

WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD AT WALTONVILLE FWB  
CHURCH, JANUARY 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2003

The moderator, Bro Nick Hollis welcomed the congregation to the West Central district meeting. Bro David Miller led in singing The Family of God, New Name Written Down in Glory and He Set Me Free. Bro Jon Cannon led in prayer. The meeting was called to order by the clerk and Bro David Miller read the Free Will Baptist Church Covenant. The moderator recognized the standing delegates. The clerk read the church letters and a motion was made and sustained to receive the letters and seat the recommended delegates. The moderator appointed the following committees. The following <sup>were</sup> appointed to the Memorial Committee: Denise Gray, Peggy Outland, and Sandy Hicks. Serving on the Resolutions Committee was Tim Pierce, Terald Kniffen, and Anne Sink. Sister Marilyn <sup>from</sup> provided the treasures report. Motion was made and sustained to accept the report.

Sister Melissa Armes from the Bear Point church gave a report on her selection to the TEAM ministry and that she was going to serve in Tokoyo this year. Bro. David Shores gave a report from the state Promotional Secretary. At this time the moderator declared a recess.

The meeting was reconvened with singing led by Bro. David Miller. The congregation sang Jesus, Hold My Hand, When We All Get to Heaven, and When the Roll is Called Up Yonder. Bro. Jon Cannon brought the message from Matthew 5:13-16 entitled Bright Lights in a Dark World.

The moderator called the meeting back into business session. The following reports were read by the clerk.

The Memorial Committee Report – We the Memorial Committee submit the following report. Have a moment of silence for the following: Francis Day and Thelma Conner from Rescue; Judy Holman, Bill Hobbs, Lila Simmons, Louetta Jones, and Charlie Chandler from Peace; Kurn Owens from Bethel; Lorene Murray from Hazel Dell; and Pearl Prior, Isabel Loucks, and Zella Bates from Bear Point. We wish to ask Brother David Malone to lead in prayer. Bro. Malone led in prayer and a motion was made and sustained to accept the report.

The Resolution Committee Report – We the resolutions committee would like to thank the Waltonville church for the hospitality and the noon meal. Signed the Resolutions committee. Motion was made and sustained to accept the report.

The Business Committee Report – Three recommendations were brought before the meeting. Item 1 – We recommend a \$100.00 gift from the West Central Quarterly conference and a special offering today for Melissa Armes for her mission trip. Item 2 – We recommend \$50.00 be given to the Rev Leo Martin offering on Feb 9<sup>th</sup> from the West Central Quarterly. Item 3 – We recommend Rev. John Hollis from the Hazel Dell church to be the representative to the State Executive Board from the West Central Quarterly conference for the year of 2003. Signed David Malone and Robert E Harrison. Motion was made and sustained to receive the report and the act on each item individually. Motion was made and sustained to give Melissa Armes \$100.00 for her mission trip. Motion was made and sustained to give \$50.00 to the Rev. Leo Martin offering on Feb 9<sup>th</sup> and motion was made and sustained to appoint Rev. John Hollis to be the district representative to the State Executive Board for the year of 2003.

The moderator asked for volunteers to be delegates to the state meeting to be held in March 21 and 22. Peggy Outland, Jane Harmon, and Denise Gray were nominated with a call out to all churches to report any additional names to the clerk.

Brother David Miller led in singing Set My Soul Afire, Open My Eyes that I may See, and Come Unto Me. Bro Gene Outland brought the message from Luke 12:41-48 on "What is Given and Required."

The moderator closed the meeting by announcing the next quarterly meeting would be held at Bear Point on April 19<sup>th</sup>. The meeting was adjourned with prayer.

At the close of the meeting, an offering was taken for Mellisa Armes and \$265.00 was collected.

271. 00

Respectively Submitted,  
Bro Nick Hollis, Moderator  
Bro Eldon Schmidt, Clerk

WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD AT BEAR POINT FWB CHURCH,  
APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2003

Pastor Larry Cook of the host church opened the meeting with a welcome. Bro. Jim Price led the congregation in singing Victory in Jesus and we were led in prayer by Bro. Tim Price.

The meeting was called to order for business by the clerk. The Assistant Moderator, Bro. Bryant Harris, led in reading the covenant responsively. The clerk recognized the standing delegates and then read each of the church letters that had been received. It was noted that Peace church did not provide a quarterly report. Motion was made and sustained to accept the church letters as read and seat the delegates. The Assistant Moderator appointed the following committees. Memorial Committee – Peggy Outland, Carlene Roberts, and Marion Wells. Resolutions Committee – Debra Kniffen, Mike Kuhner, and Marcella Dent. Sis. Marilyn Irvin provided the treasurers report. Motion was made and sustained to accept the report as read. The clerk read the minutes from the last meeting. Motion was made and sustained to accept the report after noting one correction to the amount of the offering that had been received for Melissa Ames. The Assistant Moderator read two cards of thanks from Melissa Ames and Bro. Leo Martin. The clerk announced that the 2003 year books were available and each church should pick up one copy. At this time the Assistant Moderator called a recess.

The meeting reconvened with singing The Family of God and Leaning on the Everlasting Arms led by Bro Tim Price. Bro. David Shores led in prayer and Bro. Randy Kash provided a message entitled Commission to Service taken from Isaiah 6:1-8.

The business meeting was called back to order by the Assistant Moderator. The following reports were provided.

Memorial Committee – We the memorial committee wish to submit the following report. “We have a moment of silence in memory of the following – Jim Dillon, Coy Cochrum, Haskel Murray, Alva Brady, Elenor Hicks, and Rev. Vernell Clark. Request the congregation sing Christ Arose and after the singing, prayer be led by David Shores.” Peggy Outland, Marion L. Wells and Carlene Roberts signed the report. Motion was made and sustained to accept the report. Bro Tim Price led in singing Christ Arose and brother Cecil Webb led in prayer due to the absence from the meeting room of Bro. David Shores.

Resolutions Committee – “We the resolutions committee wish to thank the Bear Point Church for hosting the West Central Quarterly meeting and the noon meal.” The report was signed by Deborah Kniffen, Marcella Dent, and Michael Kuhner. Motion was made and sustained to receive the report.



Business Committee – Four recommendations were forwarded to the body for consideration. Recommend the next meeting be held on July 12<sup>th</sup> instead of the normal meeting time of July 19<sup>th</sup> to avoid conflict with the National Association Meeting. Recommend the quarterly accept the resignation of Moderator Nick Hollis. Recommend that Bryant Harris be elected as the new moderator. Recommend that Stephen Gray be elected as the Assistant Moderator. The report was signed by Tom Harmon and Johnny Hollis. Motion was made as sustained to accept the report and act on each item individually. Motion was made and accepted to have the next quarterly meeting on July 12<sup>th</sup> at Bethel FWB church. Motion was made and sustained to accept the resignation of the Moderator, Bro. Nick Hollis. Motion was made and sustained to elect Stephen Gray as the Assistant Moderator to fill the unexpired term of Bro. Bryant Harris. At this time, Bro. Stephen Gray, assumed the newly elected position and accepted and motion which was sustained to elect Bro. Bryant Harris as the moderator to fill the unexpired term to Bro. Nick Hollis.

Credential Committee- Three recommendations were forwarded for the body for consideration. “1. We recommend Darren Portell be examined for ordination and upon being successfully examined, be ordained before our next quarterly meeting. He is an appointed foreign missionary to France with our denomination and has graduated from FWBBC. He is also licensed by our quarterly meeting. 2. We recommend Johnny Hollis be accepted as an ordained minister in good standing in our association pending a letter from East Central. 3. We recommend Michael Newman be accepted as an ordained minister in good standing pending recommendation from his previous quarterly meeting.” Signed Gene Outland and Bill Crank. Motion was made and sustained to accept the report and act on each item individually. Motion was made and sustained for Darren Portell to be examined for ordination. Motion was made and sustained for Johnny Hollis to be accepted as a minister in good standing in the West Central Quarterly pending a letter from the East Central Quarterly. The clerk was directed to correspond with the East Central Quarterly clerk to obtain requested recommendation. Motion was made and sustained to accept Michael Newman as an ordained minister in good standing pending recommendation from his previous quarterly.

The new moderator, Bro. Bryant Harris asked for any other announcements. Sis. Peggy Outland announced that the next Women Active for Christ state meeting would be held at the Mt Vernon FWB church on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and Brother Lavern Miley would be the speaker. Bro. Eldon Schmidt announced that the Victory church would be continuing their Bible Institute classes in the fall and also would be teaching a summer course designed for new Sunday School Teachers. He invited any who wish to take these classes contact him. The Moderator announced that Roll Call Sunday would be April 20<sup>th</sup> and that all churches should provide their report to him.

Bro Tim Price led in singing Hallelujah, What a Savior, and To Be Like Jesus. Bro. Gene Outland led in prayer. The second message for the morning was provided by Bro. Mike Kniffen taken from selected texts in Luke, James and I Corinthians.

Bro. Bryant Harris closed the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully Submitted

Bryant Harris, Moderator  
Eldon Schmidt, Clerk

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Eldon Schmidt". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the printed name of the clerk.

WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD AT HAZEL DELL FWB CHURCH,  
JULY 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2003

The meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Bro. Bryant Harris. Bro. Larry Cook led in prayer. The Asst. Moderator, Bro. Stephen Gray led the quarterly meeting in reading the FWB church covenant responsively. The Moderator recognized the standing delegates.

The Clerk read the church letters. Motion was made and sustained to accept the letters as read and seat the new delegates. The Moderator called attention to the treasurer's report that had been passed out prior to the meeting and asked for questions. There were no questions so motion was made and sustained to receive the treasurer's report as provided.

The Clerk read the minutes of the last meeting. Motion was made and sustained to accept the minutes as read.

The business committee report was read. Recommend that we support Darren Portell and the M-Team. We could provide a one-time donation from the treasurer today, take up and offering today at the meeting and/or make a monthly pledge or a combination of all three. Signed Robert E Harrison. Motion was made and sustained to take up an offering at the meeting, make a one-time offering of \$250.00 from the treasury and pledge \$50.00 per quarter to the Portell's. (The offering was taken later and totaled \$480.00.

Report of the Examining Board. As requested the Examining Board met at the Bethel Free Will Baptist Church May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2003 to examine Darren Portell for ordination. A motion was unanimously adopted that Darren Portell be ordained to the gospel ministry. Signed Gene Outland, Jon Cannon, and Jason Taylor (Proxy for Bill Crank). We also received a letter from Victory FWB church recommending John Pratt for ordination as a Free Will Baptist minister. In that only one member is present today July 12, 2003 and our constitution states if one member is absent, two members that are present may go ahead with the examination; recommend that the Examining Board meet with Bro. John Pratt at an agreed time for Examination for ordination. Signed Gene Outland. Motion was made and sustained to receive the report of the Examining Board.

The Moderator appointed an auditing committee to meet with the treasurer prior to the October meeting. Tim Pierce, Randy Kash and Marion Wells were appointed to that committee and will provide report to the October meeting.

The Asst. Moderator read the list of members of the quarterly who passed away during this last quarter. The following were remembered: Bro. Louis Mandrell of Bear Point, Bro. Russell Walker of Peace, Bro. Joe Wright and Sis. Dorothy Hughey of Waltonville.

The Moderator formally thanked the Hazel Dell church for hosting the meeting and announced the next meeting would be held at Bethel on October 18<sup>th</sup> 2003.

The following additional announcements were made. The Bear Point Church announced that they had some tickets available to go to the St. Louis Cardinal ballgame on Aug 5<sup>th</sup>. Bro. Bryant Harris gave a report that the youth camp was going well. Bro. Gene Outland announced that the adult camp would be held on Sept 14-19<sup>th</sup> and Bobby Jackson would be the evangelist. Bro. Randy Kash shared his vision to see our churches grow and become more involved in the community. He requested prayer for all of our

churches. The Moderator asked the pastors from each church to stand in front of the auditorium and Bro. Marion Wells led in a special time of prayer for all of our quarterly churches.

The meeting was then adjourned.

The opening service was led by the host church, Hazel Dell with Bro. Mike Newman of the Waltonville church providing the message and the closing service was led by Bro. Darren Portell sharing about the work of the M- team as they prepare to go to France as missionaries to the North Africans who live in France.

Respectively submitted,



Bryant Harris, Moderator

Eldon Schmidt, Clerk



WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD AT OAK GROVE FWB CHURCH,  
OCTOBER 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2003

The meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Bro. Bryant Harris. Bro. Bob Harrison led in prayer. The Asst. Moderator, Bro. Stephen Gray led the quarterly meeting in reading the FWB church covenant responsively. The Moderator recognized the standing delegates.

The Clerk read the church letters. Motion was made and sustained to accept the letters as read and seat the new delegates. The treasurer's report was presented. Motion was made and sustained to receive the treasurer's report as provided.

The Clerk read the minutes of the last meeting. Motion was made and sustained to accept the minutes as read.

The State Promotional Director, Bro. David Shores, reported on several subjects. He reported that the National Association Meeting went very well. He also discussed a meeting he had with 11 of young pastors from Illinois and how impressed he was with them. He reported that Bro. Tony Kash will be ordained on October 19<sup>th</sup>. He gave a brief synopsis of a planned trip to Uruguay in March. He also reported on the progress of the formation of E-Teams and on the work going on in New Mexico.

The business committee report was read. Item #1 – Nominate the following for new officers.

Moderator – Bryant Harris

Asst. Moderator – Stephen Gray

Clerk – Eldon Schmidt

Treasurer – Marilyn Irwin

Credential Committee – Bill Crank

Business Committee – David Malone

Item #2 – Recommend that the quarterly gift to Craig Portell be sent to his account at the Foreign Mission Board. Signed Tom Harmon and Robert Harrison. Motion was made and sustained to accept the report as read and act on each item. A motion was made and sustained to elect each of the officers, office by office, that had been nominated by acclamation. Motion was made and sustained to send the quarterly gift for Craig Portell to the Foreign Mission Board instead of to ELIC that had been the practice.

Report of the Credentials Committee. Item 1 – We recommend that we receive into our Quarterly Meeting Bros. Mike Newman and Johnny Hollis. We have received letters of recommendation from their respective Quarterly Meetings. (South Central Quarterly and East Central) Item 2 – We recommend that Bro. John Pratt be ordained to the gospel ministry as a Free Will Baptist Minister. Signed Billy Gene Outland and Jon Cannon. Motion was made and sustained to receive the report of the Credentials Committee and act on each item by item. Motion was made and sustained to approve both items in the report.

Report from the Auditing Committee – We the auditing committee find the books to be correct and orderly. Signed Tim Pierce, Randy Kash, and Marion L. Wells. Motion was made and sustained to accept the auditing committee report as presented.

The Moderator read the list of members of the quarterly who passed away during this last quarter. The following were remembered: Sis. Mabel Irwin of Nason Church. Bro. John Pratt led in prayer after a moment of silence to remember this sister.



The Moderator formally thanked the Oak Grove church for hosting the meeting and announced the next meeting would be held at Bethel on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2004. The moderator also announced that the dues for the annual quarterly meeting would be a total of \$160.00.

The following additional announcements were made. Bro. David Shores reported that the Harmony Church of West City had closed and they had donated all assets, including the property and \$21,000 to Illinois State work. The meeting was then adjourned with prayer by Bro. Connor.

The opening service was led by the host church, Oak Grove, with Bro. Stephen Gray of the Nason church providing the message and the closing service was led by Bro. Craig Portell sharing about his work as an ELIC teacher in Mongolia and his plans to now teach English in the middle east.

Respectively submitted,



Bryant Harris, Moderator  
Eldon Schmidt, Clerk