

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH  
SESSION

of the

VERNON FREE WILL  
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

held with

SPRINGFIELD FREE WILL BAPTIST  
CHURCH

1995 Minutes

OFFICERS FOR 1995

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH SESSION

MODERATOR ..... REV. DONALD TAGGART

ASSISTANT MODERATOR .....REV. EDWARD PUCKETT

CLERK ..... BRO. RAPHAEL H. YERBY

The next session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association will be held with First Free Will Baptist Church of Vernon on Saturday, March 16, 1996. Registration will begin at 9:30 A.M., and service will begin at 10:00 A.M. The annual session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association will be held with the Belk Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday, October 19, 1996, beginning at 9:00 A.M.

OFFICERS FOR 1996

MODERATOR ..... REV. DONALD TAGGART

738 Pennington Lane, Vernon, Alabama 35592

Telephone (205) 695-7546

ASSISTANT MODERATOR .....REV. EDWARD PUCKETT

5201 Highway 278, Sulligent, AL 35586

Telephone (205) 698-8177

CLERK ..... BRO. RAPHAEL H. YERBY

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

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## PROCEEDINGS

The one hundred and fifteenth session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was held with the Springfield Will Baptist Church on Saturday, October 14, 1995. Rev. Donald Taggart served as moderator, Rev. Edward Puckett served as assistant moderator and Bro. Raphael H. Yerby served as clerk.

The meeting opened with a song, "Lift Him Up", directed by Rev. Tommie Rushing. The opening prayer was by Rev. Lloyd Vail. We had another song, "Footsteps of Jesus", by Bro. Rushing.

We were welcomed to the Springfield Free Will Baptist Church by the host pastor, Rev. Jerry Williams. The response was given by Rev. Larry Reynolds. We had a special in song, "Heaven's Jubilee", by a group from Springfield Church.

The morning devotion was brought by Rev. Floyd Barber, pastor of the Union Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. He used Romans 8:35-39 and Hebrews 8:1-13 as his Scripture text.

The moderator's message and welcome to the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was by Rev. Don Taggart.

The Digest Committee report was given by Bro. Steve Butler, Chairman. We had a motion, second and vote to receive the report and discharge the committee.

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

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 our association. Those present were Rev. Rick Cash, Rev. Bill Smith, Rev. Rick Powers and Rev. Gerald Gann.

The Committee on Committees report was given by Rev. E. T. Sargent, Chairman, and the various committees were appointed to report to this session of the association. At this time, the moderator appointed a Committee on Committees for the 1996 session of the association. See List.

The moderator called for the report of the Vernon Association Board of Christian Education. The report was given by Rev. Roy Plymon, Chairman of the board. We had a motion, second and vote to receive the report.

The moderator recognized Rev. Rick Cash and asked him to give a report of the Trinity Free Will Baptist Youth Camp and share with us some of his

plans and goals as the first full-time youth camp director. Brother Cash shared a very interesting report of the activities of the camp for the past year and many of the accomplishments of the camp since its existence and some of the future plans and needs of the camp. We had a motion, second and vote to receive the report as information.

We had a report of the General Board by the clerk. We had a motion, second and vote to receive the report.

We had a report of the Credentials Committee. The report was given by Rev. Jerry Williams. We had a motion, second and vote to take the report and vote on it item by item. Item number four dealt with a change in the constitution and was read and tabled until the afternoon session. All other items of the report were adopted by the delegated body.

We had a song, "There is Power in the Blood" and welcomed all new ministers into the Vernon Association.

The Vernon district of Women Active For Christ report was given by Sister Bonnie Williams. We had a motion, second and vote to receive the report.

We were dismissed by the moderator for a short recess. The dismissal prayer was by Rev. David Sanderson.

After recess we had two songs, "The Old Account Was Settled" and "Where The Soul Never Dies", directed by Bro. Rushing. We received an offering. The offertory prayer was by Rev. M. H. Hollis. The amount of the offering was \$216.00.

We had two songs, "Land of Living Waters" and "Help Me To Stand", by the group from the Springfield Church just before the morning message.

The 11:00 A.M.. message was brought by Rev. Gerald Gann. Rev. Edward Puckett introduced the speaker for the morning worship service. Bro. Gann used II Timothy 4:14-15 and Romans 16:3-15 as his scripture text. Prayer was by the speaker. We had a song of invitation, "Just As I Am".

After the good, encouraging message, we were dismissed for the noon hour. The dismissal prayer and blessing of the food was offered by Rev. James Walden.

### AFTERNOON SESSION

After a delicious lunch and the noon hour of fellowship, we convened back in session at 1:00 P.M. with a song, "His Grace Is Sufficient", directed by Bro. Rushing. Prayer was by Rev. Rick Powers.

The afternoon devotion was brought by Bro. Adam Taggart of the New Center Point Free Will Baptist Church.

We had a report of the Temperance Committee by Sister Martha Stripling, Chairperson. We had a motion, second and vote to receive the report and discharge the committee.

The Deceased Members Committee report was given by Sister Sue Brown, Chairperson. We had a motion and second to sing "Amazing Grace" and have a prayer in memory of these loved ones.

The Sunday School and C.T.S. Committee report was given by Sister Carol DuBose, Chairperson. We had a motion, second and vote to receive the report and discharge the committee. We had a report of the Finance Committee by Sister Carol DuBose, Chairperson. We had a motion, second and vote to receive the report and discharge the committee.

The Appreciation Committee report was given by Sister Elwanda Oakes, Chairperson. We had a motion, second and vote to receive the report and to give the Springfield Free Will Baptist Church a rising vote of our appreciation for their wonderful hospitality.

At this time, we had an Ordination Service. Bro. Max Cunningham of the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church was ordained to preach the Gospel.

Rev. Rick Powers, pastor of the Liberty Church brought the ordination message using II Timothy 1:6 and I Timothy 5:22 as his scripture. The ordination charge was given by Rev. James Walden. He used II Timothy 4:1-7 as his scripture. The ordination prayer was by Rev. Edward Puckett.

We elected three (3) members to serve on the Board of Christian Education. Rev. Aubrey Gibson was elected to serve a five (5) year term on this board. Rev. Clark Ryman was elected to serve out the unexpired term of Rev. Larry Monday and Rev. Rick Powers was elected to serve the unexpired term of Rev. Jason Hurt.

We had a final report of the Credential Committee by Rev. Jerry Williams. We had a motion and second to take item number four (4) off the table and dispose of it. We had a motion, second and vote to adopt this item of the report.

The moderator appointed Rev. Randy Wright to serve a five (5) year term on the Credential Committee.

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

The moderator appointed the following delegates to the Alabama State Association:

Sister Rachel Barber  
Sister Sue Plymon

Sister Dorthy Hollis  
Sister Sue Yerby

Sister Bonnie WilliamsSister Eldridge Motes

Sis. Elwanda OakesBro. Clyde Motes

We selected a place for the Thanksgiving service and the moderator appointed a committee to plan the Vernon Association Thanksgiving service and secure a speaker. The service will be held at the Free Will Chapel Free Will Baptist Church on Tuesday night, November 21, 1995, beginning at 7:00 P.M. The committee appointed was Rev. Roy Plymon and Rev. Edward Puckett.

A place was chosen for the next two (2) meetings of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association. The First Free Will Baptist Church of Vernon requested the March meeting. The body voted to accept the invitation and hold the March meeting at the Vernon Church. The meeting will be held on Saturday, March 16, 1996. Registration begins at 9:30 A.M., and the service will begin at 10:00 A.M. The Belk Church then asked to host the October association meeting. The body voted to hold the annual association meeting at the Belk Free Will Baptist Church. The meeting will be held on Saturday, October 19, 1996, beginning at 9:00 A.M.

The moderator called for the election of officers of the association for the next year. The floor was opened for nomination of clerk of the association. Raphael Yerby was the only nominee and was elected by acclamation to serve as clerk.

Nomination was opened for moderator of the association. Rev. Don Taggart was the only nominee and was elected by acclamation to serve as moderator.

Nomination was opened for assistant moderator. Rev. Edward Puckett was the only nominee and was elected by acclamation to serve as assistant moderator.

The moderator called for any announcements. After the announcements, we had a motion, second and vote to adjourn this session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association. The dismissal prayer was by Rev. Jerry Williams. The meeting was adjourned.

There were a total of 123 people who registered for this session of the association. They were as follows:

Ministers	22	Delegates	68
Deacons	12	Visitors	21
Ministers that registered			
Rev. Floyd C. Barber		Rev. Fred Graham	
Rev. Rick Powers		Rev. Randy Wright	



Rev. Max Cunningham  
Rev. Don Taggart  
Rev. Clark Ryman  
Rev. Buddy Henry  
Rev. Larry Reynolds  
Rev. DeWight Bailey  
Rev. Aubrey Gibson  
Rev. E. T. Sargent  
Rev. David Sanderson

Rev. Roy Plymon  
Rev. Lloyd Vail  
Rev. James F. Walden  
Rev. Jerry Williams  
Rev. C. C. Berryhill  
Rev. John Powell  
Rev. M. H. Hollis  
Rev. Edward Puckett  
Bro. Jerry Barnes, Licensed

### **SEMIANNUAL MEETING, MARCH 1995**

The semiannual meeting of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was held on Saturday, March 18, 1995, with the Davis Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. Rev. Don Taggart served as moderator.

The meeting was opened with a song "Revive Us Again" and "The Old Account Was Settled", directed by Rev. Randy Wright. The opening prayer was by Rev. Edward Puckett.

We had some special singing at this time. One song was by Rev. E.T. Sargent. One song, "A Double Portion", by Bro. Sargent and a group of ladies from David Chapel Church. We had another special in song, "The Love of God" by Sister Clara Cobb.

The devotion was brought by Rev. M. H. Hollis of Mt. Pleasant Free Will Baptist Church. His subject was "History of the Past." He used II Peter 3:1 and Mark 14:8-9 as his Scripture text.

We had a report on the Foreign Missions' World Mission Offering for April 30, 1995, and encouraged all churches to take a special offering and do what they could for Foreign Missions on that date.

It was reported that the District Youth Competition would be held at Belk Free Will Baptist Church beginning at 9:00 A.M., on April. 22, 1995.

We were dismissed by the moderator for a short recess. The dismissal prayer was by Rev. David Sanderson.

After recess, we had two songs, "Living by Faith" and "I Feel Like Traveling On", directed by Bro. Wright.

We had two specials in song, "Glory To His Name" and "Are You Washed In The Blood?" by a quartet of preachers from the Vernon Association: Rev. Larry Reynolds, Rev. Randy Wright, Rev. M. H. Hollis and Rev. Jerry Williams.

We received an offering to be divided between Kreszena Monday, missionary to France, and Kevin Stacey, missionary to China. The total

offering received was \$120.00. The offertory prayer was by Rev. Buddy Henry.

Just before the morning message we had a special in song, "Peace Speaker", by Bro. Adam Taggart.

The 11:00 A.M. message was brought by Rev. Larry Reynolds, Pastor of the Belk Free Will Baptist Church. His subject was "What's Next?" He used I Thessalonians 4:16-18 and 5:1 as his scripture text. Prayer was by the speaker.

We were dismissed from this session of the Vernon Association and for the noon meal. We were served a delicious meal by the Davis Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. The dismissal prayer and the blessing of the food was by Rev. Roy Plymon, Pastor of the Free Will Chapel Free Will Baptist Church.

### **CHURCHES AND DELEGATES LISTED**

BEAVERTON- Sisters Emma Harris, Bonnie Bailey and Sharon Cantrell

BELK- Bro. Laren Williams, Charles Buckner, Phillip Carroll, Sisters Dee Williams, Sue Yerby, Sherry Reynolds, Alt. and Betty Jones, Alt.

COOPER - Bro. Pete Lewis, Sisters Judy Lewis, Willa Dean Miles and Gail Rye

DAVIS CHAPEL - Bros. Leon Scribner, Orvil Woodham, Sisters Ruby Scribner, Betty Woodham, Lorene Pike, Betty Gray and Jessmer Sargent

DEPRIEST CHAPEL - Bros. Terry Cummins, Mike Easter, Jerry Barnes, Sisters Lisa Cummins, Dona Easter, Sandra Barnes and Mary Wise

FREE WILL CHAPEL - Bros. Billy Joe Turner, W. G. Stanford, Sisters Pearlie Turner and Tammy Pless

FRIENDSHIP - Sister Lura Moore

LIBERTY - Bros. Steve Butler, Barksdale Higgins, Loyd DuBose, Alt., Sisters Carol Dubose, Fran Powers, Ruby Nell Higgins, Loree Christain, Eula Mae DuBose, Ora Seay Burnette, Alt., Lisa Cunningham, Alt., and Lois DuBose, Alt.

LOVE JOY - Bro. George Gilliland, Sisters Larua Carter, Nina Robertson, Melinda Sanderson, Ellie Mixon and Doris Trice, Alt.

MT. HARMONY - Bros. J. T. Johnson, Jr., Clayton Huguley, Sisters Aileen Brown, Betty Brock and Linda Hubbert

MT. PLEASANT - Sisters Pearlie Allen, Mary Merchant, Olene Morton and Michelle Merchant, Alt.

MT. WILLING -Bro. Lucion Flynn, Sisters Audra Flynn and Michelle Gibson



NEW CENTER POINT - Bros. Dennis Tate, Wade Vann, Jim Nortington, Sisters Mittie Tate, Ordie Mae Vann and Theresa Taggart

PINEY GROVE - Bros. W. D. Stripling, Sisters Martha Stripling and Gera Mae Bobo

SPRINGFIELD - Bros. Richard Johnson, Harold Goode, Sisters Burma Jordan, Bonnie Williams, Dean Rushing and Belva Pennington, Alt.

SILLIGENT FIRST - Bros. Josh Northington, Alvis Gibson, Troy Kelly, Ricky Stanford, Alton Terrell, Jessie Thompson, Bob Carter, Sisters Patsy Merchant, Una Kelly, Lisa Stanford, Robbie Thompson, Geraldine Clark and Sandra Carter.

TAYLOR SPRINGS - Bro. J. C. Young and Sister Sue Brown

UNION CHAPEL - Bro. Noble Christian, Sisters Rachel Barber, Beatrice Christian, Frances Christian and Joyce Hardy

VERNON FIRST - Bros. Mike McDaniel, Clyde Motes, Zadus Turner, Sr., Sisters Gloria Christian, Eldridge Motes, Lou Ella Knight and Elwanda Oakes.

### GENERAL BOARD

BEAVERTON - Elvada Markham

BELK - Dalton Gilpin

COOPER - Edward Finch

DAVIS CHAPEL - None

DEPRIEST CHAPEL - Jerry Barnes

FREE WILL CHAPEL - David Gunnels

FRIENDSHIP - None

LIBERTY - Lennie R. DuBose

LOVE JOY - Heath Yielding

MT. HARMONY - Phil Wheeler

MT. PLEASANT - None

MT. WILLING - Rev. Aubrey Gibson

NEW CENTER POINT - Wade Vann

PINEY GROVE - Tommy Robertson

SPRINGFIELD - Rev. Lloyd Vail

SULLIGENT FIRST - Bob Carter

TAYLOR SPRINGS - Steve Spencer

UNION CHAPEL - None

VERNON FIRST - Bobby Turner

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 annual session of the association.

Mt. Harmony

Mt. Pleasant

Mt. Willing

New Center Point

Piney Grove

Springfield

Sulligent First

Taylor Springs

Union Chapel

Vernon First

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**COMMITTEE AND MEMBERS FOR 1995****CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE**

Bro. Edsel Gideon - 1996  
Bro. Pascal Yerby - 1997  
Rev. Jerry Williams - 1998  
Rev. Edward Puckett - 1999  
Rev. Randy Wright - 2000

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

Bro. Phillip Carroll  
Sis. Nina Robertson  
Bro. Troy Kelly  
Bro. Leon Scrivner

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Bro. Clayton Huguley  
Bro. Jerry Barnes  
Sis. Carol DuBose

**DECEASED MEMBERS  
COMMITTEE**

Bro. Lucion Flynn  
Sis. Gail Rye  
Sis. Lura Moore  
Sis. Sue Brown

**DIGEST COMMITTEE 1996**

Bro. Harold Goode  
Bro. Mike McDaniel  
Bro. Wade Vann  
Bro. Bob Carter

**APPRECIATION COMMITTEE**

Sis. Elwanda Oakes  
Sis. Emma Harris  
Sis. Tammy Pless  
Bro. Albert Christian

**BOARD OF CHRISTIAN  
EDUCATION**

Rev. Roy Plymon - 1996  
Rev. David Sanderson - 1997  
Rev. Rick Powers - 1998  
Rev. Clark Ryman - 1999  
Rev. Aubrey Gibson - 2000

**YOUTH CAMP COMMITTEE**

All Pastors of the Vernon Association

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Rev. Don Taggart  
Rev. Edward Puckett  
Bro. Raphael Yerby  
Bro. Edward Finch  
Bro. David Gunnels  
Bro. Lennie R. Dubose  
Bro. Tommy Robertson

**YOUTH CAMP BOARD  
OF DIRECTORS**

Bro. Steve Butler - 1996  
Bro. Lewis Hindman - 1997  
Rev. Randy Wright - 1998

**TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE**

Bro. Dennis Tate  
Sis. Mary Merchant  
Sis. Martha Stripling

**COMMITTEE ON  
COMMITTEES FOR 1996**

Rev. M. H. Hollis  
Rev. Fred Graham  
Rev. Edward Puckett

**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 for the year 1995 was 1,180 with nineteen (19) churches reporting.

Our C.T.S. enrollment for the year 1995 was 129 with three (3) churches reporting.

We, as a committee, encourage all of our churches to support our Sunday School and C.T.S. programs.

Respectfully submitted,  
Leon Scrivner, Chairman

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

We, the Finance Committee, submit the following report:

The balance on hand at the end of the current year (8-31-95) is \$507.14. A total of \$1,565.00 has been received from our churches in dues for this year, bringing our balance to \$2,072.14. Our estimated expense for the next year is approximately \$1,900.00, leaving a projected balance of \$172.14 at the end of next year. All of our churches turned in some dues for this year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol DuBose, Chairperson

**CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT**

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

- I. Since our last annual meeting, the Credentials Committee voted to:
  1. Grant Rev. Paul Eichwurtzle a letter of good standing to the Northeast Mississippi District Association of Free Will Baptists.
  2. Grant Rev. Kevin Taylor a letter of good standing to the Mt. Moriah Association of Free Will Baptists.
  3. Accept Rev. Larry Reynolds into the Vernon Association pending a letter of good standing from his former association.
  4. Accept Rev. Buddy Henry into the Vernon Association pending a letter of good standing from the Blue Ridge Association in North Carolina.
- II. The Credentials Committee was given approval to ordain Brother Grant Webb into the ministry of God, May 13, 1995.
- III. The Credentials Committee met at Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church to ordain Bro. Grant Webb on May 20, 1995.



IV. We recommend that the Vernon Association add to the Constitution the following, (Article 3, Page 21) and "the Vernon Association" right after "approved by the National Association of Free Will Baptists." M.S.C.

V. We recommend Rick Powers be accepted into the Vernon Association pending a letter of good standing from the Progressive Association. M.S.C.

VI. We recommend Rev. DeWight Bailey, Pastor of Beaverton Free Will Baptist Church be accepted into the Vernon Association pending a letter of good standing from his former association. M.S.C.

VII. We recommend Rev. Floyd Barber be accepted into the Vernon Association pending a letter of good standing from the Cahaba River Association. M.S.C.

VIII. We recommend Rev. Clark Ryman be accepted into the Vernon Association pending a letter of good standing from the North Alabama Association. M.S.C.

IX. We recommend that we give Rev. Grant Webb a letter of good standing to the Mt. Moriah Association. M.S.C.

X. We recommend that we grant a letter of good standing for Rev. R.C. Humphries and Rev. Donald Kivette to the Mississippi-Alabama State Line Association. M.S.C.

XI. We recommend that Bro. Max Cunningham be ordained to preach the Gospel at this association meeting. M.S.C.

XII. We recommend that all ministers present today be given a card of good standing. M.S.C.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rev. James Walden, Chairman

### **TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

We, the Committee on Temperance submit the following report:

Psalm 119:73 - "Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: give me understanding, that I may learn thy commandments."

Respectfully submitted,  
Martha Stripling, Chairperson

### **APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

We, the Appreciation Committee, make the following report:

We would like to thank the Springfield Will Baptist Church and their pastor, Rev. Jerry Williams, for hosting the annual association meeting. We enjoyed the delicious food and wonderful fellowship. We were uplifted by the good congregational singing and the special singing by the quartet. The

devotions and the message by our speaker, Rev. Gerald Gann, were inspiring. We thank the officers and committees that have served this year.

We recommend that the congregation give a rising vote of thanks to the Springfield Free Will Baptist Church for their fine hospitality.

Respectfully submitted

Elwanda Oakes, Chairperson

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

We, the Deceased Members Committee, would like to make the following report:

The following members of our association have gone to be with our Lord in the past year:

BEAVERTON - None

BELK - Sister Sarah Jo Watkins

COOPER - Sister Wilmer Lewis Hollis, Sister Luna Hill, Sister Lillie Miles, Sister Ruby Wigginton, Sister Myrtle Jeffreys and Bro. George Clifton Crowe

DAVIS CHAPEL - None

DEPRIEST CHAPEL - None

FREE WILL CHAPEL - Bro. Belton Smith

FRIENDSHIP - None

LIBERTY - Bro. J. C. Brock, Sister Lois Yerby and Bro. Sam Rector

LOVE JOY - None

MT. HARMONY - Bro. Erbie Robertson

MT. PLEASANT - Sister Nellie Atkins, Sister Olla Cooper and Sister Marie Mattison

MT. WILLING - Sister Essie McDonald, Sister Eunice McDonald, Sister Nucie McDonald, Sister Nora Smith, Bro. Bill McDonald and Bro. Elzie Guin

NEW CENTER POINT - Bro. Guy Ford

PINEY GROVE - None

SPRINGFIELD - Sister Maudie Jordan, Sister Della Collins, Bro. Dewey Jordan, Sister Anna Lee Collins, and Sister Addie Carr

SULLIGENT, FIRST - Bro. Quinton Boyett, Decon

TAYLOR SPRINGS - Bro. Howard Sorrells

UNION CHAPEL - Rev. Malone Cobb

VERNON, FIRST - Bro. Edley Turner and Sister Lola Gray Barksdale

We recommend that we stand and sing "Amazing Grace" and have prayer in memory of the loved ones.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue Brown, Chairperson

### **VERNON DISTRICT WOMEN ACTIVE FOR CHRIST**

The Vernon District Women Active for Christ is represented by three local groups with thirty-six (36) active members.

Our 17th annual meeting was held on Thursday, April 6, 1995, at the Free Will Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. We had thirty members and eleven visitors in attendance. Sister Clara Cobb was our speaker, and a love offering of \$554.00 was presented to her. Our total disbursements for 1994 were \$5,816.60. \$1,560.00 was given to Foreign Missions and \$1,217.73 to Home Missions.

On May 6, 1995, nine ladies from the Vernon District attended the Alabama Free Will Baptist Women Active for Christ meeting held at Forestdale Free Will Baptist church.

The State Prayer Retreat was held at Shocco Springs Conference Center on September 22 and 23, 1995. "Great and Mighty Things Through Prayer" was the theme. Our speakers, Joanne King and Pam Flannigan, certainly challenged and inspired each one present. We had eight ladies from our district attend the retreat.

We would like to encourage the churches that have a ladies group to prayerfully consider becoming a part of the Vernon District Women Active for Christ. We need each other.

We give Him praise for what we were able to do last year. We desire your prayers that we may always be found faithful.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bonnie Williams, Sec./Treas.



## DIGEST COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Digest Committee, make the following report:

### STATISTICS:

Number of churches	19
Full-time Pastors	14
Part-time Pastors	5
Tithes and offerings (14 churches reporting)	\$601,463.00
Ordained Ministers	27
Licensed Ministers	2
Ordained Deacons	67
Churches with Day Care	0
Churches with Kindergarten	0
Churches with Sunday School	19
Sunday School Enrollment	1180
Baptisms	49
Members Added	106
Members Lost	43
Total Membership	2,522
Churches with Parsonage	8
Churches with Budgets	1
Value of all Church Property (including parsonages)	\$2,346,000.00
Number of Churches Reporting	19
Churches with C.T.S.	4
C.T.S. Enrollment	129
Churches with Ladies Auxiliary	7
Ladies Auxiliary Enrollment	87
Churches with Masters Men	1
Master's Men Enrollment	10

Respectfully submitted,  
Steve Butler, Chairman

## GENERAL BOARD REPORT

The General Board met on May 13, 1995, along with the Credentials Committee to make the following report and recommendation.

I. We had a letter from the Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church requesting the Vernon Association to ordain Bro. Grant Webb as a minister of the Gospel. Bro. Webb was called to pastor the Macedonia Church, pending this ordination.

II. Due to the increased cost of State and National Association dues and other association expenses, we recommend that each church, if possible, pay one hundred dollars (\$100.00) or more dues each year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Don Taggart, Chairman

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
October 1994 through September 1995

Balance Brought Forward - Octtobor 1994	\$1,297.25
INCOME:	
Belk .....	\$874.44
Vernon .....	65.76
Liberty .....	411.00
Free Will Chapel .....	75.00
Mt. Harmony .....	200.00
New Center Point .....	70.00
Cooper .....	14.13
Piney Grove .....	140.00
Youth Camp .....	<u>1,682.19</u>
TOTAL .....	\$3,532.52
TOTAL TO ACCOUNT FOR .....	\$4,829.77
Youth Camp Expenses:	
Food .....	\$978.29
Evangelists .....	675.00
Misc. Expense .....	55.00
Videos .....	59.30
Camp Fees .....	<u>1,657.00</u>
	3,424.59
Competition Expenses:	
Speaker .....	150.00
Randall House .....	201.46
State Fees .....	<u>120.00</u>
	471.46

CHURCH	PASTOR'S ADDRESS	PASTOR'S TELEPHONE	CLERK'S ADDRESS
BEAVERTON	Rev. DeWight Bailey P. O. Box 85 Nauvoo, AL 35578	697-5979	Mrs. Sharon Cantrell 3105 Mt. Hebron Rd. Beaverton, AL 35544
BELK	Rev. Larry Reynolds P. O. Box 31 Belk, AL 35545	932-3144	Mrs. Jane Hindman Route 5, Box 232 Fayette, AL 35555
COOPER	Rev. Buddy Henry Route 1, Box 255 Detroit, AL 35552	921-2440	Mrs. Willey Dean Spratlin Route 1, Box 380 Hamilton, AL 35570
DAVIS CHAPEL	Rev. E. T. Sargent Route 2, Box 76 Berry, AL 35546	-	Mrs. Louise Cannon 14693 Graham Rd. Berry, AL 35546
DEPRIEST CHAPEL	Rev. Fred Graham P.O. Box 435 Vernon, AL 35592	695-9631	Mr. Gene Wise P.O. Box 132 Gattman, MS 38844
FREE WILL CHAPEL	Rev. Roy G. Plymon 5187 Buck Jackson Rd. Sulligent, AL 35586	695-6119	Mrs. Lenora Elliott 1905 Wofford Rd. Vernon, AL 35592
FRIENDSHIP	Rev. James C. Newell 708 Sailor Cemetery Rd. Vernon, AL 35592	695-6101	Mrs. Lura Moore 87 Wheat Road Millport, AL 35576
LIBERTY	Rev. Rick Powers 18154 Co. Road 49 Vernon, AL 35592	695-9400	Mr. Steve Butler Route 2, Box 74-P-1 Fayette, AL 35555
LOVE JOY	Rev. David Sanderson Route 2, Box 161-B Hamilton, AL 35570	921-2481	Mrs. Linda Barnes Route 1, Box 370 Guin, AL 35563
MT. HARMONY	Rev. James Walden 5270 Cody Road Kennedy, AL 35574	596-3167	Mr. David Harrison P. O. Box 532 Vernon, AL 35592
MT. PLEASANT	Rev. M. H. Hollis P. O. Box 183 Vernon, AL 35592	695-7736	Mrs. Sarah Hopper 662 Manley Road Vernon, AL 35592
MT. WILLING	Rev. Aubrey Gibson P.O. Box 214 Vernon, AL 35592	695-7255	Mrs. Cathy Burleson P. O. Box 86 Guin, AL 35563
NEW CENTER POINT	Rev. Don Taggart 738 Pennington Road Vernon, AL 35592	695-7546	Mrs. Ruth Vann 187 Waterworks Road. Sulligent, AL 35586
PINEY GROVE	Rev. Randy Wright P. O. Box 4 Guin, AL 35563	468-3740	Mrs. Jackie Atkinson P.O. Box 563 Winfield, AL 35594
SPRINGFIELD	Rev. Jerry Williams 532 Westwood Rd. Vernon, AL 35592	695-6939	Mr. Roy Ashby 1561 Austin Rd., N.W. Vernon, AL 35592
SULLIGENT, FIRST FWB	Rev. Edward Puckett 5201 Hwy. 278 Sulligent, AL 35586	698-8177	Mrs. Brenda Clark P. O. Box 615 Sulligent, AL 35586
TAYLOR SPRINGS	Rev. C.C. Berryhill 60324 Sipsey Fork Rd. Greenwood Springs, MS 38848	(601)256-8825	Mr. J. C. Young 1501 Taylor Springs Rd. Beaverton, AL 35544
UNION CHAPEL	Rev. Floyd Barber 16726 County Road 49 Vernon, AL 35592	695-6693	Mr. James E. Maddox 527 Crossville Loop Vernon, AL 35592
VERNON, FIRST FWB	Rev. Mike Dankson 221 6th St., N.E. Vernon, AL 35592	695-9730	Miss Elwanda Oakes P. O. Box 351 Vernon, AL 35592

Members Received	Members Deceased	Total Members	Number In Sunday School	Number In C.T.S.	Number In LadiesAux.	Ordained Ministers
2	0	46	26	0	0	2
18	1	135	83	0	12	2
10	6	139	60	0	0	1
2	0	94	30	0	0	1
2	0	97	50	0	0	1
6	3	216	114	0	15	1
0	0	48	12	0	0	1
1	6	238	60	40	15	2
6	0	99	51	-	13	1
20	1	165	120	0	0	1
0	3	77	30	0	0	1
2	8	112	30	0	0	1
10	0	117	75	0	10	2
11	0	146	93	0	0	2
3	5	159	75	0	10	2
12	1	240	140	55	0	3
0	1	46	40	0	0	1
2	1	105	50	0	0	1
0	2	243	74	34	12	2



## Other Expenses:

Stamps .....	67.50
Kreszena Monday .....	300.00
Kevin Stacey .....	300.00
Misc. ....	<u>15.00</u>
	682.50

TOTAL EXPENSES 4,578.55

BALANCE ON HAND October 10, 1995 \$251.22

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Aubrey Gibson, Treasurer

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Executive Committee met on February 6, 1995 and made the following plans for our association meetings. The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Jerry Williams.

For the March association meeting we asked Rev. Larry Reynolds to preach the morning message. We asked Rev. Malone Cobb to have the morning devotion. Bro. Cobb went on to be with the Lord before this meeting, and Rev. M. H. Hollis had the devotion in his place.

We voted to receive an offering and divide it between Bro. Kevin Stacey, missionary to China, and Kreszena Monday, missionary to France.

The Executive Committee met again on March 18, 1995 and made plans for the annual meeting in October.

We voted to asked Rev. Gerald Gann to preach the morning message, and we asked Rev. Floyd Barber to have the morning devotion. We asked Bro. Adam Taggart to have the afternoon devotion. The music will be arranged by the Springfield Church. We voted to receive an offering and pay the guest speaker \$200.00.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rev. Don Taggart, Chairman

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**VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION  
FINANCIAL REPORT**

Balance on Hand 9-1-94 \$621.84

**RECEIPTS:**

Ala. F.W.B. Board of Missions ..... \$ 67.30  
Offering at October  
    Association Meeting ..... 159.48  
Offering at March meeting  
    (For Rev. Fred Jones) ..... 120.00  
Association Dues ..... 1,465.00

**TOTAL TO ACCOUNT FOR** **\$2,433.62**

**EXPENDITURES:**

Rev. John Reed, Moderator ..... \$ 50.00  
Rev. M. H. Hollis, Asst. Moderator ..... 25.00  
Rev. Fred Warner, Guest Speaker ..... 200.00  
Ala. State Association Dues ..... 950.00  
Vernon Association C. E. Board ..... 21.05  
Thumb Print, (Printing Minutes) ..... 473.20  
Kreszena Monday, Mission work ..... 60.00  
Rev. Kevin Stacey, Mission work ..... 60.00  
Raphael Yerby, Clerk ..... 75.00  
First Ala. Bank, Association checks ..... 11.73

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES** ..... **\$1,925.98**

Balance On Hand 8-31-95 \$ 507.64

Respectfully Submitted,  
Raphael H. Yerby, Treasurer

## NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PRESENT MINISTERS

Rev. M. H. Hollis, P. O. Box 183, Vernon, AL 35592  
 Rev. Fred Graham, P. O. Box 435, Vernon, AL 35592  
 Rev. Edward Puckett, 5201 Hwy. 278, Sulligent, AL 35586  
 Rev. Donald Taggart, 738 Pennington Lane, Vernon, AL 35592  
 Rev. Lloyd W. Vail, P. O. Box 535, Vernon, AL 35592  
 Rev. Lloyd George, 827 Cannon Trace, Columbus, MS 39702  
 Rev. William David Hayes, P. O. Box 1211, Vernon, AL 35592  
 Rev. James Walden, 5270 Cody Road, Kennedy, AL 35574  
 Rev. John Reed, 21137 Old Jasper Road, Northport, AL 35476  
 Rev. Randy Wright, P. O. Box 4, Guin, AL 35563  
 Rev. John Powell, 2137 Freeman Road, Caledonia, MS 39740  
 Rev. C. C. Berryhill, 60324 Sipsy Fork Road, Greenwood Springs, MS 38848  
 Rev. Jerry Williams, 532 West Wood Road, Vernon, AL 35592  
 Rev. E. T. Sargent, Route 2, Box 76, Berry, AL 35546  
 Rev. David Sanderson, Route 2, Box 161-B, Hamilton, AL 35570  
 Rev. Roy G. Plymon, 5187 Buck Jackson Road, Sulligent, AL 35586  
 Rev. Aubrey C. Gibson, P. O. Box 214, Vernon, AL 35592  
 Rev. Kevin Stacey, Nashville, Tenn.  
 Rev. Buddy Henry, Route 1, Box 255, Detroit, AL 35552  
 Rev. Larry Reynolds, P. O. Box 31, Belk, AL 35545  
 Rev. Floyd Barber, 16726 County Road 49, Vernon, AL 35592  
 Rev. Rick Powers, 18154, County Road 49, Vernon, AL 35592  
 Rev. DeWight Bailey, P. O. Box 85, Nauvoo, AL 35578  
 Rev. Clark, Ryman, 775 Walnut Street, Sulligent, AL 35586  
 Rev. Max Cunningham, Route 2, Vernon, AL 35592

## LIST OF DEACONS

BEAVERTON - Bros. Russell Cole, Bobby Dykes and Harrell Cantrell  
 BELK - Bros. Raphael Yerby, Dalton Gilpin, and Lewis Hindman  
 COOPER - Bros. Hershel Rye, Edward Finch, Burley Finch and Gordie Rye  
 DAVIS CHAPEL - None  
 DEPRIEST CHAPEL - Bros. Kelley Easter, Joe M. Easter, J. C. Cantrell,  
     Phillip Wise and Gene Wise  
 FREE WILL CHAPEL - Bros. Edsel Gideon, Daniel Franks, Youell  
     Cantrell, Jerry Mays and Tommy Otts



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 Robertson, Loyd Carter, Guary Taylor and Clayton  
Barnes

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

MT. PLEASANT - None

MT. WILLING - Bros. Emmit Lee

NEW CENTER POINT - Bros. Wayne Puckett, Kenny Ford, L. C. Scott and  
Bobby Puckett

PINEY GROVE - Bros. Tommie Robertson and Danny Atkinson

SPRINGFIELD - Bros. Tommie Rushing, Paul Jordan and Roy Ashby

SULLIGENT FIRST - Bros. Jessie L. Barnes, Jr., Ray Birmingham, Charles  
Crosby, Hezzie Harrison, Sammy Merchant, Frank Mixon, Earnest  
Northington, Luke Spruiell and Milton Threadgill

TAYLOR SPRINGS - Bros. Stanley Cooper, Steve Spencer and Harold  
Smith

UNION CHAPEL - Bros. James E. Maddox, Jessie Yerby, Benny Hardy,  
Albert Christian and Sam Glasgow

VERNON FIRST - Bros. Pascal Yerby, Paul Shelnut, Derrell Wheeler, Eris  
Wilson and Edgar Turner

### NAMES OF DECEASED MINISTERS

Rev. J. W. Springfield, Rev. W. B. Taylor, Rev. W. R. Turman, Rev. Tom Butler, Rev. J. R. Roberson, 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 Barnes, Rev. Frank Collins, Rev. William D. Glasgow, Rev. James Doherty, Rev. T. C. Barnes, Rev. Delmus Miller and Rev. Malone Cobb

### 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, J. 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, Redden Mixon, David Barton, Odis Robertson, Obie Haney, Arlie Roberts, Richard Mansell, Haley Wright, Earl McDonald, Aubrey Hall, J. M. Chaffin, Titus Barnes, Olen Wheeler, Erbie Robertson, Elzie Guin, Dewey Jordan and Quinton Boyett

## 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 of 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 for ordination should include all that is required for license and also the application for ministers approved by the National Association of Free Will Baptist and the Vernon 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 of 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 where 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 the 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 influences, 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. (A) The Credential Committee shall recommend the issuance, or rejection of a card of good standing for a minister. 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 meeting.

4. (B) If a minister, that is a member of our association, misses two (2) consecutive annual association meetings, unless providentially hindered, his name will be taken off our roll of ministers.

All ministers must register at the annual association meeting and their names will be printed in the minutes.

5. The moderator shall not be entitled to vote except in the 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 association meeting to select a camp director 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. 1 Cor. 1:21; Matt. 28:19-20; Rom. 1:16.

2. **God.** There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe and in the Scripture as Father, Son and Holy Ghost; yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore and obey. I Cor. 8:6; Isa. 40:28.

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. 1 Tim. 2:5-6, Heb. 2:9; St. John 3:16.

4. **The Holy Spirit.** The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God. St. John 16:7-8; Acts 2:45; Eph. 2:1.

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. Mark 16:5; Luke 24:47; 1 Tim. 2:4.

**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. Gen. 2:17; Gen. 3:19.

**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. Acts 3:19; Matt. 28:19-20; Eph. 2:5-10.

**8. The Terms of Salvation.** The conditions of salvation are: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Saviour and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the domination of sin, and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death. Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30; Rom. 10:10.

**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. Matt. 28:20; 1 Cor. 1:21; Matt. 25:31-46.

**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. Titus 2nd. Chapter; Rev. 2:10-15

**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. Gal. 1:13-14; Rev. 22:17.

**12. Perseverance.** All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, having promise of eternal salvation. Rom. 5:21.

**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. Acts 8th Chapter; 1 Tim. 5:10; Luke 22:49.

**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 divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works, and activities and for personal communion with God. Deut. 5:12-14; Heb. 4:4.

**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.” St. John 5:28-29; II Cor. 5:10; I. Cor. 15:23.

### **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.