

ERNEST R. BOWEN  
MINUTES OF THE 3606 WEST END AVENUE  
NASHVILLE, TENN. 37205

57th ANNUAL SESSION OF THE

WESTERN ASSOCIATION

OF  
FREE WILL BAPTIST

HELD WITH

SAW MILL HILL CHURCH

LAUADA, N.C.

AUGUST 16th & 17th, 1963

OFFICERS:

MODERATOR: Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.  
Route 3, Bryson City, N.C.  
Clerk: Mrs. Clyde Nations, Jr.  
Bryson City, N.C.

Next session will be held with the Mt.  
Vernon Church, Alarka, N. C. on Friday  
before the third Sunday in August, 1964.  
Annual sermon will be delivered by Rev.  
Ben Cockran, alternate: Rev. Albert Herion  
In the event the church cannot take care  
of it, it will convene with the Beaver  
Creek Church, Andrews, N. C.



Minutes of the Western F.W.B convened  
with the Saw Mill Hill Church, Bryson City,  
N.C. August 16th & 17th, 1963

Moderator: Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.

Clerk: Mrs. Clyde Nations, Jr.

### PROCEEDINGS

Beginning Friday morning Aug. 16th, 1963.

Time: 10:00 A.M.

Devotional: Rev. Milton Hollifield

Song: "Press Along, It Won't Be Very Long."

House was announced in order by the  
Moderator. The following reports were appointed:

ARRANGEMENTS: Chairman: Bro. Fred Winchester,  
Bro. Russell Cloer, Bro. Robert Freeman, Bro.  
Albert Parris.

MISSIONS: CHAIRMAN: Bro. Collins Greene,  
Bro. Thomas Cloer, Sis. Dessie Mae Parton,  
Sis. Pauline Adams.

SABBATH SCHOOLS: CHAIRMAN: Sis. Pauline Adams,  
Bro Fred Winchester, Bro. Ben Cockran, Bro.  
Collins Greene.

TENLERENCE: CHAIRMAN: Bro. Ben Cockran, Sis.  
Ethel Messer, Sis. Ethel Hall, Sis. Lorene  
Wise, Sis. Ellen Winchester, Sis Mary Parrish,  
Sis. Sue Cooper.

ORPHANAGE: CHAIRMAN: Bro. Joe Henry Franks,  
Sis. Della Parris, Bro. Thomas Cloer, Sis.  
Faye Nations.

RESOLUTIONS: CHAIRMAN: Sis. Mary Dehart Bro.  
Ben Cockran, Bro. Asbury Herron, Sis. Pauline  
Adams.

Moved and seconded to adjourn Conference until  
1:00 P.M.

Song: "Hide Me Rock Of Ages."

Sermon: Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.

Friday Afternoon

Met on time 1:00 P.M.

Song: "When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder."

Devotional: Rev. Cecil Campbell Romans 12th Chapter.

Reports were read and adopted: Election of new clerk for the coming year and the remainder of this session. Mrs. Clyde Nations Jr. elected.

Conference adjourned until Saturday Morning 10:00 A. M.

Saturday Morning

Met on time August 17th 1963, 10:00 A.M.

Devotional: Rev. Ben Cockran, 3rd Chapter 2nd Peter.

Song "In The Sweet Bye and Bye."

Prayer: Bro. Fred Winchester

The house was announced in order by the Moderator. The following reports were assigned.

EDUCATION: Chairman: Sis. Ethel Messer, Sis. Ollie Greene, Sis. Lexie Winchester.

OBITUARIES: Chairman: Bro. Wibb Greene, Sis. Lexie Winchester, Bro. Albert Parris.

CHANGES: Chairman: Bro. Arvel Dehart, Rev. Albert Herron, Bro. Collins Greene.

SESSIONS: Chairman: Bro. Fred Winchester, Bro. Zeb Brondle, Bro. Asbury Herron.

MINISTERIAL CHARACTER: Chairman: Bro. Albert Parris, Bro. Fred Barker, Bro. Fred Winchester.

Saturday morning session continued:

Floor was opened for Field Worker: Rev. Claude Bridges was elected.

Rev. Ben Cockran acted as Moderator since the Present moderator was up for nomination.

Ministers reports were read.

Moved and seconded for conference to adjourn until the evening 1:00 P.M.

Sermon: Rev. Albert Herron

### Saturday Evening

House was announced in order: 1:00 P.M. on time.

Song: "I Need The Prayers."

Reports were read and adopted: Floor was opened for new ordaining council. The following were appointed and elected:

Rev. Ben Cockran Mt. Vernon Church Pastor

Rev. Albert Herron Conleys Creek Church Pastor

Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr. Saw Mill Hill Pastor

Floor was opened for Moderator for the coming year. Clyde Nation, Jr. Re-elected.

New Assistant Moderator: Rev. Ben Cockran

Moved and seconded for conference to adjourn until Friday before the third Sunday in August 1964.

Sermon: Rev. E. I. Greene

Reports were read as follows:

TEMPERANCE: We the committee on Temperance do recommend Temperance in all things and soberiness in all ages. We also believe that Temperance begins in the home.

SABBATH SCHOOLS: We your committee on Sabbath schools recommend that each church appoint a committee to examine our literature from time to time. To make sure it is based on the King James Version of the Bible, and to make sure nothing creeps in that we do not want taught to our children. We urge our people to take a part and help build up our Sunday schools and to make sure our teachers are dedicated Christians.

RESOLUTIONS: We resolve to be better Christians in the coming years. And to do all that we can to build up our churches.

ORPHANAGES: This committee urges that each church give a monthly offering for the orphans of each community. We feel that each chairman of its deacon board should look after this matter and take care of the money and see that it is used properly.

MISSIONS: We your committee on missions do urge our churches to contribute as much as possible to missions. Both home and foreign missions are important in our church. In Matthew 28, 19-20, "Jesus said, Go Ye therefore and teach all nations baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and Lo, I, am with you alway even to the end of the world Amen.

ARRANGEMENTS: Alternate-Rev. Ben Cockran  
Afternoon-Aug. 16th-Rev. Cecil Campbell  
Morning-Aug. 17th-Rev. Albert Herron  
Afternoon-Aug. 17th-Rev. Leonard Mayfield

EDUCATION: We urge both young and old to seek wisdom and understanding by prayer and faith through God Almighty. \*\*\*\*\*Continued next page

EDUCATION: Continued-----Read and understand the King James Version of the Bible. With standing and revised literature, if any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that gives to all liberally, upbradith not, and it shall be given him. James 1,5  
OBITUARIES: Conleys Creek: Bro. Lee Childers Dec. 27, 1962.

Mt. Vernon: Sis. Elminia Greene, Nov. 8, 1962. Saw Mill Hill: Not any

Beaver Creek: Unknown

CHANGES: Conleys Creek: Built rest rooms, Cost, \$20.00.

Mt. Vernon: Built Sunday School rooms, Incomplete-2 Complete-2, Cost \$1,105.00

Saw Mill Hill: Boxed eves of the church.

Beaver Creek: Unknown

SESSIONS: Next session will be held with the Mount Vernon Church, Alarka, N. C. On Friday before the third Sunday in Aug., 1964. Annual sermon by Rev. Ben Cockran, Alternate: Rev. Albert Herron. In the event the church cannot take care of it, it will convene with the Beaver Creek Church, Andrews, N.C.

Ministerial Character: These ministers are in good standing with the Association:

Rev. Ben Cockran

Rev. Claude Bridges

Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.

Rev. Albert Herron

Rev. Lelon Greene

Rev. Roy Greene

Rev. Joe Greene

Rev. E. L. Greene

Rev. Clyde Nations, Sr.

Rev. John Hicks

## CHURCH LETTERS

Conleys Creek Free Will Baptist Church:

To the Western Annual Association which meets at the Saw Mill Hill Church. We send as delegates the following: Collins Greene, Annie Greene, Mary Brown, Robert O'Dear, Cora Herron, Gladys Harris, Ethel Messer, Asbury Herron, Albert Parris, Della Parris, Mary Parris.

Pastor; Rev. Albert Herron

Superintendent: Bro. Robert O'Dear

Clerk & Sect. Ethel Messer No. of Classes-3

No. of Deacons: 5 Membership-52

Deaths-1 Revivals-1

## Financial Table

Light Bill-	\$21.60
Flowers-	\$10.30
Minutes-	\$10.00
Revivals and visiting ministers-	\$21.40
Song Books-	\$18.00
Paid Pastor-	\$20.47
Testaments-	\$14.85
Other Expenses-	\$18.60
Church Valuation-	\$2,500.00
Ethel Messer-----Clerk	

## Saw Mill Hill Church Letter:

To the Western Association of F.W.B which convened with Saw Mill Hill Church, Lauada, N.C. Aug. 16th & 17th, 1963. Delegates: Ethel Hall, Sue Cooper, Ellen Winchester, Annis Tuck, Arvel Dehart, Fred Winchester, Lawrence Winchester, Lexie Winchester, Roy Greggs, Rachel Greggs, Faye Nations, Mrs. Nellie Lowe, Mary Dehart, Thelma Dehart, Jean Winchester, Dessie Mae Parton

Membership received--7 Baptised----5

Dismissed-----0 Total Membership--59

No. of teachers---5 No. of officers---7

Average No. of pupils--50 prayer meetings-good:

Sunday School-----Good

## Saw Mill Hill Church Letter Continued:

## Financial Table

Pastors Salary:	\$905.03
Paid Evangelist:	\$ 95.59
Field Minister:	\$ 5.00
Building Repairs:	\$156.31
Church Expenses:	\$297.21
Minutes:	\$ 10.00
Needy:	\$ 28.00
Total Paid Out:	\$1,497.14
Total Collected:	\$1,621.07
Balance in Treasure:	\$ 123.93

Church Valuation: \$6,000.00

Ministers belonging to our church: Rev. E. L. Greene, Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.

Pastor: Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.

Done in order of the Saw Mill Hill Church on the 16th day of August, 1963.

Moderator: Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.

Clerk: Rachel Greggs.

## Beaver Creek Church Letter Andrews, N.C.

Delegates: Joe Henry Franks, Alvah Franks, Pauline Adams, Robert Freeman, Lorene Wise, Rev. Paul Mayfield.

Pastor: Rev. Leonard Mayfield

Clerk: Pauline Adams-Andrews, N. C.

Membership: 73 Increase---6 Decrease--1

Supt: Charles Gibson, Jr. Sect. & Tres.---

Lorene Wise Pianist: Lois Ann Hardin No.

Classes: 5 Average Attendance: 52

## Financial Report

Pastors Salary:	\$ 231.32
Church and Sunday School:	\$ 515.09
Childrens Home:	\$ 25.00
Sick and Needy:	\$ 126.75
Minutes:	\$ 10.00
Revival:	\$ 62.35
Visiting Ministers:	\$ 189.06
Flowers:	\$ 27.03
Total:	\$1,182.60

Church Valuation: \$6,000.00

Ministers belonging to our church: Rev. Paul Mayfield.



Mt. Vernon Church Letter      Date Aug. 10, 1963

To the yearly meeting of Free Will Baptist, which convened with the Saw Mill Hill Church at Lauada, N.C. Aug. 16th and 17th, 1963. We send as delegates our beloved brethern: Furman Cockran, Russell Cloer, Claude Bridges, Albert Herron, Fred Barker, Zeb Brendle, Thurman Greene, Harold Bridges, Ollie Greene, Ben Cockran, Charles McGaha, Norma Lee McGaha, Alton Greene, Dorothy Greene, Wubb Greene, Thomas Cloer, Whom we pray you to receive to sit with you in your Godly deliberation.

State of Religion\* Free Will Baptist  
 Membership- Received this year--None  
 Baptised--none      Dismissed--1      Deceased--1  
 Total Membership---168      Prayer meeting--Good  
 Sunday School---Good  
 Average No. of Pupils----85      No. of Officers-3  
 No. of teachers--6

## Financial Report

Paid Pastor:	\$ 121.53
Paid Evangelist:	\$ 75.00
Heat and Lights:	\$ 80.00
Free Labor	665 Hrs.
Building & Repairs:	\$1,105.36
Literature:	\$ 45.00
Janitor:	\$ 60.00
Total:	\$1,487.89
Church Valuation:	\$4,800.00

Ministers belonging to our church: Rev. Ben Cockran, Rev. Albert Herron, Rev. Claude Bridges, Rev. Joe Greene, Rev. LeLon Greene, Rev. John Hicks, Rev. Clyde Nations, Sr.

Pastors name: Rev. Ben Cockran, Rt. 2, Bryson City, N.C.

Done in order at Mt. Vernon Church, in conference this 10th day of Aug. 1963.

Money in treasure for building fund: \$202.71

Rev. Ben Cockran--Moderator  
 Thomas Cloer--Clerk

## Ministers Reports:

Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr. Aug. 19-1962-Aug.14-1963

Pastor of the Saw Mill Hill Baptist Church .  
 Attended regular services and two revivals in  
 own church. Total: 139 services.  
 Preached 59 sermons at Saw Mill Hill  
 Baptised- 5 Conducted one funeral  
 Offering received as salary- \$905.03  
 Offerings handed to me outside of church not  
 included. Held 2 revivals. Alaska Free Will  
 Offering \$10.00. Panther Creek Missionary Bap-  
 tist offering \$25.00.  
 Attended regular singing services in our  
 association. Preached and sang in different  
 churches in this area several times. Offerings  
 not totaled.

Rev. Albert Herron: During the past year I have  
 performed one marriage ceremony. I am now  
 pastoring the Conleys Creek Church. The rest  
 of my work has been in my home church.

Rev. Ben Cockran: Pastor of Mt. Vernon F.W.B.  
 Church. Revivals-2 Miles traveled-70  
 Wedding ceremonies-2 Offerings received-  
 \$126.53 conversions-5 Given for the cause of  
 Christ-\$18.00 No. Baptised-none Homes prayed  
 in-6 Sermon-32.

Note To The Church at Saw Mill Hill:

We wish to thank all of you for your  
 kindness, good food and warm welcome. We also  
 enjoyed our visit and the association. Hope  
 to see all of you again next year. May God  
 richly bless all of you.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

ARTICLE 1: The Bible-Scriptures of the old and new testaments were given by inspiration of God; and our infallible rule of faith and practice.

ARTICLE 2: God-There is one true and living God revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, Righteous Governor of the Universe; and in the scriptures as the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, yet as one God. Infinitely wise and good whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love and adore and obey.

ARTICLE 3: Christ-Christ is manifest in the flesh. In his divine nature, truly God in his human nature, truly Man. The mediator between God and man. Crucified; He is risen and Glorified, and is our ever present Savior and Lord.

ARTICLE 4: The Holy Spirit-The scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit, all attributes of God. He is the Reprover, Comforter, Guide, and Sanctifier, of man.

ARTICLE 5: The Government of God-God exercises wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution of law and nature. He also performs special acts of grace not otherwise provided for as the highest welfare requires.

ARTICLE 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.

ARTICLE 7: The Word of God: The Son of God by His incarnation; Life, Suffering, Death, and resurrection, offered for all a redemption from sin. That is full and free and is the ground of all salvation by Faith.

# ARTICLES OF FAITH CONTINUED:

ARTICLE 8: The Terms of Salvation-The terms of Salvation are repentance and sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. Faith of the unreserved of one self to Christ as Saviour and Lord, with the purpose to love and obey him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the damnation of sin and become a child of God; in continuation of Faith, and obedience until death.

ARTICLE 9: Election-God determined; and from the beginning to save all who should comply the conditions of salvation. Hence by Faith in Christ, man become his elect.

ARTICLE 10: Freedom of the Will-The human will is free and self-controlled. Having to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit; of to resist them and perish.

ARTICLE 11: Salvation Free-God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all the Holy Spirit strives with all, and who-soever will come and take the water of life freely.

ARTICLE 12: Preserverance-All believers in Christ, who through grace, preserves in Holiness to the end of life, have the promise of salvation.

ARTICLE 13: Gospel Ordinance-Baptism or the immersion of believers in water and the Lords Supper, are ordinates to be perpetuated under the Gospel of universal obligation and to all true believers

ARTICLE 14: The Christians Sabbath-The devine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements for rest, worship Holy works, and activites and personal communion with God.

ARTICLE 15: Resurrection, Judgement, and final Retribution-The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day.



(BY-LAWS)

1. Each session of this conference shall be called to order by the standing clerk, and at his absence by the member having seniority of years.

2. Each session and adjourned sitting shall be opened by prayer.

3. Seven members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but any less may adjourn from time to time.

4. After the opening of each session of the Yearly Meeting the Moderator takes the chair if he is not present, a chairman is appointed. A committee is chosen of not less than three persons, to examine the credentials for membership in this Yearly Meeting, and shall proceed to elect a Moderator, and to the transaction of other business.

5. At each session the Yearly Meeting shall appoint such standing committees as shall be for the good of our denomination, on subjects as the following: Sabbath Schools, Temperance, Ministry, and all business shall be reported to the appointed committees. Special committees may be appointed at the pleasure of the Yearly Meeting.

6. The Yearly Meeting may sit with open doors, except when it shall go into committee of the whole.

7. This Yearly Meeting shall hold correspondence with other Yearly Meetings or religious bodies as it may seem advisable.

8. Any person not a member of this Yearly Meeting may be allowed to take part in its discussion by obtaining permission of the body.

9. Any Christian in good standing of their own church, in other denomination, may be invited to seats.

10. It shall be the duty of the standing clerk to furnish the minutes of the previous session of the Yearly Meeting and a full report in the year book.

11. The Yearly Meeting shall determine the time of the opening and closing of the daily session.

(BY\*LAWS) Continued

12. It shall be the duty of each member to be present at the time of the opening and closing of each session, unless released by the Yearly Meeting.

13. No member shall retire from the session to go out, without leave of the Moderator.

14. Every member wishing to speak in the session shall obtain permission of the Moderator and address the Moderator.

15. No person shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes at any time, nor more than twice on the same subject, without leave of the Yearly Meeting.

16. No debate shall be allowed motion except the same be submitted in writing and seconded by the member of the Yearly Meeting.

17. No whispering can be allowed while in session without leave of the Moderator. All must give heed to the business.

18. No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one person on any committee; provided the member nominated be elected.

19. A majority of the members in session shall be the power of rule. But a respectable majority may take an appeal to the General Conference.

20. This constitution and by-laws may be alternated or amended at any Yearly Meeting, provided such alternations or amendments shall have been proposed at the previous session.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to the Lord through Jesus Christ, we agree to adopt the Free-Will Baptist Faith. We now give ourselves to each other by the help of God.

We solemnly covenant before God that we will carefully observe the commandments implied in a profession of faith, and in the spirit of meekness, rebuke and admonish those who have gone astray, and watch over each other, being careful of each other's reputation.

(CHURCH COVENANT Continued)

Using our advancement for the cause of Christ. Endeavoring to seek the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, and to confess our faults one to another and to strengthen those that are weak.

We promise, by the help of God that we will faithfully practice family and secret prayer and strive to cultivate the doctrine of God's revealed word, in the minds of those under our care.

We also agree to use our influence for the support of the Gospel and to contribute liberally to aid the Ministry according to our several abilities. Also we agree to be liberal with those that are afflicted and needy, and especially those of our Faith.

We also agree to attend the monthly meetings, regularly if not providentially hindered. Submit to all ordinances implied in a profession of Faith.

We also agree to abstain from all sinful and vain amusements.

We also agree to abstain from all intoxicating liquids, and not to use it as a beverage, or to aid or to assist in the manufacture of such, nor to furnish it to others.

We also agree to encourage home and foreign missions.

FAYE NATIONS\*

Association Clerk

We hope that all of you will read the minutes with deep concern and try to improve all our work from year to year.

Thank you.



