

BLUFF CITY ASS'n, 1957

A special meeting was held on March 19, 1957 at the Shelby Free Will Baptist church, Memphis, Tennessee for the purpose of the organization of an association composed of the churches in the Memphis area.

Representatives from three churches -- First Church, Southside, and Shelby -- composed this meeting with the executive board from the Social Band Association, Pocahontas, Arkansas.

Brother Ira Gates presided over the meeting. Discussion followed concerning the reason for an association and opportunity was given for questions and discussion. A motion was carried, almost unanimously, for the organization of an association.

The following committees, boards, and officers were elected:

Committee on by-laws: Rev. LaVerne D. Miley
Brother Venoy Vaughn
Rev. D. W. Jones, Jr.
Rev. J. D. Jackson
Rev. N. D. Jones

Executive Board: Rev. N. D. Jones (five year term)
Rev. J. D. Jackson (four year term)
Rev. W. A. Gray (three year term)
Rev. D. W. Jones, Jr. (two year term)
Rev. L. D. Miley (one year term)

Officers: Moderator: Rev. L. D. Miley
Assistant moderator: Rev. J. D. Jackson
Clerk: Brother Venoy Vaughn

Brother Miley read the proposed by-laws and they were adopted as read.

Motion carried to adjourn until the first regular session, July 5 and 6 with the Southside Free Will Baptist church.

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

and

DISMISSION

THIS CERTIFIES THAT THE FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF MEMPHIS TENNESSEE IS A MEMBER OF THE SOCIAL BAND ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF ARKANSAS AND IS IN GOOD STANDING AS SUCH. WE RECOMMEND THIS CHURCH TO THE FELLOWSHIP OF GOD'S PEOPLE IN ESTABLISHING A FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION IN MEMPHIS TENNESSEE; AND WHEN WE ARE INFORMED THAT THIS HAS BEEN DONE, WE SHALL CONSIDER THIS CHURCH DISMISSED FROM SOCIAL BAND ASSOCIATION. DONE BY ORDER OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING OF SOCIAL BAND ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF ARKANSAS.

QUARTERLY MEETING MODERATOR

Rev Carl High

QUARTERLY MEETING CLERK

Naomi Denton

ASSOCIATIONAL CLERK

Lera High

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

and

DISMISSION

THIS CERTIFIES THAT THE SOUTH SIDE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF MEMPHIS TENNESSEE IS A MEMBER OF THE SOCIAL BAND ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF ARKANSAS AND IS IN GOOD STANDING AS SUCH. WE RECOMMEND THIS CHURCH TO THE FELLOWSHIP OF GOD'S PEOPLE IN ESTABLISHING A FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION IN MEMPHIS TENNESSEE; AND WHEN WE ARE INFORMED THAT THIS HAS BEEN DONE, WE SHALL CONSIDER THIS CHURCH DISMISSED FROM SOCIAL BAND ASSOCIATION. DONE BY ORDER OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING OF SOCIAL BAND ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF ARKANSAS.

QUART

QUARTERLY MEETING MODERATOR Rev Carl High
QUARTERLY MEETING CLERK Naomi Denton
ASSOCIATIONAL CLERK Leora High

FRIDAY NIGHT

The Bluff City Association of Free Will Baptists met Friday night, July 5, 1957 at the Southside Free Will Baptist church, 1685 Ball Road, Memphis.

Brother Harold Graham directed the song service by opening with "Just Over In The Glory Land." Rev. J. D. Jackson prayed the opening prayer. "Anywhere is Home" and "Where He Leads Me" were sung just before the devotional by Rev. L. D. Miley.

Another song "When I See the Blood" was sung preceding the message by Rev. N. D. Jones. His message was based on the following scriptures: II Corinthians 6; 4:17; I Corinthians 15:58

Benediction by Rev. L. L. Wilson

SATURDAY MORNING

The Saturday morning session opened at 9:30 with the assistant moderator, Rev. J. D. Jackson in charge.

The meeting was opened with singing "I'll Be Satisfied." Prayer and the devotional service were given by Brother Buford Pierce, with his scripture from Ephesians 6:10-19.

Brother Jackson called the quarterly meeting to order for the transaction of business. The minutes of the organizational meeting and the constitution and by-laws were read by Brother Venoy Vaughn, clerk.

The standing delegates were recognized by standing. Brother L. L. Wilson was recognized as a visiting minister and was seated as an advisory member.

The clerk read letters from Southside, Shelby Center, and First Church. Motion carried to accept the letters and their delegates be seated.

The report of the executive board was read and adopted.
(see reports)

The welcome address was given by the host pastor, Brother D. W. Jones, Jr. with the response by Brother James Bowman from Shelby Center.

The committees were appointed by the assistant moderator.
(see reports)

The District Auxiliary Convention presented a playlet "Let Suzie Do It" with an emphasis on the auxiliary work in our association.

The morning message was brought by Rev. J. D. Jackson. His scripture was taken from Philipians 3:1-21.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

The afternoon session was opened with the devotional service by Brother Kenneth Booker.

The moderator, Brother Miley, called the quarterly meeting into conference for the transaction of business.

The following reports were given and adopted: Resolutions, Finance and Obituary. (see reports)

The executive board made the following report:

"After examining Brother Harold Graham and Brother Rex Williams, we recommend they be ordained as deacons."

The ordination service followed and the laying on of hands by the executive board of this association.

Motion carried that the First Church host the annual association.

REPORTS

The executive board:

We recommend:

1. That each church send five dollars with the letters to help in recording the minutes.
2. That each church who wishes to entertain the association request such in their quarterly letters.

L. D. Miley, chairman
J. D. Jackson
W. A. Gray
D. W. Jones, Jr.
N. D. Jones

We, the resolutions committee, submit the following report:

Be it resolved that members shall be added to our churches only by immersion in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Harold Graham
Paul Jones
Mrs. James Bowman

We, the finance committee, submit the following report:

1. We have estimated the value of church property and find First Church valued at \$20,000; Southside at \$8,000; and Shelby Center at \$700. Total value -- \$35,000

2. That an offering be received during this session to help pay for printing the minutes. (\$15.11 was received)

Mrs. Thomas Lepard
Mrs. L. D. Miley
Mrs. D. W. Jones, Jr.

We, the obituary committee, wish to submit the following report:
After examining letters, we find that one has deceased --
Brother Andrew Campbell from the First Free Will Baptist Church.

Rachel Wilkinson
Joyce Vaughn
Mrs. N. D. Jones

Program committee: Mrs. J. D. Jackson, Mrs. Venoy Vaughn, and
Brother Venoy Vaughn

ANNUAL CONFERENCE
October 4, 5, 1957
First Church

FRIDAY NIGHT

The annual conference of the Bluff City Association of Free Will Baptists was held October 4 and 5, 1957 with the First Free Will Baptist Church.

Brother Kenneth Booker was in charge of the song service. The service was opened with singing "It Won't Be Very Long." Rev. J. D. Jackson prayed the opening prayer. and led in the devotional service, reading Mark 14.

The evening message was brought by Rev. G. C. Lee, subject "Fighting Christians," scripture taken from I Timothy 6 and II Timothy 2.

SATURDAY MORNING

The Saturday morning session was opened with singing "I'M Going That Way." Brother Dulin prayed the opening prayer. Brother Buford Pierce brought the devotional based on the Scripture Dueteronomy 7:6, 7. "God's Love For His Children." "Blessed Assurance" was sung by the congregation.

The moderator, Brother Miley, called the association into conference for the transaction of business. The minutes of the last quarterly meeting were read by the clerk and approved as read.

The letters from the churches were read and the delegates seated. A petitionary letter from the Randall Memorial Free Will Baptist Church was read and a motion was carried that this church be accepted into the association. and the delegates seated.

The report of the executive board was read and accepted.

The committees were appointed by the moderator (see reports)

Motion carried that the deacons of the association examine the reports of the ministers and issue the cards of standing.

A special "Jesus, Hold My Hand" was sung by Brother Dulin.

Mrs. L. D. Miley emphasized the value of the auxiliary by giving a talk on the purpose and aim of the woman's auxiliary.

Solo "Precious Memories" by Rev. D. W. Jones, Sr.

The morning message was brought by Rev. Ronald Winkle based on Luke 23: "Lord Remember Me."

Brother Herman Jones prayed the benediction.

Lunch was served by First Church

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

The opening of the afternoon service was a devotional by Brother Harold Granam. Brother Franklin gave a reading "This Old Clay House of Mine.", followed with prayer by Brother Vaughn.

Brother Miley called the meeting into conference for the transaction of business, and the following reports were given: resolutions, Obituary, finance, nominating (see reports)

Brother M. D. Jones gave a challenge for advertising and publicity. This was followed with a motion that the moderator write the high lights of this meeting and contact the editor of the newspaper. (carried.)

Motion carried that the executive board recommend a plan to finance the expenses of the association.

A rising vote of thanks was given to the First Church for their hospitality through the day.

The right hand of fellowship was extended to the three new ministers in the association -- Rev. Ronald Winkle, Rev. L. L. Wilson, and Rev. G. C. Lee.

Benediction

REPORTS

We, your committee on resolutions, submit the following recommendations:

Be it resolved:

1. That the by laws of the last quarterly meeting be adopted.
2. That this body petition the state association for membership.
3. That each church subscribe to the Family Plan for the denominational periodical, Contact.
4. That we have special prayer for the integration problem, that we also observe the special day of prayer on October 12.
5. That a publicity man be appointed. (Rev. Ronald Winkle was appointed.)
6. That we accept Randall Memorial's invitation to entertain the next quarterly meeting.
7. That an ordained minister who is absent for the period of one year, or four meetings without a valid excuse, not be issued a card of good standing.
8. A certificate of standing shall be issued to each minister in good standing who furnishes the annual conference with a written report of his activities for the year.
9. That these words: These by-laws may be amended at any regular session of the association by a two thirds vote of the members voting: be added to the constitution and by laws.

Kenneth Booker,
Virginia Pierce
Lorene Miley
Mrs. Bowman

OBITUARY

We, the obituary committee find that God has called from our midst Brother Andrew Campbell and Brother Johnson.

Mrs. N. D. Jones
Donna Safirt
Mrs. Venoy Vaughn

We, the finance committee, submit the following report:

We find the First Church valued at \$20,000; Southside at \$8,000; Shelby \$5,500 and parsonage \$4500; Randall Memorial \$10,000 -- making a total of \$48,000.

Mrs. Shirley Phipps
Mrs. Harold Graham
Brother Paul Jones

We, your nominating committee, submit the following names for your consideration:

moderator -- Rev. L. D. Miley
assistant moderator -- Rev. J. D. Jackson
clerk -- Brother Venoy Vaughn
executive board (five year term) -- Rev. Ronald Winkle
delegates to the state association -- Brother and Mrs. Miley, Brother and Mrs. N. D. Jones, Mrs. Jackson and Bro. G. C. Lee.

Rex Williams
Mrs. Herman Jones
Rev. J. D. Jackson

Program committee: Buford Pierce
Harold Graham
Venoy Vaughn

Treasurer's Report:

Received with letters	\$5.00
offering	32.09
from Auxiliary	8.62
Total	<u>\$60.71</u>

Paid out:	
District City Seal	\$10.00
Cards & Minutes	50.37
Certificates	2.50
Total	<u>62.87</u>