

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTEENTH  
SESSION

of the

VERNON FREE WILL  
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

held with

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST  
CHURCH OF VERNON

1998 Minutes



**OFFICERS FOR 1998**  
**ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTEENTH SESSION**

MODERATOR ..... REV. RANDY WRIGHT  
ASSISTANT MODERATOR ..... REV. JERRY WILLIAMS  
CLERK ..... BRO. RAPHAEL H. YERBY

The next session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association will be held with New Center Point Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday, March 20, 1999. 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 Mt. Harmony Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday, October 16, 1999, beginning at 9:00 A.M.

**OFFICERS FOR 1999**

MODERATOR ..... REV. LARRY REYNOLDS  
P. O. Box 31, Belk, Alabama 35545  
Telephone (205) 932-3144

ASSISTANT MODERATOR ..... REV. MIKE DANKSON  
221 - 6th St. NE, Vernon, Alabama 35592  
Telephone (205) 695-9730

CLERK ..... BRO. RAPHAEL H. YERBY  
232 - 20th St., N. W., Fayette, Alabama 35555  
Telephone (205) 932-4595

## PROCEEDINGS

The one hundred and eighteenth session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was held with the First Will Baptist Church of Vernon on Saturday, October 17, 1998. Rev. Randy Wright served as moderator, Rev. Jerry Williams served as assistant moderator and Bro. Raphael H. Yerby served as clerk.

The meeting opened with a song, "He Keeps Me Singing", directed by Bro. Mike McDaniel. The opening prayer was by Rev. James Walden. We had another song, "Sunlight". by Bro. McDaniel.

We were welcomed to the First Free Will Baptist Church of Vernon by the host pastor, Rev. Mike Dankson. The response was given by Rev. M. H. Hollis.

The morning devotion was brought by Rev. Donald Kivette, Pastor of Mt. Pleasant Free Will Baptist Church. He used Joshua 3:1-13 as his scripture text. His subject was "Sanctify Yourselves". Prayer was by the speaker

We were welcomed to this session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association by the moderator, Rev. Randy Wright.

The Digest Committee report was given by Bro. Paul Jordan, Chairman.. We had a motion, second and vote to receive the report and discharge the committee. Bro. Jordan also gave a brief report on the work of the Gideons and requested prayer for the Gideon work in our area. We had prayer for the Gideon work by Rev. Larry Reynolds.

We had a roll call of the delegates by the clerk. We had a motion, second and vote to seat the delegates for this session of the association.

The moderator called for petitionary letters. None were received.

The Committee on Committees' report was given by Rev. Mike McDaniel, Chairman, and the various committees were appointed to report to this session of the association. We had a motion, second and vote to receive the report. At this time, the moderator appointed a Committee on Committees for the 1999 session of the association. (See List.)

The moderator recognized visiting brethren and invited them to seat with us during this session of the association. Those present were Rev. Bill Smith of the Mt. Moriah Association and Rev. Rick Cash, State Promotional Director.

At this time the moderator recognized Rev. Rick Cash, who is also director

of the Trinity Free Will Baptist Youth Camp, and asked him to share some of the activities of the youth camp with us. Brother Cash gave us a very interesting and informative report of the things happening at the camp and the many lives that have been changed through the ministry of your youth camp. We had a motion, second and vote to receive the report as information. At this time, we elected one member to serve a three (3) year term on the Youth Camp Board of Directors. (See List).

We had a report of the Credentials Committee by Rev. Jerry Williams. We had a motion, second and vote to take the report item by item and vote on each item. All items were adopted by the delegated body.

We were dismissed by the moderator for a recess and time of fellowship and a time for the committees to get together and make their reports. The dismissal prayer was by Rev. Scott Nicholson.

After recess we had two songs, "Heaven Came Down" and "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" directed by Bro. McDaniel. Prayer was by Rev. Dale Ford.

At the time of recess, our moderator, Rev. Randy Wright, had to leave our meeting due to prior obligations, and our assistant moderator, Rev. Jerry Williams, assumed the responsibility of moderator and did a great job of directing the rest of this session of the association meeting.

We had a report of the Sunday School and C.T.S. Committee by Bro. Steve Butler, Chairman. We had a motion, second and vote to receive the report and discharge the committee.

The Finance Committee report was given by Bro. Zadus Turner, Jr., Chairman. We had a motion, second and vote to receive the report and discharge the committee.

The Deceased Members Committee report was given by Sister Bonnie Williams, Chairperson. We had a motion, second and vote to receive the report and sing "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be" and have prayer by Rev. M. H. Hollis in memory of these loved ones.

We had a lengthy Temperance Committee report by Bro. Robert Carter, Chairman. We had a motion, second and vote to receive the report and discharge the committee.

As we began our 11:00 A.M. worship service, we had a song, "O Happy Day" and received an offering for our guest speaker. The offertory prayer was by Rev. Mike Dankson. The amount of the offering received was \$225.00. Just before the message, we had a special in song, "Till the Storm Passes By", by Sister Marsha McDaniel. The 11:00 A.M. message was

brought by Rev. Rick Cash, State Promotional Director. His scripture text was from John 18:19-24. Prayer was by the speaker. After a very inspiring and encouraging message that blessed all of our hearts, we had a prayer of invitation by Bro. Cash.

We were dismissed for the noon hour. The dismissal prayer and blessing of the food was by Rev. DeWight Bailey, Pastor of the Beaverton Church.

### AFTERNOON SESSION

After a very delicious lunch furnished by the good people of the Vernon church and the noon hour of fellowship, we convened back in session at 1:15 P.M. with a song, "Brighten the Corner", directed by Bro. McDaniel. The afternoon devotion was brought by Rev. Mark Collier, Pastor of the Love Joy Free Will Baptist Church. His scripture was from First John 1:17. Prayer was by the speaker.

We had a report of the Christian Board of Education by Bro. Mike McDaniel, Chairman. We had a motion, second and vote to receive the report. At this time, we elected two (2) members to serve on this board. (See List.)

We had a report of the Vernon District Women Active for Christ by Sister Bonnie Williams, secretary-treasurer. We had a motion, second and vote to receive the report.

The Appreciation Committee report was given by Sister Carol Kivette, Chairperson. We had a motion, second and vote to receive the report and give the Vernon Church a rising vote of appreciation for their fine hospitality.

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

Bro. Mike McDaniel

Sister Elwanda Oakes

Bro. Clyde Motes

Sister Burma Jordan

Sister Eldridge Motes

Sister Sue Yerby

We selected a place for the association Thanksgiving Service. The Springfield Free Will Baptist Church invited us to meet with them for the association Thanksgiving service. A committee was appointed, Rev. Jerry Williams, Rev. David Sanderson and Rev. Rick Powers, to plan the Thanksgiving Service and secure a speaker. The Thanksgiving Service will be held with the Springfield Free Will Baptist Church on Tuesday night, November 24, 1998, beginning at 7:00 P.M.

A place was chosen for the next two (2) meetings of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association. The New Center Point Free Will Baptist Church



requested the March meeting. The body voted to accept the invitation and hold the March meeting with the New Center Point Free Will Baptist Church. The meeting will be held on Saturday, March 20, 1999. Registration begins at 9:30 A.M., and the service will begin at 10:00 A.M. The Mt. Harmony Free Will Baptist Church invited us to meet with them for the October meeting. The body voted to hold the annual association meeting at Mt. Harmony Church. The meeting will be held on Saturday, October 16, 1999, 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 for moderator of the association. Rev. Jerry Williams, Rev. Larry Reynolds and Rev. Mike Dankson were nominated. Bro. Williams and Bro. Dankson both declined the nomination. Rev. Larry Reynolds was elected to serve as moderator.

Nomination was opened for assistant moderator of the association. Rev. Mike Dankson was the only nominee and was elected by acclamation to serve as assistant moderator.

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

The moderator recognized Bro. pascal Yerby, a Deacon of the Vernon Church, for attending fifty (50) consecutive years of the annual business meetings of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association..

We had a motion, second and vote to adjourn this session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association. The dismissal prayer was by Bro. Pascal Yerby. The meeting adjourned.

There were a total of 122 people who registered for this session of the association. They were as follows:

|                           |    |                      |    |
|---------------------------|----|----------------------|----|
| Ministers                 | 21 | Delegates            | 55 |
| Deacons                   | 14 | Visitors             | 32 |
| Ministers that registered |    |                      |    |
| Rev. Mike Dankson         |    | Rev. David Sanderson |    |
| Rev. Aubrey Gibson        |    | Rev. Charles Fowler  |    |
| Rev. James Walden         |    | Rev. Mark Collier    |    |
| Rev. Lloyd George         |    | Rev. Donald Kivette  |    |
| Rev. Jerry Williams       |    | Rev. James Newell    |    |
| Rev. DeWight Bailey       |    | Rev. Bill Duncan     |    |
| Rev. Larry Reynolds       |    | Rev. Randy Wright    |    |
| Rev. Dale Ford            |    | Rev. Jim Martin      |    |

Rev. C. C. Berryhill  
Rev. John Powell  
Rev. Rick Powers

Rev. M. H. Hollis  
Rev. Scott Nicholson

### **SEMIANNUAL MEETING, MARCH 1998**

The semiannual meeting of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association was held on Saturday, March 14, 1998, with the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church. Rev. Randy Wright served as moderator.

The meeting was opened with a song "Down at the Cross", directed by Bro. Randy Wright. The opening prayer was by Rev. Larry Reynolds, Pastor of Belk Free Will Baptist Church.

We were welcomed to the Liberty Church by the host pastor, Rev. Rick Powers.

We had another song, "There Is a Fountain Filled With Blood", by Bro. Wright.

The morning devotion was brought by Rev. David Crowe, Pastor of GlenEcho Free Will Baptist Church. He used Galatians 1:1-5 and Acts 2:24-30 as his scripture texts.

The moderator recognized Rev. Rich Cash, State Promotional Director and Trinity Youth Camp Director. Bro. Cash gave us an interesting report of the camp activities and the many things that were planned for the summer at the Trinity Youth Camp.

We had two more songs, "I Feel Like Traveling On" and "At The Cross", directed by Bro. Wright. Prayer was by Rev. Bill Duncan, Pastor of Depriest Chapel Free Will Baptist Church.

We received an offering to go to home missionary Rev. Dennis haygood, missionary to Huntsville, AL. The offertory prayer was by Rev. M. H. Hollis. The amount of the offering was \$86.00.

The 11:00 A.M. message was brought by Rev. Jerry Williams, Pastor of Springfield Free Will Baptist Church. He used Acts 17:6 as his scripture text. Prayer was by the speaker. After a good message, we had a time of invitation.

At the request of Bro. Mike McDaniel, we had a special altar prayer with all the preachers present for the association-wide revival for the next week sponsored by the Vernon Association Christian Education Board.

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

**CHURCHES AND DELEGATES LISTED**

BEAVERTON- Sister Florence Akers, Bros. Scott Akers and David Akers.

BELK- Sisters Angie Knight, Gloria House, Sue Yerby, Bros. Ed Knight, Laren Williams, Alternates Sisters Sherry Reynolds and Betty Jones.

COOPER - Sisters Sylvia Taylor, Willodeen Miles, Annette Lamb, Evelyn Sandlin and Alternate Willa Dean Spratlin.

DAVIS CHAPEL - Sisters Dora Lee Pennington, Lorene Pike, Betty Gray and Quinata Fowler.

DEPRIEST CHAPEL - Sisters Mary Wise, Mary Easter, Fay Wise and Alternate Amy Stanford.

FREE WILL CHAPEL - Sisters Judy Gideon, Derlene Smith, Bro. Wallace Harris and Alternate Sister Annette Taylor.

FRIENDSHIP - Sister Lura Moore

LIBERTY - Sisters Ruby Nell Higgins, Fran Powers, Sea Burnett, Frances Butler, Bros. Barksdale Higgins, Steve Butler and Loyd Dubose.

LOVE JOY - Bros. Marty Stockman, Michael Sorrells, Gary Sorrells, Jerry Burchett, Bryan Sorrells and Alternate Sister Crystal Tice.

MT. HARMONY - Bros. J. T. Johnson, Jr., Noble Christian, Dillard Matthews, Chris Matthews and Sister Frances Christian.

MT. PLEASANT - Sisters Pearlie Allen, Carol Kivette, Peggy Corbell and Alternate Bro. Jim Corbell.

MT. WILLING -Bro. Roger Rye and Sister Dorthy Rye

NEW CENTER POINT- Bros. Jim Northington, Wade Van, Sisters Judy Northington and Susan Nicholson.

PINEY GROVE - BroTroy Cole, Sisters Gera Mae Bobo and Carol Barnes.

SPLUNGE - Sister Faye Blaylock and Bro. R. V. Thompson.

SPRINGFIELD - Sisters Betty Jo Goode, Burma Jordan, Bonnie Williams, Bros. Harold Goode, John Pennington and Alternates Bro. Dick Walters and Sister Belva Pennington.

SULLIGENT FIRST F.W.B. - Bros. Bob Carter, Bobby Tibbels and Sister Sandra Carter

TAYLOR SPRINGS - Bro. J. C. Young.

UNION CHAPEL - Sisters Joyce Hardy, Lois Simmons, Wilma Dooley,



Lucille Bradford and Bro. Benny Hardy.

VERNON FIRST F.W.B. - Bros. Mike McDaniel, Clyde Motes, Sisters Gloria Christian, Eldredge Motes, Lou Ella Knight, Debbie Dankson, Elwanda Okes and Alternate Zadus Turner.

### GENERAL BOARD

|                                    |                                  |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| BEAVERTON - Elvada Markham         | MT. PLEASANT - Donald Parker     |
| BELK - Dalton Gilpin               | MT. WILLING - Grant Webb         |
| COOPER - Edward Finch              | NEW CENTER POINT - Mickey Hall   |
| DAVIS CHAPEL - None                | PINEY GROVE - Tommy Robertson    |
| DEPRIEST CHAPEL - Rev. Bill Duncan | SPLUNGE - None                   |
| FREE WILL CHAPEL - L. D. Hall      | SPRINGFIELD - Dick Walters       |
| FRIENDSHIP - None                  | SULLIGENT FIRST - Bob Carter     |
| LIBERTY - Lennie R. DuBose         | TAYLOR SPRINGS - Steve Spencer   |
| LOVE JOY - Heath Yielding          | UNION CHAPEL - Dean Maddox       |
| MT. HARMONY - Phil Wheeler         | VERNON FIRST - Zadus Turner, Sr. |

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.

|                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Beaverton       | Free Will Chapel |
| Belk            | Friendship       |
| Cooper          | Liberty          |
| Davis Chapel    | Love Joy         |
| Depriest Chapel | Mt. Harmony      |

**COMMITTEE AND MEMBERS FOR 1998****CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE**

Rev. Tim Riggs - 1999  
Rev. James Walden - 2000  
Bro. Edsel Gideon, 2001  
Bro. Pascal Yerby, 2002  
Rev. Randy Wright - 2003

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

Bro. Steve Butler  
Bro. Rickey Owens  
Sis. Dora Lee Pennington  
Sis. Carol Barnes

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Bro. Zadus Turner, Jr.  
Sis Sue Yerby  
Sis. Sylvia Taylor  
Sis. Judy Gideon

**DECEASED MEMBERS  
COMMITTEE**

Sis. Bonnie Williams  
Sis. Elwanda Oakes  
Sis. Florence Akers  
Sis. Mary Wise

**DIGEST COMMITTEE 1999**

Daniel Franks  
Gary Sorrells  
Ed Knight  
Lewis Hindman

**APPRECIATION COMMITTEE**

Sis. Carol Kivette  
Bro. Wade Vann  
Sis. Joyce Hardy  
Sis. Kenny Ford

**BOARD OF CHRISTIAN  
EDUCATION**

Bro. Wade Vann- 1999  
Rev. Randy Wright - 2000  
Bro. Mike McDaniel, 2001  
Bro. Stoney Robertson - 2002  
Rev. Dale Ford - 2003

**YOUTH CAMP COMMITTEE**

All Pastors of the Vernon Association

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Rev. Larry Reynolds  
Rev. Mike Dankson  
Bro. Raphael Yerby  
Bro. L. D. Hall  
Bro. Phil Wheeler  
Bro. Mickey Hall  
Bro. Dick Walters

**YOUTH CAMP BOARD  
OF DIRECTORS**

Bro. Steve Butler - 1999  
Bro. Lewis Hindman - 2000  
Rev. Randy Wright - 2001

**TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE**

Bro. Bob Carter  
Bro. Jessie L. Barnes  
Bro. Dillard Matthews  
Bro. Wallace Harris

**COMMITTEE ON  
COMMITTEES FOR 1999**

Rev. Mike McDaniel  
Rev. David Sanderson  
Rev. Rick Powers

## **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 this year, 1998, was 999 with twenty (20) churches reporting. This is a decrease of 221 members from last year.

Our C.T.S. enrollment for this year, 1998, was 106 with three (3) churches reporting as having an active C.T.S. program

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Steve Butler, Chairman

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

We, the Finance Committee, submit the following report:

The balance on hand at the end of the current year (8-31-98) is \$564.32. A total of \$1,785.00 has been received from our churches in dues for this year, bringing our balance to \$2,3349.32. Our estimated expense for the next year is approximately \$1,950.00, leaving a projected balance of \$399.32 for the end of next year. All of our churches gave some dues for this year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Zadus Turner, Jr., Chairman

## **CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT**

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

- I. Since our last annual meeting, the Credentials Committee has agreed and voted on the following items of business
  1. January 27, 1998, after meeting with Bro. David Crowe and close examination of the candidate, the committee voted in favor to ordain Bro. David Crowe for the ministry of the Gospel.
  2. February 26, 1998, the Credentials Committee met at Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church and ordained Bro. David Crowe.
  3. July 7, 1998, the Credentials Committee agreed and voted to grant Rev. Don Taggart a letter of good standing to the Jasper Association of Free Will Baptists
  4. July 28, 1998, the Credentials Committee, agreed and voted to grant Rev. David Crowe a letter of good standing to the Mt. Moriah Association of Free Will Baptists.



- II. The Credentials Committee recommend the following:
1. Recommend Rev. Scott Nicholson be accepted into the Vernon Association. We received a letter of good standing from the Mt. Moriah Association.
  2. Recommend Rev. Randy Wright be the new member of the Credentials Committee.
  3. Recommend Rev. Tim Riggs be appointed to fill out the unexpired term of Rev. M. H. Hollis.
  4. Recommend that all ministers of the Vernon Association present today be given a card of good standing.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rev. Jerry Williams, Chairman

### TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Temperance Committee, make the following report:

It is an evil day we live in. Satan and his cohorts are on a rampage. The battle is fierce. What can we do? Solutions: 1. Love. Lean on Jesus. 2. Read the Bible. 3. Let the Holy Spirit guide us. 4. Pray. 5. Be pure. 6. Be active. 7. Set an example. 8. Be a leader. 9. Be humble. 10. Attack Satan's strongholds. 11. Care. 12. No divisions; no jealousy. 13. Unity. 14. Forgive. 15. Keep on keeping on. 16. Be understanding. 17. Leave a legacy.

Respectfully Submitted  
Bob Carter, Chairman

### APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Appreciation Committee would like to take this time to express our gratitude to the Vernon Free Will Baptist Church for hosting the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association. Thanks to the officers, the song leader, musicians, special music and the messengers. Thank you, church, for the wonderful food, hospitality and fellowship. Psalm 100:4 says it all: "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name."

Respectfully Submitted,  
Carol Kivette, Chairperson

## COMMITTEE REPORT ON DECEASED MEMBERS

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

Twenty-eight (28) brothers and sisters have gone to be with our Lord this past year. We find in Revelation 14:13, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours, and their works do follow them." We would like to remember the following deceased members by singing, "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be", and by being led in prayer by Rev. M. H. Hollis.

BEAVERTON - None

BELK - Bros. Gwyn Belk, Lloy Ham and Houston Ham

COOPER - Bros. James Halen Cooper and Stan Dubelak

DAVIS CHAPEL - Bro. John Wright

DEPRIEST CHAPEL - Bros. Thurston Wise and Mathes Franklin

FREE WILL CHAPEL - Sister Aileen Williams and Bro. Kenneth Tate

FRIENDSHIP - None

LIBERTY - Bro. Edward Collins, Sisters Ruby Perkins and Hazel Christian

LOVE JOY - None

MT. HARMONY - Bros. Oveat Graham and Byron Brock.

MT. PLEASANT - Bro. Albert Bush

MT. WILLING - Sisters Samie Lee Roberts and Pauline Haney

NEW CENTER POINT - Sisters Myrtle Noe and Beatrice Puckett Scott

PINEY GROVE - None

SPLUNGE - None

SPRINGFIELD - Bros. Walter J. Guyton, Richard Kluever and Sister Anna Banks Kluever

SULLIGENT, FIRST - Sisters Reva Wilson, Gertrude Gilliland and Morman Jagers

TAYLOR SPRINGS - Rev. James W. Spencer and Sister Eaffie Mae Sorrells

UNION CHAPEL - Bro. Bobby Perkins

VERNON, FIRST - None

Respectfully submitted,  
Bonnie Williams, Chairperson

**VERNON DISTRICT WOMEN ACTIVE FOR CHRIST**

Our District meeting met at Springfield Free Will Baptist Church on march 5, 1998 for their 20th annual meeting with 25 ladies in attendance. Sister Paulette Scott was the speaker and used our theme verses, Romans 12:1-2 as her text. An offering of \$109.00 was received for our guest speaker. Gifts sent through the district for 1997 totaled \$2,974.53. Our foreign missionaries received \$445.00, home missionaries \$460.00 and \$200.00 for the Shirley Kennedy Memorial L.A.M.P. offering.

The State meeting was May 2, 1998 at Tabernacle Free Will Baptist Church in Northport. Bro. Dennis Haygood, our missionary to Huntsville, was the speaker for the morning message.

Nine active members and two visitors enjoyed the National Prayer Retreat at Ridgecrest, North Carolina on September 24-26, 1998.

We extend a warm welcome to all the ladies of our association to become a part of the Vernon District Women Active for Christ. We can all work together to win others to Christ.

We continue to praise Him for what we were able to accomplish last year through Women Active for Christ.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sister Bonnie Williams, Sec./Treas.



**DIGEST COMMITTEE REPORT**

We, the Digest Committee, make the following report:

**STATISTICS:**

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Number of churches (Rural - 17, City - 3)            | 20             |
| Full-time Pastors                                    | 12             |
| Part-time Pastors                                    | 7              |
| Tithes and offerings (13 churches reporting)         | \$657,795.52   |
| Ordained Ministers                                   | 24             |
| Licensed Ministers                                   | 1              |
| Ordained Deacons                                     | 61             |
| Churches with Day Care                               | 0              |
| Churches with Kindergarten                           | 0              |
| Churches with Sunday School                          | 20             |
| Sunday School Enrollment                             | 994            |
| Baptisms   | 49             |
| Members Added  | 77             |
| Members Lost   | 44             |
| Total Membership                                     | 2,435          |
| Churches with Parsonage                              | 7              |
| Churches with Budgets                                | 0              |
| Value of all Church Property (11 churches reporting) | \$3,487,000.00 |
| Churches with C.T.S.                                 | 3              |
| C.T.S. Enrollment                                    | 106            |
| Churches with Ladies Auxiliary                       | 7              |
| Ladies Auxiliary Enrollment                          | 87             |
| Churches with Masters Men                            | 2              |
| Master's Men Enrollment                              | 22             |

Respectfully submitted,  
Paul Jordan, Chairman

**VERNON ASSOCIATION  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD REPORT**

The C.E. Board has had a good year. If it were to be described with one word it would be "BLESSED" because that is what we are, if nothing else.

During the past year, we have had several meetings and discussed many different things and have also sponsored different efforts.

The first of many was the Valentine Banquet for the juniors. This was somewhat of a challenging event, but when it was all said, it was a success.

Second, was the association-wide revival, that when all the comments were taken into consideration, it was a success.

Third, was our competition with our youth. We were able to have two entries in the State competition. This is an area that needs to be emphasized to our youth. It is of great value to our youth to teach something they will remember for the rest of their lives. Please encourage your youth to become involved. Also, Pastors, use this to the church's advantage; let the youth do some of the services and encourage them.

We failed with our seminars this year because of the C.E. Board's oversight. Failed plans come from failure to plan. We have already secured speakers for the upcoming seminars. I will mention these later in our report for next year.

In our plans for 1999, Bro. Paul Smith will be our speaker for our area-wide revival. It will be nightly at 7:30 P.M. Monday through Friday. More information will be sent out later. We encourage all the churches in our association to come and participate. If at all possible, dismiss your services to support the C.E. Board.

Dr. Picirilli has agreed to come for a denominational seminar July 30-31, 1999. He will be discussing some of the distinguishing differences between churches and doctrine for all to come and enjoy.

Dr. Woodard has agreed to come for a Church Growth Seminar August 27-28, 1999. He will be discussing new and innovative ways to help churches to grow. He will also feature an introduction for total member involvement in church growth.

Other than these seminars, we will also be having Valentine banquets for juniors and teens on February 13, 1999. Please make sure you bring all your youth to the banquets.

Our teens are also encouraged to be involved in our competition. (Bible Memorization, Sword Drill, Tic Tac Toe, Bible Bowl, Drama, Art, Photography, and Music.) Also, we encourage parents to be involved as coaches and teachers.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike McDaniel, Chairman

| CHURCH               | PASTOR'S ADDRESS  | PASTOR'S TELEPHONE | CLERK'S ADDRESS  |
|----------------------|---|--------------------|--|
| BEAVERTON            | Rev. DeWight Bailey<br>P. O. Box 366<br>Nauvoo, AL 35578                    | 697-5979           | Mrs. Sharon Cantrell<br>3105 Mt. Hebron Rd.<br>Beaverton, AL 35544 |
| BELK                 | Rev. Larry Reynolds<br>P. O. Box 31<br>Belk, AL 35545                       | 932-3144           | Mrs. Pam Byars<br>6633 Hwy. 96<br>Fayette, AL 35555                |
| COOPER               | Rev. David Sanderson<br>120 Cooper Church Rd.<br>Detroit, AL 35552          | 921-2440           | Mrs. Willer Dean Spratlin<br>244 Aston Rd.<br>Hamilton, AL 35570   |
| DAVIS CHAPEL         | Rev. Charles Fowler<br>Route 5, Box 194<br>Fayette, AL 35555                | 932-6589           | Mrs. Louise Cannon<br>14693 Graham Rd.<br>Berry, AL 35546          |
| DEPRIEST CHAPEL      | Rev. Bill Duncan<br>226 County Hwy. 104<br>Hamilton, AL 35570               | 921-4325           | Mr. Gene Wise<br>P.O. Box 132<br>Gattman, MS 38844                 |
| FREE WILL CHAPEL     | Rev. Scott Montgomery<br>5187 Buck Jackson Road<br>Sulligent, AL 35586      |                    | Ms. April Taylor<br>76 Pecan Lane<br>Vernon, AL 35592              |
| FRIENDSHIP           | Rev. James C. Newell<br>708 Sailor Cemetery Rd.<br>Vernon, AL 35592         | 695-6101           | Mrs. Lura Moore<br>87 Wheat Road<br>Millport, AL 35576             |
| LIBERTY              | Rev. Rick Powers<br>18154 County Road 49<br>Vernon, AL 35592                | 695-9400           | Mr. Steve Butler<br>100 Bethabra Cutoff<br>Fayette, AL 35555       |
| LOVEJOY              | Rev. Mark Collier<br>3247 Military St. N.<br>Hamilton, AL 35570             | 921-1701           | Mrs. Linda Barnes<br>610 Markham Rd.<br>Guin, AL 35563             |
| MT. HARMONY          | Rev. James Walden<br>5270 Cody Road<br>Kennedy, AL 35574                    | 596-3167           | Mr. David Harrison<br>P. O. Box 532<br>Vernon, AL 35592            |
| MT. PLEASANT         | Rev. Donald Kivette<br>870 County Hwy. 74<br>Guin, AL 35563                 | 468-2657           | Ms. Joyce Bigham<br>1124 Prospect Rd.<br>Sulligent, AL 35586       |
| MT. WILLING          | Rev. Grant Webb<br>1022 County Road 97<br>Winfield, AL 35594                | 487-0356           | Mrs. Carol S. McDonald<br>1663 Guin Road<br>Guin, AL 35563         |
| NEW CENTER POINT     | Rev. Scott Nicholson<br>64828 Hwy. 17<br>Detroit, AL 35552                  | 273-8505           | Mrs. Ruth Vann<br>187 Waterworks Road.<br>Sulligent, AL 35586      |
| PINEY GROVE          | Rev. Randy Wright<br>P. O. Box 4<br>Guin, AL 35563                          | 468-3740           | Mrs. Jackie Atkinson<br>P.O. Box 563<br>Winfield, AL 35594         |
| SPLUNGE              | Rev. Dale Ford<br>50029 Riley Road<br>Greenwood Springs, MS 38848           | 601-369-7320       | Mrs. Delores Northington<br>P. O. Box 182<br>Gattman, MS 38844     |
| SPRINGFIELD          | Rev. Jerry Williams<br>532 Westwood Rd.<br>Vernon, AL 35592                 | 695-6939           | Mr. Jimmy McDaniel<br>645 Buck Run<br>Vernon, AL 35592             |
| SULLIGENT, FIRST FWB | Rev. Tim Riggs<br>5201 Hwy 278<br>Sulligent, AL 35586                       | 698-8177           | Mrs. Jo Ann Riggs<br>3697 County Hwy. 37<br>Guin, AL 35563         |
| TAYLOR SPRINGS       | Rev. C.C. Berryhill<br>60324 Sipsey Fork Rd.<br>Greenwood Springs, MS 38848 | (601)256-8825      | Mr. J. C. Young<br>1501 Taylor Springs Rd.<br>Beaverton, AL 35544  |
| UNION CHAPEL         | Rev. Jimmy Martin<br>2938 Hwy. 96<br>Fayette, AL 35555                      | 932-8884           | Mr. Robert W. Humber<br>P. O. Box 636<br>Fayette, AL 35555         |
| VERNON, FIRST FWB    | Rev. Mike Dankson<br>221 6th St., N.E.<br>Vernon, AL 35592                  | 695-9730           | Ms. Elwanda Oakes<br>P. O. Box 351<br>Vernon, AL 35592             |

| Members Received | Members Deceased | Total Members | Number In Sunday School | Number In C.T.S. | Number In Ladies Aux. | Ordained Ministers |
|------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 4                | 0                | 55            | 28                      | 0                | 0                     | 1                  |
| 12               | 3                | 153           | 90                      | 0                | 12                    | 2                  |
| 5                | 2                | 144           | 75                      | 15               | 0                     | 1                  |
| 2                | 1                | 25            | 15                      | 0                | 0                     | 1                  |
| 2                | 2                | 64            | 45                      | 0                | 0                     | 2                  |
| 1                | 2                | 211           | 77                      | 0                | 14                    | 1                  |
| 0                | 0                | 48            | 12                      | 0                | 0                     | 1                  |
| 1                | 3                | 214           | 57                      | 40               | 15                    | 1                  |
| 2                | 0                | 127           | 46                      | 0                | 12                    | 1                  |
| 12               | 2                | 199           | 94                      | 0                | 0                     | 1                  |
| 0                | 1                | 77            | 30                      | 0                | 0                     | 1                  |
| 0                | 2                | 88            | 14                      | 0                | 0                     | 1                  |
| 2                | 2                | 130           | 70                      | 0                | 0                     | 2                  |
| 13               | 0                | 142           | 80                      | 0                | 0                     | 1                  |
| 2                | 0                | 35            | 31                      | 0                | 0                     | 1                  |
| 3                | 3                | 77            | 46                      | 0                | 10                    | 1                  |
| 7                | 3                | 241           | 123                     | 0                | 10                    | 2                  |
| 2                | 2                | 44            | 22                      | 0                | 0                     | 0                  |
| 1                | 1                | 96            | 25                      | 0                | 0                     | 1                  |
| 6                | 0                | 265           | 95                      | 51               | 14                    | 2                  |



## FINANCIAL REPORT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD

10-1-97 through 9-30-98

|                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Beginning Balance    | \$ 531.14       |
| OFFERINGS RECEIVED   | <u>2,194.39</u> |
| TOTAL TO ACCOUNT FOR | \$2,725.53      |

### EXPENDITURES:

|                                |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| U. S. Post Office              | \$ 64.00     |
| Valentine Banquet (Decorating) | 150.00       |
| Valentine Banquet (Food)       | 165.85       |
| Sister Tammy Lancaster         | 100.00       |
| Supplies                       | 39.65        |
| Alabama State C.E. Board       | <u>40.00</u> |

|               |           |
|---------------|-----------|
| TOTAL EXPENSE | \$ 559.50 |
|---------------|-----------|

|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Balance on Hand, End of Year | \$2,166.03 |
|------------------------------|------------|

Respectfully submitted,  
Aubrey Gibson, Treasurer

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Executive Committee met at the Kountry Kitchen on February 9, 1998, with all members present. The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Randy Wright. The business items discussed was the planning of the next two (2) meetings of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association.

For the March 14, 1998 meeting, the committee voted to ask Bro. David Crowe to bring the morning devotion. The committee also voted to invite Rev. Jerry Williams to bring the morning message. We voted to receive an offering to go to Rev. Dennis Haygood, missionary to Huntsville, Alabama.

For the October 17, 1998 meeting, we asked Rev. Donald Kivette to bring the morning devotion. We voted to invite Rev. Rick Cash, State Promotional Director, to bring the morning message. We also voted to ask Rev. Mark Collier to bring the afternoon devotion. We voted to receive an offering and give Rev. Rick Cash as an honorarium of \$200.00 or the offering, whichever is the greatest.

The meeting was adjourned. We were dismissed in prayer by Rev. Jerry Williams

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Randy Wright, Moderator

**VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION  
FINANCIAL REPORT**

Balance on Hand 9-1-97 \$ 612.71

**RECEIPTS:**

Offering at October

Association Meeting ..... \$ 260.00

Association Dues ..... 1,720.00

Offering at March meeting ..... 86.00

**TOTAL RECEIPTS ..... \$2,066.00**

**TOTAL TO ACCOUNT FOR \$2,678.71**

**EXPENDITURES:**

Rev. Randy Wright, Moderator ..... \$ 50.00

Rev. Jerry Williams, Asst. Moderator ..... 25.00

Rev. Terry Forrest, Guest Speaker ..... 260.00

Ala. State Association Dues ..... 1,000.00

Postmaster, Postage ..... 50.54

Thumb Print, Printing Minutes ..... 526.44

Smith's Bookstore, Bible, David Crowe ..... 27.50

Ala. State Missions, Rev. Dennis Haygood ..... 100.00

Raphael Yerby, Clerk ..... 75.00

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES . \$2,114.48**

Balance On Hand 8-31-98 \$ 564.23

Respectfully Submitted,  
Raphael H. Yerby, Treasurer

**NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PRESENT MINISTERS**

Rev. M. H. Hollis, P. O. Box 183, Vernon, AL 35592  
Rev. Lloyd George, 827 Cannon Trace, Columbus, MS 39702  
Rev. James Walden, 5270 Cody Road, Kennedy, AL 35574  
Rev. Randy Wright, P. O. Box 4, Guin, AL 35563  
Rev. John Powell, 2137 Freeman Road, Caledonia, MS 39740  
Rev. C. C. Berryhill, 60324 Sipsey Fork Road, Greenwood Springs, MS 38848  
Rev. Jerry Williams, 532 West Wood Road, Vernon, AL 35592  
Rev. David Sanderson, 120 Cooper Church Road, Detroit, AL 35552  
Rev. Roy G. Plymon, Columbus, MS 39702  
Rev. Aubrey C. Gibson, P. O. Box 214, Vernon, AL 35592  
Rev. Kevin Stacey, Nashville, Tenn.  
Rev. Larry Reynolds, P. O. Box 31, Belk, AL 35545  
Rev. Rick Powers, 18154, County Road 49, Vernon, AL 35592  
Rev. DeWight Bailey, P. O. Box 85, Nauvoo, AL 35578  
Rev. Bill Duncan, 226 County Hwy. 104, Hamilton, AL 35570  
Rev. Mike Dankson, 221 6th St., N.E., Vernon, AL 35592  
Rev. Dale Ford, 50029 Riley Road, Greenwood Springs, MS 38848  
Rev. Tim Riggs, 5201 Hwy. 278, Sulligent, AL 35586  
Rev. Charles Fowler, 5121 Hwy. 102, Fayette, AL 35555  
Rev. Donald Kivette, 870 County Hwy. 74, Guin, AL 35563  
Rev. Mark Collier, 3247 Military St. N., Hamilton, AL 35570  
Rev. Jimmy Martin, 2938 Hwy. 96, Fayette, AL 35555  
Rev. Scott Nicholson, 64828 Hwy. 17, Detroit, AL 35552

**LIST OF DEACONS**

BEAVERTON - Bros. Bobby Dykes, Russell Cole and Harrell Cantrell  
BELK - Bros. Raphael Yerby, Dalton Gilpin, and Lewis Hindman  
COOPER - Bros. Hershel Rye, Edward Finch, and Burley Finch  
DAVIS CHAPEL - None  
DEPRIEST CHAPEL - Bros. Joe M. Easter, Phillip Wise and Gene Wise



FREE WILL CHAPEL - Bros. Edsel Gideon, Daniel Franks, Tommy Otts,  
Jerry Mays and L.D. Hall

FRIENDSHIP - None

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

LOVE JOY - Bros. Loyd Carter, Guary Taylor and Clayton Barnes

MT. HARMONY - Frankie Beasley, Bros. L. C. Steedley, Coy Johnson,  
and Rickey Owens

MT. PLEASANT - None

MT. WILLING - None

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

PINEY GROVE - Bros. Danny Atkinson and Tommie Robertson

SPLUNGE - Bro. Clovis Blaylock

SPRINGFIELD - Bros. Paul Jordan, Tommie Rushing and Richard Johnson

SULLIGENT FIRST - Bros. Jessie L. Barnes, Jr., Hezzie Harrison, Sammy  
Merchant, Frank Mixon, Earnest Northington and Luke Spruiell

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

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

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

### 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, Emmitt 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 Quinton Boyett, Charles Crosby, Gordie Rye, Kelly Easter, Coy Robertson, Emmitt Lee, Roy Ashby, and Oveat Graham.

## 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. The Vernon Association will purchase a new Bible for those who are being ordained and present it to them at the Ordination Service as a gift from



the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association.

11. (A) All ordination of ministers shall be done by the Credential Committee. The time and place to be agreed upon by the Credential Committee and the candidate for ordination.

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. NAME:** The name of this Board shall be "Christian Board of Education of the Vernon Association of Free Will Baptist".

**2. PURPOSE:** To promote and assist the local churches in the association in Christian education at all levels of church work. The board will also be responsible for the district CTS competition in April.

**3. MEMBERS:** The Board shall have five (5) members, with the senior member in point of service being replaced each year. Members shall consist of two (2) laymen, but no more than three (3) laymen, or two (2) ordained ministers but no more than three (3) ordained ministers.

**4. MEETINGS:** The Board shall meet once a month. The day, time and place will be decided by the Board members. The first meeting will be in November after the annual meeting of the association.

**5. OFFICERS:** The board shall have as officers chairman, secretary, and treasurer. Elected by the board.

The chairman shall preside over all meetings and shall see that all jobs are carried out properly.

The secretary shall keep accurate minutes of each meeting, shall be responsible for all correspondence for the board and preside over meetings in the absence of the chairman.

The treasurer shall keep an accurate record of all monies, shall have a report for all meetings and the annual meeting of the association.

**6.** The board shall have the power to appoint a member to replace a member that has resigned or one that has deceased. This member will serve until the annual meeting of the association. At that time, the Association will elect the temporary member to finish that term or replace with a new member.

**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.