

MINUTES
OF THE
EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
WEST FLORIDA
FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
HELD WITH
SHILOH FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, BRATT, FLORIDA
SEPTEMBER 21 AND 22, 1956



The West Florida Free Will Baptist Association will be held with Christian Home Free Will Baptist Church, McDavid, Florida, September 20 and 21, 1957.

Ministers and Deacons meeting will be held with Grace Church, Pensacola, Florida, April 27, 1957.

District League Convention will be held with First Free Will Baptist Church, Pensacola, Florida, April 6, 1957.

District Women's Auxiliary Convention will be held with the First Free Will Baptist Church, Pensacola, Florida, August 24, 1957.

District Sunday School Convention will be held with the First Free Will Baptist Church, Pensacola, Florida, May 25, 1957.

Rev. H. L. Henderson will preach association sermon for 1957.

Moderator, Rev. H. L. Henderson, Pensacola, Florida, Phone HE 3-6343.

Vice Moderator, Rev. A. H. Ashcraft, Pensacola, Florida, Phone HE 3-3835.

Clerk, Millie Donaldson, Route 2, Box 97, Pensacola, Florida, Phone GL 5-4176.

Asst. Clerk, Agnes Ashcraft, Pensacola, Fla., Phone HE 3-3835.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

REV. W. M. PATRICK.....Molino, Florida
REV. R. M. HUGHES.....815 East LaRua Street, Pensacola, Florida
REV. L. M. THOMLEY.....Molino, Florida
REV. L. V. PINSON.....Route 7, Box 52, Pensacola, Florida
REV. T. U. BRYANT.....424 North Border Street, Pensacola, Florida
REV. J. D. PARHAM.....McDavid, Florida
REV. W. A. MORTON.....Ensley, Florida
REV. A. H. ASHCRAFT.....401 Wiggins Avenue, Pensacola, Florida
REV. B. B. CHAMPION.....2408 North "N" Street, Pensacola, Florida
REV. F. H. COLEMAN.....Bratt, Florida
REV. J. V. TURMAN.....Pensacola, Florida
REV. A. C. WIGGINS.....Bratt, Florida
REV. H. L. HENDERSON.....813 S. Madison (Mayfair) Pensacola, Florida
REV. W. C. STANFORD.....415 East Gregory Street, Pensacola, Florida
REV. E. T. WILLIAMSON.....Molino, Florida
REV. I. C. THOMLEY.....Molino, Florida
REV. NELSON V. HAWKINS.....Bratt, Florida
REV. E. A. BREEDLOVE.....Pensacola, Florida
REV. A. S. ELLIS.....Pensacola, Florida

LICENSED MINISTERS

REV. R. H. REDDICK.....Pensacola, Florida

September 21 and 22, 1956

PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings of the Eighth Annual Session of the West Florida Free Will Baptist Association which met with Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, Bratt, Florida, September 21 and 22, 1956.

Friday, 10:00 A.M.

Singing by congregation; prayer by Rev. L. M. Thomley; welcome address by Rev. H. L. Henderson. The Devotional was given by the Moderator, Rev. H. L. Henderson, reading from 1st John, 1st through the 7th verses, using for his subject the 7th verse, reading "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin: message followed by prayer at the altar.

The Moderator then read the Rules and Decorum of the Association to the body. The body was then called to order for business.

A motion was made and carried, that Church letters be read before the body.

Moved and carried that the Moderator appoint all committees.

Delegates were seated. Visiting Brethren were invited to seat with us. Rev. Bob Coleman responded and was seated.

Motion made and carried to decide on Churches who might be petitioning a home in the Association.

Petition letter from Oakfield Free Will Baptist Church was read. Was moved and carried to receive this Church into the Association body.

The following committees were appointed: Devotion Committee, Temperance Committee, Standing of Ministers Committee, Credential Committee, Home Mission Committee, Obituary Committee, Suggestion Committee, and D. V. Bible School Committee.

Nominations were opened for assistant clerk, Sister Agnes Ashcraft and Sister Ray Purvis were nominated, Sister Ashcraft was elected assistant clerk by a majority vote.

Nominations for clerk, Sister Millie Donaldson, nominated and elected clerk.

Nominations for assistant moderators, Rev. T. U. Bryant and Rev. A. H. Ashcraft. Rev. A. H. Ashcraft was elected assistant moderator by a majority vote.

Nominations for moderator, Rev. L. V. Pinson, Rev. B. B. Champion, Rev. J. V. Turman and Rev. H. L. Henderson. Rev. H. L. Henderson was elected moderator by a majority vote.

Moved, seconded and carried, that all committees be in the house when business is being taken care of.

Motion made and carried to adjourn business to meet back at 1:15 p.m.

Five minutes recess, returning at 11:00 a.m. worship service.

Rev. A. H. Ashcraft brought the associational sermon, reading from the 3rd chapter of St. John, beginning at the 31st verse. A very inspiring message, followed with prayer at the altar.

Noon hour.

Friday, 1:15 P.M.

Session opened with congregational singing followed with prayer by Brother W. E. Holley. Moderator called the body to order for business.

Moved and carried that Brother Henderson appoint two reading clerks. Rev. I. C. Thomley and Brother Walter Pierce were appointed.

Moved and carried that preacher's report be read before the body.

Nominations opened to fill vacancy on the Executive Board.

Moved, seconded and carried to restrict nominations to those present in the meeting today.

Nominated were Brother O. D. Morgan and Brother L. A. Hall. Brother L. A. Hall was elected to serve seven years by a majority vote.

Minutes of three executive board meetings were read. Moved and seconded to accept all three minutes as a whole, carried.

Moved and seconded to grant the Moderator power to call Executive Board meetings and to preside over same. A vote was taken and the motion failed to carry.

Moved and seconded to give the Chairman of the Executive Board power to call all Executive Board meetings., notifying the Moderator and members of the Executive Board meetings, also invite all ministers of the West Florida Free Will Baptist Association to sit in on the meetings, carried.

Motion made and carried to send out notices of Executive Board meetings one week prior to time meeting is to be held.

Brother Henderson led the congregation in singing several songs while the committees were out at work.

Committees returned.

Was moved, seconded and carried to hold next quarterly meeting with Rainbow Tabernacle, Robertsedale, Alabama, the first Saturday in December, 1956.

The following reports were read:

Suggestion Committee report read and adopted as read.

Credential Committee report adopted as read.

Obituary Committee report adopted as read. Brother Henderson asked all to stand for a moment of silence in memory of those passed on.

Standing of Ministers report adopted as read.

Home Mission Committee report adopted as read.

Devotional Committee report adopted as read.

Temperance Committee report adopted as read.

District Sunday School Convention reported adopted as read.

District League Convention report adopted as read.

District Woman's Auxiliary report adopted as read.

D. V. Bible School report adopted as read.

Clerk's report adopted as read.

A letter from Liberty No. 1 Association in Alabama was read, stating that Berrydale Church, Berrydale, Florida, desired a home in their association.

Motion made and carried to grant Berrydale Church upon their request a letter of dismissal from the West Florida Free Will Baptist Association.

The following preachers reports were read:

Rev. A. C. Wiggins, accepted as read.

Rev. T. U. Bryant, accepted as read.

Rev. B. B. Champion, accepted as read.

Rev. J. V. Turman, accepted as read.

Rev. L. V. Pinson, accepted as read.

Rev. W. A. Morton, accepted as read.

Rev. H. L. Henderson, accepted as read.

Rev. E. T. Williamson, accepted as read.

Rev. A. H. Ashcraft, accepted as read.

Rev. L. M. Thomley, accepted as read.

Moved and seconded to adjourn. Business to meet back Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m. carried.

Dismissal prayer by Brother Newham.

Saturday, 10:00 A.M.

Session opened with congregational singing followed with prayer by Rev. E. A. Breedlove. Rev. W. M. Patrick brought the morning devotion. Scripture reading Gal. 6th chapter, 7th through the 10th verses. At the close of the message a call was given to meet at the altar for prayer.

Body was then called to order for business by the Moderator.

Sister Bernice Purvis was appointed reading clerk in the absence of Brother Walter Pierce.

The following preachers reports were read:

Rev. W. C. Stanford, accepted as read.

Rev. Floyd Coleman, accepted as read.

Rev. W. M. Patrick, accepted as read.

Rev. J. D. Parham, accepted as read.

The following church letters were read. Oakfield church letter, adopted as read; Shiloh church letter, adopted as read; Pilgrim Rest letter, adopted as read; Mt. Zion letter, adopted as read; Rainbow Tabernacle letter, adopted as read; Christian Home letter, adopted as read; Grace church letter, adopted as read; Eastside church letter, adopted as read; First church letter, adopted as read.

Business adjourned to meet back at 1:00 p.m.

11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Opened with congregational singing followed with prayer by Rev. A.

H. Ashcraft. A special song entitled "Leading Me," was rendered by Alberta Hall and Ruby Amerson.

Rev. L. V. Pinson brought the morning message, reading scriptures found in St. John, 1st chapter, 35th verse, Mark, 1st chapter, 17th verse, and St. John, 21st chapter. Subject, "Fishing with the Wrong Bait." Meeting closed with prayer by Rev. B. B. Champion.

Noon Hour

1:00 P.M.

Opening with singing followed with prayer by Rev. Nelson Hawkins. Body declared in order for business by the Moderator.

Motion made and carried that the next Association be held with Christian Home Church, McDavid, Florida, as they turned in a request for the Association after the Suggestion Committee had met. Association to be held on September 20, and 21, 1957.

Rev. J. V. Turman requested the preachers and deacons meeting be held with Grace Church, Pensacola, Florida, Saturday, April 27, 1957. Motion made and carried to grant above request.

Motion made and seconded to have 300 Associational Minutes printed, carried.

Motion made and seconded to take a special offering to help pay for printing of the Minutes carried. Amount received was \$20.07.

Sister Ada Bryant, Sister H. L. Henderson, Sister Agnes Ashcraft, Sister Thelma Holley and Sister E. A. Breedlove, were nominated and elected delegates to the State Association.

Sister J. V. Turman, Sister Purvis and Sister Donaldson were nominated and elected as alternate delegates to the State Association.

Motion made and seconded that each church pay expenses of delegates belonging to their church to the State Association, carried.

Motion made and carried that the ordaining and licensing be the last item of business in this session.

The following were nominated to fill Brother Hughes place in his absence on the ordaining council this session: Rev. B. B. Champion, Rev. E. A. Breedlove and Brother W. E. Holley. Rev. E. A. Breedlove was elected to serve in Brother Hughes place by a majority vote.

Nominated to fill Brother Coleman's place on ordaining council this session should he fail to return was Rev. B. B. Champion, Rev. A. H. Ashcraft, and Brother W. E. Holley. Rev. A. H. Ashcraft was elected by a majority vote.

Motion made and carried that the Associational clerk mail a copy of each church letter to the State Statistician, Brother J. L. Grizzard, two weeks prior to the State Association.

Rev. H. L. Henderson was nominated and elected to preach the Associational sermon at the 1957 session.

Moved and seconded that the Executive Board check the possibilities of getting work started near Baker, Florida, on a lot that is deeded to the West Florida Free Will Baptist Association, carried.

Motion made and carried to appoint a committee to get some land to build a Tabernacle centrally located to all the churches in the Association.

Motion made and carried that Brother Henderson appoint this committee.

Motion made and carried that three be elected on this committee.

Appointed to this committee were Rev. L. V. Pinson, Rev. B. B. Champion and Rev. E. A. Breedlove.

Motion made and carried that the clerk send each church two church blanks next year.

Moved and seconded that each church take a love offering and send to our Associational clerk for her expenses, carried.

Moved and seconded, that each church take a love offering and send to our Moderator to help with his expenses, carried.

Motion made and carried that each church add a love offering for the children's home with their church letters next year.

Rev. L. V. Pinson offered a suggestion that each church be encouraged to adopt the cooperative plan of tithing through our churches.

A special offering was taken for the children's home. Amount received was \$11.31.

Reports from the ordaining council was read. Moved and seconded to accept reports as read, carried.

Motion made and carried to adjourn 1956 session. Dismissal prayer by Rev. Bob Coleman.

CORRESPONDENCE

Oakfield church, Pensacola, Florida. Associational fee \$10.00. Delegates, Sister Hall, Sister Gardner, Sister James and Sister Ellis. Alternates, Sister Breedlove and Brother Rutherford. We request that Brother A. S. Ellis be licensed to carry the Gospel in the Free Will Baptist denomination. Clerk, Mrs. Ralph Rutherford.

Shiloh Church, Bratt, Florida. Associational fee \$15.00. Delegates, Sister Bernice Purvis, Brother Douglas Morgan, Brother J. Amerson. Alternates, Sister Ida Amerson, Sister Mack and Brother Horace Amerson. We request the ordaining council to ordain Brother Wildon Hall as deacon, also examine Brother Nelson V. Hawkins and if found worthy of being a minister of the West Florida Free Will Baptist Association that he be ordained. Clerk, Fannie Amerson.

Pilgrim Rest Church, Molino, Florida. Associational fee \$5.00. Delegates, Brother Mason, Brother I. C. Thomley and Sister Callie Patrick. We request the Association to grant Brother I. C. Thomley his license back to preach. Clerk, Lucille Patrick, Molino, Florida.

Mt. Zion Church, Century, Florida. Associational fee \$6.00. Delegates Brother Rand Rogers, Sister Willene Tedder and Sister Annie Glover. Clerk, Connie Hobbs, Century, Florida.

First Church, Pensacola, Florida. Associational fee \$15.00. Delegates, Sister Mary Brewer, Sister Thelma Holley, Sister Pinson and Sister M. D. Everette. Alternates, Brother Van Pinson and Sister Ada Bryant. We re-

quest that Brother R. H. Reddick be examined for license to preach the gospel for one year. Clerk, Mrs. L. V. Pinson, 50 Murphy Lane, (Brent) Pensacola, Florida.

Rainbow Tabernacle, Robertsdale, Alabama. Associational fee \$5.00. Delegates, Brother Wiley Cooper, Brother Walter Pierce and Sister Lucille Pierce. Clerk, Lucille Pierce, Rt. 1, Robertsdale, Alabama.

Christian Home, McDavid, Florida. Associational fee \$15.00. Delegates, Sister Mary Burkett and Brother John W. Lee. We request the Association for 1957. Clerk, Emma Lee, Route 1, Box 34A, McDavid, Fla.

Grace Church, Pensacola, Florida. Associational fee \$10.00. Delegates, Sister F. E. Rogers, Sister B. B. Champion and Brother Sam Ingram. Clerk, Mrs. G. W. Newham, 800 West Hatton Street, Pensacola, Florida.

Eastside Church, Pensacola, Florida. Associational fee \$20.00. Delegates, Sister Edna Henderson and Sister Irene Dorch. Alternates, Sister Naomi Cook and Sister Laura Stanford. Clerk, Mrs. W. C. Stanford, 415 East Gregory Street, Pensacola, Florida.

Bethel Tabernacle, Pensacola, Florida. No report.

Reports

Suggestion Committee:

We, your Suggestion Committee, suggest that there be only one quarterly meeting for the entire Association, the meeting place being decided by the quarterly meetings.

There being no request for the Association next year, we suggest that the body decide on same, also the preachers and deacons meeting place.

We suggest that everyone cooperate with one another in the love of Christ for the upbuilding of our Association and the exaltation of the name of Christ in our revivals and all of our meetings when possible.

Rev. B. B. Champion
Rev. J. V. Turman
Brother J. T. Flemming

Credential Committee:

We, your Credential Committee, wish to make a partial report. We have examined the letters from Pilgrim Rest, Grace, Rainbow, Eastside, First, Mt. Zion and Shiloh to be complete and in order, also the petitionary letter from Oakfield Church. We ask that Christian Home Church letter be completed before adoption. We have also examined the District Woman's Auxiliary report and District League report and find them to be in good order.

Rev. L. V. Pinson
Brother L. A. Hall
Brother R. T. Burkett

Obituary Committee:

We, your Obituary Committee, find five deaths.

Rev. W. S. Thomley, Christian Home Church; Sister Lottie Amerson,

Shiloh Church; Brother R. M. Wimpee, First Church; Sister Maggie Powell and Sister Lucy Glover, Mt. Zion Church.

We sadly miss those who are deceased but do not mourn as those who have no hope.

Sister Mary Burkett
Sister Ida Amerson
Brother Mason

Standing of Ministers:

We, your Committee on Standing of Ministers, find all ministers in good standing. As far as we know, we ask God's richest blessings on each of them.

Brother Douglas Morgan
Brother Willie James
Brother W. H. Burkett

Home Mission Committee:

We, your Committee on Home Missions, feel the great need of home mission work and feel that each minister should put forth every effort in trying to reach the people that are destitute of the opportunity that they should have. We feel that there should be more evangelistic work done that we may have more churches organized in our Association.

Rev. L. M. Thomley
Sister Irene Dorch
Sister Velma Hall

Devotional Committee:

We, your Devotional Committee, assign as follows: Friday night, Rev. A. S. Ellis. Saturday, 11:00 a.m., Rev. L. V. Pinson. Saturday night, Rev. E. A. Breedlove.

Brother J. A. Steele
Brother F. E. Rogers
Sister L. V. Pinson

Temperance Committee:

We, your Temperance Committee, suggest that we adopt the report given by your Temperance Committee last year and try harder to live up to it. Last year's report read as follows:

We suggest that all F. W. Baptist be temperate in all things, shunning the things of the world, living more humble and obeying the will of the Lord.

Rev. A. H. Ashcraft
Rev. E. T. Williamson
Brother Sam Ingraham

D. V. Bible School Committee:

We, your D. V. Bible School Committee find that four churches held

D. V. Bible Schools, with enrollment as follows: Shiloh Church, 40; First Church, Eastside Church and Grace Church held a combined school with enrollment of 95. We suggest that each church appoint a committee as early as possible to arrange for a Bible School, getting literature in advance. We also suggest that if one church cannot have a D. V. Bible School to contact nearest church or churches to them and have a combined school. We feel that D. V. Bible Schools are of great help to our young people in our church work.

Sister Rogers
Sister Henderson
Sister Purvis

DISTRICT SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION REPORT

The West Florida District Sunday School Convention met with Christian Home Church, McDavid, Florida, May 25, 1956.

There were four churches represented, as follows: Shiloh, First Church, Eastside Church and Christian Home Church.

Total enrollment 266, average attendance 178, total offerings \$953.00.

Enclosed is \$10.00 for printing of Minutes. The next convention will be held at the First Church in Pensacola, May 25, 1957.

Acting Clerk, Mary Brewer.

DISTRICT LEAGUE CONVENTION REPORT

District League Convention was held with Eastside Church, Pensacola, Florida, July 28, 1956.

The president, Brother H. L. Henderson, brought the devotion, reading Psalm 40. He then declared the body in order for business. The following officers were elected: President, Rev. H. L. Henderson; Vice President, Brother J. H. Cook; Secretary, Van Pinson; Assistant Secretary, J. H. Cook; Sword Drill Director, Sister Charles Lowery.

Committees: Plan of Work, Sister W. E. Holley and Brother Charles Lowery; Program Committee, general officers, Chairman, Rev. H. L. Henderson.

Two churches reported. First Church, enrollment, 14; average enrollment, 22; average attendance, 12; average offering, \$1.20.

Eastside Church: Enrollment, 24; total attendance, 1123; average attendance, 22; total offering, \$57.07; average offering, \$1.10.

Delegates to State League Convention: Sister L. V. Pinson, Sister Myra Henderson. We enclose \$4.00 asking that this report be printed in the Associational Minutes.

The next convention will be held with the First Church, Pensacola, Florida, April 6, 1957.

VAN PINSON, Secretary
REV. H. L. HENDERSON, President

DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY REPORT

To the Honorable Body of the West Florida Association: We, the District Woman's Auxiliary, beg to report our year's work as follows: Convention was held with Shiloh, Bratt, Florida, September 15, 1956.

Number of churches having auxiliaries.....	3
Number of churches reporting.....	3
Total membership	24
Number active in Community Mission Work.....	5
Weeks of prayer conducted.....	4
Amount spent auxiliary literature.....	22.43
Amount given to Foreign Missions.....	5.00
Value of commodities given needy.....	72.02
Amount given to Home Missions.....	6.80
Amount given to Children's Home.....	55.33
Amount given to Ministers.....	
Total spent for activities in local churches.....	198.44

Elected delegates to State Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Sister Mary Brewer, Sister Virgie Rigby, with a contribution of \$2.00.

The following officers were elected to serve one year: President, Sister Ada Bryant; Vice President, Sister Tiny Bolden; Youth Chairman, Sister Thelma Holley; Field Secretary, Sister Millie Donaldson, Sister Pearl May; Study Course Chairman, Sister Martez Dortch; Stewardship Prayer Chairman, Sister Virgie Rigby; Personal Service Chairman, Sister Bernice Barfield; Corresponding Secretary, Sister Cora Cooper; Secretary and Treasurer, Sister L. V. Pinson.

It was voted to send \$4.00 to the West Florida Association for printing of Minutes.

The next Convention will be held with First Church of Pensacola, Florida, on Saturday before the 4th Sunday in August, 1957, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

We request our Minutes be printed with the West Florida Association Minutes.

Respectfully submitted,
MARY BREWER,
Retiring Secretary-Treasurer

CLERK'S REPORT

Balance brought forward.....	\$ 46.38
Associational fees	98.78
District League Convention.....	8.00
District Woman's Auxiliary Convention.....	4.00
Southern District quarterly meeting.....	6.00
District Sunday School Convention.....	6.00
Special Offering for Children's Home.....	6.00
Left over from printing Preacher Report blanks.....	2.50
Total.....	<u>\$181.66</u>

Paid Out	
Children's Home	\$ 6.00
State Associational fees.....	20.00
Printing of 500 Minutes.....	150.00
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Total.....	\$176.00
Balance in Treasury.....	\$ 5.66

Respectfully submitted,
MILLIE DONALDSON, Clerk

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT

We, your Ordaining Council, request that the Association grant Rev. A. S. Ellis license to preach until proof of his ordination can be recovered and turned into the council.

We request the Association return to Rev. I. C. Thomley his ordination papers. Also that Brother R. H. Reddick be granted license to preach the gospel one year and Brother Wildon Hall be ordained as deacon. Also that the Association accept Rev. Nelson V. Hawkins as an ordained minister to carry the gospel in the Free Will Baptist Churches.

REV. H. L. HENDERSON
BROTHER R. L. WILLIAMS
REV. E. A. BREEDLOVE
REV. F. H. COLEMAN
REV. L. V. PINSON

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. J. V. Turman, one year; Rev. T. U. Bryant, two years; Rev. J. D. Parham, three years; Rev. A. H. Ashcraft, four years; Brother G. W. Newham, five years; Brother W. E. Holley, six years, and Brother L. A. Hall, seven years.

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Chairman, Brother R. L. Williams; Rev. H. L. Henderson, Rev. R. M. Hughes, Rev. F. H. Coleman and Rev. L. V. Pinson.

TRUSTEES OF WEST FLORIDA F. W. ASSOCIATION

Rev. F. H. Coleman, Rev. H. L. Henderson and Brother Roy Parker.

MEMBERSHIP OF CHURCHES IN ASSOCIATION, 1956

1. First Church, Pensacola, Florida.....	99
2. Rainbow Tabernacle, Robertsdale, Alabama.....	13
3. Christian Home, McDavid, Florida.....	62
4. Pilgrim Rest, Molino, Florida.....	16
5. Mt. Zion, Century, Florida.....	26
6. Grace, Pensacola, Florida.....	77
7. Eastside, Pensacola, Florida.....	35
8. Shiloh, Bratt, Florida.....	67
9. Oakfield, Pensacola, Florida.....	90
10. Bethel Tabernacle, Pensacola, Florida.....	.....

PASTORS FOR 1956

First Church.....	Rev. L. V. Pinson
Rainbow.....	Rev. B. B. Champion
Christian Home.....	Rev. B. B. Champion
Pilgrim Rest.....	Rev. E. T. Williamson
Mt. Zion.....	Rev. W. M. Patrick
Grace.....	Rev. J. V. Turman
Eastside.....	Rev. H. L. Henderson
Shiloh.....	Rev. Nelson V. Hawkins
Oakfield.....	Rev. E. A. Breedlove
Bethel Tabernacle.....	Rev. R. M. Hughes

NOTE: The Ordaining Council met Jan. 3, 1957 and recognized proof of Rev. A. S. Ellis' ordination.

GOVERNMENT AND CONSTITUTION

Article 1. Each Church in this Association shall be entitled to one vote, and each Church having more than twenty-five members shall have one vote for the first twenty-five and one vote for each additional twenty-five members or fraction thereof. These votes shall be cast by one delegate from each of the various churches, and this delegate shall be duly elected by the Church to cast these votes. A roll call shall be made on important questions when it is desired.

Article 2. In the letter from each church shall be expressed the number received by experience, letter, recommendation, restoration: the number dismissed by letter, excluded, died since the last Association, and the total number enrolled. Also give name of present Pastor and one called for the ensuing year; the name and addresses of Sunday School Superintendent and Secretary, the enrollment of Sunday School, the amount collected since last Association; the amount paid out to Pastor, to missionary to minutes, and to miscellaneous expenses, and the amount left in the treasury.

Article 3. All subordinate Churches shall be subject to the ruling of this Association.

Article 4. This Association when convened, shall be governed by a Regular and Proper Code of Rules which they are authorized to establish for themselves.

Article 5. They may elect a Moderator, Secretary and Treasurer from themselves and they may hold office until their successors are elected.

Article 6. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except when withdrawn by consent.

Article 7. New Churches may be received into the Association who shall petition by letter or delegates if they have been regularly organized upon a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and are walking according to the gospel order.

Article 8. This Association shall furnish each Church with minutes of their proceedings in proportion to the amount sent by each Church in order to enable the Association to print their Minutes. It is expected that each Church will send such sums of money as they think proper, and when

the money is received, it shall be placed in the hands of a trustee appointed for that purpose, and may be disbursed by order of the Association.

Article 9. For the purpose of ordaining ministers of the gospel and Deacons who shall come with recommendations from their churches, and for trying all ordained members for unChristian conduct, there shall be a Presbytery, which shall convene at the opening of the Association and at any time during the Association year, if called by the Moderator or his assistants or any five members of said Presbytery who deem it necessary to make such a call. The Presbytery shall consist of ordained members present, and they shall elect a Moderator and clerk from among themselves for the time being who shall hold their offices until their successors are elected. It shall be the duty of said Presbytery to examine all applicants for ordination sent with recommendations from their Churches composing this Association, and if found competent, to ordain and set them apart for the work by laying on of hands. The Presbytery shall have full power to try all ordained members for unChristian conduct and on testimony. Their decision shall be final.

Article 10. It shall be the duty of each Minister who shall organize a church to ordain Deacons for the same. It is his duty also to ordain deacons where a vacancy occurs within his charge. It shall be the duty of each pastor to encourage the organization and support of a Sunday School in the church or churches where he is pastor.

Article 11. No person shall be ordained to the ministry until he is qualified to meet the conditions stated in the third chapter of I Timothy and this shall be tested by the Presbytery. The Presbytery shall have full power to propound such spiritual questions as they consider necessary to determine his qualifications. All candidates for ordination shall be required to answer these questions satisfactorily.

Article 12. The Association may exclude from its body any minister who teaches heresy or any other church that countenances him in said teaching or that may be disloyal to the tenets of faith as held by this Association and expressed in our Articles of Faith.

Article 13. All questions coming before this Association shall be determined by a majority vote, except exclusion of churches which shall require two-third (2-3) majority.

Article 14. Representatives from five churches shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business and no business shall be transacted without a quorum.

Article 15. The Minutes of this Association shall be read before the body, corrected if need be, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk.

Article 16. This Association may adjourn to meet with any Church that is a regular member of it at any time it deems proper.

Article 17. Amendments may be made to this form of government at any time by a majority of the members present composing the Association, voting in behalf of the amendment.

Article 18. When this Association shall have convened, it is the privilege of all ordained members belonging to the West Florida Association

of Free Will Baptists to sit in council with us and to propose resolutions coming before the body as though they were delegates from the Church.

Article 19. This Association having jurisdiction over all the churches within its bounds, shall discipline any Church which calls a minister for a pastor who has been excluded by the Presbytery.

BOARDS

All Standing Boards shall be composed of three members, except the executive board, which shall be composed of seven members. Standing Boards include the Executive Board, Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission Board, Board of Education, and Orphanage Board. The personnel of each of the foregoing, exclusive of the Executive Board, shall be elected as follows: The first named for a period of one year, the second named for a period of two years, and the third named for a period of three years. Succession to office thereafter shall be determined as order requires.

Section 2. Left out by order of Executive Committee. Elected from the floor.

Section 3. The Executive Board shall have the power to act in behalf of and for the West Florida Association from one regular session to another and shall have power to elect such officers as may be necessary for its own government and to carry out the plans and undertakings of the Association. It shall be the duty of the Executive Board to make written reports of all its work to each Annual Session of the Association.

Section 4. The duties of the various Standing Boards shall be to plan a program and supervise its operations in their respective fields. They shall organize themselves and regulate their work as may become necessary, and as may be found in harmony with the principles and tenets of the Association.

RULES AND DECORUM

This Association shall be opened by singing and prayer. Only one person may speak at a time. All addresses made by members shall be made to the Moderator and the person thus speaking shall strictly confine himself to the subject in debate. No speaker shall cast any personal reflection toward any member of this body who has spoken previously.

No person shall be allowed to speak more than three times on any one subject without the permission of a majority of the Association.

The speaker shall not be interrupted during his speech by anyone except the Moderator unless he violates the Rules of Order.

No member shall absent himself without permission from the Association. Members shall use the word "Brother," or "Brethren" in all debates.

The names of the members of this body shall be enrolled by the Clerk and the Roll Call be taken as often as necessary, provided a call is made by a member of the Association.

No member shall speak longer than fifteen minutes at any time without permission from the Moderator.

Any member who shall willfully and knowingly violate any of these rules shall be reported by the Moderator and shall be subject to censure of the Association.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our Rule of Faith and Practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this Solemn Covenant:

We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things; to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world; from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages; and to provide things honest in the sight of all men. We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to study of the Scripture, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship, and by self denial, faith and good works endeavor to grow in "grace and the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for Church Conferences, Public Worship and the observance of the ordinances of the gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the Church, for its poor and all its benevolent works. We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace; to be careful for one another's happiness and reputation, and to seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring and as far as we are able, promote the success of the Church and of the gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principles sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises "supreme." Counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society; constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come and that His Will may be done in earth as it is in Heaven; to this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sabbath schools and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of soul, and the conversion of the world; and may the God of Peace Sanctify us wholly; and preserve us blameless unto the Coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

LOCATION	Value of Church Property	Amount of Associ- ation Purposes	Home Mission Building Fund	Foreign Missions	Evangelist and Visiting Ministers	Youth Camp	Paid Pastor	Budget Plan Church Tithe	Orphanages	Bible College
First Church, Pensacola, Fla.....	\$15,299.49	\$ 15.00	\$ 446.68		\$ 110.25		\$1,087.35	\$ 191.27		
Eastside Church, Pensacola, Fla.....	7,500.00	20.00	1,303.29		20.00		487.18	130.44		
Mt. Zion Church, Century, Fla.....	2,500.00	6.00			14.97		44.35			
Pilgrim Rest Church, Molino, Fla.....	4,500.00	5.00	219.16		16.00		132.40			
Shiloh Church, Bratt, Fla.....	20,000.00	15.00	909.87		216.00		2,700.00			
Christian Home Church, McDavid, Fla.....	7,500.00	15.00	990.93		80.00		852.80			
Rainbow Tabernacle, Robertsdale, Ala.....	4,500.00	5.00	104.32		20.00		112.00			
Grace Church, Pensacola, Fla.....	2,500.00	10.00	185.17		214.00		476.70	124.43		
Bethel Tabernacle, Pensacola, Fla.....										
Oakfield Church, Pensacola, Fla.....		10.00								

MINISTERS' YEARLY REPORT—1955 - 1956

MINISTERS	Churches Pastored	Sermons Preached	Revivals Held	Funerals	Number Baptized	Miles Traveled	Money Received	Churches Organized	Expenses Paid Out	Sick Calls	Members Received
REV. B. B. CHAMPION.....	1	96	.....	.....	.....	10,000	112.00	.....	.....	.....	.....
REV. W. M. PATRICK.....	1	100	.....	1	.....	5,853	44.35	.....	83.50	34	1
REV. JOHN D. PARHAM.....	.....	96	.....	.....	.....	.....	370.00	.....	.....	25	.....
REV. A. C. WIGGINS.....	.....	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	.....
REV. L. M. THOMLEY.....	.....	36	.....	3	1	960	28.40	.....	50.00	105	3
REV. A. H. ASHCRAFT.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	60.00	.....	.....	.....	3
REV. E. T. WILLIAMSON.....	1	60	.....	.....	7	1800	132.40	.....	180.00	.....	12
REV. FLOYD COLEMAN.....	1	84	.....	.....	1	.....	678.00	.....	270.00	243	1
REV. H. L. HENDERSON.....	1	.....	.....	.....	7	.....	559.18	.....	.....	.....	9
REV. T. U. BRYANT.....	.....	39	.....	.....	.....	2,356	10.56	.....	76.50	221	.....
REV. L. V. PINSON.....	1	86	.....	3	3	.....	1,134.35	.....	.....	.....	13
REV. J. V. TURMAN.....	1	145	1	15	560.70	35
REV. W. C. STANFORD.....	25	200
REV. W. A. MORTON.....	12	700	30.00	50.00	20



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