

**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH
SESSION**

of the

**VERNON FREE WILL
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

held with

**MT. HARMONY
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH**

1985 Minutes

OFFICERS FOR 1985**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH SESSION**

MODERATOR..... REV. EDWARD PUCKETT
ASSISTANT MODERATOR..... REV. M. H. HOLLIS
CLERK..... BRO. RAPHAEL YERBY

The next session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association will be held with the First Free Will Baptist Church of Sulligent on Saturday, March 15, 1986. The annual session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association will be held with Belk Free Will Baptist Church, beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 18, 1986.

OFFICERS FOR 1986

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
232 - 19th Street, N.W., Fayette, Alabama 35555
Telephone.....932-4595

PROCEEDINGS

The one hundred and fifth session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was held with Mt. Harmony Free Will Baptist Church on October 19, 1985. Rev. Edward Puckett served as moderator, Rev. M.H. Hollis served as assistant moderator, and Bro. Raphael Yerby served as clerk.

The meeting opened with a song, "Where The Soul Never Dies," directed by Rev. Dickie Dees. The opening prayer was by Rev. Harold Pitts. We had another song, "Jesus Saves," directed by Bro. Dees.

We were welcomed to Mt. Harmony Free Will Baptist Church by the host pastor, Rev. L. B. Nix. The response was given by Bro. Edsel Gideon. He used Psalms 107:1,2 in his remarks.

We had special in song, "Holy Ground," by sisters Linda Barnes and Leisa Barnes from the Love Joy Free Will Baptist Church.

The morning devotion was brought by Rev. David Hayes, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Vernon. He used John 13:35 and John 4:20 as his scripture text. Prayer was by the speaker.

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

The moderator welcomed everyone to this session of the association. He used Psalms 118:23-24 as his scripture in his opening message to the association. Prayer was by Rev. M. H. Hollis.

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.

The report of the Committee on Committees was read by the clerk. The various committees were appointed from this report at the semi-annual meeting in March.

We had a report of the Digest Committee by Bro. Richard Johnson, 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. Robert Crawford and Mrs. Crawford from the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee. Rev. Crawford was given a few minutes to speak concerning the Bible College.

We had a report of the Board of Christian Education by Rev. Dennis Kizzire. The financial report of the Board of Christian Education was given by Rev. Don Taggart, and the medals were awarded to the young people of the various churches that were winners in the competition last spring.

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.

We were dismissed by the moderator for a short recess and time of fellowship. The dismissal prayer was by Rev. Billy Wilson.

After recess we had a song, "Old Time Power," directed by Bro. Dickie Dees. Prayer was by Bro. L. R. Dubose.

We received a love offering to help pay the expense of our guest speaker. The offeratory prayer was by Rev. Jerry Smith.

Just before the 11:00 a.m. message we had a special in song, "Whatever It Takes," by the young ladies trio from the Springfield Church.

The keynote message was brought at 11:00 a.m. by our guest speaker, Dr. Johnny Sexton, pastor of the Gorman Free Will Baptist Church in Waverly, Tennessee. His subject was "Happy Days;" his scripture text was I Peter 3:10-12 and I Peter 4:16.

After a good message, we had a song of invitation, "Just As I Am," directed by Bro. Dees.

We were dismissed for the noon hour. The dismissal prayer and the blessing of the food was by Rev. L. B. Nix.

AFTERNOON SESSION

After a delicious 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 a song, "When We All Get To Heaven," directed by Rev. Dickie Dees. Prayer was by Bro. Robert Carter. We were then treated to a special in song by Bro. Frankie Beasley from the Mt. Harmony Free Will Baptist Church.

The afternoon devotion was brought by Rev. David Crowe. He used Psalms 85:6-9 as his scripture. Prayer was by the speaker.

We had a report of the Credential Committee by Bro. Pascal Yerby. The report was adopted by the body.

At this time, the moderator appointed two members to the Credential Committee. Rev. L. B. Nix was appointed to serve a five (5) year term on the Credential Committee. Rev. Don Taggart was appointed to serve out the unexpired term of Rev. Harold A. Pitts on this committee.

Next, the moderator appointed a Committee on Committees for the 1986 session of the association. (See list of committees.)

We had a report of the Sunday School and C.T.S. Committee by Sis. Glenda Wilson, chairperson. We had a motion, second and vote carrier to receive the report and discharge the committee.

The report of the Finance Committee was given next by Bro. Edward McCool. We had a motion, a second and vote carrier to receive the report and discharge the committee.

Next, we received a special offering for the Bible College. The offeratory prayer was by Rev. L. B. Nix.

We had a report of the Youth Camp Board of Directors by Rev. M. H. Hollis. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the

report as information.

We elected one member to serve a three (3) year term on the Youth Camp Board of Directors. Rev. Dennis Kizzire was elected to serve on this board.

We had a report of the Appreciation Committee by Bro. Clyde Weeks. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee.

The Temperance Committee report was given by Sister Eldridge Motes. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee.

We had a report of the Deceased Members Committee by Sis. Clara Cicero. We accepted the report and discharged the committee and then sang "Precious Memories" and had a moment of silent prayer in memory of these loved ones. After the moment of silent prayer, Rev. Jim Doherty led in prayer.

We had a motion, second and vote carried for the Board of Christian Education to work out an Evangelistic Conference for some time in 1986.

We had an election of two (2) members to the Board of Christian Education. Rev. Jerry Smith was elected to serve a five (5) year term on this board. Rev. David Hayes was elected to serve out the unexpired term of Bro. James Dunbar.

We had a song, "I Feel Like Traveling On," directed by Rev. Dickie Dees.

The moderator appointed a committee to plan the associational Thanksgiving service and to secure the speaker for the service. The service will be held at Free Will Chapel Church on Tuesday night, November 26, 1985 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Bro. Robert Carter
Sister Sandra Carter
Bro. Clyde Motes

Sis. Elwanda Oakes
Bro. George McJenkins
Sister Eldridge Motes

Corresponding delegates to other associations were appointed next. State Line Association: Rev. Edward Puckett and Rev. Jerry Smith.

The moderator called for the election of officers of the association for the next year. First the floor was opened for nominations for moderator of the association. Rev. Edward Puckett was the only nominee and was elected by acclamation to serve as moderator.

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 was opened next. Bro. Raphael Yerby was nominated and elected to serve as clerk of the association.

A place was chosen for the next two (2) meetings of the Vernon Free

Will Baptist Association. The First Free Will Baptist Church of Sulligent requested the March meeting. The body voted to hold the March meeting at the Sulligent Church. This meeting will be on Saturday, March 15, 1986.

The Belk Free Will Baptist Church was the only church to request the annual meeting in October. The body voted to hold the annual association meeting at the Belk Church. The meeting will be on Saturday, October 18, 1986 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

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 Bro. Kelley Easter.

Meeting adjourned.

The semi-annual meeting of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was held on March 16, 1985 with Love Joy Free Will Baptist Church. The meeting was well attended and everyone seemed to enjoy it. The moderator, Rev. Edward Puckett, presided over the meeting. We had a short business session. In the business, we had a roll call of the delegates and seated the delegates for business. We had a report of the Committee on Committees by Rev. M. H. Hollis, chairman, and the various committees were appointed to make their report to the annual meeting in October.

We had a report of the Credential Committee and were petitioned by the First Free Will Baptist Church of Decatur for membership in the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association. The delegated body voted to receive the Decatur Church into the Vernon Association.

The morning devotion was brought by Bro. Tommie Robertson of the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church. Prayer was by the speaker.

We received a special offering for the Youth Camp. The offeratory prayer was by Rev. Don Taggart.

The 11:00 a.m. message was brought by Rev. Jim Doherty, pastor of the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church. He used Jeremiah 20:8-9 as his scripture text. Prayer was by the speaker. After the very challenging message, we all enjoyed a very delicious lunch at the noon hour, served by the Love Joy Free Will Baptist Church. The dismissal prayer and blessing on the food was by Rev. L. B. Nix.

CHURCHES AND DELEGATES AS LISTED

BEAVERTON - Sisters Emma Harris, Joan Mozley, Diane Cole, Fay Humphries and Tea Humphries.

BELK - Brother Laren Williams, Sisters Dee Williams, Glenda Wilson Mamie Gilpin and Sue Yerby.

COOPER - Brothers Oscar Jeffreys, Jimmy Sullins, Tim Graben, Robert Kelley, Cordie Lewis, Sisters Lena Mae Rye, Virginia Kelley, Jules Lewis, Etna Clark, Lillie Cantrell and Nelda Kizzire

DAVIS CHAPEL - Sisters Dora Lee Pennington, Jessemer Nelson Betty Gray and Lorene Pike.

DECATUR - Brothers Harold Goode, Paul Jones, Jim Bell, Sisters Betty Goode and Syble Bell.

DEPRIEST CHAPEL - Sisters Sheila Wise, Mary Wise, Polly Easter, Brenda Wise and Mary Easter.

EASTSIDE - Sisters Edna Thompson, Clara Cicero and Pamela Cicero.

FREE WILL CHAPEL - Brothers Murray Jackson, Billy Joe Turner, Wallace Harris, Sisters Dessie Jackson, Pearlie Turner and Pebble Davis.

FRIENDSHIP - Sister Lura Moore.

LIBERTY - Brothers Bill Lanier, Barksdale Higgins, Sisters Jo Nina Lanier, Ruby Nell Higgins, Eula Mae Dubose, Maggie Lois Dubose, Janice Sorrells, and Joyce Doherty.

LOVE JOY - Bro. Garry Sorrells, Sisters Linda Barnes, Laura Carter, Alisa Barnes and Sandra Sorrells.

MT. HARMONY - Sisters Shirley Wheeler, Frances Beasley, Carla Hamilton, Betty Harrison, Nina Otts, and Mildred Perkins.

MT. PLEASANT - Sister Pearlie Allen and Sister Vail.

MT. WILLING - Brothers Lucion Flynn, Roger Rye, Sisters Audra Flynn, Dorthey Rye, and Margie Lee.

PINEY GROVE - Brothers Pete Barnes, Perry Barnes, Clyde Weeks, and Sister Carol Barnes.

SPRINGFIELD - Brothers Timothy Hollis, Richard Johnson, Sisters Ruby Wright, Burma Jordan, Debbie Baucom, and Sandra Williams.

SULLIGENT - Brother Robert Carter, Sisters Sandra Carter, Kitty Taylor, Brenda Lucas, Patsey Merchant, Jean Jeffreys, Vivian Kilgore, Mattie Lou Crosby, Grace Turman, Ruby Plunkett, and Alice Ann Carruth.

TAYLOR SPRINGS - Brother J. C. Young, Sisters Grille Perkins and Diane Spencer.

TUSCALOOSA - Brothrs Larry Guy, J. P. Erwin, Denny W. Atchenson, Richard Hayes, Bill Lewis and Jessie Marquis.

UNION CHAPEL - Brother Dean Maddox, Sisters Margine Martin, Lois Yerby, Joyce Hardy, and Renae Hardy.

VERNON - Brothers Clyde Motes, Zadus Turner, Jr., Phillip Scott, David Shelnut, Jim Parker, Wesley Dubose, Sisters Eldridge Motes, Martha Turner, Elwanda Oakes, Ina Yerby, Louise Shelnut, Jean Dubose, Docia Turner, Kathy Shelnut, and Martha Butler.

GENERAL BOARD

BEAVERTON - None Listed
BELK - Bro. Lewis Hindman
COOPER - Rev. Dennis Kizzire
DAVIS CHAPEL - None Listed
DECATUR - None Listed
DEPRIEST CHAPEL - Bro. Joe Mack Easter
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. Phill Wheeler
MT. PLEASANT - Bro. Jim Corbell
MT. WILLING - Bro. Lucion G. Flynn
PINEY GROVE - Bro. Tommy Robertson
SPRINGFIELD - Bro. Richard Johnson
SULLIGENT - Bro. John Q. Boyett
TAYLOR SPRINGS - None Listed
TUSCALOOSA - None Listed
UNION CHAPEL - Bro. Jessie Yerby
VERNON - Bro. Zadus Turner, Jr.

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

Belk

Beaverton

Cooper

Davis Chapel

Decatur

Depriest Chapel

Eastside

Free Will Chapel

Friendship

Liberty

Love Joy

COMMITTEE AND MEMBERS FOR 1985

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Bro. Bobby Joe Black - 1986
Bro. Pascal Yerby - 1987
Rev. Don Taggart - 1988
Rev. Edward Puckett - 1989
Rev. L. B. Nix - 1990

**SUNDAY SCHOOL AND
C. T. S. COMMITTEE**

Sister Glenda Wilson
Sister Diane Cole
Sister Jo Nina Lanier
Bro. Tim Graben

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Sister Burma Jordan
Sister Robbie Birmingham
Sister Betty Harrison
Bro. Denny Atchenson

**DECEASED MEMBERS
COMMITTEE**

Sister Clara Cicero
Sister Sandra Sorrells
Sister Audra Flynn
Sister Joyce Hardy

**BOARD OF CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION**

Rev. Dennis Kizzire - 1986
Rev. Don Taggart - 1987
Rev. Billy Wilson - 1988
Rev. David Hayes - 1989
Rev. Jerry Smith - 1990

YOUTH CAMP COMMITTEE

All pastors of the Vernon
Association.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. Edward Puckett
Rev. M. H. Hollis
Bro. Raphael Yerby
Rev. Dennis Kizzire
Bro. Joe Mack Easter
Bro. Tommie Robertson
Bro. Richard Johnson

**YOUTH CAMP BOARD
OF DIRECTORS**

Rev. M. H. Hollis - 1986
Rev. Dickie Dees - 1987
Rev. Dennis Kizzire - 1988

**COMMITTEE ON
COMMITTEES**

Rev. Jerry Smith
Rev. Jim Doherty
Rev. David Hayes

DIGEST COMMITTEE 1986

Bro. Zadus Turner, Jr.
Bro. Timothy Hollis
Rev. Jim Doherty
Sister Sue Yerby

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE

Sister Edna Thompson
Sister Joyce Doherty
Bro. Clyde Weeks

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

Sister Eldridge Motes
Sister Sheila Wise
Bro. J. C. Young

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 1,429, with an average attendance of 1,266. We show an increase of 87 members in enrollment and an increase of 46 members in average attendance.

Our C.T.S. enrollment is 595, with an average attendance of 514. Our C.T.S. enrollment is up by 170 and the average attendance shows a decrease of 44. Nine churches in our association do not have a C.T.S. program. This is the same as last year. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,

Sister Glenda Wilson, Chairperson

GENERAL BOARD REPORT

We, the General Board, met on July 27, 1985, at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Sulligent. We make the following report and recommendations to the association:

- I. We discussed having a Youth Crusade or Bible Conference. We had a motion, second and vote carried to ask the Board of Christian Education to work out a Bible Conference or an Evangelistic Conference, either in the spring or fall of 1986. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Edward Puckett, Chairman

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

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

A total of \$1,330.00 was sent in by our churches as dues this associational year. There was a balance remaining from last year of \$146.66. Total expense for the last associational year was \$1,342.86. A balance remains of \$135.80. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,

Sister Burma Jordan, Chairperson

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your Temperance Committee would remind you through Christ, as Free Will Baptists of 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 amusements 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."

We also urge self-control as stated in Proverbs 16:32. "He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city." James 3:2, "If any man offend not in word the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body." M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,

Eldridge Motes, Chairperson

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your Credential Committee make the following report:

From the October, 1984 association meeting we have examined the following men of God who have petitioned our association for membership and recommend their acceptance: Rev. Jim Doherty, coming from North Alabama Association to the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church; Rev. Freddy Beem, coming from the Progressive Association to the First Free Will Baptist Church of Tuscaloosa; Rev. David Hayes, coming from the Jasper Association to the First Free Will Baptist Church of Vernon. We have examined Rev. R. C. Humphries, coming from the Jasper Association to the Beaverton Church and recommend his acceptance into our association, pending a letter of good standing and recommendation from the Jasper Association.

We have sent letters of good standing for the following men leaving our association: Rev. Tommy Dubose, going to the Townley Free Will Baptist Church in the Progressive Association; Rev. Thomas Scott, going to the Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church in Tennessee; Rev. Dale Ford, going to the Main Street Free Will Baptist Church in Amory, Mississippi; Rev. Ambers Aldridge, going to the Jasper Association; Rev. Benjamin Duncan, going to the Jasper Association. We recommend that Rev. H. A. Pitts be given a letter of good standing from this association to the Progressive Association.

We recommend a card of good standing be given to all ministers present.

The following Credential Committee report was made at the semi-annual meeting in March, 1985.

We met with Rev. Freddy Beem, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church of Tuscaloosa and find his letter and credentials in order. We recommend he be accepted into our association in full fellowship.

We met with Rev. Milton Gann, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Decatur concerning their petition for membership in the Vernon Association. We recommend the Decatur Church be accepted in full fellowship and that Rev. Milton Gann be re-united in our association.

We met with Rev. Jim Doherty, pastor of the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church and Rev. Jim Martin, pastor of the Union Chapel Free Will Baptist Church and found their letters and credentials in order. We recommend they be accepted into our association in full fellowship.

We recommend that these ministers and the delegates from the Decatur Church be welcomed into our association by them standing and each of us give to them the right hand of Christian fellowship.
M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,
Bro. Bobby Joe Black, Chairman

APPRECIATION COMMITTEE

We, the Appreciation Committee, make the following report:

We appreciate the fellowship, unity and work of the Lord demonstrated in this meeting.

We appreciate all that had a part in making the meeting a good one.

We want to thank the Mt. Harmony Free Will Baptist Church for the fine hospitality and for the good meal at the noon hour. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,
Sister Joyce Doherty, Chairperson

COMMITTEE REPORT ON DECEASED MEMBERS

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

BEAVERTON - Sister Liza Sizemore

BELK - Brothers Charles Waldrop and Lavoy Newman

COOPER - Brother Cleatus Carter

DAVIS CHAPEL - None

DECATUR - Brother Luther Atkins, Sisters Mary L. Crow, and Dian Jent

DEPRIEST CHAPEL - None

EASTSIDE - None

FREE WILL CHAPEL - Bro. Paul Reeves, and Sister Madaline Jackson

FRIENDSHIP - None

LIBERTY - Brothers Leroy Griffin, Redden Mixon, Sisters Ovell Guyton, and Linda L. Shufford

LOVE JOY - None

MT. HARMONY - Brothers Roosevelt Crawford and David Barton

MT. PLEASANT - Sister Mary Barnes

MT. WILLING - Brothers Eddie Berryhill, Vernon Guin, Sterlon Haney, and Fritugh Nix

PINEY GROVE - Bro. Robert Bobo

SPRINGFIELD - Brothers Ottis Hollis, Zenus Stapp, Kelsey Jordan, Sisters Mattie Boover and Nima Turman

SULLIGENT - None

TAYLOR SPRINGS - None

TUSCALOOSA - None

UNION CHAPEL - None

VERNON - Sister Cora Ward

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

Respectfully submitted,
Sister Clara Cicero, Chairperson

VERNON DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY REPORT

The Vernon District Woman's Auxiliary, composed of auxiliaries from six churches in the Vernon Association would like to report a good year serving the Lord.

On January 19, 1985, the Vernon District Woman's Auxiliary sponsored the second annual Missions Banquet at the Lamar County High School cafetorium. The guest speaker was Bro. Lynn Miley, missionary to France. A love offering of \$150.00 was given to Bro. Miley and approximately \$300.00 was given to the account.

On March 31, 1985, we met for our seventh annual convention with the ladies of the Piney Grove Church. Bro. Richard Yerby, missionary to Japan, was our special guest and brought the keynote message during the morning. He also showed a slide presentation of the work he has done for many years in Japan. A love offering of \$125.00 was given to him.

Bro. Dickie Dees, pastor of the Piney Grove Church, and Sister Debra Dees brought the afternoon and morning devotionals.

Installation of the new officers was conducted by Mrs. Pat Pless, president of the Alabama State Woman's Auxiliary Convention, following the business meeting.

Officers for the 1985-87 term are: Miss Elwanda Oakes, president; Mrs. Joyce Gibson, vice president and president-elect; Mrs. Jean Dubose, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Barbara Smith, field worker; Mrs. Sandra Powell, mission study chairman; Mrs. Sandra Atchison, mission study chairman; and Mrs. Burma Jordan, mission action chairperson.

On September 14, 1985, our district convention met for our annual Fall Fellowship with the Springfield auxiliary at the Springfield Free Will Baptist Church with 34 people present. Bro. David Hayes, pastor of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Church brought the morning devotion. The Springfield Quartet and Trio presented two beautiful specials. The Springfield ladies led the group in Bible Tic-Tac-Toe and presented a skit entitled "Busy."

Various reports were given and the day was enjoyed by all. Lunch was served in the fellowship hall by the Springfield ladies.

Church auxiliaries belonging to the Vernon District Auxiliary are: Eastside, Free Will Chapel, Piney Grove, Springfield, Tuscaloosa First and Vernon. At the present there are 72 members.

We would like to encourage all other churches in our association with auxiliaries to join us as we continue to serve the Lord as a missionary arm in our local churches.

Respectfully submitted,
Elwanda Oakes, president
Vernon Dist. Woman's Auxiliary

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Executive Committee met on July 27, 1985 to plan the program and secure a speaker for the 105th session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association.

The committee voted to give the moderator the authority to secure a speaker for the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Three or four different men were mentioned for him to contact and secure the one that was available for that day. We also voted to ask Rev. David Hayes to have the morning devotion and Rev. David Crowe to have the afternoon devotion. We voted to ask Rev. Dickie Dees to be in charge of the singing for the day.

We voted to receive a love offering for the guest speaker and pay him \$200.00 or give him the offering, whichever is the greater.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Edward Puckett, chairman

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT

With the knowledge that the Lord blessed our cooperative efforts, we can rejoice over the accomplishments of the year. This joy is diminished only by the realization that there was so much more that could have been done.

A good number of youth representing several of our churches came to the Fall Youth Retreat. One of the activities was a walk-a-thon which netted over \$1,400.00 for the Land Fund at the Montgomery Mission.

We had the best attendance ever at our youth camps which were held in June. Our junior camp had 61 girls and 36 boys for a total of 97. The teen camp had 31 girls and 30 boys for a total of 61, giving a total of 158 that participated in our camping program.

The total attendance for the banquets in February was encouraging.

Our Association was well represented on the State and National level of Bible Competition and Music and Arts as the result of our churches working with its youth in this area. The Board of Christian Education is willing to help those churches that are interested in or would like to investigate the possibility of starting the competitive activities in their congregations.

We are grateful for those who worked with our youth, some who worked many hours, never to receive public recognition. Thank God, you will have your reward. We are thankful for the parents who willingly let their young people participate. We appreciate the youth for their unwavering faith in those who were their leaders.

The board in its last meeting on September 16, 1985, moved to make the following recommendations.

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

CHURCH	PASTOR'S ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	CLERK'S ADDRESS
BEAVERTON	Rev. R. C. Humphries Route 1, Box 212 Vina, Ala. 35593		Mrs. Diana Cole P. O. Box 132 Guin, Ala. 35563
BELK	Rev. Billy Wilson P. O. Box 31 Belk, Ala. 35545	932-3144	Rosa L. Atkins P. O. Box 45 Belk, Ala. 35545
COOPER	Rev. Dennis Kizzire Route 1 Detroit, Ala. 35552	921-2440	Mrs. Lena Mae Rye Route 6, Box 72-B Hamilton, Ala. 35570
DAVIS CHAPEL			Mrs. Louise Cannon Route 1, Box 300 Berry, Ala. 35546
DECATUR	Rev. Milton Gann 809 Westwood Dr., SW Decatur, Ala. 35601	353-5822	Mrs. Betty Goode 711 Barclift St. Hartselle, Ala. 35640
DEPRIEST CHAPEL	Rev. Fred Graham P. O. Box 435 Vernon, Ala. 35592	695-9631	Gene Wise P. O. Box 132 Gattman, Miss. 38844
EASTSIDE	Rev. Jerry Montgomery Route 3, Box 107 Northport, Ala. 35476	339-4202	Brenda Mahan 2311 - 5th St. East Tuscaloosa, Ala. 35404
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
FRIENDSHIP	Rev. James C. Newell Route 1, Box 109 Vernon, Ala. 35592	695-6101	Mrs. Lura Moore Route 2, Box 481 Millport, Ala. 35576
LIBERTY	Rev. James Doherty Route 2 Vernon, Ala. 35592	695-9400	Steve Butler Route 2, Box 74P-7 Fayette, Ala. 35555
LOVE JOY	Rev. Donald Taggart Route 1, Box 158 Vernon, Ala. 35592	695-7546	Mrs. Linda Barnes Route 1, Box 112-A Guin, Ala. 35563
MT. HARMONY	Rev. L. B. Nix Vernon, Ala. 35592	695-9840	Mr. Erbie Robertson Route 3, Box 407 Vernon, Ala. 35592
MT. PLEASANT	Rev. Lloyd Vail P. O. Box 535 Vernon, Ala. 35592	695-9583	Mrs. Theresa Allen Route 2, Box 230-A Sulligent, Ala. 35586
MT. WILLING	Rev. Charles Fowler Route 5, Box 194 Fayette, Ala. 35555	932-6589	Mrs. Audra Flynn Route 1, Box 66 Guin, Ala. 35563
PINEY GROVE	Rev. Dickie Dees P. O. Box 888 Sulligent, Ala. 35586	698-9664	Mrs. Jackie Atkinson P. O. Box 563 Winfield, Ala. 35594
SPRINGFIELD	Rev. M. H. Hollis P. O. Box 183 Vernon, Ala. 35592	695-7736	Roy Ashby, Jr. Route 1, Box 221 Vernon, Ala. 35592
SULLIGENT	Rev. Edward Puckett Route 1, Box 45A Sulligent, Ala. 35586	698-8177	Mrs. Kitty L. Taylor 406 Metcalfe St. Sulligent, Ala. 35586
TAYLOR SPRINGS	Rev. C. C. Berryhill Greenwood Springs, Miss. 38848	256-8225	Vickey Egger Route 3, Box 104 Sulligent, Ala. 35586
TUSCALOOSA	Rev. Freddy Beem Route 4, Box 583 Tuscaloosa, Ala. 35405	758-5047	Edward L. McCool 25 Coventry Tuscaloosa, Ala. 35402
UNION CHAPEL	Rev. Jim Martin Route 2, Box 169A Guin, Ala. 35563	468-2649	James E. Maddox Route 2 Vernon, Ala. 35592
VERNON	Rev. David Hayes P. O. Box 1211 Vernon, Ala. 35592	695-9730	Elwanda F. Oakes P. O. Box 351 Vernon, Ala. 35592

Members Received	Members Deceased	Total Members	Number In Sunday School	Number In C.T.S.	Number In Ladies Aux.	Ordained Ministers
5	1	48	35	0	0	0
3	2	138	108	60	20	1
5	1	278	104	75	28	1
0	0	86	15	0	0	1
6	3	172	80	50	12	1
4	0	77	57	0	0	2
16	0	156	67	37		1
13	2	171	127	58	15	1
0	0	48		0	0	1
8	4	209	90	65	13	1
10	0	83	80	0	15	3
5	2	120	60	38	0	1
1	1	88	52	0	0	1
3	4	132	35	0	0	1
36	0	170	68	52	12	2
5	5	261	100	75	10	2
16	0	239	226	75	25	1
2	0		35	0	0	1
8	0	120	95	40	12	1
5	0	89	38	0	0	2
10	1	291	156	100	23	1

CHURCH	Paid Pastor	Other Local Expenditures	Paid Missions
BEAVERTON	3,930.00	1,656.00	-
BELK	14,517.00	16,899.00	1,866.00
COOPER	Not Reported		
DAVIS CHAPEL	2,174.31	1,800.09	-
DECATUR	16,000.00	22,428.06	364.80
DEPRIEST CHAPEL	3,416.00	1,880.00	-
EASTSIDE	9,100.00	15,507.00	1,109.00
FREE WILL CHAPEL	16,316.82	14,753.41	1,059.92
FRIENDSHIP	-	1,072.69	-
LIBERTY	12,450.00	27,138.00	3,652.50
LOVE JOY	8,443.75	1,878.30	1,079.30
MT. HARMONY	12,865.00	13,756.50	1,140.00
MT. PLEASANT	3,120.00	155.00	-
MT. WILLING	5,200.00	2,538.95	50.00
PINEY GROVE	Not Reported		
SPRINGFIELD	19,097.57	12,027.77	1,000.49
SULLIGENT	18,600.00	24,044.00	3,601.00
TAYLOR SPRINGS	3,340.00	-	-
TUSCALOOSA			1,358.36
UNION CHAPEL	7,150.00	4,989.96	-
VERNON	16,400.00	27,311.74	9,344.12

Paid Christian Education	Paid Assoc. Dues	Paid For Improvements	Total Paid Out	Value of Church Property
-	75.00	3,900.00	9,561.00	-
-	75.00	1,300.00	38,654.00	210,000.00
	50.00			
-	50.00	1,306.08	5,680.48	70,000.00
-	75.00	-	47,742.16	250,000.00
-	75.00	1,450.00	6,821.00	55,000.00
192.00	-	-	25,908.00	150,000.00
521.96	75.00	7,535.41	43,912.27	150,000.00
-	30.00	-	1,072.69	20,000.00
1,402.00	75.00	-	44,893.00	255,000.00
1,165.59	75.00	923.84	13,730.78	125,000.00
-	75.00	17,867.54	50,627.34	100,000.00
-	50.00	-	3,320.00	-
-	75.00	3,046.52	5,809.47	60,000.00
	50.00		80,000.00	
-	75.00	-	46,292.52	185,000.00
1,676.00	75.00	5,791.43	68,912.43	177,000.00
-	25.00	-	3,615.00	55,000.00
540.35	75.00			75,000.00
-	50.00	-	12,189.96	110,000.00
1,548.22	75.00	152,311.74	238,584.75	474,000.00

The board would like to recommend the following meetings:

November 15, 16, 1985..... Fall Youth Retreat
 February, 1986..... Adult Banquet
 February, 1986..... Youth Banquet
 April 19, 1986 at 9:00 a.m..... Competition
 June 15-20, 1986..... Junior Youth Camp
 June 22-27, 1986..... Teen Youth Camp

The board would like to ask that the association vote on whether to have an Evangelism and Church Growth Conference which has been tentatively scheduled (if voted for) for September 26-28, 1986.

The board urges cooperation in the planning of the camping program. To insure good stewardship, we recommend that one person or persons be responsible for developing a menu and purchasing the food.

Brother Don Taggart will give the financial report and help present the medals. We apologize to the participants who were due awards for the delay in getting the awards to you.

FINANCIAL REPORT 1984-1985

INCOME:

First Church - Tuscaloosa.....	\$ 291.89
First Church - Sulligent.....	\$ 632.83
First Church - Vernon.....	\$ 47.00
Belk F.W.B. Church.....	\$ 386.81
Free Will Chapel F.W.B. Church.....	\$ 261.76
Mt. Harmony F.W.B. Church.....	\$ 300.00
Mt. Willing F.W.B. Church.....	\$ 100.00
Youth Retreat Fees.....	\$ 319.25
Walk-a-Thon.....	\$ 1,212.45
Valentine Banquet.....	\$ 358.06
Competition Fees.....	\$ 355.00
Camp Fee & Concessions.....	\$ 5,282.59
Mutual Security.....	\$ 44.20
Associational Choir Fund.....	\$ 600.84
TOTAL INCOME.....	\$10,192.18

EXPENDITURES:

N.W. Alabama Youth Camp.....	\$ 949.91
Retreat.....	\$ 592.97
Banquet, Jr. & Sr.....	\$ 693.87
Camps.....	\$ 4,632.73
Competition.....	\$ 899.62
Board Expenses.....	\$ 28.31
Alabama Missions.....	\$ 1,402.45
Postage & Office Supplies.....	\$ 100.84
TOTAL EXPENDITURES.....	\$ 9,300.70

VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**Page 19**

Beginning Balance.....	\$ 1,651.11
Total Receipts.....	\$10,192.18
Total to Account For.....	\$11,843.29
Less Total Expenditures.....	\$ 9,300.70
Bank Balance.....	\$ 2,542.59

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Dennis Kizzire, chairman
Rev. Don Taggart, treasurer

DIGEST COMMITTEE REPORT**STATISTICS:**

Number of Ordained Ministers.....	31
Number of Licensed Ministers.....	12
Number of Deacons.....	87
Students at F.W.B. Bible College.....	2
Students at other colleges.....	33
Pastors full time outside employment.....	4
Pastors part-time outside employment.....	3
Total membership.....	2,521
Members received by baptism.....	71
Members received by letter.....	144
Total members received.....	215
Members lost by death and letters.....	71
Members lost to non-F.W.B. churches.....	16
Sunday School enrollment.....	1,429
C.T.S. enrollment.....	595
Average attendance.....	514
Churches without C.T.S.....	9
Wednesday night services.....	14
Wednesday night average attendance.....	410
Churches without Wednesday night services.....	7
Masters Men enrollment.....	85
Average attendance.....	70
Woman's Auxiliary enrollment.....	164
Average attendance.....	124
Churches without Woman's Auxiliary.....	10
Vacation Bible School.....	614
Average attendance.....	544

EVANGELISTIC OUTREACH:

Revivals.....	14
Visitation Programs.....	10
Other outreach programs.....	1

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Johnson, chairman

**VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
FINANCIAL REPORT**

Balance on hand 10-20-84	\$ 988.04
Offering received at association meeting	\$ 231.10
Minute Funds received	\$1,169.00
Rec'd from Vernon F.W.B. Church (from 10-20-84 to 10-19-85)....	\$ 835.46
Offering received at Thanksgiving service	\$ 190.92
Rec'd from Mt. Willing Church	\$ 100.00
Offering received at March association meeting	\$ 166.34
Total to account for	\$3,680.86

EXPENDITURES:

Rick Bolling	\$ 200.00
Moderator	\$ 50.00
Assistant Moderator	\$ 25.00
Clerk	\$ 75.00
Guest speaker at association meeting	\$ 231.10
Alabama State Association dues	\$ 400.00
Lamar Leader (printing of minutes and supplies)	\$ 491.09
Postage	\$ 55.86
N.W. Alabama Youth Camp	\$ 300.00
Funds transferred to savings account	\$1,000.00
(for National Association expenses)	
Total Expenditures	\$2,828.05
Balance in checking account	\$ 852.81
Amount in savings account	\$1,851.47
(for National Association expenses)	

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, Route 1, Box 109, Vernon, Alabama 35592
Rev. Herman Yielding, Route 1, Beaverton, Alabama 35544
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. 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. Billy Wilson, P. O. Box 31, Belk, Alabama 35545
Rev. Howard Simmons, Route 1, Detroit, Alabama 35552
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 888, Sulligent, Alabama 35586
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
Rev. Milton Gann, 809 Westwood Dr., SW, Decatur, Alabama 35601
Rev. Jim Doherty, Route 2, Vernon, Alabama 35592
Rev. Freddy Beem, Route 4, Box 583, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35405
Rev. David Hayes, P. O. Box 1211, Vernon, Alabama 35592
Rev. R. C. Humphries, Route 1, Box 212, Vina, Alabama 35593

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,
DAVIS CHAPEL - None
DECATUR - Bro. Paul Jones
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, Tommy Otts, and Jerry Mays

FRIENDSHIP - None

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

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

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

MT. PLEASANT - None

MT. WILLING - Bros. Elzie Guin, Obie Haney, Emmitt Lee, and Earl McDonald

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, and Ray Birmingham,

TAYLOR SPRINGS - Bro. Stanley Cooper

TUSCALOOSA - Bros. Denny Ray Johnson, Edward L. McCool, James Donald Tilly, Arthur J. Johnson, Jesse Overton, Wester Fulgham, Jr., and Ravis E. Guy.

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

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

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, Carlos Roberts, Reddin Mixon and David Barton.

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.