

Ronald Creech

MINUTES OF THE

**WESTERN
FREE WILL
BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION**

67th ANNUAL SESSION

1973

BY-LAWS
QUARTERLY MEETING
ARTICLES OF FAITH
CHURCH COVENANT

AUGUST 17-18, 1973

M I N U T E S
of the
WESTERN FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
67th ANNUAL SESSION
Held with the
CONLEY'S CREEK FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Conley's Creek, North Carolina
August, 17, 18, 1973

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1974 Session will be held with
ATOAH FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Robbinsville, North Carolina
August 16, 18.

M I N U T E S

of the

WESTERN FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Held with the Conley's Creek F. W. B. C.

August 17 and 18, 1973

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OFFICERS:

Moderator.....Rev. Ted Laney
Assistant Moderator.....Rev. Lelon Greene
Clerk.....German Vogel
Assistant Clerk.....Delona Vogel
Field Worker.....Rev. Joe Green

August 17

Song: "Lord Lead Me On"

Devotion: Acts 23:11

Prayer: Rev. Leonard Lindsey

The house was announced in order by the Clerk.

The delegates were seated.

Rev. Leonard Mayfield was added as delegate for
Beaver Creek Church.

Bro. Russel Cloer was added as delegate for
Mount Vernon Church.

Motion made, seconded, and carried that committees
appointed last year be abolished, and new committees
be appointed.

Motion made, seconded, and carried that all commit-
tees be appointed on Friday, and that all reports
be given on Saturday.

Motion made, seconded, and carried to adjourn until 1:00 o'clock.

MORNING SERVICE

Prayer: Bro. Zeb Brendle
Sermon: Rev. Leonard Mayfield
(II Timothy 2:13)

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Song: "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"
The house was announced in order by the Clerk.
Our visiting ministers were recognized, and opportunity was given to testify.

Sessions and arrangement report was read and adopted.

Field worker's report was read and adopted.

Motion made, seconded, and carried to adjourn conference until Saturday morning.

AFTERNOON SERVICE

Prayer: Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.
Sermon: Rev. Leonard Lindsey

COMMITTEES:

Sessions and Arrangements:

Chairman: Rev. James Gunter
Members: Gladys Morgan, Rev. Glenn Eller,
Bro. German Vogel, Bro. Russell Cloer.

Christian Education:

Chairman: Rev. Jay Burnett
Members: Rev. Glenn Eller, Bro. Bill Russel,
Sis. Ethel Hall, Bro. James Hall.

Missions:

Chairman: Bro. Bill Russell
Members: Sis. Eloise Corbin, Sis. Ethel Hall,
Bro. George Rogers, Bro. Zeb Brendle.

Temperance:

Chairman: Bro. Thurman Greene

Members: Sis. Desie Mae Parton, Bro. Robert Odiear,
Sis. Fannie Eller, Rev. Leonard Mayfield.

Resolution:

Chairman: Delona Vogel

Members: Sis. Eloise Corbin, Sis. Claudette Morgan,
Sis. Mary Franklin, Bro. Floyd Watkins.

Credential Committee:

Chairman: Bro. Thurman Greene

Members: Sis. Fannie Eller, Bro. Bill Russell,
Bro. German Vogel, Bro. George Rogers.

Ordaining Council:

Chairmen: Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr., Rev. Joe Greene,
Rev. Leonard Mayfield, Rev. Glenn Eller,
Rev. Lelon Greene, Rev. Ted Laney.

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SATURDAY MORNING

August 18

Song: "I'll Live In Glory".

Devotion: Rev. Glenn Eller

Prayer: Rev. Joe Green

House was announced in order by the Clerk.

Some Committee reports were read and adopted.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to adjourn
until 1:o'clock.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Song: "Amazing Grace"

Prayer: Robert Odiear

The House was announced in order by the Clerk.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the

Committee reports be adopted without reading them.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the
present ordaining council serve another term and that
the Rev. Ted Laney be added to the council.

Officers for the following fiscal year were elected.

Moderator:.....Rev. Ted Laney
Assistant Moderator:.....Rev. Lelon Greene
Clerk:.....Bro. German Vogel
Assistant Clerk:.....Rev. Joe Green

AFTERNOON SERVICE

Prayer: Rev. Lelon Greene
Sermon: Rev. Ted Laney

The afternoon service was combined with an ordination service for Rev. James Gunter.

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CHURCH LETTERS

Atoah Free Will Baptist Church

To the Western Association of Free Will Baptists who will convene with Conley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church on Friday and Saturday, August 17th and 18th, we send as delegates to sit with you in Conference:

Rev. Glenn Eller, Sis. Fannie Eller, Sis. Eloise Corbin, for Friday.

Bro. Leonard Lovin, Bro. Vincent Odoms, Bro. Billy Farley, Bro. Bill Corbin, Sis. Mildred Wiggins, Sis. Christine Farley, for Saturday.

Sunday School Report:

Pastor: Rev. Claude Bridges
S. S. Superintendent: Billy Corbin
Clerk: Olean Beasley
Song Leader: Jim Eller
Secretary: Olean Beasley and Grace Hooper
Number of active members.....55
Number of officers and teachers..... 7
Number of Deacons..... 4
Members increased.....20
Members decreased.....(by letter)..... 1
Members holding membership: Rev. Glenn Eller,
Route 1, Robbinsville, N. C.

Financial Report:

Offering for Pastor.....	\$ 550.00
Visiting preachers.....	73.04
Sick and needy.....	120.00
Revival.....	64.00
Insurance on Church.....	28.00
Missions.....	20.00
Heart Fund.....	10.00
Minutes.....	23.00
Literature.....	37.77
Utilities.....	194.67
Flowers.....	36.10
Christmas.....	95.21
Miscellaneous.....	41.08
Piano.....	832.00
Total.....	\$2,041.68

Church valuation.....\$1,200.00

Done in order of Atoah Free Will Baptist Church,
August 5, 1973.

Moderator: Bro. Vester Campbell

Clerk: Olean Beasley

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Beaver Creek Free Will Baptist Church

To the Western Association of Free Will Baptists,
which will convene with the Conley's Creek Free Will
Baptist Church, August 17-18, 1973, we send as
delegates: Sis. Gladys Morgan, Sis. Claudette
Morgan, Sis. Pauline Adams, Bro. Bill Russell,
Sis. Lily Allison.

Church and Sunday School Report:

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

Clerk: Clara Mae Gibson

New Members:..... 18

Dismissed:.....(by letter)..... 3

Deaths:..... 1

Total Membership.....108

Number of Classes..... 5
 Average attendance.....50
 Sunday School Superintendent: Jerry Morgan
 Secretary and Treasurer: Lorene Wise
 Ministers who are members of our Church:
 Rev. Paul Mayfield, Rev. Leonard Mayfield

Financial Report:

Pastor.....	\$ 768.00
Visiting Ministers.....	14.55
Janitor.....	220.00
Visiting Singers.....	96.95
Field Worker.....	30.00
Visiting Minister for Revival.....	94.84
Love Offering.....	179.59
Church Insurance.....	28.00
Power and Lights.....	70.57
Fuel Bill.....	256.83
Church Expenses.....	107.34
Flowers.....	36.55
Sunday School Literature.....	87.15
Christmas Treats.....	32.11
Tuning of old piano.....	10.00
Paid off bank note on church restrooms....	476.00
Bought new piano.....	818.48
Total.....	\$3,327.96

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

Done in order of Beaver Creek Free Will Baptist
Church on August 12, 1973.

Moderator: Rev. Paul Mayfield
 Clerk: Clara Mae Gibson

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Conley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church

To the Western Free Will Baptist Association which
 will convene with Conley's Creek Free Will Baptist
 Church on Friday and Saturday, August 17th and 18th,
 1973, we send as delegates: Rev. James Gunter,
 Rev. Joe Green, Rev. Lelon Greene, Bro. Robert

Odiear, Bro. Carroll Estes, Bro. Floyd Watkins,
Bro. George Rogers, Bro. Johnny Rogers, Bro.
Jimmy Messer, and Bro. Douglas Odiear.

Sunday School Report:

Pastor: Rev. Lelon Greene (since Feb. 1973)

Superintendent: Robert Odiear

Clerk: Edna Odiear

Secretary and Treasurer: Edna Odiear

Number of Deacons.....	4
Number of classes.....	3
Number of active Members.....	37
Increased.....	2
Letters granted.....	4
Average attendance.....	39

Financial Report:

Building Fund.....	\$ 323.43
Offering to Pastor.....	224.94
Field Worker.....	131.94
Visiting Minister.....	17.00
Minutes.....	28.50
Flowers.....	31.20
Literature.....	27.39
Oil Bill.....	38.76
Light Bill.....	36.80
Janitor.....	52.00
Song Books.....	10.40
Christmas gifts and treats.....	75.84
Miscellaneous items.....	32.42
Total.....	<u>\$1,030.26</u>

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

Done in order of Conley's Creek Free Will Baptist
Church, Route 2, Whittier, N. C.

Moderator: Rev. Lelon Greene

Clerk: Edna Odiear

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Mount Vernon Free Will Baptist Church

To the Western Free Will Baptist Association which will convene with the Conley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church on Friday and Saturday, August 17th and 18th, 1973, we send as delegates: for Friday -

Bro. Thurman Greene, Bro. Avery Bowers, Jr., Bro. Zeb Brendle, Bro. Dwayne Howard, Bro. Avery Bowers, Sr., Bro. Rossell Cloer, Sis. Barbara Elliott, Sis. Gladys Higdon, Sis. Mary Franklin, Sis. Mary Alice Howard.

As delegates for Saturday: Sis. Ruth Burnette, Sis. Frankie Bowers, Sis. Mary Franklin, Sis. Gladys Higdon, Sis. Juanita Jones, Sis. Mary Alice Howard, Bro. J. C. Higdon, Bro. William Lindsey, Bro. Sam Bowers, Bro. Avery Bowers, Jr., Bro. Zeb Brendles, Bro. Thurman Greene, Bro. Charles Welch, Bro. Avery Bowers, Sr., Bro. Gordon Gunter, Bro. Dwayne Howard, Bro. Russell Cloer; whom we pray sit with you in Godly deliberations.

Sunday School Report:

Superintendent: Zeb Brendle

Assistant Superintendent: Avery Bowers, Jr.

Secretary: Barbara Elliott

Officers and Teachers: 7

Sunday School: Good

Average number of attendance: 93

Church Report:

Pastor: Rev. Jay Burnette

Clerk: Charles Welch

Treasurer: Avery Bowers, Jr.

Number of Deacons..... 3

Church Membership.....262

Active Members:.....103

Deaths..... 0

Letters granted..... 0

Increased..... 46

Decreased..... 14

Baptized..... 22

Revivals..... 2

Financial Report:

Pastor.....	\$1,771.05
Visiting Preachers.....	161.61
Field Worker.....	93.46
Love Offering.....	885.22
Janitor.....	155.00
Minutes.....	47.50
Literature.....	99.61
Work on Church.....	864.28
Insurance on Church.....	50.00
Offering to Baptist Hospital.....	100.00
Christmas gifts and expenses.....	351.66
Offering to Children's Home.....	200.00
Church expenses and supplies.....	198.20
Oil.....	161.20
Light Bill.....	129.60
Bible School.....	118.00
Revival offering.....	394.08
Visiting singers.....	169.47
Flowers.....	57.80
Total.....	<u>\$5,007.74</u>

Valuation of Church.....\$30,000.00

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

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

Moderator: Rev. Jay Burnette

Clerk: Charles Welch.

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Saw Mill Hill Free Will Baptist Church

To the Western Association of Free Will Baptists which convenes with the Conley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church this August 17-18, 1973, we send as delegates: Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr., Sister Fay Nations, Bro. German Vogel, Sis. Delona Vogel, Sis. Dessie Mae Parton, Sis. Ethel Hall, Sis. Thelma DeHart, Bro. Arvil DeHart, Bro. Roy Griggs, Sis. Rachel Griggs.

Church and Sunday School Report:

Pastor: Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.

Clerk: Lexie Winchester

Sunday School Superintendent: Arvil DeHart

Secretary: Dessie Mae Parton

Number of Revivals.....	1
Church Members.....	83
Active.....	60
Average Attendance.....	52
Number of Officers.....	9
Number of classes.....	6
Increased.....	0
Decreased.....	0

Financial Report:

Pastor's Salary.....	\$2,310.00
Field Worker.....	60.00
Love offering.....	153.00
Janitor.....	160.00
Home Missions.....	155.46
Foreign Missions.....	325.46
Bible College.....	365.46
Sunday School literature.....	229.00
Piano.....	450.00
Roofing.....	400.00
Gravel.....	200.00
Pews.....	441.29
Utilities.....	308.03
Flowers.....	127.62
Minutes.....	24.00
Miscellaneous.....	207.10
Total.....	\$5,956.48

Valuation of Church Property.....

Minister holding membership: Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr., Route #3, Bryson City, N. C.

Weekly Service: Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.
Morning service.....11:00 a.m.
Sunday night service.....7:30 p.m.
Wednesday night service..7:30 p.m.

Done in order of Saw Mill Hill Free Will Baptist Church, August 16, 1973.

Moderator: Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.

Clerk: Lexie Winchester

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MINISTER'S REPORT

To the Western Association of Free Will Baptist which convenes with Conley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church: I worked hard for the last twelve months to see each of our churches grow, though at times it looks like nothing has been done. However, I feel that we have done just a little. I look back and see where we could have done more, but I pray God to help us do more next year.

I have preached in all of the churches in the Association in the past year and have enjoyed all of it. I have seen about 40 souls saved this year, and a great many of them under my preaching.

I conducted a number of funerals. I visited the sick and the elderly.

During the last year I have received \$380.00. I thank the Lord for his blessings to me.

God bless everyone of you and help me to be a blessing to others and see more souls saved this coming year.

Your brother in Christ,
Rev. Ted Laney
Telephone 738-4583

To the Western Association of Free Will Baptist: I was pastor at Mt. Vernon Free Will Baptist Church until December 1972. In February 1973, I was elected pastor of Conley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church. I made two trips to Georgia to help a Free Will Baptist Mission.

Your brother in Christ,
Rev. Lelon Greene
Route 2, Box 123
Bryson City, N. C.
Telephone 488-2829

To the Western Association of Free Will Baptists:
I have started on my sixth year pastoring the Atoah
Free Will Baptist Church.

We have had a specially good year. We are looking
forward to a much more fruitful year, by the Lord's
Grace we will try to do a better job next year. Pray
for this pastor that the Lord may use him to be a
shepherd to the sheep at Atoah.

We held one revival with the help of Brother Hoyle
Bridges and Brother Hyat Gregory.

Baptisms..... 19

Trips..... 78

Mileage.....5450

Offerings.....\$550.00

Your brother in Christ,
Rev. Claude Bridges

To the Western Association of Free Will Baptists:
I am a member of the Soulwinner's Quartet. We have
traveled many miles to be on the service for the Lord.
I have preached in many churches as I felt the need
to do so.

I have helped in four revivals. I request the
prayers of the people that the Lord may enable me to
do more next year.

Your brother in Christ,
Rev. Albert Herron
Route 2, Box 144
Bryson City, N. C.

To the Western Association of Free Will Baptist,
meeting at Conley's Creek Church:

In the year of our Lord, 1973. I bring the follow-
ing report. I have been pastor of the Mt. Vernon Free
Will Baptist Church for the last eight months. I have
preached 67 sermons. I have visited 98 homes, prayed
in 32, and made 28 visits to the sick. I have wit-
nessed to 27 souls being saved and help baptized 22.

I received \$1,035.17 in salary. I have given to
the cause of Christ in church donations, love gifts,
\$861.17. My traveling expenses were approximately
\$250.00.

God has gloriously blessed and I request that all
my brothers and sisters pray for me.

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. Jay Burnette
Route 2, Box 119
Bryson City, N. C.

To the Western Association of Free Will Baptist:
I have attended the Beaver Creek Free Will Baptist
Church regularly this year.

I have visited homes and seen souls saved. I
have traveled a number of miles.

Your brother in Christ,
Rev. Leonard Mayfield

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SESSIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS

Chairman: James Gunter

Members: Sis. Gladys Morgan, Rev. Glenn Eller,
Bro. German Vogel, Bro. Russell Cloer.

Friday afternoon.....Rev. Leonard Lindsay
Saturday morning.....Rev. Don Grice
Saturday afternoon.....Rev. Ted Laney
Annual Sermon.....Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.

First quarterly meeting will be at Beaver Creek
F.W.B. Church December 29, 1973. Message by Rev.
Jay Burnette.

Second quarterly meeting will be at Conley's
Creek F.W.B. Church March 30, 1974. Message by
Rev. Glenn Eller.

Third quarterly meeting will be at Mt. Vernon F.
W.B. Church June 29, 1974. Message by Rev. James
Gunter.

Next yearly Annual Session will be at Atoah F.W.B.
Church. If not possible will be at Beaver Creek F.
W.B. Church.

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CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Report

We, your committee on Christian Education, believe the King James Version of the Holy Bible is the greatest book in the world. We believe it good to have a vacation Bible School for the children, and if any go to a college, it would be best to send them to a christian college. We believe if our children have a church we must help them now, so they may know the Bible which is the foundation for building a Church.

Rev. Jay Burnette, Chairman

MISSIONS

Report

We, your committee on Missions, are aware that missionaries are dependent on Missions, and we pray for God's guidance in our home and foreign missions, that we will give to their cause sufficiently as God leads us to.

We, the members of our Association, pray that the ones who go forth as a representative of God, will progress and proclaim the will of God to men that they might be saved through our missions. We believe that everyone that is a child of God is also, in some sense of the word, a missionary.

Bro. Bill Russell, Chairman

Progress Report

Home Missions.....

Foreign Missions.....

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TEMPERANCE

Report

We, your committee on Temperance, recommend that our church try to live up to this report that is already in the minutes; that each individual go accord-

ing to the Word of God in II Corinthians, Chapter 6, Verses 14 through 17.

We agree that it is our duty to vote against the liquor-by-the-drink sale in our community. The Bible teaches that it is unwise to drink strong drinks. We agree to check the cost of running ads in the Smoky Mountain Times and try to run some ads against this sale.

We agree that our churches should love each other more. The Bible teaches to love thy brother as thyself. When we can live up to this part of the scripture, we will be a lot better off. We agree that as individuals we should not be busy-bodies, for in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body. (James 3:2)

We also believe that if our churches are not going to live up to this report we do not want it adopted.

We recommend to be steadfast in all business in humbleness, and humbleness does not mean to say 'yes' to everything that comes up if it is not in accordance to the Bible.

Amendment: Committee has right to run ads and send speakers to the radio to speak against strong drink.

Bro. Thurman Greene, Chairman

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RESOLUTION Report

We, your committee on Resolution, stand for the faith of the Free Will Baptist, endeavoring to stand up for the cause of Christ, which without faith is impossible to please God. Be it resolved that each of the churches and preachers come together and stand firm in the work of God. We, as a committee, believe that giving an annual report will encourage each of the churches to improve.

Sis. Delona Vogel, Chairman

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CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE
Report

We, your committee on Credential Committee, do hereby recommend as following that each minister that is in good standing in your church as a minister, to be in good standing in the Association. As each church being independent body of its own, let it first bring a charge against its own when he steps aside, or fails to fulfill his duty as a minister. With a good report we recommend the following in good standing:

Beaver Creek Church.....Rev. Paul Mayfield
Leonard Mayfield

Mt. Vernon Church.....Rev. Lelon Greene
Claude Bridges
Jay Burnette*
Clyde Nations, Sr.
Albert Herron

Saw Mill Hill Church.....Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.

Atoah Church.....Rev. Glenn Eller

Conley's Creek Church.....Rev. Joe Green
Roy Green
James Gunter

Rev. Ted Laney

*We recommend that the Association reinstate Jay Burnette as minister in good standing.

Bro. Thurman Greene,
Chairman

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RULES OF DECORUM

Article 1. This Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

Article 2. There shall be no conversation by members, one with another so as to interrupt business, while in session.

Article 3. Every member wishing to speak shall first rise to his feet and address the moderator.

Article 4. No member shall interrupt another while speaking.

Article 5. We will admit of no other title but that of Brother, while in session.

Article 6. Every member speaking shall attend to the subject under consideration.

Article 7. No member shall speak more than three times on one subject.

Article 8. Every motion made and seconded shall be attended to, unless withdrawn by those who made it.

Article 9. No member shall absent himself from the body while in session without leave of the Moderator.

Article 10. On all motions when the vote of the body is taken, a majority shall prevail.

Article 11. The Moderator shall have the same privilege to speak as any other member, provided the chair is filled.

Article 12. Any member transgressing the above rules shall be admonished by the Moderator.

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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 fallen 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 beverages, 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.

NOTES

