

WESTERN FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

66th ANNUAL SESSION

BY-LAYS QUARTERLY MEETING ARTICLES OF FAITH CHURCH COVENENT

AUGUST 18-19, 1972

MINUTES

of the

WESTERN FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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ARTICLES OF FAITH CHURCH COVENANT BY-LAWS

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SESSIONS

Our yearly session will be at Conleys Creek Free Will Baptist Church on Friday and Saturday before the third Sunday in August 1973. Should it not be possible to have it there, it will be at the Atoah Free Will Baptist Church.

Annual sermon will be given by Rev. Leonard Mayfield. If he is not present it will be given by Rev. Paul Mayfield.

MINUTES of the WESTERN FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Convened with the Saw Mill Hill F.W.B. Church Almond, North Carolina August 18-19, 1972

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OFF ICERS

FRIDAY MORNING

Song: "Will Jesus Find Us Watching"

Devotional: Rev. Roy Greene

Prayer: Rev. James Gunter

House was announced in order by Clerk. Delegates were seated. It was moved and seconded that the Moderator select committees, and that some of the committees be combined. They are Arrangements and Sessions and Education and Sabbath School.

Education and Sabbath School was renamed to Christian Education. Changes and Improvements and Obituaries were to be discontinued and added to the Church Letters.

SESSIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS

Chairman: Bro. Bill Russel

Members: Sis. Eloise Corbin, Bro. George Rogers,

Sis. Rachel Griggs.

Friday Afternoon......Rev. Lelon Greene Saturday Morning.......Rev. Joe Greene Saturday Afternoon.....Rev. James Gunter

Annual Sermon......Rev. Leonard Mayfield

Our first quarterly meeting will be held at Mt. Vernon F.W.B. Church October 28, 1972. Message by Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.

The second meeting will be at Atoah F.W.B. Church. Message by Rev. Joe Greene.

The third quarterly meeting will be held at Saw Mill Hill F.W.B. Church. Message by Rev. Fred Winchester.

Next year's session will be at Conleys Creek F.W.B. Church. Should it not be possible to have the session there, it will be at the Atoah F.W.B. Church.

MISSIONS

Chairman: Rev. Joe Greene

Members: Rev. Ted Laney, Sis. Eloise Corbin, Sis.

Elsie Greene, Bro. Fred Winchester

Report

We, your committee on Missions, are praying for the leadership of God's Holy Spirit to lead us, the pastors as well as the laymen, to be more concerned and aware of the needs of home and foreign missions.

We, the members of our association, feel and believe that with the financial and spiritual support of every member, we will see the Lord's work progress. We believe that according to God's Word that men everywhere must repent and call on the name of the Lord in order to be saved (Romans 10: 14; II Peter 3:9). Men will not repent and call on him except they hear the gospel, they will not hear the gospel without a preacher. A preacher will not preach except that he be sent (Romans 10:14-15). The preacher that is sent needs our financial and spiritual support...a sacrifice well pleasing to God. (Phil. 4:18, Hebrews 13:16)

Home and foreign missions - Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 1:8 - acceptable offerings;

Romans 12:1 - Our bodies a living sacrifice; Phil. 4:18 - Supporting Paul, the Missionary; Hebrews 13:13-16 - Praises to God, sharing our possessions;

I Peter 2:5 - Spiritual Sacrifices (praises)

Progress Report

Home Missions: \$448.50 - increase of \$150.49 Foreign Missions: \$406.00 - increase of \$308.00 Missionaries that visited us in 1972:

Paul Robenson - Uruguay Sandra Ogletree - Japan

TEMPERANCE

Chairman: Sister Lexie Winchester

Members: Bro. Jerry Morgan, Bro. Thurman Greene,

Bro. Glenn Eller, Bro. Floyd Watkins.

Report

We, your committee on Temperance, solemnly recommend each Church and each individual to go according to the Word of God. II Corinthians 6:14-17 as follows:

- V. 14 "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness."
- V. 15 "And what concord hath Christ with Be, li-al? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?"
- V. 16 "And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols, for you are the temple of the living God. As God hath said, I will be their God and they shall be my people!"
- V. 17 "Wherefore come out from among them and be ye separated saith the Lord and touch not the unclean thing and I will receive you."

Let us as Christians not be guilty of being busy-bodies in other men's affairs. Let the word of

my mouth and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in they sight, O God, my strength and my redeemer.

Progress Report

Each Church reports that it has carried out to the best of it's ability the recommendations of the Temperance report.

RESOLUTIONS

Chairman: Sister Fannie Eller

Members: Glenda Jones, Gail Wise, Delano Vogel,

Ruth Rogers.

Report

We, your committee on Resolutions, stand for the faith of the Free Will Baptist, endeavoring to hold the banner high for the cause of Christ and His kingdom, which without faith is impossible to please Christ. Be it resolved inasmuch as possible the preachers of our association and the Churches come together in one mind and one accord.

We, as a committee, resolve that all committees give a progress report of their decisions.

We have made one step in getting each committee to bring a progress report in. We feel that when we bring a progress report in we are doing it for the upbuilding of the kingdom of God, and backing our ministers up that are in the work of God.

Church letters were read and adopted.

Rev. Julius Hall sent a letter requesting a letter of good recommendation to another association of which he was pastoring a Church.

A letter was granted but the association asked that Rev. Hall turn in his credentials to the Western Free Will Baptist Association. Conference was adjourned until 1:00 o'clock.

Prayer by: Rev. Fred Winchester

Song: "Oh, How I Love Jesus"

Sermon by: Rev. Ted Laney (Romans 8th Chapter)

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FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Song: "When The Roll is Called Up Yonder"

Clerk opened session, committee reports were read and adopted. Session was adjourned until Saturday morning.

Dismissed by: Rev. Fred Winchester

Song: "Amazing Grace"

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SATURDAY MORNING - 10:00 o'clock

Song: "Jesus Loves the Lost"

Devotional: Rev. Claude Bridges (23rd Psalm)

Prayer by: Rev. Joe Greene

House was announced in order by Clerk. Committees were appointed.

SABBATH SCHOOLS

Chairman: Bro. Joe Greene

Members: Jerry Morgan, Jean Winchester, Thurman

Greene, Fannie Eller.

Report

We, your committee on Sabbath Schools, recommend that individual and group searching of the

King James version of the Bible should be the primary source of study in Sunday School. We think that all Sunday School superintendents, teachers, and the Pastor should check all literature to be sure it is according to the Bible. We feel that parents should take their children to Church. We feel that a lot of interest has been shown toward the young people the last year and has helped.

Average for the entire association the past year has increased 12, average 53.

ORPHANAGE

Chairman: Sister Pauline Adams

Members: Rev. Claude Bridges, Rev. Fred Winchester,

Bro. Clyde Jones, Rev. James Gunter.

Report

We, your committee on Orphanage, feel that the association should send a field worker or committee to see which Orphanage to send our support to.

We feel each Church should help children in their own community who have lost one or both parents. We feel that we must strive to win those young souls to Jesus because they will help make up the churches of tomorrow. We also recommend that our churches not forget to support and pray for our Free Will Baptist Old Folks Home at Burnsville, North Carolina.

Progress Report

A committee was appointed to visit a childrens home. Robert Odiear, Glenn Eller, Bill Russel, Clyde Nations, Jr., and Russel Cloer went to the Free Will Baptist Home for Children at Greeneville, Tennessee. Their report was good and the association accepted their report and agreed to help this Home.

Our Association helped in money with \$190.13 and different kinds of stamps.

It was moved and seconded that Changes and Improvements be discontinued. For information on this, check Church Letters.

MINISTERIAL CHARACTER

There being only one committee member here, a new committee was appointed for a report this year and next year also. An amendment was made to change committee name to Credential Committee.

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Chairman: Bro. Clyde Jones

Members: Rev. Claude Bridges, Bro. Bill Russell,

Bro. German Vogel, Bro. George Rogers.

Report

We, your committee, recommend the following:

Mt. Vernon - Rev. Lelon Greene, Rev. Claude Bridges;
Beaver Creek - Rev. Leonard Mayfield, Rev. Paul
Mayfield;

Conley's Creek - Rev. Roy Greene, Rev. Joe Greene; Saw Mill Hill - Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.;

Atoah - Rev. Glenn Eller;

Others - Rev. Ted Laney;

Licensed - Rev. Fred Winchester, Rev. James Gunter.

We, your committee, recommend that the Association do something about those that aren't attending our Association. Amendment was made and passed that the Clerk write a letter to those that have not attended and have them attend our first quarterly meeting and give a report.

OBITUARIES

Chairman: Bro. Bill Russell

Members: Bro. Roy Griggs, Sis. Sandra Smith, Sis. Rita Messer, Bro. Joe Eller, Sis. June Gibby.

Report

We, your committee on Obituaries, report the following have passed away:

Mt. Vernon - Sister Ada Bowers.

Conley's Creek - Bro. Asberry Herron, Sister Della Parris.

Atoah - Bro. Curtis Eller.

Beaver Creek - Bro. Jess Barynard.

Saw Mill Hill - None

EDUCATION

Chairman: Sis. Rachel Griggs

Members: Bro. Russel Cloer, Bro. James Gunter,

Bro. Claude Bridges, Sis. Pauline Adams.

Report

I, Rachel Griggs, as chairman of the Education Committee, report to the Association that one Church had a five-day vacation Bible school with real good attendance and one Church made contributions to the Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee the sum of \$200.35. Four churches had weekly Bible study.

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Ministers reports were read and adopted.

Field Worker's report was read and adopted.

Conference adjourned until Saturday evening.

Prayer by: Sister Rachel Griggs

Song: "Amazing Grace"

Sermon by: Rev. Joe Greene (I Peter 18th chapter)

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SATURDAY EVENING

Song: "Where He Leads I'll Follow"

House was announced in order. Committee reports were read and adopted. It was decided that each Church order the number of minutes they need for the size of their Church.

Committee members were elected for the coming year.

SESSIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS

Chairman: Bro. Bill Russell

Members: Sis. Eloise Corbin, Bro. George Rogers,

Sis. Rachel Griggs.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Chairman: Bro. Russell Cloer

Members: Bro. Robert Odiear, Bro. Glenn Eller, Bro.

Jerry Morgan, Sis. Lexie Winchester.

MISSIONS

Chairman: Rev. Joe Greene

Members: Rev. Ted Laney, Sis. Eloise Corbin, Sis.

Elsie Greene, Rev. Fred Winchester.

TEMPERANCE

Chairman: Rev. Glenn Eller

Members: Bro. Bill Russell, Bro. Arvil DeHart, Bro.

Thurman Greene, Bro. James Gunter.

RESOLUTION

Chairman: Sis. Fannie Eller

Members: Sis. June Gibby, Sis. Rachel Griggs,

Sis. Glenda Jones, Bro. Floyd Watkins

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Chairman: Bro. Clyde Jones

Members: Rev. Claude Bridges, Bro. Bill Russell,

Bro. German Vogel, Bro. George Rogers

ORPHANAGE

Chairman: Sis. Pauline Adams

Members: Rev. Claude Bridges, Rev. Fred Winchester,

Bro. Clyde Jones, Rev. James Gunter

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr., Rev. Leonard Mayfield, Rev. Glenn Eller, Rev. Lelon Greene, Rev. Joe Greene

OFFICERS

Moderator: Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.

Assistant Moderator: Rev. Lelon Greene

Clerk: Bro. Robert Odiear

Assistant Clerk: Sis. Claudette Morgan

There being no more business on hand, the Conference adjourned until Friday and Saturday before the third Sunday in August.

Song: "Oh How I Love Jesus"

Prayer: Rev. Claude Bridges

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Church Letters:

BEAVER CREEK FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

To the Western Association of Free Will

Baptists, which will convene with the Saw Mill Hill Church, August 18-19, we send as delegates: Sis. Gladys Morgan, Sis. June Gibby, Sis. Mary Russell, Sis. Fannie Hardin, Bro. Bill Russell, Bro. Herbert Bryson, Bro. Robert Morgan, Bro. Willard Hardin, Bro. Jerry Morgan, Sis. Gail Wise.

Church and Sunday School Report

Pastor: Rev. Paul Mayfield Rt. #1, Hayesville, N. C.

Clerk: Pauline Adams

New Members: 3

Dismissed: 2 by letter

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Deaths: 1

Total membership: 93

Number of classes: 5

Average attendance: 50

Sunday School Superintendent: Charles W. Gibson, Jr.

Secretary and Treasurer: Lorene Wise

Ministers who are members of our Church: Rev. Paul Mayfield, Rev. Leonard Mayfield

Financial Report

Pastor\$	098.00
Church and Sunday School expense	669.90
Visiting Minister	75.18
Visiting Singers	136.39
Flowers	32.00
Love offering	180.37
Minutes	25.00
Restrooms 2	2,000.00
Gravel for parking lot	57.00
New song books	71.93
Total \$3	3,945.77

Value of Church Property.....\$15,000.00

Done in order of Beaver Creek Free Will Baptist Church assembled in conference this sixth day of August 1972.

Moderator: Rev. Paul Mayfield Clerk: Pauline W. Adams

SAW MILL HILL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

To the Western Free Will Baptist Association which will convene with Saw Mill Hill F.W.B. Church this August 18-19, 1972, we send as delegates: Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr., Sis. Lexie Winchester, Bro. German Vogel, Sis. Delona Vogel, Sis. Ethel Hall, Bro. Roy Griggs, Sis. Rachel Griggs, Bro. Arvil DeHart, Bro. Fred Winchester, Sis. Jean Winchester, Sis. Lois King.

Church and Sunday School Report

Pastor: Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.

Clerk: Lexie Winchester

Superintendent: Arvil DeHart

Secretary: Ethel Hall Number of Revivals: 1 Church membership: 83 Active members: 60

Average attendance: 65

Number of Officers and Teachers: 9

Number of classes: 6

Increase during year: 18

By Baptism: 16 By statement: 2 Dismissed: 2

Ministers holding membership at our Church: Rev. Clyde Nations., Rev. Fred Winchester, both of Bryson City, N. C.

We have Sunday School each Sunday morning at 10:00 o'clock, Worship Service at 11:00 o'clock, also Sunday night. Prayer meeting each Wednesday night and choir practice.

Financial Report

Pastor's Salary\$	2,127.00
Visiting Evangelist	125.00
Field Worker	32.00
Love offering	350.00
Janitor	650.00
Home Missions	287.40

Foreign Missions\$	221.75
Bible College	100.25
CTS literature	117.92
Sunday School literature	122.29
Power bills	134.80
Flowers	32.55
Miscellaneous	360.19
Minutes	25.00
Total\$	4,686.15
Work done on Church	4,600.00
Total\$	9,286.15

Value of Church property.....\$30,000.00

Done in order of Saw Mill Hill Free Will Baptist Church, August 13, 1972.

Moderator: Rev. Fred Winchester

Clerk: Lexie Winchester

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ATOAH FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

To the Western Association of Free Will Baptists which will convene with the Saw Mill Hill Free Will Baptist Church on Friday and Saturday, August 18-19, we send as delegates to sit with you in conference: Rev. Glenn Eller, Bro. Vester Campbell, Sis. Fannie Eller, Sis. Eloise Corbin, Sis. Grace Hooper and Sis. Lois Eller.

Sunday School Report

Pastor: Rev. Claude Bridges...... \$450.00 Rt. 2, Bryson City, N. C.

Clerk: Mrs. Olean Beasley Treasurer: Hugh Beasley Song leader: Jim Eller Superintendent: Bill Corbin

Secretary: Olean Beasley
Number of active members: 4

Number of officers and teachers: 7

Number of classes: 3
Average attendance: 50

Number of Deacons: 3

Increased: 1
Decreased: 2

Ministers holding membership in our Church: Rev. Glenn Eller, Rt. 1, Robbinsville, N. C.

Financial Report

Offering for Pastor\$	511.38
Visiting Preacher	21.50
Sick and needy in community	100.00
Flowers	44.98
Insurance on Church	28.00
Minutes	23.60
Literature	35.56
Light bills	63.52
Oil bill	122.40
Christmas	53.46
Gift to old mother Church	12.50
Miscellaneous	18.76
Burner repairs	6.00
Piano tuning and repair	20.30
Total $\$1$,061.61

Value of Church property......\$8,000.00

Done in order of Atoah Free Will Baptist Church, August 5, 1972.

Moderator: Bro. Brad Wiggens Clerk: Mrs. Olean Beasley

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MT. VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

To the Western Free Will Baptist Association which will convene with the Saw Mill Hill F.W.B. Church on Friday and Saturday, August 18-19, 1972; we send as delegates for Friday: Rev. Lelon Greene, Sis. Elsie Greene, Sis. Carolyn Cloer, Sis. Glenda Jones, Sis. Ollie Greene, Bro. Thurman Greene, Bro. Russell Cloer. For Saturday: Bro. Clyde Jones, Rev. Lelon Greene, Sis. Elsie Greene, Bro. Russell

Cloer, Bro. Thurman Greene, whom we pray sit with you in Godly deliberations.

Sunday School Report

Religion: King James Version

Part-time Pastor: Rev. Lelon Greene Superintendent: Bro. Thurman Greene

Assistant Superintendent: Bro. Leonard Waldroup

Secretary and Treasurer: Sis. Carolyn Cloer

Clerk: Sis. Carolyn Cloer

Letters granted: 3

Deaths: 1 Increased: 3 Baptized: 1

Officers and Teachers: 7

Sunday School: fair

Average number of attendance: 60 Literature: Free Will Baptist

Ministers belonging to our Church: Rev. Lelon Greene, Rev. Claude Bridges, Rev. Albert Herron, Rev. Clyde Nations, Sr.

Financial Report

Pastor's Salary\$	547.03
Home Missions	111.00
Foreign Missions	57.00
Visiting Ministers	49.85
Minutes	23.60
Flowers	15.00
Field Worker	68.50
Janitor	120.00
Miscennaneous	144.76
Literature	105.75
Singing School	150.00
Work on Church	194.25
Light bill	102.80
0il	152.54
Insurance on Church	50.00
Offering to Baptist Hospital	50.00
Christmas gifts and treats	294.02
Offering to Children's Home	125.00
Total\$	2,361.10

Valuation of Church......\$25,000.00

Done in order of Mt. Vernon Free Will Baptist Church, Route #2, Bryson City, N. C.

Moderator: Rev. Lelon Greene Clerk: Sis. Carolyn Cloer

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CONLEY'S CREEK FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

To the Western Association of Free Will Baptist which will convene with the Saw Mill Hill Free Will Baptist Church, we send as delegates to sit with you in conference: Rev. Joe Greene, Rev. James Gunter, Bro. Robert Odiear, Sis. Brenda Brooks, Sis. Rita Messer, Sis. Cora Herron, Sis. Ruth Rogers, Bro. George Rogers, Bro. Floyd Watkins, Sis. Ethel Messer.

Sunday School Report

Pastor: Rev. Lelon Greene (part-time)

Superintendent: Robert Odiear

Clerk: Brenda Brooks

Secretary and Treasurer: Edna Odiear

No. of Deacons: 4
No. of classes: 4

Increased: 7
Revivals: 1

Letters granted: 2

Deaths: 2

Average attendance: 38

Membership: 69

Ministers holding membership in our Church: Rev. Roy Greene, Rev. Herbert Nations, Rev. James Gunter, Rev. Joe Greene, Rev. Worley Wikle, Rev. Jay Burnette.

Financial Report

Paid to Pastor\$	255.63
Field Worker	10.00
Flowers	41.60

Light bill\$	31.60
Literature	26.68
Minutes	23 .6 0
Home Missions	116.50
Children's Home	65.13
Janitor	53.00
Christmas expense	94.02
Oil bill	30.01
Visiting Ministers	131.97
Visiting Singers	15.50
Miscellaneous	14.23
Total\$	909.47

Valuation of Church......\$3,500.00

Moderator: Rev. Joe Greene

Clerk: Brenda Brooks

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Field Worker's Report:

To the Western Association of Free Will Baptists 66th Annual Session.

Dear Brothers in Christ,

I have enjoyed working with you the past 12 months. I have tried to visit each Church as much as I could, and I hope I have helped each one in some way.

We have had our quarterly meetings for the first time in many years and I believe we have seen some good done.

I have enjoyed preaching in all the Churches I have been in and I believe the spirit of the Lord was there. I would like to see each Church grow in spirit, better fellowship and the preachers working together more and every one love the Lord and each other more.

I have seen souls saved, baptized 15, preached and helped with several funerals.

I have received over \$300.00 in offerings and I traveled many hundreds of miles and the Lord has blessed me and been good to me.

Your Brother in Christ,

Rev. Ted Laney Rt. 2, Box 100-H Marion, N. C. 28752 Phone 783-4583

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Ministers Letters:

To the Western Free Will Baptist Association which will convene at Saw Mill Hill Church August 18-19, 1972.

I have pastored Conley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church two Sundays a month and Mt. Vernon Free Will Baptist Church two Sundays a month for the past year and I thank God for the many times he has blessed me. And now I'm just pastoring Mt. Vernon. I desire the prayers of each and every child of God and I will pray for you. I didn't keep down all my mileage or any of my offerings but they are in the Church letters.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Lelon W. Greene

To the Western Free Will Baptist Association.
I have visited and prayed with the sick. I
have married two couples and traveled a number of
miles.

Yours Brother in Christ,

Rev. Leonard Mayfield Rt. #1, Hayesville, N. C.

To the Western Association of Free Will Baptists, Greetings:

I am Pastor at Atoah Free Will Baptist Church at Robbinsville, N. C.

We have been struggling along there for five years. We need the help of all the other Churches along with your prayers. As Paul was called upon one day when the Man from Macedonia said to him, "Won't you come over and help us?" We especially

welcome you to Atoah anytime.

In the last year I have made from Alarka to Atoah 58 trips, preached 38 sermons and had lots of visiting preachers, held 1 revival, received \$450.00.

We are going to try to do better this coming year by God's help.

Rev. Claude Bridges

August 19, 1972

To the Western Association which convenes with Saw Mill Hill Church, 18-19 of August 1972. I, Clyde Nations, Jr., report to the Association's yearly meeting, my transactions and work for the past year.

I have pastored the Saw Mill Hill Church the past year and have witnessed a lot of work and progress in our Church and thank God for it.

I visit with our members in the hospital and neighbors not belonging to our Church with hope that my life will be a light enough to lead at least some of them to the Lord.

I have received approximately \$2,500.00 Pastor's salary and numbers of love offerings from the Church and outsiders. The Lord has been good to me and I thank him for all He's done and I'm sure He will continue to bless me as I continue on in $\underline{\text{His}}$ Way.

I have baptized 16 precious people and married 4 couples.

God bless you all is my prayer.

Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.

To the Western Free Will Baptist Association's Annual Meeting August 18-19, 1972.

I, Evangelist Fred Winchester, submit the following report:

Answered the call to the Ministry January 30, 1972; I have been asked to preach in a Church every Sunday since I answered the call to the Ministry. Due to my illness have only fulfilled eleven (11) of those calls. At present have six (6) appointments to fulfill if it be the Lord's Will.

I have attended six (6) revivals, assisted in two funerals, conducted night prayer services while confined to Oteen V.A. Hospital in which had two (2) rededications. Moderated service to elect new Pastor, officers and teachers for the next fiscal year.

Have been much in prayer to God pleading to be of some service to our Association. I believe in and preach the King James Version of the Bible.

Yours brother in Christ,

Evang. Fred Winchester

To the Western Carolina Association:
In behalf of the Friendly Free Will Baptist
Church and the Pastor, Rev. Elmer White, and Coworker, Rev. Clyde Nations, Sr., we have a membership of 19. About 10 made a confession, 5 baptized
and 11 joined the Church. We have averaged preaching two times a week. We are now making plans to
build a new Church just out of Morganton, N. C.

We are sorry we can't attend the Association but due to things that hinder us, we can't be there.

Rev. Elmer White Rev. Clyde Nations

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QUARTERLY MEETINGS

October 28, 1972

Mt. Vernon Free Will Baptist Church

Song: It's A Grand and Glorious Feeling"

Devotion: Rev. Lelon Greene

Prayer: Bro. Robert Odiear

House was announced in order by Clerk, unfinished business was taken care of. Rev. Elmer

White was excused and put off until next quarterly meeting. Rev. Jay Burnette was in the hospital and sent a letter. His letter was read and it was moved and seconded that he prove himself until our next annual session and be put back in good standing with the Association if he proves to be doing God's Will.

Rev. Albert Herron and Rev. Herbert Nations were not present so Clerk was to write for credentials.

Rev. Worley Wikle's letter was read and since he was present he gave a report. It was moved and seconded that a credential committee go down to South Carolina and check his life as a minister and give a report. If they give a good report put him back in good standing with the Association at next annual session.

Rev. Clyde Nations, Sr. gave his report and asked for his credentials back that had burned up in his house; request was granted.

Sermon: Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.

Song: "Amazing Grace"

Prayer: Rev. Joe Greene

Moderator: Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.

Clerk: Robert Odiear

BY-LAWS

- 1. Each session of this Conference shall be called to order by the Standing Clerk, and in his absence by the member having seniority of years.
- 2. Each session and adjourned sitting shall be opened and closed by prayer.
- 3. Seven members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but any less number 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 of not less than three persons shall be chosen to examine the credentials for membership in this Yearly Meeting. After the report of this committee and enrollment of members present, the Yearly Meeting 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 such as the following: Printing, Establishments, Education, Sabbath Schools, Temperance, Ministry, Missions, etc. All business shall be reported to the appropriate committee. Special committees may be appointed at the pleasure of the Yearly Meeting.
- 6. The Yearly Meeting may hold correspondence with other Yearly Meetings or Religious bodies as it may seem advisable.
- 7. This Yearly Meeting may sit with open doors except when it shall go into committee of the whole.
- 8. Any person not a member of this Yearly Meeting may be allowed to take part in its discussions by obtaining permission of the body.
- 9. Any Christian in good standing in their own church in other denominations 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 record in the yearbook.
- 11. The Yearly Meeting shall determine the time of the opening and closing of the daily sessions.
- 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 Moderator.
- 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 first obtain leave 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 on any motion except the same be submitted in writing and seconded by a member of the Yearly Meeting.
- 17. No whispering can be allowed while in session without leave of the Moderator. All must give heed to 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. A respectable majority may take an appeal to the General Conference.
- 20. This Constitution and By-Laws may be altered or amended at any Yearly Session, provided such alteration or amendment shall have been proposed at the previous session.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

ARTICLE 1:

THE BIBLE: The scripture of the Old and New Testament were given by inspiration of God and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

ARTICLE 2:

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

ARTICLE 3:

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 ever present Saviour 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 laws of 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, inheriting a fallèn nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability, sin and become guilty before God.

ARTICLE 7:

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

ARTICLE 8:

THE TERMS OF SALVATION: The conditions of salvation are repentance or sorrow for sin and the hearty renunciation of it. Faith of the unreserved committal of one's 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 domination of sin and becomes a child of God in the continuance of faith and obedience until death.

ARTICLE 9:

ELECTION: God determined and from the beginning, to save all who comply with the conditions of salvation, hence by faith in Christ men 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 Spirit or 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 whosoever will may come and take the water of life freely.

ARTICLE 12:

PERSEVERANCE: All believers in Christ who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life have the promise of salvation.

ARTICLE 13:

GOSPEL ORDINANCES: Baptism or the immersion of believers in water and the Lord's Supper are ordinates to be perpetuated under the Gospel of universal obligation and to be administered to all true believers.

ARTICLE 14:

THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH: The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employment

and amusements for rest, worship, Holy works, and activities, and personal communion with God.

ARTICLE 15:

RESURRECTION, JUDGMENT, AND FINAL RETRIBUTION: The scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done evil unto the resurrection of judgment; these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

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 given ourselves to one another by will of God in this solemn covenant.

We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearances of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverates, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and public worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for Church Conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel; nor fail to give according to our ability for the support of the Church and all its benevolent work. 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 of one another's happiness and reputation, and 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 and obligations supreme, esteem it our chief business to make Christ known to the world, and constantly pray and toil that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

To this end we agree to cooperate in the promotion of denominational institutions and enterprises, and the support of the work of the local church, and the evangelization of the world.

May the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

