

**ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD  
SESSION**

**of the**

**VERNON FREE WILL  
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

**held with**

**SULLIGENT FIRST  
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH**

**2003 Minutes**

OFFICERS FOR 2003

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD SESSION

MODERATOR ..... REV. SCOTT NICHOLSON

ASSISTANT MODERATOR ..... REV. LAMAR COX

CLERK ..... BRO. STEVE BUTLER

ASSISTANT CLERK ..... SIS. ELWANDA OAKES

The next session (Spring Meeting) of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association will be held with the Mt. Harmony Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday, March 20, 2004 with registration beginning at 9:30 A.M., and service beginning promptly at 10:00 A.M. The annual session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association will be held with the Cooper Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday, October 16, 2004, beginning promptly at 9:00 A.M.

OFFICERS FOR 2004

MODERATOR ..... JERRY WHITE

5187 Buck Jackson Road

Sulligent, Alabama 35586

Telephone 205-695-6119

ASSISTANT MODERATOR ..... REV. LAMAR COX

P.O. Box 31, Belk, AL 35545

Telephone 205-932-3144

CLERK ..... BRO. STEVE BUTLER

100 Bethabara Cutoff, Fayette, AL 35555

Telephone (205) 932-8496

ASSISTANT CLERK ..... SIS. ELWANDA OAKES

P. O. Box 351, Vernon, AL 35592

Telephone (205) 695-9621

**PROCEEDINGS  
FALL MEETING  
MORNING SESSION**

The one hundred and twenty-third session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association convened on Saturday October 18, 2003 with the Sulligent First Free Will Baptist Church. Rev. Scott Nicholson, Pastor of the New Center Point Free Will Baptist Church served as moderator. Serving as assistant moderator was Rev. Lamar Cox. Bro. Steve Butler served as Association Clerk and Sis. Elwanda Oakes as assistant clerk.

The meeting began with a song led by Bro. Mark Hallman of the Sulligent First Free Will Baptist Church. Next Rev. Dwayne Hammontree, pastor of the Sulligent First Free Will Baptist Church, gave the welcome.

Rev. Jeff Lunsford, foreign missionary to Mongolia, delivered the morning devotion. He talked about, along with his devotion, the work that has been accomplished on the mission field of Mongolia. Rev. Al Hamm, pastor of Victory Free Will Baptist Church, Columbus, Mississippi, then led prayer.

Following the morning devotion, the Vernon Association was declared into session by the Association Clerk, Bro. Steve Butler. The list of delegates was next called followed by the seating of the delegates to the conduct the business of the association.

Any visiting brethren were asked to be seated with us during the session. Those in attendance were Rev. Ashley Culp, Director of Trinity Camp, Rev. Charles Cook, with the Recruitment Department of Free Will Baptist Bible College, Rev. Jeff Lunsford, foreign missionary to Mongolia, and Rev. Keith Burden, Executive Director of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Antioch, Tennessee.

The Digest Committee was asked to give their report. In the absence of the chairman of the committee, Bro. Joseph Callahan, the report was given by the association clerk. Following a motion, second and vote, the report was approved.

After that, the General Board Report was then presented by the association clerk. Moderator Scott Nicholson requested that copies of proposed business items be passed out to delegates. Because these items concerned changes to the Constitution, the entire proposal was tabled until the afternoon part of the session.

Rev. Joe Beckon, chairman of the Committee on Committees, gave the report of that committee. Members of various committees were appointed from the delegates present during the business session. Following a motion, second and vote, the committee was discharged.

The moderator next asked for any petitionary letters of which none were announced. The moderator asked that Rev. Randy Key, Director of Free Will Baptist Children's Home give a report and update about the children's home. He mentioned that at the present time they were serving 24 children. A motion, second, and vote was made to receive the report as information.

Rev. Charles Cook with the Free Will Baptist Bible College gave a report on the college's enrollment and other areas of interest. He mentioned that enrollment was up this year with 339 enrolled at present. The report was received as information after a motion, second, and vote.

Sis. Burma Jordan reported on the Vernon District Women Active for Christ. Following a motion, second, and vote, the report was received as information.

The session was recessed for a short time of fellowship and to allow various committees to meet. Following the recess the moderator asked that the Sunday school and C.T.S. Committee give their report. With a motion, second, and vote, the report was approved, and the committee was discharged.

Bro. Raphael Yerby next gave a report of the Finance Committee. The report was approved following a motion, second, and vote. Sis. Charlotte Hammontree gave the Deceased Members Committee Report. Following a motion, second, and vote the report was approved. A song titled, "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be!" was sung by those present, with prayer following the song led by Rev. Mark McCraney.

Delegates to the Alabama State Association meeting were next appointed to serve at the next state meeting to be held at the Sylacauga First Free Will Baptist Church. Those appointed to serve were Sis. Elwanda Oakes, Sis. Sue Yerby, Sis. Etta Jane White, Sis. Ann Reed, and Sis. Genine Fowler.

Bro. Matt Hallman next led the congregation in song. The song was "How Great Thou Art." An offering was next received for the speaker, Rev. Keith Burden. Rev. Lamar Cox gave the prayer for the offering. Following the offering a time of special music was given by a group of young men from the Sulligent church.

The worship service followed the special music. Rev. Keith Burden, Executive Secretary of the National Association of Free Will Baptists delivered the message taking his text from John 6:1-4. His message stressed how God can take the ordinary and make it extraordinary. The speaker closed with prayer. Following the worship service all were invited to enjoy a delicious lunch. Bro. Wade Vann gave the blessing for the meal. This concluded the morning session.



### AFTERNOON SESSION

Following lunch the association delegates and visitors reconvened in the auditorium of the Sulligent church with Bro. Matt Hallman leading the congregation in singing the hymn, "What A Day That Will Be." Prayer followed led by Bro. Danny Jenkins.

Bro. Dale Stafford of the New Center Point Free Will Baptist Church delivered the afternoon devotion. His text was from Isaiah 16:18, 19. Prayer was by the speaker.

Following the afternoon devotion the Credentials Committee report was given by Rev. Dwayne Hammontree; with a motion, second, and vote, the report was approved, with the recommendations in the report.

A report of the Appreciation Committee was next given by Sis. Genine Fowler. In the report appreciation and thanks were extended to the Sulligent Church for hosting this meeting. With a motion, second, and vote, the report was approved.

The delegates now considered the recommendations of the General Board, which were tabled during the morning session. The recommendations of the General Board were:

1. To increase association dues from the member churches of 100 or less to \$150.00 year, and \$250.00 for churches with more than 100 members.
2. To appoint the moderator of the Vernon Association to be a member of the General Board of the Alabama State Association.
3. To change the duties of the Christian Education (C.E.) Board.

With a motion, second, and vote the recommendations were approved.

The moderator, Rev. Scott Nicholson, next made the following appointments to the Executive Committee. They were Rev. Bill Smith, Bro. Johnnie Bigham, Bro. Dick Walters, Bro. Tommie Robertson, and Bro. Wayne Northington.

Locations for the upcoming meeting were called for. The Belk Free Will Baptist Church requested to host the Thanksgiving Service, to be held on Tuesday November 25, 2003, and was granted approval. The Spring Meeting will be held with the Mt. Harmony Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday March 20, 2004. A site for the annual meeting was not selected, but the Executive Committee would discuss a place to meet. The meeting will take place on October 16, 2004.

Committee appointments were next made for the coming year. The moderator appointed Rev. Randy Wright to the Credentials Committee. Bro. Mike Kimbrell is to finish the remainder of Bro. Paschal Yerby's term on the

committee. With a motion, second, and vote, the appointments passed.

The Nominating Committee Report was next given. Recommended nominations were:

Moderator: Rev. Jerry White

Assistant Moderator: Rev. Lamar Cox

Clerk: Bro. Steve Butler

Assistant Clerk: Elwanda Oakes

Other committee positions nominated were Bro. Lewis Hindman on the Youth Camp Board, Rev. Dale Ford on the Board of Christian Education, and Rev. John Reed, on the Children's Home Board of Directors. With a motion, second, and vote the nominations were approved.

With no other business to be considered the session was adjourned.

A total of 127 people registered for this session of the association. They were as follows:

Ministers 26

Visitors 37

Ministers that registered

Rev. Dwayne Hammontree

Rev. Scott Nicholson

Rev. Al Hamm

Rev. Joe Beckon

Rev. Lamar Cox

Rev. John Reed

Rev. M. H. Hollis

Rev. Waylon Jones

Rev. Mark McCraney

Rev. Jerry White

Rev. Randy Key

Rev. Donald Kivette

Rev. John Powell

Deacons 12

Delegates 52

Rev. John Johnson

Rev. Devin Henry

Rev. Danny Thompson

Rev. C. C. Berryhill

Rev. James Walden

Rev. Charles Fowler

Rev. Keith Burden

Rev. Anthony Robbins

Rev. Billy Smith

Rev. Darrell Burnett

Rev. Dale Ford

Rev. Jim Martin

Rev. Matt Hallman

## PROCEEDINGS

### SPRING MEETING

The semiannual meeting of the Vernon Association of Free Will Baptists was held with Liberty Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday, March 15, 20003 beginning at 9:00 AM. Rev. Scott Nicholson served as moderator.

The meeting began with a congregational song led by Bro. Wayne Sorrells, Song Director of the Liberty Church. Rev. Darrell Burkett, pastor of the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church, gave the welcome.

Rev. Waylon Jones, pastor of Depriest Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, gave the morning devotion. His text was taken from Matthew 6:25-31. Following the morning devotion, Rev. Ashley Culp gave a report of the Trinity Camp and its activities. After the report there was a short recess and a time of fellowship enjoyed by those in attendance.

Rev. Scott Montgomery asked to speak before the session and was granted a time to speak. After a time of recess, those present sang a congregational song with special music from Sis. Paige Dias following. The song she sang was titled "Redeemed."

Rev. John Reed brought the second morning devotion. His text was selected from Psalm 73:1-3. The speaker closed with prayer. Next, Rev. Rich Cash, Alabama State Promotional Director, gave a report of the Acts 1:8 program. Following the report, the group was led in two congregational songs, "Where Could I Go?" and "The Old Rugged Cross," respectively.

An offering was next taken up with the offertory prayer given by Rev. Al Hamm. The choir of the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church then sang two songs of special music.

Rev. Mark McCraney, pastor of the Fayette First Baptist Church in Fayette, AL, gave the morning message. His text was taken from I John 5:18-21. The moderator closed with prayer.

Following the message, a delicious meal was enjoyed by all present. The session was adjourned until the fall meeting.

**CHURCHES AND DELEGATES LISTED**

BEAVERTON- David Trentelman, Christy Trentelman, Sharon Cantrell

BELK- Sue Yerby, Genine Fowler, Pam Byars, Ann Reed

COOPER - Tammy Henry, Willodean Miles, Sylvia Taylor, Wayne Warner, Willer Dean Spratlin, Ricky Norris, Teresa Norris, Debbie England, Alt.

DAVIS CHAPEL - Joe Lay, Lorene Pike, Betty Gray

DEPRIEST CHAPEL - Mary Wise, Shelia Irvin, Brenda Langford, Tabatha Jones

FAYETTE, FIRST - Danny Jenkins, Thelma House, Sheila Bynum

FREE WILL CHAPEL -Annette Taylor, Florence Mason, Etta Jane White, Jim Davis, Ed Barnes, Alt.

FRIENDSHIP - No delegates listed

LIBERTY -Margaret Corbett, Loree Christain, Frances Butler, Stephanie Butler, James Brown, Joann Brown, Janice Sorrells, Alt., Mary Ann Perkins, Alt.

LOVEJOY -Freddie Pickle, Marty Stockman, W. C. Guyton, J. R. Coley, Matthew Paul, Alt., Chris Carruth, Alt.

MT. HARMONY - Joseph Callahan, Kaye Callahan, J. C. Crawford, Linda Hubbert

MT. PLEASANT - Pearlie Allen, Carol Kivette, Betty Elrod, Peggy Corbell, Alt.

MT. WILLING -No delegates listed

NEW CENTER POINT - Susan Nicholson, Dale Stafford, Wade Vann

PINEY GROVE -Bill Smith, Dock Lynn, JoAnn Riggs, Jennifer Crowe

SPLUNGE - Linda Ford Deloris Northington

SPRINGFIELD - Belva Pennington, Burma Jordan, Dick Walters, John Pennington, Pauline Walters

SULLIGENT FIRST - Bob Carter, Sandra Carter, Kenn Kerr, Teresa Kerr, John Northington, Christy Hallman

TAYLOR SPRINGS - Martha Bradford, Diane Spencer, Robert Perkins

UNION CHAPEL - Joyce Hardy, Dean Maddox

VERNON FIRST -Lou Ella Knight, Mike McDaniel, Marsha McDaniel, Eldredge Motes

VICTORY - No delegates listed



GENERAL BOARD

BEAVERTON - None listed	MT.PLEASANT - Johnny Bigham
BELK - Dalton Gilpin	MT. WILLING - None listed
COOPER - Edward Finch	NEW CENTER POINT - Jim Northington
DAVIS CHAPEL - None listed	PINEY GROVE - Tommie Robertson
DEPRIEST CHAPEL - Charlie Franklin	SPLUNGE - Wayne Northingotn
FAYETTE, FIRST - Billy R. Smith	SPRINGFIELD - Dick Walters
FREE WILL CHAPEL - Mike Gideon	SULLIGENT FIRST - Bob Carter
FRIENDSHIP - None listed	TAYLOR SPRINGS - Steve Spencer
LIBERTY - Leonard Corbett	UNION CHAPEL - Dean Maddox
LOVEJOY - Guary Taylor	VERNON FIRST - Mike McDaniel
MT. HARMONY - Phil Wheeler	VICTORY - None listed

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.

Mr. Pleasant	Sulligent, First
Mt. Willing	Taylor Springs
New Center Point	Union Chapel
Piney Grove	Vernon, First
Splunge	Victory
Springfield	

**Committee on Committees  
2003-2004**

Rev. Danny Thompson  
Rev. Dale Ford  
Rev. Jerry White

**Executive Committee  
2003-2004**

Rev. Jerry White  
Rev. Lamar Cox  
Bro. Steve Butler  
Sis. Elwanda Oakes  
Rev. Bill Smith  
Bro. Dick Walters  
Bro. Tommie Robertson  
Bro. Johnnie Bigham  
Bro. Wayne Northington

**Credentials Committee**

Rev. Dwayne Hammontree - 2004  
Rev. James Walden - 2005  
Bro. Dalton Gilpin - 2006  
Bro. Mike Kimbrell - 2007  
Rev. Randy Wright - 2008

**Finance Committee - 2003**

Bro. Raphael Yerby  
Rev. Donald Kivette  
Bro. Leonard Corbett

**Nominating Committee  
2003-2004**

Rev. Dwayne Hammontree  
Rev. Mark McCraney  
Bro. Zadus Turner, Jr.

**Youth Camp Board of Directors**

Rev. Randy Wright - 2004  
Bro. Steve Butler - 2005  
Bro. Lewis Hindman - 2006

**Board of Christian Education  
(C.E.)**

Rev. David Crowe - 2004  
Rev. John Johnson - 2005  
Sis. Stephanie Butler - 2006  
Bro. Mike McDaniel - 2007  
Bro. Dale Ford - 2008

**Sunday School and C.T.S.  
Committee - 2003**

Bro. Dick Walters  
Sis. Elwanda Oakes  
Bro. J. C. Crawford

**Deceased Members  
Committee - 2003**

Sis. Charlotte Hammontree  
Sis. Shelia Rasberry  
Sis. Pam Byars

**Digest Committee - 2004**

Bro. Joseph Callahan  
Bro. Edsel Gideon  
Bro. Reedus Wheat

**Appreciation Committee  
2003**

Sis. Lucy Cox  
Sis. Burma Jordan  
Sis. Sue Yerby

**Temperance Committee -  
2003**

Bro. Scott Stanford  
Rev. David Crowe  
Bro. Jesse L. Barnes, Jr.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

We, the Finance Committee, submit the following report:

The balance on hand, on 09-01-03 was \$1,190.49. A total of \$3,050.00 has been received from our churches in dues for this year. That brings our balance to \$4240.49. Our estimated expenses for the coming year are estimated to be \$3200.00, leaving a projected balance of \$1040.49

Respectfully submitted by the committee:

Bro. Raphael Yerby

Rev. Donald Kivette

Bro. Leonard Corbett

### **TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

The committee gave no report.

### **CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT**

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

- I. We have received a letter of good standing for Rev. Jimmy Martin.
- II. We recommend that Bro. Dale Stafford be ordained to preach the gospel.
- III. We recommend that all ministers of the Vernon Association present today receive a card of good standing.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. James Walden

Rev. Dwayne Hammontree

Bro. Dalton Gilpin

### **APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

In Psalms 107:1 it says "O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endureth forever." We are thankful to the Sulligent Free Will Baptist Church for hosting this one-hundred-twenty-third session of the Vernon Association.

We are thankful for the hospitality, warm welcome, and delicious meal. To each officer for the many hours of preparation and to each person attending we say thank you!

May God bless our association as we look forward to another good year.

Respectfully submitted by the committee

Genine Fowler

Sue Yerby

Burma Jordan

**DECEASED MEMBERS COMMITTEE REPORT**

We, the Deceased Members Committee, submit the following report: Twenty-two (22) brothers and sisters have gone to be with our Lord this past year. I Cor. 15:55-57 says, O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

We would like to remember the following members by singing "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be" and being led in prayer by Rev. Mark McCraney, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church of Fayette, Alabama.

BEAVERTON - None

BELK - Pearson Hamm

COOPER - None

DAVIS CHAPEL - None

DEPRIEST CHAPEL - None

FAYETTE FIRST - None

FREE WILL CHAPEL - Sis. Florence Hankins, Sis. Dessie Jackson

FRIENDSHIP - None

LIBERTY - Bro. Barksdale Higgins, Sis. Elsie Black, Bro. Johnnie C. Dubose, Bro. Bailey Jenkins, Sis. Elzie Yerby, Sis. Epsie Dubose

LOVE JOY - None

MT. HARMONY - Bro. Moses Duke, Jr.

MT. PLEASANT - Sis. Naomi Crossley

MT. WILLING - Bro. J. R. Guin

NEW CENTER POINT - None

PINEY GROVE - Sis. Lucille Chaffin

SPLUNGE - None

SPRINGFIELD - Sis. Dovie Pennington; Sis. Mary Nell Brown

SULLIGENT FIRST F.W.B.- None

TAYLOR SPRINGS - None

UNION CHAPEL - Bro. Jesse Yerby

VERNON FIRST F.W.B.- Bro. Pascal Yerby, Sis. Ellen H. Carey, Sis. Lula G. Turner

VICTORY - Sis. Allie Mae Spruill, Sis. Joanna Prather, Bro. Thurman Shaw.

Respectfully submitted by the committee  
Charlotte Hammontree, Chairperson

**VERNON DISTRICT WOMEN ACTIVE FOR CHRIST**

The Vernon District Women Active For Christ consists of two auxiliaries and twenty-eight (28) members. Our twenty-fifth (25) district meeting was held at the Vernon First Free Will Baptist Church in Vernon in March. Jackie Harrison was our special speaker. Twenty-seven (27) ladies attended.

We gave a total of \$2,867.45 cash gifts this year to Missions, Youth Camp,, and Children's Home and other projects.

We sponsored the birthday party at the Care Center in August. We sponsored a Mother/Daughter banquet, which was held at the Vernon First Free Will in April. We continue to support Richard Yerby by collecting postage stamps, car tags, and leather.

Several of our ladies attended the Ladies Retreat at Trinity Youth Camp in April. Several attended the prayer retreat at Shocco Springs in September. We plan to adopt a family for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Our theme for 2004 is Great Expectations, Psalms 62:5 "My soul, wait thou only upon God, for my expectation is from him. We do have great expectations as we look forward to another year to serve Him as co-laborers.

Respectfully submitted,  
Burma Jordan, Secretary/Treasurer



DIGEST COMMITTEE REPORT:

Statistics

Number of Churches reporting (Rural-17, City-4) . . . . .	21
Full-time pastors (19 churches reporting) . . . . .	14
Part-time pastors (19 churches reporting) . . . . .	5
Tithes and offerings (14 churches reporting) . . . . .	\$856,406.37
Ordained Ministers . . . . .	32
Licensed Ministers . . . . .	11
Ordained Deacons . . . . .	64
Churches with Daycare . . . . .	1
Churches with Kindergarten . . . . .	1
Churches with Day School . . . . .	1
Churches with Sunday School . . . . .	21
Sunday School Enrollment (19 churches reporting) . . . . .	1,279
Baptisms . . . . .	34
Members Added . . . . .	53
Members Lost . . . . .	41
Total Membership . . . . .	2,645
Churches with Parsonages . . . . .	8
Churches with Budgets . . . . .	2
Value of Church Property (12 churches reporting) . . . . .	\$5.326,600.00
Churches with CTS . . . . .	3
CTS Enrollment . . . . .	126
Churches with Ladies Auxiliary . . . . .	10
Ladies Auxiliary Enrollment (one not reporting) . . . . .	94
Churches with Masters Men . . . . .	2
Masters Men Enrollment . . . . .	18

Respectfully submitted,  
Joseph Callahan, Chairman

**BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (C.E.) REPORT  
09-01-02 THROUGH 08-31-03**

We the Board of Christian Education respectfully submit the following report:

Beginning balance:	\$927.61
Received:	
Expenses:	
Bible College Choir	<u>-400.00</u>
Current Ending Balance:	\$527.61

**GENERAL BOARD REPORT**

The General Board of the Vernon Association met at the Sulligent First Free Will Baptist Church on Tuesday evening, August 26, 2003.

After a motion and second the Board proceeded to discuss various points of business to be brought before the Annual Meeting of the Vernon Association. The first item discussed involved the location of the upcoming Thanksgiving Service. The Belk Free Will Baptist Church has asked to host the meeting. The Board approved the request and it will be considered by the Association.

The next item concerned an increase of association dues. It was noted that the State Association has increased the dues of the churches to the state Association from \$85.00 per year, per church, to \$135 per year, per church. The Board approved the increase pending passage by the Association.

The third item discussed concerned the appointment of the Moderator as the General Board Member to the State Association. The Board approved this item and for it to be considered by the Association.

The final item considered by the Board dealt with changes in the Christian Education Board. It was agreed by the Board that these changes would be presented to the Association at the Fall meeting.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Executive Committee met on January 28, 2003. Those present were: S. Nicholson, L. Cox, D. Gilpin, L. Corbett, and S. Butler. The following subjects were discussed.

- I. The location and speaker for the spring meeting were selected. Rev. Mark McCraney of the Fayette, First Free Will Baptist Church was appointed to preach the morning worship service, with Rev. Waylon Jones, pastor of the Depriest Chapel Free Will Baptist Church to lead the first devotion, and Rev. John Reed of the Belk Free Will Baptist Church to lead the second devotion.
- II. Speakers recommended for the Annual Meeting were Rev. Randy Wright to lead the morning devotion. Rev. Keith Burden, Executive Secretary of the National Association to preach the morning message, and Bro. Dale Stafford of the New Center Point Free Will Baptist Church to lead the afternoon devotion.
- III. The committee also recommended that the Association pay half of the transportation expenses for the Bible College Choir which is to minister in song on April 26, 2003 at the Lamar County High School auditorium. The expense amount was \$400.00 with the balance (\$400) being provided by the Board of Christian Education. It was also agreed that the Association would pay for one meal for the College Choir. The cost was \$150.00.

With no other business to consider, the Committee adjourned in prayer led by Bro. Leonard Corbett.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CTS COMMITTEE

We, as the Sunday School and CTS Committee make the following report. We have 21 churches with Sunday School. The average enrollment is 1,669. We have two churches with C.T.S. The average enrollment is 176.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bro. Dick Walters, Chairperson  
Sis. Elwanda Oakes

## BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The board gave no report

CHURCH	PASTOR'S ADDRESS	PASTOR'S TELEPHONE	CLERK'S ADDRESS
BEAVERTON	None Listed		Sharon Cantrell 3105 Mt. Hebron Rd. Beaverton, AL 35544
BELK	Rev. Lamar Cox P. O. Box 31 Belk, AL 35545	205-932-3144	Pam Byars 6633 Hwy. 96 Fayette, AL 35555
COOPER	Rev. Devin Henry 484 E.E. Kelley Rd. Detroit, AL 35552	205-921-2128	Willer Dean Spratlin 244 Aston Rd. Hamilton, AL 35570
DAVIS CHAPEL	None Listed		Louise Cannon 14693 Graham Rd. Berry, AL 35546
DEPRIEST CHAPEL	Waylon Jones 2383 Old Hackleburg Rd. Hackleburg, AL 35564	205-412-3713	Gene Wise P.O. Box 132 Gattman, MS 38844
FAYETTE, FIRST	Rev. Mark McCraney P. O. Box 191 Fayette, AL 35555	205-596-4215	Era Aldridge 531 3rd Ave. NW Fayette, AL 35555
FREE WILL CHAPEL	Rev. Jerry White 5187 Buck Jackson Road Sulligent, AL 35586	205-695-6119	Lenora Hopper 5187 County Lake Rd. Sulligent, AL 35586
FRIENDSHIP	No Report		
LIBERTY	Rev. Darrell Burkett 624 Sexton Road Fayette, AL 35555	205-932-8683	Steve Butler 100 Bethabara Cutoff Fayette, AL 35555
LOVEJOY	Rev. Anthony Robbins 11644 State Hwy. 253 Brilliant, AL 35548	205-468-8210	Linda Barnes 610 Markham Rd. Guin, AL 35563
MT. HARMONY	Rev. Danny Thompson 5399 Cody Rd. Kennedy, AL 35574	205-596-4041	David Harrison P. O. Box 532 Vernon, AL 35592
MT. PLEASANT	Rev. Donald Kivette 870 County Hwy. 74 Guin, AL 35563	205-468-2657	Joyce Bigham 1124 Prospect Rd. Sulligent, AL 35586
MT. WILLING	Doyle Chandler 371 Burnt House Rd. Hamilton, AL 35570	205-921-5532	Carol McDonald 1663 Guin Road Guin, AL 35563
NEW CENTER POINT	Rev. Scott Nicholson 60320 Sipsey Fork Road Greenwood Springs, MS 38848	662-257-1111	Ruth Vann 187 Waterworks Road. Sulligent, AL 35586
PINEY GROVE	Rev. Randy Wright 6711 Co. Hwy. 69 Guin, AL 35563	205-468-3740	Jackie Atkinson P.O. Box 563 Winfield, AL 35594
SPLUNGE	Rev. Dale Ford 50029 Riley Road Greenwood Springs, MS 38848	662-369-7320	Deloris Northington P. O. Box 182 Gattman, MS 38844
SPRINGFIELD	Rev. John Johnson P. O. Box 207 Vernon, AL 35592	205-695-6343	Jimmy McDaniel 645 Buck Run Vernon, AL 35592
SULLIGENT, FIRST FWB	Rev. Dwayne Hammontree 5201 Hwy. 278 Sulligent, AL 35586	205-698-8177	Teresa Kerr 59171 Hwy. 17 Sulligent, AL 35586
TAYLOR SPRINGS	Rev. C.C. Berryhill 60324 Sipsey Fork Rd. Greenwood Springs, MS 38848	662-256-8825	J. C. Young 1501 Taylor Springs Rd. Beaverton, AL 35544
UNION CHAPEL	Rev. Charles Fowler 5121 Hwy. 102 Fayette, AL 35555	205-932-6589	Jo Ann Maddox P. O. Box 636 Fayette, AL 35555
VERNON, FIRST FWB	Rev. Joe Beckon 221- 6th St., N.E. Vernon, AL 35592	205-695-9842	Elwanda Oakes P. O. Box 351 Vernon, AL 35592
VICTORY	Rev. Al Hamm 806 Belmont Dr. Columbus, MS 39702	662-328-0977	Johnnie M. Newman 85 Weathers Rd. Columbus, MS 39702

Members Received	Members Deceased	Total Members	Number In Sunday School	Number In C.T.S.	Number In LadiesAux.	Ordained Ministers
0	1	54	28	-	-	0
2	1	158	78	-	12	4
0	0	125	70	-	-	1
2	0	28	15	-	-	-
2	0	75	30	-	-	1
6	1	185	133	-	-	3
0	3	216	50	-	8	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	6	220	78	62	25	1
0	2	55	40	-	6	1
6	3	209	99	-	-	2
2	1	88	28	-	-	3
3	5	87	13	-	-	2
3	1	160	53	-	10	2
2	1	167	142	-	-	4
4	0	-	45	-	8	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	1
8	3	248	130	-	9	1
-	-	49	30	-	-	1
-	-	90	20	-	-	1
7	4	306	110	64	16	2
1	2	125	135	-	-	1



## VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

## Financial Statement

09-01-02 through 08-31-03

Beginning Balance		\$1,190.49
Revenue Received from:		
Dues from churches	\$ 3,250.00	
Offerings:		
Fall Meeting	272.07	
Thanksgiving Service	837.11	
Spring Meeting	618.00	
Bible College Choir Service	<u>498.00</u>	
Total Revenue Received		<u>\$5,475.18</u>

## EXPENSES:

Salaries .....	\$ 200.00
Lodging and Transportation .....	1,113.75
Honorariums paid to speakers .....	293.00
Printing and print materials .....	792.30
Postage .....	136.56
Dues paid to Ala. State Association .....	1,870.00
Home Missions Department .....	272.07
Free Will Baptist Bible College .....	498.00
Alabama Tornado Relief Fund .....	<u>837.11</u>
Total Expenses/Disbursements .....	- <u>6,012.79</u>
Ending Balance .....	+ \$ 652.88

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Nominating Committee, make the following report:

For Moderator we recommend Rev. Jerry White. For Assistant Moderator we recommend Rev. Lamar Cox. For Clerk we recommend Bro. Steve Butler. For Assistant Clerk we recommend Sis. Elwanda Oakes. For Youth Camp Board of Directors for replacing Bro. Lewis Hindman, we recommend Bro. Lewis Hindman. For Board of Christian Education we recommend replacing Rev. Dale Ford, we recommend Rev. Dale Ford. For Children's Home Board of Directors replacing Bro. Pascal Yerby, we recommend Rev. John Reed.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Rev. Jerry White, Chairman  
 Rev. Donald Kivette  
 Bro. Raphael Yerby

**NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PRESENT MINISTERS**

Rev. M. H. Hollis, P. O. Box 183, Vernon, AL 35592  
Rev. James Walden, 5270 Cody Road, Kennedy, AL 35574  
Rev. Randy Wright, P. O. Box 4, Guin, AL 35563  
Rev. John Powell, 3127 Freeman Road, Caledonia, MS 39740  
Rev. C. C. Berryhill, 60324 Sipsev Fork Road, Greenwood Springs, MS 38848  
Rev. Rick Cash, 1767 2nd Ave. SW, Fayette, AL 35555  
Rev. Charles Fowler, 5121 Hwy. 102, Fayette, AL 35555  
Rev. Dale Ford, 50029 Riley Road, Greenwood Springs, MS 38848  
Rev. Waylon Jones, 2383 Old Hackleburg Road, Hackleburg, AL 35564  
Rev. Donald Kivette, 870 County Hwy. 74, Guin, AL 35563  
Rev. Mark McCraney, P. O. Box 191, Fayette, AL 35555  
Rev. Scott Nicholson, 60320 Sipsev Fork Rd., Greenwood Springs, MS 38848  
Rev. Randy Key, P. O. Box 8, Eldridge, AL 35554  
Rev. Billy R. Smith, P. O. Box 631, Fayette, AL 35555  
Rev. Danny Thompson, 5399 Cody Rd., Kennedy, AL 35574  
Rev. John Johnson, P. O. Box 207, Vernon, AL 35592  
Rev. Darrell Burkett, 624 Sexton Rd., Fayette, AL 35555  
Rev. Dwayne Hammontree, 5201 Hwy. 278, Sulligent, AL 35586  
Rev. Lamar Cox, P. O. Box 31, Belk, AL 35545  
Rev. Al Hamm, 806 Belmont Dr., Columbus, MS 39702  
Rev. Jerry White, 5187 Buck Jackson, Red., Sulligent, AL 35586  
Rev. Anthony Robbins, 11644 State Hwy. 253, Brilliant, AL 35548  
Rev. Joe Beckon, 221 - 6th St. NE, Vernon, AL 35592  
Rev. David Crowe, P. O. Box 4, Guin, AL 35563  
Rev. Devin Henry, 484 E. E. Kelley Rd., Detroit, AL 35552  
Rev. John Reed, P. O. Box 153, Belk, AL 355545

**LICENSED MINISTERS**

Bro. Sam House, 520 House Rd., Millport, AL 35576  
Bro. J. C. Crawford, 2269 Stembridge Rd., Millport, AL 35576

**LIST OF DEACONS**

BEAVERTON - Bros. Russell Cole, Bobby Dykes, Harrell Cantrell

BELK - Bros. Raphael Yerby, Dalton Gilpin, Lewis Hindman, Buddy House,  
David Fowler

COOPER - Bros. Burley Finch, Dwight Lamb, Edward Finch

DAVIS CHAPEL - None listed

DEPRIEST CHAPEL - Bros. Joe Mack Easter, Charlie Franklin, Gene  
Wise

FAYETTE, FIRST - Bros. Mike Kimbrell, Billy Hamm, Reedus Wheat,  
T. J. Johnson, I. J. Britnell

FREE WILL CHAPEL - Bros. Daniel Franks, Edsel Gideon, Tommy Otts

FRIENDSHIP - None listed

LIBERTY - Bros. Wayne Dubose, Lamon Duckworth, Willie G. Perkins,  
Tony Perkins, Wayne Sorrells, Steve Butler

LOVE JOY - Bros. Clayton Barnes, Gary Sorrells, Scotty Tucker, Guary  
Taylor

MT. HARMONY - Bros. Frankie Beasley, Ricky Owens, Luverne Steedley

MT. PLEASANT - None listed

MT. WILLING - None listed

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

PINEY GROVE - Bros. Danny Atkinson, Tommie Robertson

SPLUNGE - Bro. Clovis Blaylock

SPRINGFIELD - Bros. Tommie Rushing, Richard Johnson

SULLIGENT FIRST - Bros. Jessie Barnes, Jr., Luke Spruiell, Frank Mixon,  
Hezzie Harrison

TAYLOR SPRINGS - Bros. Steve Spencer, Robert Perkins

UNION CHAPEL - Bros. James Maddox, Benny Hardy, Calvin Jones

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

VICTORY - Bro. Jim Harrell

## 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, Oveat Graham, Gordie Rye, Sam Glasgow, L. D. Hall, and Coy Johnson, Paul Jordan, P. E. Maddox, Albert Christian, Edgar Stanford Cooper, Pascal Yerby

## **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

### **ARTICLE ONE - NAME AND PURPOSE**

#### **Section I - Name:**

The association shall be known as the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association of Alabama.

#### **Section II - Purpose:**

This body shall be composed of ministers, deacons, and delegates from the different churches that form this association. This body shall be considered an advisory council having no authority over the internal affairs of the local church. The association is organized for charitable, religious, and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501C (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Revenue Law), including, but not limited to, for such purposes, the establishing and maintaining religious worship, the building, maintaining, and operating of churches, parsonages, schools, chapels, radio stations, television stations, rescue missions, print shops, day-care centers, camps, and nursing homes.

### **ARTICLE TWO - ARTICLES OF FAITH AND CHURCH COVENANT**

#### **Section I - Treatise**

This association accepts the Bible, the inspired Word of God as its sole authority in matters of faith and practice. The association further subscribes to the Treatise of Faith and Practice of the Original Free Will Baptist Church as adopted November 7, 1935 by the National Association of Free Will Baptists and any revisions thereafter.

#### **Section II - Covenant**

The association has adopted the Free Will Baptist Church Covenant of the National Association of Free Will Baptists as a guide for principals of Christian conduct concerning its members.

### **ARTICLE THREE - MEMBERSHIP**

#### **Section I - Petition for Membership**

A church may present a request for membership to the Executive Committee of the Vernon Association. The request will be reviewed by the Executive and/or the Credentials Committee, and a recommendation will be made to the body of the association for approval.

#### **Section II - Privileges of Member Churches**

Each church has full power to vote on all questions that come before the association. Each church is entitled to three (3) delegates for the first fifty (50) members and one (1) additional delegate for each twenty-five (25) members or fraction thereof, in addition to ministers and deacons.

#### **Section III - Duties of Member Churches**

Churches wishing to become a member of this association must adopt The Free Will Baptist Articles of Faith and Church Covenant and conform to its usage.



**Section IV - Discipline of a Church**

The Credentials Committee will investigate any church that fails to adhere to the Treatise and Practice of Free Will Baptists and the Free Will Baptist Church Covenant. This will be reported to the association. The association will take whatever action it deems necessary.

**Section V**

We agree as churches of the 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.

**Section VI**

This association shall in all cases in the transaction of all business brought before it, be governed by a majority of all delegates present.

**ARTICLE FOUR - FINANCES****Section I**

All churches of the association with 100 members or more shall send the sum of two hundred dollars (\$250.00) dues per year, and all churches of the association with less than 100 members shall send the sum of one hundred (\$150.00) dues per year.

**Section II**

The moderator shall receive \$50.00, the assistant moderator, \$25.00, the clerk, \$75.00, and the assistant clerk, \$50.00 per year for their services.

**ARTICLE FIVE - OFFICERS****Section I**

The officers of the association shall be the moderator, assistant moderator, clerk-treasurer, and assistant clerk-treasurer, who shall be chosen at the annual session by majority vote of the delegates present.

**Section II**

The outgoing clerk will be responsible for the printing and distribution of the minutes. The clerk will distribute the minutes to the churches within 90 days after the annual session.

**Section III**

No member of the 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.

**Section IV**

No member of the association shall be eligible to serve as moderator of the association until he has been a member of this association for at least two (2) years.

**ARTICLE SIX - MEETINGS****Section I**

The association shall meet semiannually with the meetings being on Saturday before the third Sunday in March and Saturday before the third Sunday in October each year.

**Section II**

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 until all business matters be transacted.

### **Section III**

The Vernon Free Will Baptist Association year shall begin on the first day of September and end the last day of August each year.

## **ARTICLE SEVEN - COMMITTEES**

### **Section I - Credentials Committee**

- A. The moderator shall appoint a Credentials Committee consisting of five (5) persons with the senior member in point of service being replaced each year.
- B. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to examine all members to become a part of this body either by ordination or letter.
- C. Any item of business pertaining to ministers or the conduct of members must originate with this committee.
- D. The committee shall consist of three (3) ministers and two (2) laymen.
- E. The Credentials Committee shall recommend the granting or rejection of a card of good standing for a minister.
  - (1) If a minister misses one association meeting, unless providentially hindered, he will not be given a card of good standing.
  - (2) The final decision to be made by the body.
- F. The Credentials 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 this association, and reporting this action to the annual meeting.
- G. The ordaining of ministers shall be the work of the Credentials Committee.
- H. The time and place of the ordaining service is to be determined by the Credentials Committee and the candidate to be ordained.

### **Section II - Executive Committee**

- A. The Association shall have an Executive Committee consisting of the moderator, assistant moderator, clerk, assistant clerk, and five (5) members from the General Board.
- B. The Executive Committee shall secure a speaker for the 11:00 A.M. message and plan the program for each session of the association.

### **Section III - General Board**

- A. The Association shall have a General Board which shall consist of the moderator, assistant moderator, clerk, and assistant clerk along with one person from each church.

- B. Each person from the local church shall serve two (2) years, with one-half being elected each year as specified in the printed minutes.
- C. 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.
- D. The General Board of the association shall have the authority to authorize the Credentials Committee to ordain ministers between sessions of the association.

#### **Section IV - Committee on Committees**

- A. The moderator shall appoint a Committee on Committees whose duty it is to appoint various committees at each session.
- B. Each committee is to consist of from three (3) to five (5) members.
- C. The moderator shall call for a roll call of the delegates by the clerk. After the roll call, the delegates are enrolled at the discretion of the body.
- D. The moderator shall call for the report of the Digest Committee.

#### **Section V - Nominating Committee**

- A. The moderator shall appoint a Nominating Committee for each annual session of the association. The committee will consist of three (3) people.
- B. The Nominating Committee will submit one (1) name for each vacancy to be filled.
- C. Nominations will still be permitted from the floor.

### **ARTICLE EIGHT - LICENSING AND ORDAINING**

#### **Section I - Licensing of Ministers**

- A. 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.
- B. The examination for license should refer to piety, doctrine and convictions of the candidate.

#### **Section II - Ordination of Ministers**

- A. 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 Baptists and the Vernon Association of Free Will Baptists.
- B. A minister shall not be licensed, ordained, or accepted into this association who has more than one living wife or whose wife has more than one living husband.
- C. A minister shall not be licensed, ordained, or accepted into this association who uses tobacco in any form.
- D. A person must have received a ministerial license from a local Free Will Baptist Church for a period of one year before becoming a candidate to be ordained.
- E. When a church recommends a candidate for ordination as a minister

- of the Vernon Association of Free Will Baptists, they will submit any additional information that the Credentials Committee may deem necessary for a more thorough evaluation of the candidate.
- F. The recommendation for ordination must be the result of a regular conference of the church where the candidate is a member.
- G. Any ordained minister that desires to become a member of this association must submit a letter of recommendation from the Free Will Baptist Church of which he is a member.
- (1) The request from the church should be submitted to the moderator or the chairman of the Credentials Committee a month prior to the annual association meeting.
  - (2) The association clerk will request a letter of good standing from the association of which the minister was previously a member.
  - (3) The minister's full acceptance into the Vernon Association is based upon a favorable letter of good standing.
- H. An ordained minister coming from a denomination other than Free Will Baptists:
- (1) The minister must join a local Free Will Baptist Church of this association.
  - (2) The minister must surrender credentials held from another denomination.
  - (3) The minister must be recommended by the Credentials Committee to the association body to receive Free Will Baptist credentials in the Vernon Association.
- I. 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 this association.
- J. Any minister of this association who is known to be guilty of using intoxicating spirits by drinking as a beverage which 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.
- K. If a minister that is a member of this association, misses two (2) consecutive annual association meetings, unless providentially hindered, his name shall be removed from the roll of ministers.
- L. A minister that has been removed from the roll of ministers of the Vernon Association may be reinstated to the roll of ministers, pending the approval of the Credentials Committee.
- M. The Vernon Association shall 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.



- N. A church having licensed a minister for one year may request that the minister be ordained between association meetings if the minister is called as a pastor of a church before his one year of license has expired.

### ARTICLE NINE - AMENDMENTS

#### Section I

This constitution may be amended or altered at any regular session of the Vernon Association by a two-thirds vote of members present, provided proposed amendment be presented in writing to the body and shall lie on the table at least from the morning session till the evening session.

### BY-LAWS

- I. This association shall be called to order and presided over by the officers elected at the last session.
- II. All ministers must register at the annual association meeting and their names will be printed in the minutes.
- III. 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.
- IV. Rules of Decorum:
  - A. Only one person shall speak at a time and he shall rise and address the moderator and after recognition by the moderator shall proceed.
  - B. No person shall be interrupted while speaking unless he depart from the subject under discussion or use words of personal reflection.
  - C. No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject without permission of the moderator nor more than five minutes.
  - D. No person shall laugh or talk during discussion.
  - E. No delegate shall absent himself from the association without permission from the moderator.
- V. These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any regular session of this association by a two-thirds vote of the members present.



## 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 Free Will Baptist Association".

2. **PURPOSE:** This board will be responsible for the district CTS competition in April, and all youth related activities within the Vernon Association.

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 at the Spring Association Meeting of the Vernon Association to plan the district CTS competition in April and any pending youth activities.

5. **OFFICERS:** The board shall have as officers a chairman and secretary, both 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 the annual meeting and shall be responsible for all correspondence for the board and preside over the annual meeting in the absence of the chairman.

6. **FINANCES:** The finances for the CE Board will be taken care of by the clerk/treasurer of the association. At the fall meeting the clerk/treasurer will present a detailed report of all monies for the CE Board, along with the annual report for the association.

**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. Acknowledgments.
9. Committee reports.
10. New Business.
11. Adjournment.