Gann, chairman

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE

We, the Appreciation Committee, make the following report:

We appreciate the fellowship, sweet spirit and the work for the Lord by our moderator, assistant moderator, clerk, delegates, and all committees of our association that have made this, our 104th annual meeting of the Vernon Association a successful meeting.

We thank the Liberty Church for their warm hospitality and for the delicious noon meal. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,
Sister Elwanda Oakes, Chairperson

COMMITTEE REPORT ON DECEASED MEMBERS

We, the Committee on Deceased Members make the following report:

BEAVERTON - Bro. Raymond Reed and Bro. Roland White

BELK - Sister Lorene Jordan, Sister Iva Newman, Sister Erdeal Gilreath

COOPER - None

DAVIS CHAPEL - Bro. John Pike

DEPRIEST CHAPEL - None

EASTSIDE - None

FREE WILL CHAPEL - Bro. William Pennington

FRIENDSHIP - Sister Agathen Reynolds, Bro. Willette Sudduth, Bro. Anthem Ford

LIBERTY - Sister Vera Barnes, Bro. Chelsea Poore, Bro. William Collins

LOVE JOY - None

MT. HARMONY - Sister Glindale Barnes

MT. PLEASANT - None

MT. WILLING - Bro. Jim Collins, Bro. Granville Haney, Bro. Emmit Shelnut, Bro. Jeff McDonald

PINEY GROVE - Bro. Carlos Roberts, Sister Rigia Woods, Sister Alice Williams, Sister Edna Haney, Bro. Buford Dykes, Rev. Frank Collins

SPRINGFIELD - Bro. Cladus Mason, Bro. Travis Pennington, Sister Amanda Jordan

SULLIGENT - Bro. Loyd Weeks, Bro. John Gosa

TAYLOR SPRINGS - None

TUSCALOOSA - None

UNION CHAPEL - Sister E. W. Graves

VERNON - Sister Kittie Carpenter (Although Sister Avis Graves was a member of Union Chapel Church, our church would like to recognize her faithfulness during the years she attended our church. We do this in memory of Mrs. Graves.)

We recommend that we stand and have a moment of silent prayer and sing "Precious Memories," in memory of these loved ones. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,
Bro. Robert Carter - Chairman

VERNON DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY REPORT

The Vernon District Woman's Auxiliary has had a busy but good year fulfilling its purpose and aim of "promoting missions in our churches," and enjoying fellowship among its 68 members.

We praise God that Springfield, First Free Will Baptist in Tuscaloosa, and Union Chapel auxiliaries joined our district at our sixth annual meeting in March. We encourage other auxiliaries from churches in our association to join the Vernon District, too.

Some of the things we were able to accomplish this past year as a district were:

1. We sponsored a missionary banquet in January at Lamar County High School Cafetorium with 173 people attending. Mrs. Janie Aldridge was the guest speaker. A \$100.00 love offering was given to Janie and \$285.00 was given to the Aldridge account after expenses were paid.
2. We helped other Alabama auxiliary women make quilts, afghans, pillows, dollas, wall hangings, etc. for the Missionary Provision Closet in Nashville.
3. We sent \$179.00 through State Project monies to Home account (Mike and Vicki Mutchler are home missionaries to Oregon.)
4. We send \$179.00 through State Project monies to Home missions and \$936.48 to Foreign Missions.
5. We sent \$235.00 for October Missions offering to the Rodney Outlaw - Micky Kirkland accounts.
6. We sponsored study courses in local auxiliaries.
7. Twenty-one women from our district attended the National Prayer Retreat at Ridgecrest, N.C. September 6-8, 1984. We heard outstanding speakers, including former missionaries Mabel Willey and Laura Belle Barnard.
8. Forty-one women and missionary guests attended the first Tri-district Prayer Retreat at Yampertown September 28-29, 1984, sponsored by Vernon, Mt. Moriah, and Jasper Districts. A love offering of \$45.17 was given to Mrs. Janie Aldridge. All money left over after bills are paid will go to the Aldridge account.
9. Thirty-six delegates from six auxiliaries and nine visitors attended the sixth annual district meeting at First Free Will Baptist Church in Vernon in March.
10. We sponsored two annual seasons of prayer in local

churches. Our pre-Thanksgiving offering to home missions was \$100.27 and the pre-Easter offering was \$36.00 to foreign missions.

11. Ten dollars was sent to the General Fund of the Free Will Baptist Bible College and to the Student Loan Fund.
12. Other monies sent were:

| | |
|---|------------|
| WNAC General Fund (Emphasis Month)... | \$ 34.77 |
| WNAC Co. Laborer Offering..... | \$ 40.00 |
| Children's Home..... | \$ 62.00 |
| Superannuation (Retired Ministers)..... | \$ 91.82 |
| Local Church Activities..... | \$2,074.00 |
| Auxiliary Literature and Supplies..... | \$ 196.73 |
| Special offering for food - State Meeting.... | \$ 5.00 |

Our total cash disbursements for 1983-1984 were \$4,109.07 and non-cash disbursements to Children's Home, Missionary Provision Closet, etc. was \$476.50. The Lord knows the total value in souls won as a result of our efforts as "co-laborers together with God." (I Cor 3:9a)

We are now beginning to look forward to January and to the second auxiliary-sponsored Missions Banquet the Saturday night before the Missions Conference.

Our seventh annual district meeting will be at Piney Grove on March 30, 1985. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. and the meeting will start at 10:00 a.m.

Our district auxiliary would like to thank Sister Pat Pless for over two years of leadership as president. She was presented a certificate of appreciation at the Tri-district Prayer Retreat.

If any auxiliary or church would like more information about our district organization, please contact me. Let me again encourage you to become a member of the Vernon District Auxiliary.

Pray for our district and for our officers that we may always do the Lord's will.

Respectfully submitted,

Sister Elwanda Oakes, president

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Executive Committee met on September 17, 1984 to plan the program and secure a speaker for the 104th session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association. The committee voted to ask Rev. Dickie Dees to have the morning devotion and ask Rev. Jerry Smith to have the afternoon devotion. We also voted to ask Bro. James Dunbar to be in charge of the music for the day.

We had a motion, second and the committee voted to invite Rev. Eugene Waddell, from the National Foreign Missions Department, to be our guest speaker for the 11:00 a.m. worship service. The committee also voted to receive an offering at the association meeting and pay our

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. Phillip Miles Route 3 Winfield, Ala. 35594 | 487-6047 | Mrs. Dianne Cole Route 2 Guin, Ala. 35563 | 4 | 2 | 40 | 43 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| BELK | Rev. Billy Wilson P. O. Box 31 Belk, Ala. 35545 | 932-3144 | Rosa L. Atkins P. O. Box 45 Belk, Ala. 35545 | 3 | 3 | 143 | 108 | 60 | 22 | 1 |
| COOPER | Rev. Dennis Kizzire Route 1 Detroit, Ala. 35552 | 921-2440 | Mrs. Lena Mae Rye Route 6, Box 72-B Hamilton, Ala. 35570 | 19 | 0 | 264 | 91 | 70 | 23 | 1 |
| DAVIS CHAPEL | Rev. Billy L. Garrett P. O. Box 282 Oakman, Ala. 35579 | 622-3812 | Miss Donna Cannon Route 1, Box 300 Berry, Ala. 35546 | 5 | 1 | 87 | 25 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| DEPRIEST CHAPEL | Rev. Fred Graham P. O. Box 435 Vernon, Ala. 35592 | 695-9631 | Gene Wise P. O. Box 132 Gattman, Miss. 38844 | 0 | 0 | 66 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| EASTSIDE | Rev. Jerry Montgomery Route 3, Box 107 Northport, Ala. 35476 | 339-4202 | Mrs. Betsy Phillips 515 - 24th Ave. East Tuscaloosa, Ala. 35404 | 11 | 0 | 146 | 65 | 45 | 10 | 1 |
| FREE WILL CHAPEL | Rev. Jerry Smith Route 2, Box 54 Sulligent, Ala. 35586 | 695-6119 | Mrs. Dorothy Gideon P. O. Box 101 Vernon, Ala. 35592 | 19 | 1 | 157 | 120 | 66 | 22 | 1 |
| FRIENDSHIP | Rev. James C. Newell P. O. Box 109 Vernon, Ala. 35592 | 695-6101 | Mrs. Lura Moore Route 2, Box 481 Millport, Ala. 35576 | 0 | 3 | 48 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| LIBERTY | Rev. James Doherty Route 2 Vernon, Ala. 35592 | 695-9400 | Steve Butler Route 2, Box 74P-2 Fayette, Ala. 35555 | 5 | 3 | 244 | 90 | 65 | 13 | 3 |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|--|----------|---|----|---|-----|-----|-----|----|---|
| LOVE JOY | Rev. Don Taggart Route 1, Box 158 Vernon, Ala. 35592 | 695-7546 | Mrs. Ellie Ruth Mixon Route 1 Beaverton, Ala. 35544 | 2 | 0 | 71 | 70 | 0 | 12 | 2 |
| MT. HARMONY | Rev. L. B. Nix Vernon, Ala. 35592 | 695-9480 | Erbie Robertson Route 3, Box 407 Vernon, Ala. 35592 | 18 | 1 | 130 | 62 | 40 | 0 | 1 |
| MT. PLEASANT | Rev. Lloyd Vail P. O. Box 535 Vernon, Ala. 35592 | 695-9583 | Mrs. Theresa Allen Route 2, Box 185 Sulligent, Ala. 35586 | 1 | 0 | 87 | 51 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| MT. WILLING | Rev. Charles Fowler Route 5, Box 194 Fayette, Ala. 35555 | 932-6589 | Mrs. Audra Flynn Route 1, Box 66 Guin, Ala. 35563 | 0 | 4 | 155 | 40 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| PINEY GROVE | Rev. Dickie Dees P. O. Box 4 Guin, Ala. 35563 | 468-3638 | Mrs. Jackie Atkinson P. O. Box 563 Winfield, Ala. 35594 | 21 | 6 | 142 | 47 | 37 | 10 | 3 |
| SPRINGFIELD | Rev. M. H. Hollis P. O. Box 183 Vernon, Ala. 35592 | 695-7736 | Roy Ashby Route 1, Box 221 Vernon, Ala. 35592 | 6 | 3 | 261 | 100 | 75 | 10 | 2 |
| SULLIGENT | Rev. Edward Puckett Route 1, Box 45A Sulligent, Ala. 35586 | 698-8177 | Mrs. Kittie L. Taylor Route 1, Box 54 Sulligent, Ala. 35586 | 17 | 2 | 265 | 239 | 75 | 20 | 1 |
| TAYLOR SPRINGS | Rev. C. C. Berryhill Greenwood Springs, Miss. 38848 | 256-8225 | Mrs. Cathy Sorrells Route 1 Beaverton, Ala. 35544 | 1 | 0 | 53 | 55 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TUSCALOOSA | | | Edward L. McCool 25 Coventry Tuscaloosa, Ala. 35404 | 4 | 0 | 116 | 92 | 15 | 12 | 1 |
| UNION CHAPEL | Rev. Jim Martin Route 2, Box 169A Guin, Ala. 35563 | 468-2649 | James E. Maddox Route 2 Vernon, Ala. 35592 | 8 | 1 | 90 | 35 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| VERNON | Rev. Thomas M. Scott P. O. Box 582 Vernon, Ala. 35592 | 695-9730 | Miss Elwanda Oakes P. O. Box 351 Vernon, Ala. 35592 | 6 | 1 | 282 | 159 | 100 | 19 | 1 |

| CHURCH | Paid Pastor | Other Local Expenditures | Paid Missions | Paid Christian Education | Paid Assoc. Dues | Paid For Improvements | Total Paid Out | Value Of Church Property |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| BEAVERTON | 2,477.00 | - | - | 35.00 | 30.00 | - | 2,542.00 | 50,000.00 |
| BELK | 12,125.00 | 17,355.00 | 2,254.00 | 1,588.00 | 75.00 | - | 33,522.00 | 210,000.00 |
| COOPER | None Reported | | | | 50.00 | | | |
| DAVIS CHAPEL | 1,980.75 | 4,598.49 | - | - | 50.00 | - | - | 70,000.00 |
| DEPRIEST CHAPEL | 3,380.00 | 2,450.00 | - | - | 75.00 | 150.00 | 6,055.00 | 37,000.00 |
| EASTSIDE | 8,915.00 | 23,208.00 | 1,339.00 | 2,497.00 | 40.00 | 2,102.00 | 38,221.00 | 150,000.00 |
| FREE WILL CHAPEL | 14,465.68 | 20,638.80 | 1,202.99 | 3,543.30 | 75.00 | 10,584.95 | 50,752.00 | 150,000.00 |
| FRIENDSHIP | - | 889.91 | - | - | 30.00 | - | 919.91 | 20,000.00 |
| LIBERTY | 12,320.00 | 15,511.00 | 3,093.00 | 981.00 | 75.00 | - | 50,381.00 | 250,000.00 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|-----------|----------|----------|-------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| LOVE JOY | 6,619.17 | 2,077.83 | 890.00 | 1,236.55 | 75.00 | 2,442.08 | 16,189.71 | 100,000.00 |
| MT. HARMONY | 14,625.60 | 11,424.54 | 1,705.00 | - | 75.00 | 36,095.22 | 63,925.36 | 95,000.00 |
| MT. PLEASANT | 3,120.00 | 125.00 | - | - | 50.00 | - | 4,175.00 | - |
| MT. WILLING | 5,400.00 | 4,454.56 | - | 100.00 | 75.00 | - | 10,029.56 | 60,000.00 |
| PINEY GROVE | None Reported | | | | 50.00 | | 80,000.00 | |
| SPRINGFIELD | 18,332.57 | 4,418.98 | 923.00 | - | 50.00 | 9,046.93 | 51,424.05 | 180,000.00 |
| SULLIGENT | 17,925.00 | 30,671.67 | 3,229.56 | 1,797.96 | 75.00 | - | 72,695.07 | 160,000.00 |
| TAYLOR SPRINGS | 1,854.00 | - | - | - | 19.00 | - | - | 55,000.00 |
| TUSCALOOSA | None Reported | | | | 75.00 | | | 75,000.00 |
| UNION CHAPEL | 7,125.00 | 4,956.64 | - | - | 50.00 | - | 12,131.64 | 45,000.00 |
| VERNON | 15,600.00 | 37,666.42 | 7,285.21 | 1,453.69 | 75.00 | - | 89,731.87 | 259,000.00 |

guest speaker \$200.00 for his expenses.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Thomas M. Scott - Chairman

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT

The Christian Education Board did several things during the past year that proved to be a success with our people. God blessed us with the finest youth in all of Free Will Baptist.

The board held its last meeting on the 16th of October to discuss this past year's accomplishments and to plan for future events. The board would like to make the following recommendations:

- I. The board would like to recommend that this coming year we have the following meetings:
 - November, 1984..... Youth Retreat
 - February, 1985 Senior Banquet
 - February, 1985..... Youth Banquet
 - April, 1985..... Area Wide Crusade
 - April, 1985..... Youth Competition
 - June, 1985..... Junior and Senior Camps
- II. The board would like to make the recommendation that there be a change in the time allotted for the choosing of a camp director. We recommend that the change be from, "preachers meet sixth days before the youth camps," to the "preachers meet sixty days after the October associational meeting."

We, the board, owe a lot of thanks and appreciation to the parents and adults of our association for all they have done to make this past year a great one. If it was not for them, then none of these things could have ever been accomplished.

FINANCIAL REPORT 1983-1984

INCOME:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|
| First Church - Tuscaloosa..... | \$ 253.23 |
| First Church - Sulligent..... | \$1,669.05 |
| Belk F.W.B. Church..... | \$ 433.72 |
| Free Will Chapel F.W.B. Church..... | \$ 262.37 |
| Mt. Harmony F.W.B. Church..... | \$ 275.00 |
| Union Chapel F.W.B. Church..... | \$ 10.00 |
| Youth Retreat Fees..... | \$ 328.00 |
| Valentine Banquet Tickets..... | \$ 377.55 |
| Competition Fees..... | \$ 675.00 |
| Camp Concessions..... | \$ 633.13 |
| Camp Fees..... | \$2,460.68 |
| TOTAL INCOME..... | \$7,377.73 |

EXPENDITURES:

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Paid to Camp from income | \$ 772.76 |
| Youth Retreat | \$ 305.56 |
| Valentine Banquet | \$ 522.86 |
| Stamps. | \$ 40.00 |
| Competition: | |
| Judges | \$ 95.00 |
| Awards and Material | \$ 251.92 |
| Fees to State | \$ 455.00 |
| Youth Camp: | |
| Food | \$1,739.52 |
| Insurance | \$ 265.20 |
| Printing | \$ 53.50 |
| Mailing | \$ 23.76 |
| Recreation | \$ 62.02 |
| Literature | \$ 14.56 |
| Rent on Camp | \$ 400.00 |
| Evangelist | \$ 500.00 |
| Supplies | \$ 200.00 |
| Canteen Expense | \$ 593.41 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | \$6,285.15 |
| Total Camp Expenses | \$3,852.05 |

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$ 558.53 |
| Receipts (all income | \$7,377.73 |
| Total to Account For | \$7,936.26 |
| Less Expenditures | \$6,285.15 |
| Bank Balance | \$1,651.11 |

| | |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| JUNIOR CAMP | TEEN CAMP: |
| Boys..... 32 | Boys..... 15 |
| Girls..... 33 | Girls..... 16 |
| Staff..... 20 | Staff..... 14 |
| Total..... 85 | Total..... 45 |
| | Respectfully submitted, |
| | Bro. James Dunbar - Chairman |

DIGEST COMMITTEE REPORT

STATISTICS:

| | |
|--|----|
| Number of Ordained Ministers | 25 |
| Number of Licensed Ministers | 9 |
| Number of Deacons | 88 |
| Number of Students at F.W.B. Bible College | 6 |
| Number of Students at other colleges | 32 |

PASTORS:

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Full Time Outside Employment | 4 |
| Part Time Outside Employment | 2 |

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

| | |
|------------------------|-------|
| Total Membership | 2,847 |
|------------------------|-------|

MEMBERS RECEIVED:

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| By Baptism | 67 |
| By Letter | 84 |
| Total Members Received | 151 |

MEMBERS LOST:

| | |
|--|----|
| By Letter and Death | 75 |
| Lost to Non-Free Will Baptist Churches | 21 |

SUNDAY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT:

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Number Enrolled | 1,342 |
| Average Attendance | 1,220 |

C.T.S. ENROLLMENT:

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Number Enrolled | 425 |
| Average Attendance | 558 |
| Churches Without C.T.S. | 9 |

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICES:

| | |
|---|-----|
| Average Attendance | 543 |
| Churches Without Wednesday Night Services | 4 |

MASTERS MEN ENROLLMENT:

| | |
|------------------------------------|----|
| Number Enrolled | 68 |
| Average Attendance | 34 |
| Churches Without Masters Men | 14 |

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY ENROLLMENT:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Number Enrolled | 153 |
| Average Attendance | 99 |
| Churches Without Women's Auxiliary | 10 |

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Enrollment | 672 |
| Average Attendance | 667 |
| Churches Without Vacation Bible School | 10 |

EVANGELISTIC OUTREACH:

| | |
|-------------------------------|----|
| Revivals | 16 |
| Visitation Programs | 11 |
| Other Outreach Programs | 3 |

FINANCIAL**INCOME:**

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Reported Tithes and Offerings | \$490,992.17 |
| Other Income (Borrowed, Gifts, etc.) | 18,100.00 |
| Total Income | 506,992.17 |
| (Seven Churches not Included) | |

EXPENSES:

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Spent For Local Causes: | |
| Literature, Utilities, Property Maintenance | \$188,013.84 |
| Remodeling, New Construction..... | 76,859.05 |
| Other Expenses..... | -0- |
| Paid on Debt..... | 56,532.17 |
| Pastor's Salary..... | 146,264.77 |
| Church Staff..... | 18,663.01 |
| Total Spent for Local Causes..... | 340,612.13 |
| Spent For Outside Causes: | |
| Home Missions..... | \$ 12,562.47 |
| Foreign Missions..... | 12,362.13 |
| District & State Ministries..... | 11,709.57 |
| Retirement and Insurance Board..... | 1,314.56 |
| Laymen's Board..... | -0- |
| Executive Officers..... | 256.39 |
| Free Will Baptist Bible College..... | 6,215.37 |
| Other Expenses..... | -0- |
| Total Spent For Outside Causes..... | 44,242.45 |
| Total Expenditures | \$384,854.54 |

Respectfully submitted,
Bro. Robert Carter - Chairman

NOTE: This is the written Digest Committee report that was turned in to the clerk and not the oral report given at the assocition meeting.

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
FINANCIAL REPORT

| | |
|---|------------|
| Balance From 1983..... | \$ 291.42 |
| Minute Funds Received..... | \$1,169.00 |
| Offering at Association Meeting..... | \$ 231.10 |
| Received From Vernon Church..... | \$ 726.88 |
| (October, 1983 through September, 1984) | |
| Total to Account For..... | \$2,418.40 |

EXPENDITURES:

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Moderator..... | \$ 50.00 |
| Assistant Moderator..... | \$ 25.00 |
| Clerk..... | \$ 75.00 |
| State Association Dues..... | \$ 400.00 |
| Postage Paid in 1984..... | \$ 30.26 |
| Minutes..... | \$ 481.50 |
| Rev. Eugene Waddell..... | \$ 231.10 |
| Postage and Supplies..... | \$ 50.00 |
| Total Expenditures..... | \$1,342.86 |
| Balance..... | \$1,075.54 |

Respectfully submitted,
Raphael Yerby - Treasurer

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PRESENT MINISTERS

Rev. M. H. Hollis, P. O. Box 183, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. T. C. Barnes, Sulligent, Alabama 35586
 Rev. W. D. Glasgow, Route 2, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. Delmus Miller, Winfield, Alabama 35594
 Rev. Fred Graham, P. O. Box 435, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. Edward Puckett, Route 1, Box 45A, Sulligent, Alabama 35586
 Rev. James C. Newell, P. O. Box 109, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. Herman Yielding, Route 1, Beaverton, Alabama 35544
 Rev. Thomas M. Scott, P. O. Box 582, Vernon, Alabama 33552
 Rev. Dennis Kizzire, Route 1, Detroit, Alabama 35552
 Rev. Don Taggart, Route 1, Box 158, Vernon, Alabama 33592
 Rev. Norman G. Berryhill, Route 1, Guin Alabama 35563
 Rev. Ambers Aldridge, Brilliant, Alabama 35548
 Rev. Lloyd W. Vail, P. O. Box 535, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. Dexter Guin, Route 2, Guin, Alabama 35563
 Rev. Lloyd George, Route 1, Box 246, Caledonia, Mississippi 39740
 Rev. Tommy Dubose, Route 6, Fayette, Alabama 35555
 Rev. Dale Ford, P. O. Box 757, Sulligent, Alabama 35586
 Rev. Billy Wilson, P. O. Box 31, Belk, Alabama 35545
 Rev. Benjiman Duncan, Route 3, Box 194, Hamilton, Alabama 35570
 Rev. Howard Simmons, Route 1, Detroit, Alabama 35552
 Rev. Harold A. Pitts, 2600 - 15th Ave., Northport, Alabama 35476
 Rev. Jerry Smith, Route 2, Box 54A, Sulligent, Alabama 35586
 Rev. Jerry Montgomery, Route 3, Box 107, Northport, Alabama 35476
 Rev. Dickie Dees, P. O. Box 4, Guin, Alabama 35563
 Rev. L. B. Nix, Vernon, Alabama 35592
 Rev. Charles Fowler, Route 5, Box 194, Fayette, Alabama 35555
 Rev. Jim Martin, Route 2, Box 169A, Guin, Alabama 35563

LIST OF DEACONS

BEAVERTON - Bros. Bobby Dykes and Russell Cole
 BELK - Bros. Grady Newman, Raphael Yerby, Dalton Gilpin and Mackey Watkins
 COOPER - Bros. Burley Finch, Tony Clark, Hershel Rye, Gordie Rye, and James Jeffreys
 DAVIS CHAPEL - None
 DEPRIEST CHAPEL - Bros. Kelly Easter, S. D. Jones, Joe Mack Easter, J. C. Cantrell, and Gene Wise
 EASTSIDE - Bros. Bedford Hester, J. H. Thompson, Adolph South, and Loyd Porter
 FREE WILL CHAPEL - Bro. Edsel Gideon, Daniel Franks, L. D. Hall, and Tommy Otts

FRIENDSHIP - None

LIBERTY - Bros. Bobby Joe Black, Lonnie R. Dubose, Wayne Dubose, Jack Boman, Roy Guyton, Wayne Sorrells, and Willie Gene Perkins

LOVE JOY - Bros. Coy Robertson, Guary Taylor, Lloyd Carter and Clayton Barnes

MT. HARMONY - Bros. Olen Wheeler, Odis Robertson, Oveat Graham, Coy Johnson, Erbie Robertson, L. C. Steedley, David Barton, and Frankie Beasley

MT. PLEASANT - Bro. W. M. Cooper

MT. WILLING - Bros. Elzie Guin, Obie Haney, Emmit Lee, Earl McDonald, and Arlie Roberts

PINEY GROVE - Bros. J. M. Chaffin, Tommie Robertson, and Danny Atkinson

SPRINGFIELD - Bros. Dewey Jordan, Haley Wright, Tommie Rushing, Paul Jordan Aubrey Hall, Larry Williams, and Roy Ashby

SULLIGENT - Bros. John Q. Boyett, Hezzie Harrison, Richard Mansel, Earnest Northington, Charles Crosby, Ray Birmingham, and James Price

TAYLOR SPRINGS - Bro. Stanley Cooper

TUSCALOOSA - Bros. Jesse Overton, Revis Guy, Wester Fulgham, Denny Ray Johnson, Donald Tilley, Edward L. McCool, Arthur J. Johnson

UNION CHAPEL - Bros. James E. Maddox, Don Freeman, Jessie Yerby, and Benny Hardy

VERNON - Bros. Pascal Yerby, B. E. Turner, Eris Wilson, Albert Christian, Ted Collins, Paul Shelnut, Derrell Wheeler, Titus Barnes, and Wayne Steadman

NAMES OF DECEASED MINISTERS

Rev. J. M. 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. D. 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, Rev. W. H. Clearman, Rev. Roy H. Barnes, and Rev. Frank Collins.

is Specific, provides guidelines for

NAMES OF DECEASED DEACONS

Brothers L. A. Crowder, S. Y. Shelton, J. H. Cole, Lee Mixon, J. S. Crossley, J. D. Shelnut, Earnest Robertson, D. L. Markham, Joe L. McNease, Johnny Williams, Johnny Collins, Dewitt Williams, J. G. Adair, Cullen Collins, John D. Moore, Sr., R. D. Franks, Hoytt Chaffin, Dempsey Langley, S. L. Cash, C. V. Hollis, M. E. Hollis, Raymond Gray, Arnold Hester, H. E. McDonald, Henry Harrison, Henry Perkins, Roy Gilreath, Jack McDonald, Belton Nelson, Clarence Birmingham, Carlos Bradford, Charlie Elliott, Emmit Shelnut, Junie Harper, Lloyd Turner, Johnny Pike, Jeff McDonald, and Carlos Roberts.

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 church unless they depart from the Treaties of Faith and Practice of Free Will Baptists. In this event it will be investigated by the Credential Committee and their findings will be reported to the association for their action. This association shall have authority over all ministers in the matter of doctrine, character, etc. In case any minister in this association depart from and teach doctrine not in keeping with the Treaties of Faith and Practice of Free Will Baptists the same shall be dealt with by the association as it may deem proper according to the teachings of the Bible.

3. When a church desires 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 piety, doctrine, and convictions respecting the work of the ministry and reputation for character and ability of the candidate. The examination or 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, or whose wife has more than one living husband. No preacher shall be accepted or ordained in this association as a preacher who uses tobacco in any form.

3. (A) When a church recommends a candidate for ordination as a preacher by the Vernon Association of Free Will Baptists, they will submit the following information in writing to the Credential Committee, at least one (1) month in advance of the annual association meeting: the name of the candidate, address of the candidate, telephone number of the candidate, present employment, length of membership at the church, offices held in the church, marital status of the candidate, places of ministry by the candidate for the past twelve months.

This recommendation must be the result of a regular conference of the church of which the candidate is a member.

3. (B) Any ordained preacher that desires to become a member of this association must submit a letter of recommendation from the church of which he is a member, along with a letter of recommendation from the association from which he is coming. This is to be done at least one (1) month in advance of a regular meeting of the association. This information is to be submitted in writing to the moderator of the association or to the chairman of the Credential Committee.

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 and clerk-treasurer, who shall be chosen at the annual session by majority vote of the delegates present. The officers shall be chosen at the close of each annual session with the outgoing clerk being responsible for the printing and distribution of the minutes. The clerk shall have the authority to secure any necessary assistance he needs, at his own expense.

6. The association shall meet semi-annually, with meetings being on Saturday before the third Sunday in March and Saturday before the third Sunday in October each year. The meeting in March will be a worship and fellowship meeting with a time set aside to handle any necessary business and the October meeting being our annual business meeting of the association 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 shall 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 delegate 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 \$50.00, the assistant moderator \$25.00, and the clerk \$75.00 for their services.

13. The clerk shall superintend the printing of the minutes after each annual 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 members 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, assistant moderator, and clerk along with one person from each church. Each person from the local church shall serve two 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 reported to 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 is to consist of from 3 to 5 members.

3. 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.

4. The Credential Committee shall recommend the issuance, or rejection of a card of good standing for a ministers. If a minister misses one association meeting, unless providentially hindered, he will not be given a card of good standing. 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. The Credential Committee, in a special called session, shall have the authority to grant letters to ministers leaving our association, provided they are a member of a church in our association, reporting their action to the annual association meeting.

5. 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.

6. Only one person shall speak at a time and he shall rise and address the moderator and after recognition by the moderator shall proceed.

7. No person shall be interrupted while speaking unless he depart from the subject under discussion or use words of personal reflection.

8. No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject without the permission of the moderator nor more than five minutes.

9. No person shall laugh or talk during discussion.

10. No delegate shall absent himself from the association without the permission of the moderator.

11. (A) All ordination of ministers shall be done at the association while in regular annual session, by the Ordaining Council.

11. (B) The General Board of the association shall have authority to

authorize the Credential Committee to ordain ministers, between sessions of the association, who have been licensed by a local church and who have been accepted as pastor in a Free Will Baptist Church before his one year of license has expired.

12. No person shall be ordained by his association as a preacher unless he has been licensed by his local church for at least one year, or recommended for ordination by the Credential Committee.

13. 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 meeting on Saturday before the third Sunday in October of each year.

14. 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.

15. The Youth Camp Committee shall meet within Sixty (60) days after the October associational meeting to select a camp director and a treasurer of the youth camp and make plans for the summer camps. All pastors of the Vernon Association shall be on the youth camp committee and will make up the committee.

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 commital 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 all 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. **Preseverance.** 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 five (5) 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. Committees 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.