

Minutes
of the
Sixtieth Annual Session
of the
West Fork Association
of
FREE WILL BAPTIST
CHURCHES

Held With The
First Free Will Baptist Church
of
DALLAS, TEXAS

August 31 -- September 2, 1949

The next annual session will be held with the Pleasant Mound Free Will Baptist Church near Buffalo Springs, Texas, beginning Tuesday night before the first Sunday in September, 1950.

OFFICERS

MODERATOR: Tiff Covington Bowie, Texas
ASSISTANT MODERATOR Rev. M. L. Sutton
Rt. 3, Box 75, Arlington, Texas
CLERK Mrs. A. F. Ferguson
Rt. 1, Box 218-A, Weatherford, Texas
ASSISTANT CLERK: Mrs. Odie Simmons.....Dallas, Texas
TREASURER: Rev. A. J. Fielding.....2206 Wilbig Rd., Dallas

DIRECTORS

FOREIGN MISSIONS Rev. A. F. Ferguson
Rt. 1, Box 218-A, Weatherford, Texas
HOME MISSIONS Rev. C. J. Hearron
1705 South 11th, Waco, Texas
YOUNG PEOPLE Mrs. Bob Franks
2809 McKinley, Fort Worth, Texas
LADIES' WORK Mrs. Franklin Parham
3110 Seevers, Dallas, Texas
CHILDREN'S HOME Mrs. R. E. Conner
Rt. 2, Bellevue, Texas

COMMITTEES

CREDENTIAL: Rev. J. A. Brooks, Fort Worth, Texas; Rev.
H. Z. Cox, Dallas, Texas; Rev. R. E. Conner, Bellevue,
Texas.
TEMPERANCE: Bro. W. D. Phillips, Decatur, Texas; Bro.
Wesley Broom, Buffalo Springs, Texas; Bro. C. B. Weir,
Fort Worth, Texas.
RESOLUTION: Rev. A. F. Ferguson, Weatherford, Texas;
Mrs. Julia Brower, Denison, Texas; Mrs. Effie Brock, Buf-
falo Springs, Teexas.
OBITUARY: Bro. A. Sullins, Waco, Texas; Mrs. Belle Easley,
Comanche, Texas; Mrs. Ethel Brady, Fort Worth, Texas.

PROCEEDINGS

The Sixtieth Annual Session of the West Fork Association of Free Will Baptist Churches convened with the First Free Will Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, August 31, through September 2, 1949.

The opening session was called to order by the moderator, Rev. H. Z. Cox. The song service was led by Bro. Forest Walling, with Rev. A. F. Ferguson and Rev. M. L. Sutton offering prayer. The moderator introduced Rev. R. E. Conner, who had been designated for the opening sermon. The message was based on Galatians 6:14. The text was, "God Forbid That I Should Glory, Save in the Cross of Our Lord, Jesus Christ."

After the message, Mrs. Forrest Walling assigned the delegates and visitors to the homes in which they were to stay during the session.

The moderator asked that all the letters from churches be given to the clerk. Rev. A. F. Ferguson was appointed to fill vacancy of the credential committee, caused by the absence of Rev. J. A. Brooks.

Benediction by Rev. A. J. Fielding.

WEDNESDAY MORNING

The association reassembled at the appointed time. The singing being led by Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, of Oklahoma. Prayer was offered by Rev. Noah Tuttle. Rev. A. J. Fielding led the devotional. The scripture reading was Heb. 2:1-18, after which the moderator announced the business session to begin. The first item of business was the report of the credential committee. (See reports). The motion was made to read the letters and seat the delegates. The letters were read by the assistant clerk, and the delegates were extended the right hand of fellowship.

Motion that the clerk be given the authority to issue a minister's card to Rev. W. H. Coonrod, who is pastor of the Denison church, if and when he unites with the church.

The moderator read the rules of order to the association.

Motion to grant to visiting ministers all the rights and privileges of the association except voting.

The body voted to accept the invitation from the Pleasant Mound church to meet with them in 1950.

Rev. H. Z. Cox was elected to preach the introductory message. Prayer was given by Rev. M. L. Sutton.

There was a fifteen-minute recess.

The morning worship service was engaged in, with Rev. W. S. Mooneyham leading the song service. Rev. R. E. Maricle was presented to the body as the speaker of the hour. The scripture reading was Luke 5:1-11. The message was based on the 4th and 5th verses. At the close of the message the assembly was dismissed by prayer by Rev. W. S. Mooneyham.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

The afternoon session was opened with a song service led by Bro. Forest Walling. In place of the devotions, Rev. A. F. Ferguson brought a message. His scripture reading was Ezek. 22:23-31. Text, Seeking for a man to stand in the gap. At the close of the message, Rev. R. E. Conner led in prayer. The moderator then called for business and declared nomination of officers in order. Those elected are as follows:

Rev. Tiff Covington, moderator; Rev. M. L. Sutton, assistant moderator; Mrs. A. F. Ferguson, clerk; Mrs. Odis Simons, assistant clerk; Rev. A. J. Fielding, treasurer.

Motion that the incoming moderator appoint the following committees: Credential, Resolution, Obituary, and Temperance. These being standing committees for the year. Rev. J. A. Brooks, Mrs. Maude Wier, and Mrs. Avery were appointed to serve as resolution committee for this session.

Motion that each church be asked to try to send to the treasurer of this association \$10.00 to be sent to the Trinity Free Will Baptist church for the purpose of helping to entertain the Texas State Association.

Rev. Tiff Covington, director of home missions, gave an oral report.

Motion to adjourn the afternoon session. The benediction was pronounced by Rev. R. E. Conner.

WEDNESDAY EVENING

The congregation was led in a song service by Rev. A. F. Ferguson, after which Rev. J. L. Foreman led in prayer. Sister Mozelle Franks led the assembly in a lively testimony service, after which Rev. M. L. Sutton was presented to the assembly as the speaker of the hour. The scripture reading, Isa. 21:6-12. The text was, Watchman what of the night? After the message, Rev. H. Z. Cox dismissed the congregation by prayer.

THURSDAY MORNING

The morning session was called to order with singing, led by Bro. Forrest Walling. Prayer by Mrs. Lottie Stephens. The devotions were led by Rev. C. C. Lamb. Scripture, II Cor. 12:1-10.

Rev. J. A. Brooks, director of Foreign Missions, gave an oral report.

Rev. M. L. Sutton, director of Sunday school, gave an oral report.

Rev. Tiff Covington appointed the directors and committees for the year. Those appointed were: Foreign Missions, Rev. A. F. Ferguson; Home Missions, Rev. C. J. Hearron; Young People, Mrs. Mozelle Franks; Women's Work, Mrs. Della Parham; Sunday School, Mrs. M. L. Sutton; Children's Home, Mrs. R. E. Conner.

COMMITTEES:

Credential: Rev. J. A. Brooks, Rev. H. Z. Cox, and Rev. R. E. Conner.

Temperance: Bro. W. D. Phillips, Bro. Wesley Broom and Bro. C. B. Wier.

Obituary: Bro. A. Sullins, Sister Belle Easley and Sister Ethel Brady.

Resolutions: Rev. A. F. Ferguson, Sisters Julia Brower and Effie Brock.

Motion to adjourn for recess.

After a brief recess the assembly engaged in the morning worship service. Bro. Forest Walling led in the song service, followed by prayer by Sister Della Parham. With Rev. Tiff Covington bringing the message. Scripture reading, Rev. 2:1-7. The message was based on the 4th verse. The service was dismissed by prayer led by Rev. R. E. Conner.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

Singing led by Rev. M. L. Sutton, with Rev. Allen Gibson leading in prayer. Devotional conducted by Rev. J. A. Brooks. Scripture reading, Matt. 6:31-34.

Motion to accept the report of the director of Children's Home.

Motion that the chair appoint delegates to the State Association to represent this body. Those appointed were: Sisters Maude Weir, Julia Jackson, Lottie Stephens, Ramona Covington, Lucille Cozart, Montie Brinson, Julia Brower, Roma Fitzpatrick, Berniece Holden and Bros. Ludy Harrison, A. Sullins and A. E. Benson.

Sister Lucille Cozart was elected to represent the State Association in the National Association. Sister Maude Wier as alternate.

Motion that this association appropriate enough money to pay the expenses of the delegate to and from and during the National Association.

Motion that the chair appoint a committee to raise funds to pay the expenses of the delegate to the association. Those appointed were: Sisters Edith Brooks, F. E. Walling and R. E.

Conner.

Report of Resolutions Committee was read and accepted.
(See report.)

Motion to receive the report of the Obituary committee, after which the congregation stood in silent prayer in behalf of those who had lost loved ones in death. Rev. Tiff Covington then led in audible prayer.

The minutes were read and corrected.

Motion that the clerk be granted the privilege of condensing the minutes for printing. Dismissed by prayer by Bro. A. Sullins.

REV. H. Z. COX, Moderator.

MRS. A. F. FERGUSON, Clerk.

CHURCH LETTERS

TRINITY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, the Church of God, known as the Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, worshipping at 2320 Azle Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas, to the West Fork Association of Free Will Baptist Churches when convened with the First Free Will Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, August 31, 1949.

GREETINGS: We send to you as delegates from our church our beloved: Mrs. C. B. Wier Sr., Mrs. E. R. Franks, and Mrs. M. L. Sutton, whom we pray you to receive to sit with you, and to aid you in your Godly deliberations.

State of religion—good. Members received this year, 9, by letter, 9. Number dismissed, 29. Total membership, 132. Condition of prayer meeting, good. One death, Mrs. Mae Huff.

FINANCIAL: Received from Sunday School, \$5,514.03. From church offerings, \$613.78. Paid pastor, \$2775.00. Paid choir director, \$760.00. Paid pianist, \$465.00. Paid janitor, \$340.00. Paid for repair on building, \$3,584.17. Paid utilities, \$148.48. Paid church supplies, \$122.26. Paid for Sunday school supplies, \$93.60. Paid for flowers, \$52.15. Paid for miscellaneous expenses, \$243.10. Total expenditures, \$8583.76. Total offerings this year, \$6127.81. Balance cash on hand, \$227.96.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Condition of school, good. Number of pupils last year, 196. New pupils this year, 63. Present enrollment, 135. Number of classes, 12. Number of teachers, 13. Number of officers, 4. Total offerings, \$5,514.03. Total expenditures, \$93.60. Balance transferred to general church treasury, \$5420.43.

LADIES AUXILIARY: Number enrolled, 21. Attendance, good. Number of visits made, 155. Phone calls, 81. Cards, 28. Sick calls, 5. Amount of dues collected, \$18.80. Collected

from Stanley parties, \$41.95. Collected from doughnut sales, \$165.70. Collected from old newspaper sales, \$7.00. Total amount collected, \$233.45. Total amount of disbursements, \$113.36. Total cash on hand, \$120.09.

Our church property is valued at \$35,000.00.

Pastor's name and address: Rev. M. L. Sutton, Rt. 3, Box 75, Arlington, Texas.

Ministers belonging to our church: Rev. John Lucas.

Deacons belonging to our church: Bros. George Bassham J. P. Lowery and Bro. Wilford Harrison.

Done by order of the Trinity Free Will Baptist Church in called conference this 28th day of August, 1949.

REV. M. L. SUTTON, Moderator.

MRS. HELEN LOWERY, Clerk.

FIRST FREE WILL CHURCH of Dallas, Texas, to the West Fork Association when convened with the Dallas church.

We send greetings. We have as our delegates our beloved Sisters Robert Harrison, Tommie Hill and F. E. Walling; alternates: Sisters Zirl Cox, A. M. Gibson and Betty Walling, whom we pray you to receive to sit with you to aid you in your Godly deliberations.

State of religion, good. Members received this year, 14. Conversions, 12. Members died, 2. Dismissed by letter, 7. Number baptized, 7. Total membership, 73.

Condition of Sunday school, good. Average attendance, 60. Number teachers and officers, 7.

Condition of prayer meeting, good.

Paid pastor, \$1,800. Paid evangelist, \$75.00. Foreign Missions, \$15.00. Home Missions, \$70.00. Total collection of the year, \$3,603.56. Church repair, \$1,017.17. Property valuation, \$8,000.00. Total expenses of the year, \$3,603.56. Balance in church treasury, \$687.00. We enclose \$5.00 to the association.

Deacons belonging to our church are: Ermon Clontz, Edd Attwood and D. F. Parham.

Ministers: Rev. H. Z. Cox, 1412 Beaumont; Rev. W. V. Kennedy, 4932 Columbia; Rev. L. J. Foreman, 2109 Gould; Rev. A. M. Gibson, Rt. 5, Dallas, Texas. We recommend that each of our ministers be recognized as ministers of good standing.

Done by order of the church assembled in regular conference this 3rd day of August, 1949.

REV. H. Z. COX, Pastor.

MRS. ODIS SIMONS, Clerk.

BOWIE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH of Bowie, Texas, to the West Fork Association when convened with the First Church of Dallas, Texas.

Greetings: We wish to send as delegates, Sisters R. L.

Avery, Velma Hudson, and Ramona Covington.

Our Church was organized September 19, 1948, by the following ministers: Rev. R. E. Conner, Rev. J. A. Brooks, and Rev. Tiff Covington. Privileges for church membership was given and 14 members came. These members called Rev. R. E. Conner as pastor. He served until April 17, 1949. The church called Rev. Tiff Covington and on May 8th, Rev. Covington accepted the call. The church then began to plan to buy a lot and build a church, and up to date the church is progressing nicely. We have been worshipping in the new building since July 17th. The first two Sundays we were in the building five souls were saved. We have mid-week prayer meeting, good Sunday school and good spiritual services. At present, we have 37 members. We also have three ministers in our church: Rev. Tiff Covington, Rev. W. W. Winters, and Rev. Albie Hudson. Deacons are Sam Rolland, Floyd Hendrex, Troy Wolf. Our building is valued at \$5,000. It is rock-veneerred, dimensions are 30x50. Average attendance in Sunday school, 26. Done by order of church when in conference, August 27, 1949.

REV. TIFF COVINGTON, Pastor.

MRS. R. L. AVERY, C. C.

BONNIE VIEW FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH of Dallas, Texas, to the West Fork Association when convened with the First Free Will Church of Dallas, Texas. We send as delegates our beloved Brother and Sister Maxwell, whom we pray you will receive to sit with you to aid you in your Godly deliberations. State of religion, good. Sunday school, good. Number officers, 2. Number teachers, 3. Attendance, 25. Members received this year, 5. Total collection, \$1,492.93. Expenses, \$1,472.98. Value of church property, \$6,000.00. Ministers belonging to our church, Rev. A. J. Fielding, 2206 Vilbig street, Dallas, Texas. Rev. T. W. Nelson, 1409 Penn. St., Dallas, Texas. Deacons: C. M. Maxwell, Dale Smith, Howell Stephens. Ministers recommended for minister's card are Rev. A. J. Fielding and Rev. T. W. Nelson. \$5.00 enclosed for minutes.

Done by order of the church when assembled in conference, August 31, 1949.

REV. A. J. FIELDING, Moderator.

MRS. C. M. MAXWELL, C. C.

GARTMAN'S VIEW CHURCH of Comanche, Texas, to the West Fork Association when convened with the First Church of Dallas, Texas. Greetings: We send as delegates our beloved Sister Rachel Everett, Bros. Robert Harlour, Garland Collins, and Sister Belle Easley as alternate. We have

a good interest in Sunday school, with an average of 40 in attendance. Sunday school offering, \$249.46; \$311.30 for ministers; \$120.00 for evangelist; \$21.00 for Home Missions. Janitor, literature, miscellaneous expenses, \$70.22. Balance of Sunday school offering transferred to our building fund. We have paid out \$1,167.34 for repairs on the church and construction of four Sunday school rooms. We have \$69.70 on deposit. The church is looking forward to an even greater year. Enclosed for minutes, \$5.00.

Done by order of the Church when assembled in conference, Aug. 27, 1949.

BRO. TED PATTON, Moderator.

SIS. MONTIE BRINSON, C. C.

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH of Midland, Texas, to the West Fork Association when convened with the First Church of Dallas, Texas, August 30, 1949.

Greetings in Jesus' name: We are unable to send delegates to the Association at this time. We are slowly growing, number of members received since our last association, 12. State of religion, good. Number baptisms, 2. Number died, 1. Total membership at present, 13. State of prayer meeting, fair. Condition of Sunday school, fair. Average attendance of pupils, 30. Number of officers, 2. Number of teachers, 3. Paid evangelist, \$97.62. Paid on church building, \$400.00. For publications, \$5.00. Amount enclosed for minutes, \$5.00. Pastor's name and address: H. E. Ritenour, Box 1063, Midland, Texas. Name and address of deacon: Bert S. Onley, 1001 S. Terrell St., Midland, Texas.

Done by order of the church assembled in conference this 20th day of August, 1949.

REV. H. E. RITENOUR, Moderator.

MRS. GIOLA M. ONLEY, C. C. and Treas.

Remarks: We do not have an ordained minister on our field, but we greatly feel the need of one. Our pastor is only a licensed minister. If you grant licensed ministers a card, we request one for Brother Ritenour. We covet your prayers, one and all for our church. We are in a revival at this time.

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH of Weatherford, Texas, to the West Fork Association when convened with the First Church of Dallas, Texas.

Greetings: We send as delegates our beloved Sisters Myrtle Jackson, Mattie Jackson and Wanda Howell, whom we pray you to receive to aid you in your Godly deliberations. State of religion, good. Number members received this year, 25; by baptism, 11; by letter and statement, 14. Number

died, 1. Total membership, 90.

Present enrollment, 79; number classes, 7; number teachers, 6; officers, 2. Total offerings, \$678.25. Transferred to general church treasury, \$678.25. Number visitors, 499. Number cards and letters written, 164. Number telephone calls made, 243. Number visits made, 1249. Total contacts, 1656.

Financial: Received from Sunday school, \$678.25. Received from church offerings, \$1,412.16. Special offerings, \$344.84. Paid pastor, \$1,413.00. Paid evangelist, \$112.74. Foreign missions, \$5.00. Home Missions, \$30.00. Unified program, \$9.40. Radio offerings, \$315.00. Miscellaneous offerings, \$537.28. Amount brought forward last year, \$185.37. Total offerings this year, \$2,265.28. Balance on hand, \$110.50. Done by order of the church when in regular conference Aug. 24, 1949.

REV. A. F. FERGUSON, Moderator.

EDWARD JACKSON, Church Clerk.

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH of Fort Worth, Texas, to the West Fork Association when convened with the First Church of Dallas, Texas. Greetings: We send as delegates our beloved Sisters Brooks, Eagleton and Evylan Turner, Bro. Earl Eagleton Jr., whom we pray you to receive to sit with you to aid you in your Godly deliberations. State of religion, good. Members received this year, 44. Number baptized, 13; number dismissed, 5; number died, 1. Total membership, 215. Condition of prayer meeting, good. Condition of Sunday school, good. Average number of pupils, 90. Number of officers, 3. Number teachers, 5. Paid pastor, \$1,960.00. For building and repairs, \$1029.00. For publication and miscellaneous expenditures, \$179.00. To association, \$5.00. Total income, \$3,685.47. Total expenditures, \$3,457.17. Total amount in treasury, \$228.30.

Pastor's name and address: Rev. J. A. Brooks, 2003 Prairie, Fort Worth, Texas. Ministers belonging to our church, Rev. H. C. St. John, Rev. C. C. Paris, Rev. Joe Haney. These three we recommend for minister's cards. Rev. Frank Bennett (inactive), Rev. C. J. Turrentine (inactive).

REV. J. A. BROOKS, Moderator.

W. F. HOLDEN, Clerk.

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH of Comanche, Texas, to the West Fork Association when convened with the First Free Will Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas. We send as delegates our beloved Sister Maude Ragens and Brothers Jim Smith, Robert Hughes, whom we pray you will receive to sit with you in your Godly deliberations. State of religion, good. Members received this year, 28. Dismissed, 1. Died, 1. Total membership, 54. Condition of officers and prayer meeting,

good. Condition of Sunday school, good. Number enrolled, 45. Number of officers and teachers, 6. Classes, 4. Amount of offering for Sunday school, \$111.69. Total expenses, \$59.67. Total in treasury, \$52.09. Paid pastor, \$328.00. Paid evangelist, \$54.00. Paid for supplies, \$11.00. Paid Missions, \$4.00. Miscellaneous expenditures, \$51.00. To Association, \$5.00. Total income, \$460.00. Total expenses, \$421.08. In treasury, \$153.61. Church property valued at \$2,000.00. Pastor's address: Rev. M. R. Gaines, 507 S. Mary St., Box 132, Comanche, Texas. Names of ministers belonging to our church: Rev. M. R. Gaines. Names of deacons: Jess Williams, H. S. Hughes and Raymond Lane. We recommend Rev. M. R. Gaines for a minister's card. Done by order of the church when assembled in conference this 24th day of August, 1949.

REV. M. R. GAINES, Moderator.

WYNONA GAINES, Clerk.

PLEASANT MOUND FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH of Buffalo Springs, Texas, to the West Fork Association when convened with the First Church of Dallas, Texas, Greetings:

We send as delegates our beloved Sisters Lucille Cozart, Eva Conner and Effie Brock, whom we pray you to receive to aid you in your Godly deliberations. State of religion, good. Members received this year, 3. By letter, 2. By statement, 1. Dismissed by letter, 25. A large per cent of this number are residents of Bowie and are now members of the new church there. Total membership, 165.

Condition of prayer meeting, good.

Condition of Sunday school, good. Average number of pupils, 55. Number of officers, 4. Number of classes, 5. Number of teachers, 5. There has been a ladies' auxiliary organized.

We recommend that our ministers be granted cards. Names and addresses of ministers belonging to our church: Rev. R. E. Conner, Bellevue, Texas, Rt. 2; Rev. J. C. Harris, Buffalo Springs, Texas. Names of Deacons: J. W. Broom, L. J. White, J. M. Inman and Ben White. Pastor's name and address: Rev. R. E. Conner, Rt. 2, Bellevue, Texas.

Financial: Paid pastor, \$1,015. Paid to association, \$10.00. Building and repairs, \$148.77. Paid to Home Missions, \$93.08. Paid to Unified Program, \$30.00. Paid to evangelist, \$49.48. Paid to Bible college, \$30.35. Paid to Children's Home, \$15.00. Miscellaneous expenses, \$168.21. Total expenses, \$1,554.94. Total income, \$1573.06. Balance, \$18.12. Enclosed is \$5.00 for association. We extend an invitation to the West Fork Association to meet with us in 1950.

REV. R. E. CONNER, Pastor.

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH of Waco, Texas, to the West Fork Association when convened with the First Church of Dallas, Texas.

We send as delegates our beloved sisters, Mrs. Rancher, Mrs. Sullins, Mrs. Graham, whom we pray you to receive to sit with you to aid you in your Godly deliberations. State of religion, good. Members received this year, 10. Number baptized, 4. Number dismissed, 3. No prayer meeting. Total membership, 45. Condition of Sunday school, good. Average number of pupils, 22. Number of teachers and officers, 5.

Paid pastor, \$592.56. Paid evangelist, \$44.16. Amount enclosed for minutes, \$5.00. We recommend the following ministers from our church: Rev. J. E. Maricle, Lorena, Texas, Rt. 2.; Rev. Wesley Calvery, 1800 S. 11th St., Waco, Texas. We invite the association to meet with our church in 1950. Our church is located at 1901 12th St. Done by order of the church when in conference.

REV. R. E. MARECLE, Moderator.

MRS. R. E. MARECLE, Clerk.

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH of Denison, Texas, to the West Fork Association of Free Will Baptist Churches when convened with the First Church of Dallas, Texas. We send as delegates, Sisters Julia Brouer, Cora Norie, Sheila Sampson, whom we pray you will receive to sit with you to aid you in your Godly deliberations. State of religion, good. Members received this year, 5. Number died, 2. Total membership, 51. Ministers belonging to our church: Bro. Bob Sampson. We would like for Brother Coonrod, whom we have called as pastor of our church, to receive a minister's card. The pastor's name and address of our church is Rev. W. H. Coonrod, 611 E. Acheson St., Denison, Texas. Deacons' names are: Bro. Wes Fulce, Bro. Joe Higgins and Bro. W. D. Horner. Sunday school, fair. Teachers 4, officers 4. Paid pastor, \$419.25. Paid visiting ministers, \$90.00. Miscellaneous expenses, \$153.95. Publication, \$60.00. Building and improvements, \$300.00. We send \$5.00 for minutes. Done by order of the church when assembled in conference, August 24, 1949.

REV. BOB SAMPSON, Moderator.

REV. CORA NORIE, Clerk.

SOUTH SIDE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, of Comanche, Texas, to the West Fork Association when convened with the First Church of Dallas, Texas. We send as delegates our beloved Brother A. E. Benson, whom we pray you to receive to aid you in your Godly deliberations: State of religion, fair. Number received this year, 2. Number baptized,

2 Number died, 1. Bro. G. W. Stephens. Total members, 36. Condition of Sunday school, fair. Average number of pupils, 24. Prayer meeting fair.

Paid pastor, \$53.79. Paid evangelist, \$28.50. Home Mission, \$28.20. For publication, \$16.25. Building, \$448.20. For minutes, \$5.00. Offering, \$13.28. Paid out, \$130.16. Sunday school offering, \$98.04. Indebtedness on church building, \$770.00.

Pastor's name and address, Rev. R. H. Rogers, Box 740, Comanche, Texas. Ministers belonging to our church, Rev. R. H. Rogers, Rev. J. A. Hughes, Comanche, Texas, and Mrs. Mae Rogers, Box 740, Comanche, Texas. We recommend that our ministers be granted new cards. Done by order of the church when in conference August 24, 1949.

REV. R. H. ROGERS, Moderator.
L. G. HUGHES, Clerk.

REPORTS

We, your Credential committee, have examined the credentials of the following churches and find them to be in order with proper fees:

Trinity Church of Fort Worth	\$5.00
First Church of Fort Worth	5.00
First Church of Dallas	5.00
First Church of Weatherford	5.00
First Church of Denison	5.00
First Church of Comanche	5.00
Bonnie View Church, Dallas	5.00
Pleasant Mound Church of Buffalo Springs	5.00
Bowie Church, Bowie	5.00
South Side Church, Comanche	5.00
Gartman View Church of Comanche	5.00
Midland Church of Midland	5.00
First Church of Waco	5.00

We recommend that the clerk be given the authority to issue to Rev. Coonrod a minister's card when he unites with the Denison church.

Your Credential Committee:

REV. M. L. SUTTON,
REV. R. E. CONNER,
REV. A. F. FERGUSON.

We, your Committee on Obituary, wish to make the following report:

Trinity Church, Fort Worth, Mrs. May Huff; First Church, Fort Worth, Bro. Robert B. Massey; First Church, Weatherford, Bro. R. L. White; First Church, Denison, Bro. Pat. Coffman and wife; First Church of Dallas, Mrs. Addie

Atwood and Bro. H. L. Pierre; South Side Church of Comanche, Mrs. H. S. Hughes; First Church of Midland, one death.

This, our loss of true soldiers of the cross, is keenly felt. May our God and Saviour bless and comfort the families and friends of these loved ones.

Respectfully submitted:

MRS. M. L. SUTTON,
MRS. CORA NORIE,
MRS. C. M. MAXWELL.

Brethren, be it resolved, That we, as children of God and Free Will Baptists, shall abstain from all appearance of evil, be more tolerant with each other and be moderate in all things.

We believe that since drinking is on the increase everywhere, we, as a denomination, should stand against such evil in every way; and unite our prayers to God to destroy this curse.

Humbly submitted in His Name:

MRS. R. E. CONNER,
MRS. DELLA PARHAM,
MRS. O. H. SIMONS.

Report of the Resolution committee:

Be it resolved that this body extend a rising vote of thanks to the churches and friends of Dallas, for their hospitality to this association.

REV. J. A. BROOKS,
MRS. MAUDE WEIR,
MRS. AVERY.

Reeport of Director on Children's Home:

We don't have much to report as director. The Home is going right along, although our support is small, we do feel we have a small part in this great work. We urge our people to support the home in every way possible. We hope to some day buy half interest in the home and be co-owner with the State of Oklahoma. Our State Association is working on this plan.

REV. R. E. CONNER.

Report of Director of Women's Work:

Brethren, in 1948 the West Fork Association had only one active Women's Auxiliary, for several years we've been like a small voice crying in the wilderness. But now three other voices have joined us. We now have four auxiliaries, and

those who have come after us have accomplished more than we who first began.

Free Will Baptist women are on the march. In September, 1948, we had 12 active members. This year we have 60. Praise the Lord from whom all blessings flow.

Last year, \$57.86 was paid out in benevolent work. This year, \$212.80 has been put into the Lord's work by women of this association. Balance in treasury, \$161.18. Sick calls, 42. Visits 172. Cards sent, 40. Phone calls, 81. Showers for the needy have been given. Quilts have been quilted. Baskets for the shut-ins have been sent. Helped with the Vacation Bible schools. Bought books for the church library. This is only a partial report.

We thank God today for the 60 women who are moving out and taking up this work for the Lord. But we are not satisfied. Four churches out of sixteen is only a small ratio. We are looking forward with an eye of faith to the future, hoping and praying and expecting a Woman's Auxiliary in every church of this association. Is this asking too much? God is able. Are we willing to accept the challenge?

Submitted in His Name:

MRS. DELLA PARHAM.

Report of Director of Young People's Work. We find that some of our churches have a young people's work of some kind. Yet there is a great need of more encouragement for this work in our association as well as all of Texas. A great work can be done by our young people, with encouragement, training and given a proper chance. Bro. Wesley Calvary did encourage and promote the League work before leaving for college, and while in school he encouraged the work by mail. Without some form of work for the young people, our churches fail and miss the mark intended by our Lord. May we push and encourage the work in our churches.

Yours for more Souls,

A. F. FERGUSON.

Report of Director on Foreign Missions. I submit the following report: There is an increasing cry to our Free Will Baptist people to look on the need of the other nations who are only being privileged to hear a small portion of the true gospel of Jesus Christ as our people are giving it out. Also, there is a crying need of those on the field for more funds to launch out in a greater way among the nations. May God help us as we tarry here in the home land to swell the home mission work until we shall be able to help the foreign workers to go in this great work for those poor lost people. May

we all have a greater vision of Missions everywhere.

Respectfully,

REV. J. A. BROOKS.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Sept. 1, 1948 Balance in Treasury	\$170.00
Sept. 1, 1948 Cash Received at Association.....	\$49.00
Sept. 1, 1948 Love Offering, Children's Home....	65.49
Recd. from Churches after the Association	18.00
Total Income	\$132.49
	303.07
Total Paid Out	192.49
Balance in Treasury	\$110.58
Paid Out for 1948-1949:	
Sept. 1, 1948 Love Offering, Children's Home....	\$65.49
Nov. 2, 1948 Delegates to State Association.....	20.00
Nov. 6, 1948 For West Fork Minutes	54.00
Nov. 9, 1948 To Free Will Baptist College (ex- pansion program)	50.00
Feb. 4, 1949, Paid Sis. Ferguson postage for Minutes	3.00
	\$192.49

Report of Director of Home Missions:

Amount of money raised for Home Missions by the West Fork Association, \$242.00. Last year the Association raised \$938.62.

REV. TIFF COVINGTON.

IS IT COMPLETE?

Please see that your associational letter is complete, so that the clerk may be able to tabulate all the facts of your church in the next associational minutes.

This is very important for the sake of your records. Remember, this is final after it is tabulated in our annual minutes.

CONSTITUTION

From long experience, we, the members of the Church of God (denominated Free Will Baptist), being regularly baptized upon a profession of our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and being convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches to perpetuate a union among us, and to preserve and maintain correspondence with each other, do therefore ordain this constitution for our better government.

Art. 1. MEMBERSHIP. This association shall be composed of members chosen by different churches of our union, not exceeding three messengers from each church, and upon producing letters, they shall be entitled to seats. All ordained ministers of said union shall be regular members, when present, by virtue of their office.

Art. 2. NAME. The members thus chosen and convened in the West Fork Association of the Church of God (denominated Free Will Baptist), being composed of sundry churches located in northern Texas. The association having no power to Lord it over God's heritage, nor have any ecclesiastical power over the churches, reserving the right to withdraw from any church becoming disorderly.

Art. 3. LETTERS. Letters from the different churches representing are to express their number in fellowship, including the names and addresses of ordained and licensed ministers, the number received by experience, by letter of recommendation, or restored; the number dismissed or excluded, and those who have died since the last Association. The churches in sending in their letters may send obituaries of any who have died during the year, that we may keep a memorial of our dead.

Art. 4. OFFICERS. The Association shall have a Moderator, a Clerk and a Treasurer, who shall be elected at each annual session by the suffrage of our members present.

Art. 5. NEW CHURCHES. Newly constituted churches may be admitted to the Association, which are to petition by letter and delegates, and if upon examination they are found to be orthodox and orderly, they may be received into the Association, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

Art. 6. QUESTIONS. No question from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it has been first discussed in its own church.

Art. 7. MOTION. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the members who made it.

Art. 8. MINUTES. The Association shall endeavor to furnish the churches with minutes of the Association in proportion to the number of members in each church, the distribution to be at the discretion of the Association.

Art. 9. CLERK. It shall be the duty of the clerk to keep a regular file of the minutes of the Association in a book to be kept by the Association for the purpose.

Art. 10. SIGNATURES. The minutes of the Association shall be read, and corrected if needed, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the close of the Association.

Art. 11. AMENDMENTS. Amendments to this constitution may be made, when necessary, by a majority vote of the members present, notice having been given in writing, and recorded at the last previous session.

FREE WILL BAPTIST ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. THE BIBLE. The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. GOD. There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as Creator, Preserver and Righteous Governor of the universe; and in the Scriptures as Father, Son and Holy Ghost, yet one God, infinite, wise and good, Whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore and obey.

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 everpresent Savior and Lord.

4. THE HOLY SPIRIT. The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God, He is the Reprover, Comforter, Guide and Sanctifier of men.

5. THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD. God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitutions and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of man requires.

6. THE SINFULNESS OF MAN. Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherited a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to the years of accountability sin, and become guilty before God.

7. THE WORK OF CHRIST. The Son of God, by His incarnation, life and suffering, death and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

8. THE TERMS OF SALVATION. The conditions of salvation are: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and the hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith, or unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord, with purpose of

love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

9. **ELECTION.** God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence, by faith in Christ, men become His elect.

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 and live, or to resist them and perish.

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.

12. **PERSEVERANCE.** All believers in Christ, who through grace, persevere in holiness to the end of life, have the promise of eternal salvation.

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**, an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.

14. **THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH.** The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments, for rest, worship, holy works and activities, and for personal communion with God.

15. **WAR.** War destroys the lives of the innocent, and is contrary to the New Testament, therefore, we are opposed to war.

16. **RESURRECTION, JUDGMENT, 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 the righteous into eternal life."

17. **TITHING.** God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ indorsed it in the Gospel (Matt. 23:23), and the Apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week, let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him." (1 Cor. 16:2).

RULES OF ORDER

1. At every sitting of this Association, business shall be opened and concluded by prayer by the Moderator.

2. Ministers present are invited to seats, allowed to take part in debates on all subjects, and to vote.

3. Those who speak shall arise and address the Moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.

4. No motion shall be discussed without a second.

5. When a motion has been made and seconded, and a member opposes its discussion, the Moderator shall put the question, "Shall it be discussed?" If negative, the question shall be dismissed.

6. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken separately.

7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.

8. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without special leave of the Moderator.

9. All questions shall be decided by a majority vote of all members present.

10. No member shall absent himself without special leave of the Moderator.

11. The minutes shall be leisurely read and corrected, if necessary, before the close of the Association.

12. At all future sessions of the Association, arrangements shall be made to insure two sermons, or other devotional exercises equivalent thereto, during each day of the session, and the chair shall announce just before adjournment who shall fill the stand at the next meeting.

13. These Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after the organization of the Association.

14. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.

