

**ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH  
SESSION**

**of the**

**VERNON FREE WILL  
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

**held with**

**PINEY GROVE FREE WILL  
BAPTIST CHURCH**

**1987 Minutes**

OFFICERS FOR 1987

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH SESSION

MODERATOR..... REV. M. H. HOLLIS

ASSISTANT MODERATOR..... REV. DENNIS KIZZIRE

CLERK..... BRO. RAPHAEL YERBY

The next session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association will be held with the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday, March 19, 1988. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. and services will begin at 10:00 a.m. The annual session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association will be held with Springfield Free Will Baptist Church, beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 15, 1988.

OFFICERS FOR 1988

MODERATOR..... REV. M. H. HOLLIS

P. O. Box 183, Vernon, Alabama 35592

Telephone.....695-7736

ASSISTANT MODERATOR..... REV. DENNIS KIZZIRE

Route 1, Detroit, Alabama 35552

Telephone.....921-2440

CLERK..... BRO. RAPHAEL YERBY

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

Telephone.....932-4595

## PROCEEDINGS

The one hundred and seventh session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was held with Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church on October 17, 1987. Rev. M. H. Hollis served as moderator, Rev. Dennis Kizzire served as assistant moderator, and Bro. Raphael Yerby served as clerk.

The meeting opened with a song, "When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder," directed by Rev. Dickie Dees. The opening prayer was by Rev. Dexter Guin. We had another song, "At Calvary," directed by Bro. Dees.

We were welcomed to the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church by the host pastor, Rev. Dickie Dees. The response was given by Rev. Dennis Kizzire of the Cooper Free Will Baptist Church, and prayer was by Bro. Kizzire. We had another song, "Brethren, We Have Met To Worship," led by Bro. Dees. We had a special in song by Bro. and Sister Dees, "When Jesus Passed By."

The morning devotion was brought by Bro. Tim Sizemore, from the Free Will Baptist Bible College. He used Mark 10:35-45 as his scripture text. His subject was "Servant." Prayer was by the sepaquer. We had a short invitation and prayer by Rev. M. H. Hollis.

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

We had a roll call of the delegates 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 moderator recognized visiting brethren and invited them to seat with us during this session of the association. Those present were: Rev. Robert Crawford, Mrs. Crawford, Rev. Ambers Aldridge, Rev. William Atkinson, Rev. Luther Gibson, and Bro. Clay Perry.

We had a report of the General Board by the Clerk. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report as information.

The report of the Committee on Committees was given 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. Wallace Harris, chairman. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee.

The moderator gave Rev. Robert Crawford, from the Free Will Baptist Bible College, a few minutes to report on the Bible College and its work. He used Psalm 40:7-11 as a text for his report.

The moderator called for petitionary letters. None were received.

We were dismissed by the moderator for a short recess and time of fellowship.

After recess we had a song, "There Is Power In The Blood," directed by Bro. Dees.

We received a love offering to help pay the expense of our guest speaker. The offeratory prayer was by the moderator, Rev. M. H. Hollis.

Just before the morning message we had a special in song by Bro. Tim Hollis, "Only One Life."

The keynote message was brought at 11:00 a.m. by our guest speaker, Rev. Luther Gibson, from Booneville, Mississippi. His subject was "The Sweetest Name I Know," using Phillipians 2:5-12 as his scripture text. Prayer was by the speaker.

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

We were dismissed for the noon hour. The dismissal prayer and the blessing on the food was offered by Rev. Jim Doherty.

### **AFTERNOON SESSION**

After a delicious lunch and the noon hour of fellowship, we convened back at 1:00 p.m. to finish the day's business of the association.

We had a song, "Love Lifted Me," directed by Bro. Dees.

The afternoon devotion was brought by Rev. Tommy Dubose, pastor of the Townley Free Will Baptist Church. He used Hebrews 12:28-29 as his scripture text and his subject was a "Consuming Fire." Prayer was by the speaker.

We had a song, "Old Time Power," directed by Bro. Dees.

We were treated to a special in song by Sisters Linda Barnes and Alisa Barnes from the Love Joy Free Will Baptist Church. During the time of this song, we received a special offering for the Free Will Baptist Bible College.

We had a report of the Credential Committee by Bro. Pascal Yerby, chairman. We had a motion, second and vote carried to adopt all items of the report.

We had a report of the Finance Committee by Bro. Rodney Yerby, chairman. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee.

We had a report of the Sunday School and C.T.S. Committee by Bro. Richard Johnson, chairman. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee.

The report of the Board of Christian Education was given by Rev. Don Taggart, chairman. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report as information.

We had a report of the Temperance Committee by Bro. Robert Carter, chairman. He used proverbs 23:29-35, 16:32, 25:16, 28; Phillipians 4:5; First Corinthians 9:25-27; Galatians 5:22-23; Second Peter 1:5-9 and Titus 2:1-15 as his report. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee.



The Deceased Members Committee report was given by Sister Elwanda Oaks, chairperson. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and stand and sing "Amazing Grace," and have prayer in memory of these loved ones. After a moment of silent prayer, we were led in prayer by Rev. James Walden.

We had a report of the Appreciation Committee by Sister Theresa Taggart, chairperson. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report and discharge the committee.

We had a report of the Youth Camp Board of Directors by Rev. Dennis Kizzire. We had a motion, second and vote carried to receive the report as information.

At this time the moderator appointed two members to serve on the Credential Committee. Bro. Pascal Yerby was appointed to serve a five (5) year term on the Credential Committee. Rev. James Walden was appointed to serve out the unexpired term of Rev. L. B. Nix on the Credential Committee.

The moderator called for the election of three (3) members to serve on the Board of Christian Education. Rev. James Walden was elected to serve a five (5) year term on the board. Tim Hollis was elected to serve out the unexpired term of Rev. Billy Wilson on the board. Rev. Ronnie Scott was elected to serve out the unexpired term of Rev. Don Holland on the Board of Christian Education.

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

Bro. Robert Carter  
Sister Sandra Carter  
Sister Elwanda Oakes  
Sister Joyce Doherty

Bro. Clyde Motes  
Sister Eldridge Motes  
Bro. Raphael Yerby  
Sister Sue Yerby

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

We selected a place for the Thanksgiving Service and the moderator appointed a committee to plan the Associational Thanksgiving Service and secure a speaker for the service. Those appointed were Rev. Dennis Kizzire, Bro. Lewis Hindman and Rev. Don Taggart. The service will be held at the Mt. Harmony Free Will Baptist Church on Tuesday night, November 24, 1987 at 7:00 p.m.

A place was chosen for the next two (2) meetings of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association. The body voted to hold the March meeting at the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church. This meeting will be on Saturday, March 19, 1988. Registration will be at 9:30 a.m. and services will begin at 10:00 a.m.

The body voted to hold the Annual Association meeting at the Springfield Free Will Baptist Church. The meeting will be on Saturday, October 15, 1988 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

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. M. H. Hollis, Rev. Dennis Kizzire and Rev. Dickie Dees were nominated. Rev. M. H. Hollis was elected to serve as moderator.

Nominations were opened for assistant moderator. Rev. Dennis Kizzire was the only nominee and was elected by acclamation to serve as assistant moderator.

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

We had a motion from the floor by Rev. Dennis Kizzire for the General Board and the Executive Committee to study our Articles of Faith, rewrite article four (4) concerning the Holy Spirit, and report back to the association at next year's meeting. The motion was adopted by the body.

We had a motion by Bro. Tim Hollis to adjourn this session of the association. We were dismissed in prayer by Rev. Don Taggart, pastor of Love Joy Free Will Baptist Church.

The meeting was adjourned.

### **SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING, MARCH 1987**

The semi-annual meeting of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was held on March 14, 1987 with the First Free Will Baptist Church of Decatur. Rev. M. H. Hollis, moderator; Rev. Billy Wilson, assistant moderator; and Bro. Raphael Yerby, clerk.

The meeting opened with a song, "To God Be The Glory," directed by Rodney Yerby. The opening prayer was by Bro. Lennie Ray Dubose.

We were welcomed to this meeting by the host pastor, Rev. Milton Gann. The response was by Rev. Billy Wilson, assistant moderator. Prayer was by Rev. Billy Wilson.

We had another song, "The Old Rugged Cross," directed by Bro. Rodney Yerby.

We were treated to a special in song, "Precious Lord Lead Me On," by a quartet from the Decatur Church.

The devotion was brought by Rev. Jeff Cole, using Ephesians 6:6-7 as his scripture text.

We had a song "Victory In Jesus," directed by Bro. Rodney Yerby.

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

We had a report of the Committee on Committees by Rev. David Hayes, Chairman. The various committees were appointed for the annual business meeting in October.

We had a motion and second to take the recommendation of the Credential Committee off the table (tabled in the last business session due to a constitutional requirement), and dispose of it. The report was read and the moderator called for discussion. We had a motion, second and vote carried to adopt the recommendation.

Rev. Milton Gann gave a report on the need for workers and financial support for the National Association meeting of Free Will Baptists in Birmingham.

We were dismissed for a short recess by the moderator. After the recess we had a song, "When We All Get To Heaven," directed by Bro. Rodney Yerby.

We had a short report by Rev. L. B. Nix on his plans to go to the mission field in Hawaii.

Rev. Dickie Dees gave a short report on the many needs of repairs at the Youth Camp and encouraged all the churches to support this need with their finances. He also encouraged all our people to attend Rally Day at the camp on April 4, 1987.

Just before the 11:00 a.m. message we were treated to a special in song, "Take What I Have And Use It Lord," by Kelly Carnes from the Decatur Church.

The 11:00 a.m. message was brought by Rev. Edward Puckett, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Sulligent. His subject was "Soul Winning." He used Mark 16:15-16 and Proverbs 11:30 as his scripture text. Prayer was by the speaker. After a challenging message we had a song of invitation, "Trust And Obey," directed by Bro. Rodney Yerby. After the song we had an altar prayer directed by Rev. M. H. Hollis, moderator.

We were dismissed from this session of the association and enjoyed a delicious lunch furnished by the host church. The dismissal prayer and blessing of the food was by Bro. Richard Johnson.

### CHURCHES AND DELEGATES AS LISTED

BEAVERTON - Sisters Emma Harris, Diana Cole and Fay Humphries.

BELK - Sisters Sue Yerby, Jane Hindman, Mamie Gilpin, Pam Byars, Iva Powell; Myrlee Newman, Alternate.

COOPER - Brother Jimmy Sullins; Sisters Nelda Kizzire, Lena Mae Rye, Joyce Dubelak, Lilly Miles, Gennell Gann; Lena Johnson and Brothers Ray Kelley and Robert Kelley, Alternates.



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

**DECATUR** - Brothers Randall Lamb, Harold Goode, Rodney Yerby; Sisters Mary Yerby, Betty Goode; Bro. Curtis Dolan and Sister Sula Gann, Alternates.

**DEPRIEST CHAPEL** - Brother Larry Frye; Sisters Linda Frye, Mary Wise, Shelia Irvin and Brenda Wise.

**FREE WILL CHAPEL** - Brothers Bill Brown, W. G. Stanford, Wallace Harris, Otto Williams, Ken Tate, Billy Joe Turner; Sisters Pearlie Turner, Margarette Brown and Alice Tate.

**FRIENDSHIP** - Sisters Lura Moore and Myrtle Reynolds.

**LIBERTY** - Brothers Roy Perkins, Barksdale Higgins; Sisters Ruby Nell Higgins, Jo Nina Lanier, Charlette Stripling, Joyce Doherty, Eula Mae Dubose.

**LOVE JOY** - Brother J. R. Coley; Sisters Linda Barnes, Alisa Barnes, Theresa Taggart, Nina Robertson; Bro. Tom Coley, Alternate.

**MT. HARMONY** - Sisters Frances Beasley, Delane Robertson, Shirley Wheeler, Kathy Taylor; Mildred Perkins, Alternate.

**MT. PLEASANT** - Sisters Willie Quin Vail, Pearlie Allen and Mary Merchant.

**MT. WILLING** - Brothers Roger Rye, Ralph Lee, Hank Garrison; Sisters Margie Lee and Sammie Roberts.

**PINEY GROVE** - Brothers Doug Stripling, Chris Pederson; Sister Carol Barnes, and Gera Mae Bobo.

**SPRINGFIELD** - Brothers Richard Johnson, Tim Hollis; Sisters Ora Jordan, Burma Jordan, Dean Rushing; Dorothy Hollis, Alternate.

**SULLIGENT** - Brothers Robert Carter, Tim Sizemore, Chris Sizemore; Sisters Sandra Carter, Darlene Carter, Alice Ann Carruth, Polly Mixon, Jean Jeffries, and Christine Sizemore.

**TAYLOR SPRINGS** - Brother J. C. Young and Sister Eunice Perkins.

**UNION CHAPEL** - Sisters Frances Christian, Lanore Nesbitt, Beatrice Christian and Joyce Hardy.

**VERNON** - Brothers Clyde Motes, Mike McDaniel, Russell Hudson; Sisters Eldridge Motes, Elwanda Oakes, Ina Yerby and Docie Turner.



**GENERAL BOARD**

BEAVERTON - None Listed  
BELK - Dalton Gilpin  
COOPER - Jimmy Sullins  
DAVIS CHAPEL - None Listed  
DECATUR - Rodney Yerby  
DEPRIEST CHAPEL - Joe Mack Easter  
FREE WILL CHAPEL - Kenneth Tate  
FRIENDSHIP - None Listed.  
LIBERTY - Lennie Ray Dubose  
LOVE JOY - Loyd Carter  
MT. HARMONY - Edwin P. Wheeler  
MT. PLEASANT - Jim Corbell  
MT. WILLING - Lucion G. Flynn  
PINEY GROVE - Tommie Robertson  
SPRINGFIELD - Otis Baucom  
SULLIGENT - John Q. Boyett  
TAYLOR SPRINGS - J. C. Young  
UNION CHAPEL - Jessie Yerby  
VERNON - 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.

Beaverton

Belk

Cooper

Davis Chapel

Decatur

Depriest Chapel

Free Will Chapel

Friendship

Liberty

Love Joy

**COMMITTEE AND MEMBERS FOR 1987**

**CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE**

Rev. Don Taggart - 1988  
Rev. Edward Puckett - 1989  
Rev. James Walden - 1990  
Bro. Lennie Ray Dubose - 1991  
Bro. Pascal Yerby - 1992

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

Bro. Richard Johnson  
Sister Frances Beasley  
Sister Mary Wise  
Bro. Harold Goode

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Bro. Rodney Yerby  
Sister Joyce Hardy  
Sister Linda Barnes

**DECEASED MEMBERS  
COMMITTEE**

Sister Elwanda Oakes  
Sister Margie Lee  
Sister Margarette Brown  
Sister Sue Yerby

**BOARD OF CHRISTIAN  
EDUCATION**

Bro. Tim Hollis - 1988  
Rev. David Hayes - 1989  
Rev. Jerry Smith - 1990  
Rev. Ronnie Scott - 1991  
Rev. James Walden - 1992

**YOUTH CAMP COMMITTEE**

All pastors of the Vernon  
Association.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Rev. M. H. Hollis  
Rev. Dennis Kizzire  
Bro. Raphael Yerby  
Bro. Kenneth Tate  
Bro. Edwin Wheeler  
Bro. Tommie Robertson  
Bro. Dalton Gilpin

**YOUTH CAMP BOARD  
OF DIRECTORS**

Rev. Dennis Kizzire - 1988  
Bro. Lewis Hindman - 1989  
Rev. Don Taggart - 1990

**COMMITTEE ON  
COMMITTEES 1988**

Rev. Jerry Smith  
Rev. Fred Graham  
Bro. Doug Stripling

**DIGEST COMMITTEE 1988**

Bro. W. G. Stanford  
Sister Joyce Dubelak  
Sister Diane Cole  
Bro. Tim Hollis

**APPRECIATION COMMITTEE**

Sister Theresa Taggart  
Sister Robbie Birmingham  
Sister Pam Byars

**TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE**

Bro. Robert Carter  
Bro. Jimmy Sullins  
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 1,489, with an average attendance of 1,134.

Our C.T.S. enrollment is 492, with an average attendance of 393. All nineteen of our churches show having a Sunday School, but only eight of our churches show having a C.T.S. program. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard Johnson, Chairman

### **GENERAL BOARD REPORT**

We, the General Board, met on September 1, 1987, at the Springfield Free Will Baptist Church. We make the following report:

The Board voted to appoint Rev. Dennis Kizzire to fill out the unexpired term of Rev. Billy Wilson as assistant moderator of the Association. Bro. Wilson moved out of the state of Alabama and resigned as assistant moderator. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. M. H. Hollis, Moderator

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

We, the Finance Committee make the following report:

The balance on hand at the end of the current year (10-17-87) is \$999.09. A Total of \$1,105.00 has been received from our churches in dues for this year, bringing our balance to \$2,104.08. Estimated expenses for the next year are \$1,186.50, leaving a projected balance of \$917.58 at the end of next year. M.S.C.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rodney Yerby, Chairman

NOTE: Two (2) churches, Mt. Harmony and Mt. Pleasant did not send in any minute fund dues.

### **TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Temperance Committee Report was an oral report given by Bro. Robert Carter using Proverbs 23:1-4, 29-32, 16:32, 25:16, 28; Philipians 4:5; First Corinthians 9:25-27; Galatians 5:22-23; Second Peter 1:5-9 and Titus 2:1-15 as his report. M.S.C.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Robert Carter, Chairman

### **CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT**

We, the Credentials Committee, would like to make the following report:

Piney Grove Church has asked that Brother Dexter Guin, who is a member of their church, be accepted into the Vernon Association. We recommend his acceptance into the Association pending a letter of recommendation from his former association.

Mt. Harmony Church requests that their Pastor, Rev. James Walden, be accepted into the Vernon Association. Brother Walden brings a letter of good standing from the Cahaba River Association. We recommend that he be accepted into this body.

We feel that we are fortunate to have these men coming to our association and we recommend their acceptance into our body.

Since last year's session we granted Rev. Howard Simmons a letter of good standing to leave the Vernon Association.

We also recommend a card of good standing be given each minister present today. M.S.C.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pascal Yerby, Chairman

### **APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

We, the Appreciation Committee, make the following report:

We wish to thank the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church for their warm hospitality in allowing us to convene with them for this session. We also thank them for the delicious noon meal.

We praise the Lord for His presence here today and for the fellowship among His Children. M.S.C.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Theresa Taggart, Chairperson

### **COMMITTEE REPORT ON DECEASED MEMBERS**

We the committee on Deceased Members make the following report:

BEAVERTON - None

BELK - Bro. Lamar Overton

COOPER - None

DAVIS CHAPEL - Sister Lillie B. Sanford

DECATUR - Bro. Roy Jones and Bro. Curtis Dolan

DEPRIEST CHAPEL - None

FREE WILL CHAPEL - None

FRIENDSHIP - None

LIBERTY - Bro. Claudus Barnes

LOVE JOY - Bro. P. A. Barnes

MT. HARMONY - Bro. Odis Robertson, Sis. Essie Cole, Sis. Dessie Wheeler, Sis. Lue McReynolds, and Bro. Reece Mitchell

MT. PLEASANT - Sister Vera Sanders

MT. WILLING - Bro. Johnny Markham, Sis. Estell Darty, and Sis America Lee



PINEY GROVE - Bro. Covin Finch

SPRINGFIELD - Sister Edith Weeks

SULLIGENT - Bro. Paul Scott, Bro. Pete Hawkins, and Sis. Johnnie Duesing.

TAYLOR SPRINGS - Bro. Carlos Barnes

UNION CHAPEL - Bro. William D. Glasgow and Bro. Raymond Graves.

VERNON - Sis. Ruth Langley, Sis. Avis Hall, and Bro. Howard Gilmore.

We would like to read John 14:1-3.

We recommend that we stand and have a moment of silence in remembrance of them and their contributions to their local church and to our Association and be led in prayer by Rev. James Walden. We would like for the congregation to sing "Amazing Grace" in memory of our loved ones. M.S.C.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Elwanda Oakes, Chairperson

### VERNON DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY REPORT

We have three auxiliaries in our District at the present time. Free Will Chapel, Vernon and Springfield, active members on roll are 40.

Contributions given outside our local churches totaled \$2,202.57. Of this, \$584.84 went to Home Missions, \$1,279.73 went to Foreign Missions, \$256.00 to Retired Ministers fund and \$82.00 went to State Project money.

We sponsored a Mission Banquet at the Vernon Cafetorium on January 17, 1987 with attendance of 113. Our speakers were Rev. Eddie Payne and Rev. Louie Nix. Each speaker was given a love offering. Bro. Payne received \$150.00 and Bro. Nix received \$67.27. After the banquet expenses were paid, a check for \$154.38 was sent to Eddie Payne's account.

The ninth annual District Convention met at Springfield on March 28, 1987. Norman and Laura McFall, Missionaries to Brazil, were our guest speakers. They were given a love offering of \$200.00.

Vernon District hosted the State Convention on May 2, 1987 at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Vernon. The Sunday School Department was set up as a Calico Fair, displaying the talent of the women of our area. The 138 people who attended the rally enjoyed this as well as the speakers and other specials. We sent gifts for the provision closet and saw the bonnets and aprons that had been made for the National meeting, which we helped host in July in Birmingham, Alabama.

The Fall Fellowship was held at Free Will Chapel on September 12, 1987 with 28 women registering.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Vernon District Auxiliary

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Executive Committee met on January 26, 1987 to plan the March meeting of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association and to secure a speaker for the meeting.

The committee voted to invite Rev. Edward Puckett to preach the 11:00 a.m. message. We also voted to ask Rev. Jeff Cole to have the morning devotion and to ask Bro. Rodney Yerby to be in charge of the singing.

The Executive Committee met again, along with the General Board, on September 1, 1987 to plan the program and secure the speakers for the annual meeting of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association on October 17, 1987.

The committee voted to invite Rev. Luther Gibson to be our guest speaker at the 11:00 a.m. worship service. We also voted to ask Bro. Tim Sizemore to have the morning devotion and Bro. Tommie Dubose to have the afternoon devotion. We asked 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 \$125.00 or the offering, whichever was the greater.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rev. M. H. Hollis, Moderator

DIGEST COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Digest Committee make the following report:

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| STATISTICS:                                    |                |
| Number Churches.....                           | 19             |
| Full Time Pastors.....                         | 15             |
| Part Time Pastors.....                         | 3              |
| Tithes & Offerings (12 Churches Reported)..... | \$435,800.35   |
| Ordained Ministers.....                        | 25             |
| Licensed Ministers.....                        | 9              |
| Ordained Deacons.....                          | 71             |
| Churches with Daycare.....                     | 1              |
| Churches with Kindergarten.....                | 1              |
| Churches with Sunday School.....               | 19             |
| Sunday School Enrollment.....                  | 1,489          |
| Average Attendance in Sunday School.....       | 1,134          |
| Baptisms.....                                  | 49             |
| Members Added.....                             | 99             |
| Members Lost by Death or Letter.....           | 69             |
| Total Membership.....                          | 2,610          |
| Churches with Parsonages.....                  | 9              |
| Value of All Church Property.....              | \$3,044,000.00 |
| Including Parsonages (15 Churches Reporting)   |                |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Churches with C.T.S.....                 | 8   |
| C.T.S. Enrollment.....                   | 492 |
| C.T.S. Average Attendance.....           | 393 |
| Churches With Ladies Auxiliary.....      | 9   |
| Ladies Auxiliary Enrollment.....         | 120 |
| Ladies Auxiliary Average Attendance..... | 13  |
| Churches With Masters Men.....           | 6   |
| Masters Men Enrollment.....              | 86  |
| Masters Men Average Attendance.....      | 12  |

Respectfully Submitted,  
Wallace Harris, Chairman

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 1987

Once again we Praise the Lord for His blessing this past year. We also want to ask Him to pour out His blessing even more during the coming year.

Our camp attendance was down this past summer and we want to encourage pastors and church workers to emphasize our camp program more. We had a total of 83 during the Junior week and a total of 34 during the Senior week. This gave us a total of 117 attending camp.

The attendance at our annual Valentine Banquet was 82.

We thank the Lord again for our young people that competed at the Sulligent Church this last year and those that went on to Forestdale to represent us at the State Level.

This past year we also had an Evangelism Conference with our Home Missions Team. We certainly had some wonderful services and the presence of the Lord was truly felt. M.S.C.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rev. Don Taggart, Chairman

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD  
OF THE VERNON ASSOCIATION  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1986-1987

|                                      |                   |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Beginning Balance, Oct. 1, 1986..... | \$2,469.83        |
| Monies Received.....                 | <u>\$6,229.82</u> |
| Total To Account For.....            | \$8,699.65        |
| Expenditures.....                    | <u>\$8,031.59</u> |
| Balance, Sept. 30, 1987.....         | \$ 668.06         |

## Received During 1986/87 year:

|                                 |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Mt. Harmony .....               | \$ 375.00 |
| 1st. Tuscaloosa .....           | \$ 100.00 |
| Sulligent .....                 | \$ 100.00 |
| Piney Grove .....               | \$ 100.00 |
| Free Will Chapel .....          | \$ 635.06 |
| Belk .....                      | \$ 795.00 |
| Cooper .....                    | \$ 112.46 |
| 1st. Vernon .....               | \$ 277.13 |
| Evangelism Conf. Offering ..... | \$ 171.13 |
| Valentine Banquet Fees .....    | \$ 313.00 |
| James Dunbar .....              | \$ 34.00  |
| CTS Competition Fees .....      | \$ 395.00 |
| Camp Fees .....                 | \$1460.00 |
| Concession .....                | \$ 278.00 |
| Camp Fees, Sr. ....             | \$ 662.00 |
| Concession, Sale of Food .....  | \$ 421.74 |
| TOTAL INCOME .....              | \$6229.82 |

## Expenditures 1986/87:

|                                    |           |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Postage/Mailing .....              | \$ 200.19 |
| Evangelism Conference .....        | \$1496.50 |
| Insurance, Campers .....           | \$ 310.60 |
| Board Expense .....                | \$ 88.98  |
| Youth Rally .....                  | \$ 138.65 |
| CTS Competition Fees (State) ..... | \$ 325.00 |
| CTS Competition Awards .....       | \$250.45  |
| NWAFWB-Camp Rental .....           | \$ 600.00 |
| NWAFWB Camp 25% Income .....       | \$ 406.75 |
| Film Rentals .....                 | \$ 75.14  |
| Valentine Banquet .....            | \$ 616.95 |
| Youth Camps Jr. & Sr. ....         | \$2662.52 |
| Life Guards .....                  | \$ 150.00 |
| Camp Evangelists .....             | \$ 500.00 |
| Camp Supplies & Equipment .....    | \$ 209.86 |
| TOTAL EXPENSE .....                | \$8031.59 |



# VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

| CHURCH           | PASTOR'S ADDRESS  | TELEPHONE         | CLERK'S ADDRESS   |
|------------------|---|-------------------|---|
| BEAVERTON        | Rev. R. C. Humphries<br>Route 1, Box 212<br>Vina, Ala. 35593    | 356-4206          | Mrs. Joan Mosley<br>Route 1, Box 253-B<br>Beaverton, Ala. 35544   |
| BELK             | Rev. Dexter Guin<br>P. O. Box 31<br>Belk, Ala. 35545            | 932-3144          | Rosa L. Atkins<br>P. O. Box 45<br>Belk, Ala. 35545                |
| COOPER           | Rev. Dennis Kizzire<br>Route 1<br>Detroit, Ala. 35552           | 921-2440          | Mrs. Lena Mae Rye<br>Route 6, Box 72-B<br>Hamilton, Ala. 35570    |
| DAVIS CHAPEL     | Rev. Elzie Gilliam<br>Route 1, Box 196<br>Berry, Ala. 35546     | 339-2556          | Mrs. Louise Cannon<br>Route 1, Box 300<br>Berry, Ala. 35546       |
| DECATUR          | Rev. Milton Gann<br>809 Westwood Dr., SW<br>Decatur, Ala. 35601 | 353-5822          | Mrs. Betty Goode<br>711 Barclift St.<br>Hartselle, Ala. 35640     |
| DEPRIEST CHAPEL  | Rev. Fred Graham<br>P. O. Box 435<br>Vernon, Ala. 35592         | 695-9631          | Mr. Gene Wise<br>P. O. Box 132<br>Gattman, MS 38844               |
| FREE WILL CHAPEL | Rev. Jerry Smith<br>Route 2, Box 54<br>Sulligent, Ala. 35586    | 695-6119          | Mrs. Dorothy Gideon<br>P. O. Box 101<br>Vernon, Ala. 35592        |
| FRIENDSHIP       | Rev. James C. Newell<br>Route 1, Box 107<br>Vernon, Ala. 35592  | 695-6101          | Mrs. Lura Moore<br>Route 2, Box 481<br>Millport, Ala. 35576       |
| LIBERTY          | Rev. James Doherty<br>Route 2<br>Vernon, Ala. 35592             | 695-9406          | Mr. Steve Butler<br>Route 2, Box 74-P-1<br>Fayette, Ala. 35555    |
| LOVE JOY         | Rev. Donald Taggart<br>Route 1, Box 158<br>Vernon, Ala. 35592   | 695-7546          | Mrs. Linda Barnes<br>Route 1, Box 370<br>Guin, Ala. 35563         |
| MT. HARMONY      | Rev. James Walden<br>Route 1, Box 54<br>Kennedy, Ala. 35574     | 596-3548          | Mr. Erbie Robertson<br>Route 3, Box 407<br>Vernon, Ala. 35592     |
| MT. PLEASANT     | Rev. Lloyd Vail<br>P. O. Box 535<br>Vernon, Ala. 35592          | 695-9583          | Mrs. Theresa Allen<br>Route 2, Box 231-A<br>Sulligent, Ala. 35586 |
| MT. WILLING      | Rev. Charles Fowler<br>Route 5, Box 194<br>Fayette, Ala. 35555  | 932-6589          | Mrs. Audra Flynn<br>Route 1, Box 237<br>Guin, Ala. 35563          |
| PINEY GROVE      | Rev. Dickie Dees<br>P. O. Box 888<br>Sulligent, Ala. 35586      | 698-9664          | Mrs. Jackie Atkinson<br>P. O. Box 563<br>Winfield, Ala. 35594     |
| SPRINGFIELD      | Rev. M. H. Hollis<br>P. O. Box 183<br>Vernon, Ala. 35592        | 695-7736          | Mr. Roy Ashby<br>Route 1, Box 221<br>Vernon, Ala. 35592           |
| SULLIGENT        | Rev. Edward Puckett<br>Route 1, Box 44<br>Sulligent, Ala. 35586 | 698-8177          | Mrs. Kitty L. Taylor<br>Route 1, Box 54<br>Sulligent, Ala. 35586  |
| TAYLOR SPRINGS   | Rev. C. C. Berryhill<br>Greenwood Springs,<br>Miss. 38848       | (601)<br>256-8225 | Mrs. Vicky Egger<br>Route 3<br>Sulligent, Ala. 35586              |
| UNION CHAPEL     | Rev. Ronald A. Scott<br>P. O. Box 681<br>Vernon, Ala. 35592     | 695-6693          | Mr. James E. Maddox<br>Route 2, Box 172<br>Vernon, Ala. 35592     |
| VERNON           | Rev. David Hayes<br>P. O. Box 1211<br>Vernon, Ala. 35592        | 695-9730          | Miss Elwanda Oakes<br>P. O. Box 351<br>Vernon, Ala. 35592         |

| Members Received | Members Deceased | Total Members | Number In Sunday School | Number In C.T.S. | Number In Ladies Aux | Ordained Ministers |
|------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------------|------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 7                | 0                | 24            | 32                      | 0                | 0                    | 2                  |
| 7                | 1                | 143           | 105                     | 60               | 22                   | 0                  |
| 6                | 0                | 201           | 113                     | 0                | 21                   | 1                  |
| 0                | 1                | 77            | 12                      | 0                | 0                    | 0                  |
| 9                | 2                | 173           | 75                      | 19               | 12                   | 1                  |
| 3                | 0                | 73            | 76                      | 0                | 0                    | 1                  |
| 13               | 0                | 193           | 127                     | 0                | 19                   | 1                  |
| 0                | 0                | 48            | 40                      | 0                | 0                    | 1                  |
| 1                | 1                | 240           | 102                     | 65               | 16                   | 1                  |
| 4                | 1                | 85            | 78                      | 0                | 15                   | 2                  |
| 11               | 5                | 132           | 61                      | 37               | 0                    | 2                  |
| 1                | 1                | 88            | 51                      | 0                | 0                    | 1                  |
| 0                | 3                | 120           |                         | 0                | 0                    | 2                  |
| 13               | 1                | 176           | 109                     | 77               | 12                   | 2                  |
| 9                | 1                | 179           | 100                     | 75               | 8                    | 1                  |
| 9                | 3                | 279           | 191                     | 74               | 0                    | 2                  |
| 0                | 1                | 35            | 15                      | 0                | 0                    | 0                  |
| 6                | 2                | 76            | 50                      | 0                | 0                    | 2                  |
| 0                | 2                | 266           | 102                     | 85               | 19                   | 2                  |

## FINANCIAL REPORT

NORTHWEST ALABAMA FREE WILL BAPTIST YOUTH CAMP  
SEPTEMBER 1986 - AUGUST 1987

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD..... \$ 1,175.97

## RECEIPTS:

## JASPER ASSOCIATION GIFTS \$ 6,554.26

|                         |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Brilliant.....          | \$ 552.58 |
| Carbon Hill.....        | \$ 150.58 |
| Cedrom Grove.....       | \$ 430.00 |
| Red Bay.....            | \$ 400.00 |
| FreeWater.....          | \$ 300.00 |
| Guin.....               | \$ 500.00 |
| Liberty.....            | \$ 400.00 |
| Mt. Olive.....          | \$1700.00 |
| Mt. Pleasant.....       | \$ 100.10 |
| New Liberty.....        | \$ 400.00 |
| Pocahontas.....         | \$ 675.00 |
| Shady Grove.....        | \$ 151.00 |
| Winfield.....           | \$ 785.00 |
| Jasper Association..... | \$ 10.00  |

## PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION GIFTS \$ 3,451.85

|                              |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Cordova.....                 | \$ 200.00 |
| Dovertown.....               | \$ 200.00 |
| Fayette.....                 | \$1870.98 |
| Pleasant Grove.....          | \$ 325.47 |
| South Highland.....          | \$ 300.00 |
| Townley.....                 | \$ 55.40  |
| Progressive Association..... | \$ 500.00 |

## VERNON ASSOCIATION GIFTS \$ 3,241.65

|                         |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Belk.....               | \$ 450.00 |
| Decatur.....            | \$ 500.00 |
| Sulligent.....          | \$1251.99 |
| Piney Grove.....        | \$ 135.00 |
| Springfield.....        | \$ 600.00 |
| Mt. Willing.....        | \$ 100.00 |
| Vernon C. E. Board..... | \$ 104.66 |
| Vernon Association..... | \$ 100.00 |

**OTHER** \$ 2,481.06

**Camp Fees:**

|                                      |           |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Jasper Association.....              | \$ 600.00 |
| Progressive Association.....         | \$ 600.00 |
| Vernon Association.....              | \$ 600.00 |
| East Alabama Association.....        | \$ 400.00 |
| Alabama State Women's Auxiliary..... | \$ 60.00  |
| Vernon District Auxiliary.....       | \$ 50.00  |
| Misc. Cash From Rally Day.....       | \$ 48.67  |
| Offering For Camp Meal.....          | \$ 122.39 |

**TOTAL** \$16,904.79

**TOTAL TO BE ACCOUNTED FOR** \$16,904.79

**EXPENDITURES**

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Electric.....                          | \$2128.95 |
| Water.....                             | \$ 350.87 |
| Telephone.....                         | \$ 582.46 |
| Camp Insurance.....                    | \$3524.41 |
| Pest Control.....                      | \$ 75.00  |
| Loan Payments.....                     | \$4083.59 |
| Repair & Upkeep.....                   | \$2695.22 |
| Meals - Preachers & Board Members..... | \$ 404.91 |
| Postage.....                           | \$ 33.00  |
| Rally Day.....                         | \$ 97.20  |
| Pool Equipment & Supplies.....         | \$1083.61 |
| Equipment Repair.....                  | \$ 210.15 |
| Refrigerator.....                      | \$ 737.23 |
| Freezer.....                           | \$ 477.00 |
| Recreational Equipment.....            | \$ 372.10 |

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES** \$16,855.70

**BALANCE IN BANK AS OF AUGUST 31, 1987** \$ 49.09

Secretary/Treasurer: Dennis Haygood  
Route 2, Box 376  
Guin, AL 35563

**VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION  
FINANCIAL REPORT**

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Balance on hand 10-18-86.....                                  | \$ 1025.12 |
| Offering Received at Association.....                          | 141.75     |
| Received From Mt. Willing Church.....                          | 484.75     |
| (Designated \$200.00 for Youth Camp and \$284.75 for Home Mis- |            |
| sions)   |            |
| Received From Decatur, First. F.W.B.....                       | 500.00     |
| (Designated for Youth Camp)                                    |            |
| Minute Funds Received.....                                     | 1255.00    |
| Received From F.W.B. Youth Crusade.....                        | 38.73      |
| Total To Account For.....                                      | \$3445.35  |

**Expenditures:**

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Rev. Edward Puckett (moderator).....     | \$ 50.00   |
| Rev. M. H. Hollis (asst. Moderator)..... | 25.00      |
| Raphael Yerby (clerk).....               | 75.00      |
| Dr. Randy Cox (guest speaker).....       | 341.75     |
| NWAFWB Youth Camp.....                   | 700.00     |
| FWB Home Missions.....                   | 284.75     |
| Alabama State Association Dues.....      | 400.00     |
| Postage and Supplies.....                | 88.27      |
| Thumb Print (printing minutes).....      | 481.50     |
| Total Expenditures.....                  | \$ 2446.27 |
| Balance on hand 10-17-87.....            | \$ 999.08  |

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. Delmus Miller, Winfield, Alabama 35594  
 Rev. Fred Graham, P. O. Box 435, Vernon, Alabama 35592  
 Rev. Edward Puckett, Route 1, Box 44, 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. Lloyd George, Route 1, Box 246, Caledonia, Mississippi 39740  
 Rev. Jerry Smith, Route 2, Box 54, Sulligent, Alabama 35586  
 Rev. Dickie Dees, P. O. Box 888, Sulligent, Alabama 35586  
 Rev. L. B. Nix, P. O. Box 508, Kekaha, Hawaii  
 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. S.W., Decatur, Alabama 35601  
 Rev. Jim Doherty, Route 2, Vernon, Alabama 35592  
 Rev. David Hayes, P. O. Box 1211, Vernon, Alabama 35592  
 Rev. R. C. Humphries, Route 1, Box 212, Vina, Alabama 35593  
 Rev. Ronald A. Scott, P. O. Box 681, Vernon, Alabama 35592  
 Rev. Jeffery Cole, P. O. Box 132, Guin, Alabama 35563  
 Rev. James Walden, Route 1, Box 54, Kennedy, Alabama 35574  
 Rev. Dexter Guin, P. O. Box 31, Belk, Alabama 35545

**List of Deacons**

BEAVERTON - Bros. Bobby Dykes and Russell Cole  
 BELK - Bros. Grady Newman, Raphael Yerby, Dalton Gilpin and  
 Lewis Hindman  
 COOPER - Bros. Burley Finch, Gordie Rye, Tony Clark and Hershel  
 Rye  
 DAVIS CHAPEL - None  
 DECATUR - Bro. Paul Jones  
 DEPRIEST CHAPEL - Bros. Kelly Easter, Joe Mack Easter, J. C.  
 Cantrell, Gene Wise and Phillip Wise.  
 FREE WILL CHAPEL - Bros. 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 L. Robertson, Guary Taylor, Lloyd Carter and Clayton Barnes

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

MT. PLEASANT - None

MT. WILLING - Bros. Elzie Guin, Earl McDonald, Emmit Lee, Obie Haney 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, and Ray Birmingham,

TAYLOR SPRINGS - Bro. Stanley Cooper

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

VERNON - Bros. Pascal Yerby, Paul Shelnut, Titus Barnes, Edgar Turner, Derrell Wheeler, Wayne Steadman and Eris Wilson

**NAMES OF DECEASED MINISTERS**

Rev. J. W. Springfield, Rev. W. B. Taylor, Rev. W. R. Turman, Rev. Tom Butler, Rev. J. R. Robertson, Rev. M. D. McGee, Rev. J. R. Baker, Rev. W. 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. J. A. Tate, 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, Rev. Frank Collins, and Rev. William D. Glasgow.

**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, David Barton, and Odis Robertson.

### 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.

3. (C) Any ordained preacher coming from a denomination other than Free Will Baptist, joining a Free Will Baptist Church in our association, and requesting membership in the Vernon Association must first surrender his credentials from the other denomination to us, and then the Vernon Association will give him Free Will Baptist credentials.

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.