


# **Western North Carolina Free Will Baptist Association**



## **MINUTES OF THE 70th ANNUAL SESSION**

**1976**

CONSTITUTION  
BY-LAWS  
QUARTERLY MEETING  
ARTICLES OF FAITH  
CHURCH COVENANT

AUGUST 20-21, 1976

M I N U T E S

of the

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

70th ANNUAL SESSION

Held with the

SAW MILL HILL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Bryson City, North Carolina

August 20 and 21, 1976

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1977 Session will be held with the

CONLEYS CREEK FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

August 19 and 20

Beginning at Ten O'clock A.M.

Whittier, North Carolina

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# M I N U T E S

of the

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Held with the  
SAW MILL HILL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
Bryson City, North Carolina  
August 14 and 15, 1976

## OFFICERS

Moderator.....Rev. Lelon Greene  
Associate Moderator.....Rev. Ted Laney  
Clerk.....German Vogel  
Associate Clerk.....Delona Vogel

## August 14

Song: Jesus Saviour Pilot Me  
Devotions: Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.  
Scriptures: Exodus 16:4....Daily Walk  
Nehemiah 8:18..Daily Reading  
Psalm 61:8.....Daily performing my vows  
Psalm 88:9.....Daily calling on the Lord  
Proverbs 8:34..Watching daily  
Luke 23:3.....Daily denying oneself  
Hebrews 3:13...Daily exhorting one another

The House was announced in order by the clerk.

The Moderator read the rules of Decorum.

Motion made, seconded and carried to seat the delegates.

Motion made, seconded and carried to adopt the minutes  
of last year's annual meeting. (Correction note on  
date).

Motion made, seconded and carried to send the minutes  
of the 1975 Session to the Beaver Creek and Atoah Free  
Will Baptist Church.

Motion made, seconded and carried to include a financial report in next minutes.

Motion made, seconded and carried that the Moderator appoint the Committees (and the body vote on) which shall be subject to approval by the session.

Motion made, seconded and carried to approve the committees.

Motion made, seconded and carried for all Committees meet at the quarterly meetings.

Motion made, seconded and carried to adjourn conference until 1:00 P.M.

## COMMITTEES

### Sessions and Arrangements:

Chairman: Bro. Doyle Cooper

Members: Bro. Don Herron  
Bro. Thomas Cloer

### Christian Education:

Chairman: Bro. Dwayne Howard

Members: Sis. Delona Vogel  
Bro. George Rogers

### Missions:

Chairman: Bro. Robert Odiear

Members: Bro. Russell Cloer  
Sis. Dessie Mae Parton

### Temperance:

Chairman: Bro. German Vogel

Members: Bro. Thurman Greene  
Bro. Larry Purvis

### Resolution:

Chairman: Bro. Ted Laney

Members: Bro. Clyde Nations, Jr.  
Bro. Lelon Greene

### Credential:

Chairman: Bro. Floyd Watkins

Members: Bro. Thomas Cloer, Subst.  
Bro. Leonard Waldroup

## Afternoon Session

The House was announced in order by the Clerk.

Rules of Decorum were read.

Church Letters were read and adopted.

Committee reports were read and adopted.

Motion made, seconded and carried to accept Rev. Clyde Nations, Sr., in the Association.

Motion made, seconded and carried to table the previous until the Committee reports.

Motion made, seconded and carried to adopt the By-Laws of the Minister's Conference.

Motion made, seconded and carried to adjourn until Saturday the 15th of August.

## August 15

### Morning Service

Special Singing: Delona Vogel

"Ten Thousand Years"

"When They Ring The Golden Bells"

Message by Clyde Nations, Jr.

Scripture: Psalms 137

-the road away from God is downward

-out of place, where one does not have  
business

-out of position

-out of plan

Motion made, seconded and carried that the set of By-Laws that had been proposed on a previous quarterly meeting be adopted.

Motion made, seconded and carried that the proposed constitution be approved as read.

### Association Treasury Report:

There were no expenses paid out of the Treasury.

Cash on hand - \$125.76.

## CHURCH LETTERS

### Conley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church

To the Western North Carolina Free Will Baptist Association, which will convene with the Saw Mill Hill Free Will Baptist Church on Friday and Saturday, August 13th and 14th, 1976, we send as delegates: Rev. Lelon Greene, Bro. Larry Purvis, Bro. Floyd Watkins, Bro. Robert Odiear, Bro. Jim Bell, Bro. George Rogers, Bro. Don Herron, and Bro. Doug Odiear.

### Sunday School Report

Pastor: Rev. Lelon Greene  
Superintendent: Bro. Robert Odiear  
Clerk: Bro. Larry Purvis  
Secretary and Treasurer: Sis. Edna Odiear  
No. of Classes..... 3  
No. of Deacons..... 4  
No. of active members..44  
Average attendance.....42  
Increased..... 3  
Decreased..... 3 (2 dismissed, 1 death)

### Financial Report

Pastor.....	\$ 649.67
Visiting Ministers.....	20.00
Sick and Needy.....	297.60
Fuel Bill.....	119.77
Light Bill.....	37.32
Janitor.....	52.00
Flowers.....	112.10
Literature.....	20.74
Bible School Supplies.....	101.65
Christmas Expense.....	172.24
Minutes.....	50.00
Other Expenses.....	37.19
Total.....	\$1,670.28
Valuation of Church.....	\$7,500.00

Ministers belonging to Church: Rev. Joe Greene and Rev. Roy Greene.

## Conley's Creek FWB - continued:

Done in order of Conley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church, August 8, 1976.

Rev. Lelon W. Greene

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### Mount Vernon Free Will Baptist Church

To the Western North Carolina Free Will Baptist Association which will convene with the Saw Mill Hill Free Will Baptist Church on August 13 and 14, 1976, we send as delegates: Bros. Thurman Green, Sam Bowers, J. C. Higdon, Plato Hicks, Thomas Cloer, Lenard Waldroup, Dewayne Howard, Russell Cloer, Bill Waldroup, Earl Jones, and Avery Bowers, Jr.

### Sunday School Report

Pastor: Rev. Ted Laney  
Superintendent: Bro. Sam Bowers  
Assistant Superintendent: Bro. Russell Cloer  
Secretary: Sis. Barbara Elliott  
Church Treasurer: Bro. Avery Bowers, Jr.  
Clerk: Bro. Charles Welch  
Number of Deacons..... 7  
Letters granted..... 2  
Increased.....12  
Decreased..... 1 (by request)  
Baptized..... 7  
Officers and Teachers..... 7  
Average number of attendance...76

### Financial Report

Pastor's Offering.....	\$3,613.94
Love Offerings.....	592.64
Visiting Singers.....	297.34
Visiting Ministers.....	153.58
Minutes.....	50.00
Revival Offerings.....	317.72
Flowers.....	277.00

Mount Vernon FWB - continued:

Literature.....	\$ 39.99
Supplies for Church.....	452.65
Oil.....	414.26
Insurance on Church.....	170.00
Christmas Gifts and Treats.....	328.80
Power Bills.....	374.69
Bible School Expenses.....	70.51
Work on Church.....	562.69
Trailer for Church.....	<u>1,832.30</u>
Total.....	\$9,548.11

Valuation of Church Property: \$30,000.00

Ministers holding membership: Rev. Ted Laney, Rev. Lelon Green, Rev. Clyde Nations, Sr., Rev. Albert Herron, Rev. Claude Bridges, Rev. Jay Burnette.

Done in order of Mount Vernon Free Will Baptist Church, August 8, 1976. Rev. Ted Laney, Pastor; Bro. Charles Welch, Clerk.

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Saw Mill Hill Free Will Baptist Church

To the Western North Carolina Free Will Baptist Association, which will convene at the Saw Mill Hill Free Will Baptist Church this August 14 and 15, 1976, we send as delegates: Bro. German Vogel, Bro. Doyle Cooper, Bro. Arvil DeHart, Bro. Troy Whitesides, Sis. Delona Vogel, and Sis. Dessie Mae Parton.

Sunday School Report

Pastor: Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr.

Superintendent: Larry Winchester

Secretary and Treasurer: Mary Tuck

Clerk: Lexie Winchester

New Members.....5

Deaths.....2 (Mr. Lawrence Davis and  
Mr. Doug Lowe)



Saw Mill Hill FWB - Continued:

Ministers 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.  
Evening Service..... 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday Service..... 7:30 p.m.

Financial Report

Pastor.....	\$2,500.00
Missions and Bible College.....	1,191.07
Flowers and Love Offering.....	505.18
Christmas Treats.....	20.10
Drapes.....	187.50
Organ.....	1,000.00
Electric Bills.....	151.40
Sunday School Literature.....	168.50
Heating Fuel.....	214.68
Janitor.....	220.00
Other Expense.....	149.70
Total.....	\$5,318.13
Building Fund.....	\$ 543.92
Average Attendance.....	52
Value of Church Property.....	\$35,000.00

Done in order of the Saw Mill Hill Free Will Baptist Church.

Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr., Pastor  
Lexie Winchester, Clerk

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## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### SESSIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS

#### Preaching for the Annual Session:

Friday Afternoon.....Rev. Ted Laney  
Saturday Morning.....Rev. Lelon Greene

Messages for the Quarterly Meeting will be brought by the Pastor of the host church, also for the yearly Association.

The First Quarterly Meeting will be held at the Mount Vernon Free Will Baptist Church.

The Second Quarterly Meeting will be held at the Saw Mill Hill Free Will Baptist Church.

The Third Quarterly Meeting will be held at the Conley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church.

The next yearly Session will be held at the Conley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church on August 12 and 13, 1977. If this church cannot host the Session it will be held at the Mount Vernon Free Will Baptist Church.

Doyle Cooper, Chairman

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We, your committee on Christian Education believe and uphold the King James Version of the Bible; that the Word of God may be magnified and the churches be edified thereby.

We, encourage family devotions and continual prayer.

We, encourage Bible School programs for our children.

We, encourage Bible Study for the entire family.

We, encourage Free Will Baptist Bible College for our youth so they can have a sound Christian doctrine for years ahead.

DeWayne Howard, Chairman

## MISSIONS

Missions means sending out or being sent out with authority to perform a special duty. We believe that every christian has a mission to perform in life. Christ's mission was completed when he completed the plan of Salvation.

Our mission is to bring forth good fruits for God and let our lights shine out to a lost and dying generation that they may see Christ in us and they will want to come to Christ.

We recommend that each member of this committee find out how their church stands on Foreign Missions, Home Missions and the Childrens' Home. To get the churches to supporting them and get behind them with our prayers, money, and a desire to do God's Will.

Robert Odeiar, Chairman

## TEMPERANCE

We the committee on Temperance; being persuaded that the Bible includes temperance as one of the Virtues of salvation; we call attention to the following Scriptures: I Peter 2:11-12, I Cor. 9:25, and Philemon 4:5.

German Vogel, Chairman

## RESOLUTIONS

We the committee on resolutions recommend: That all members of the churches should work with their pastor and deacons for the upbuilding of their church. We will use the King James Version of the Bible. The ministers and their wives live to a Biblical standard. We would like for each one to read Titus, chapter two for a better understanding of this resolution. That we will also secure radio time to make our announcements from each church, with each pastor taking his turn every third week and each church sponsor his time.

Ted Laney, Chairman

## CREENTIAL

We recommend Rev. Ted Laney, Rev. Lelon Greene, and Rev. Clyde Nations, Jr., in good standing.

We recommend that these pastors work together with the churches to establish better fellowship.

We also recommend Rev. Clyde Nations, Sr. to be accepted as being in good standing with the Association.

Floyd Watkins, Chairman

## QUARTERLY MEETINGS

November 29, 1975

Song: "I'm In The Glory Land Way"

Devotion: Rev. Ted Laney

Scripture: Psalms 87

Altar Prayer

The house was announced in order by the Clerk.

All churches made reports concerning ministers belonging to them, who may wish to join the Association.

Saw Mill Hill: No candidates

Conley's Creek: Report was not completed

Atoah: Report not completed

Mount Vernon: No candidates

Beaver Creek: No report

Motion made, seconded and carried that all ministers within the conference be contacted by the churches to which they belong.

Motion made, seconded and carried to adjourn the conference.

Conference message by Rev. Charles Thigpen.

Scripture: I John 3

The message was based on five questions:

1. Is there now no condemnation in our heart?
2. Do we keep His commandments?
3. Are our prayers answered?

November 29, 1975 Quarterly Meeting - continued:

4. Do we love our brother?
5. Does His spirit bear witness with our spirit that we are the children of God?

January 16, 1976

A call meeting was held for the purpose of laying the ground work for a Constitution and By-Laws.

Proposed that a Constitution for the Association be drawn up.

Articles of By-Laws for a Minister's Conference were read. These will be brought before the entire body of the Association for consideration.

Meeting was adjourned.

February 28, 1976

Scripture read by German Vogel. (Acts 15:1-15)

Altar Prayer.

House was announced in order by the Clerk.

Minutes were read and adopted from last Quarterly Meeting.

Motions made, seconded and carried that the Constitution of Minister's Conference be adopted.

Motion made, seconded and carried that material to be presented on the Annual Session.

Motion made, seconded and carried to adjourn the Conference.

# CONSTITUTION

## ARTICLE I - NAME AND PURPOSE

This organization shall be known as the Western North Carolina Association of Free Will Baptists.

The purpose of this organization shall be the establishment and maintenance of voluntary association of autonomous Free Will Baptist churches. These meetings serve for mutual edification and inspiration. They also provide opportunity for the churches to accomplish cooperatively what they might not be able individually. This Association holds unswerving loyalty to the inspired Word of God as its infallible rule of faith and practice.

## ARTICLE II

This Association shall be composed of its officers (Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer), ordained and licensed ministers, in good standing with the Association and the churches affiliated with this body, and one (1) delegate for every ten (10) active members from each of the affiliated churches.

## ARTICLE III - MEETINGS

This Association shall meet for its Annual Session on Friday and Saturday before third Sunday in August. Quarterly meetings shall be held on Saturday before the fifth Sunday, or on a date this body decides upon.

## ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

### SECTION 1 - ELECTION:

All officers shall be elected by the body. Nominations shall be made from the floor; a nominating committee may be elected for this purpose whenever

this body deems it more practical. Whenever a nominating committee submits the names of its choice, the floor shall be open for further nominations. The general officers shall be elected for a period of two years.

## SECTION 2 - DUTIES

A. The duties of the Moderator shall be to preside, according to accepted parliamentary procedure, over the Sessions of the Association; to appoint temporary committees and to call special meetings.

B. The duties of the Assistant Moderator shall include presiding at the request of, or in the absence of the Moderator, and assist him in such way as may be necessary.

C. The duties of the Clerk shall include the preparation of minutes for the proceedings of all meetings of the Association. He shall prepare and cause to be published the minutes of the Sessions of the Association.

D. The duties of the Treasurer shall hold in trust all money that belongs to the Association and disburse by order of the Association. He shall keep an accurate account of all funds received and disbursed, and make an annual report to the Association.

E. The duties of the Field Worker shall include keeping in close contact with the pastors, ministers, and churches within the Association. He shall promote the establishment of new works, missions, and churches.

## BY-LAWS FOR THE MINISTER'S CONFERENCE

### ARTICLE 1

Constitution of the Minister's Conference of Western North Carolina Association of Free Will Baptists and shall be composed of all licensed and ordained Ministers of said Association.

### ARTICLE 2

This Conference may receive any Christian Minister, as a visiting member and when thus received he may enjoy all rights and privileges of the regular members not in conflict with Article 3.

### ARTICLE 3

This body shall elect annually a moderator and a clerk, both ordained ministers of one year or more membership in this Conference after his ordination.

### ARTICLE 4

Each church may send two or more of its members as delegates to this Conference and when thus sent, they are entitled to a seat in the Conference with all privileges of visiting brethren as provided by Article 2.

### ARTICLE 5

This Conference shall meet on Saturday before each fifth Sunday with some Church in the Association previously agreed upon or at the call of the Moderator provided that more than one session may not be held with any Church during the same Conference year.

### ARTICLE 6

The Moderator is empowered and it is his duty to call on extra session of the Conference upon the petition of the members of this Conference, provided however, that said petition is properly signed by seven members,



three of whom shall be ordained ministers.

## ARTICLE 7

The Conference upon being organized each year, shall proceed to elect an ordaining council, composed of five regularly ordained ministers all having been ordained at least two years and one or more shall have served one or more years an ordaining council and one of the senior members shall be the Chairman of Council thus constituted.

## ARTICLE 8

The ordaining council when properly organized shall have charge of all examination and ordinations of candidates for the ministry, who have been ordained before it by the conference.

## ARTICLE 9

All applicants for license to preach, shall be recommended by the pastor and deacons of his church and if the Conference after due inquiry and prayerful consideration and after examination by the ordaining council as to gifts, qualifications and the divine call, said applicant shall be granted a license to preach the gospel for the period of one year provided, however, he may have said license renewed at the expiration of the year; from time to time all applicants or license and ordination shall first be passed upon by the Committee of Investigation as to their character and moral standards, if satisfactory they are then to be examined privately before the ordaining council.

## ARTICLE 10

All licensed preachers are required to preach twenty-four (24) sermons each year and at least fifty (50) sermons before he can succeed to ordination, provided however, he cannot be ordained until he has proven himself faithful and successful in the gospel ministry for a period of at least one year and if any shall fail to do so because of negligence, he shall be

entitled to a seat in the conference only as a visiting minister as in Article 2; provided, however, the above requirements shall not apply to ministers who have passed sixty (60) years of age or to any minister who is rendered unable to conform to the above rules by disease or continued sickness of himself or family.

#### ARTICLE 11

Any minister being absent from two sessions of conference in succession, shall stand charged with delinquency and shall be deprived of his vote and any question until his disability is removed by a vote of the conference; however, if the delinquent brother offers a satisfactory excuse for his absence, his disability may be removed by a majority vote of the conference. Any minister who does not report to conference either in person or by letter for one year, shall be dropped from the roll and his credentials called for.

#### ARTICLE 12

All applicants for ordination shall present to the conference a letter of recommendation from his church, properly signed by both pastor and clerk.

#### ARTICLE 13

The conference may withdraw fellowship from any member who becomes disorderly. Any person presenting a charge against a Minister must sign his name to charge as it will be null and void.

#### ARTICLE 14

No session of conference will be considered legal, if three or more ordained Ministers are not present.

#### ARTICLE 15

The constitution and by-laws or any article thereof, may be expended or amended by a two-thirds vote of the Conference.

## ARTICLE 16

The moderator may have power to appoint any and all committees to carry on the work of the Conference.

## ARTICLE 17

A session of conference shall be held in connection with the yearly association.

## ARTICLE 18

A licensed minister cannot attain ordination until he is called to pastor a church or go into full time evangelistic work. A church that has called him for pastor must send a letter requesting his ordination.

The above constitution and by-laws duly adopted by Conference in regular session August 14, 1976.

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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.

## BY - L A W S

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.

