

**The
Wolverine
Association
of
Free Will Baptist**

1944

**Proceedings of the
3rd Annual Session**

**When
Convened with
First Free Will Baptist Church
Hazel Park, Michigan**

MINUTES
OF THE
THIRD ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
WOLVERINE ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTIST
HELD WITH

The First Free Will Baptist Church of Hazel Park
921 Grant at Stephenson
Hazel Park, Michigan
On August 31 and September 1-2, 1944

OFFICERS

Moderator Rev. C. E. Riggs
Ass't. Moderator Rev. Virgil Greenway
Clerk Rev. Edgil Howard
Ass't. Clerk Ida Marine
Treasurer LeVan Pearce
Ass't. Treasurer Rev. V. S. Versnick

The next annual session will convene with the Ecorse Free Will Baptist Church, High Street at Charlotte, Ecorse, Mich. Beginning on Thursday evening September 1st, and continuing through September 3rd, 1945.

The Introductory sermon by Rev. Edgil Howard.

Free Will Baptist Gem, 211 Bond St. Monett, Missouri

MINUTES OF
THE THIRD ANNUAL SETTING OF THE WOLVER-
INE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST
Which convened with First Free Will Baptist Church
921 Granet at Stephenson Hazel Park, Michigan
August 31, September 1-2, 1944

THURSDAY EVENING SERVICES

Opened with singing directed by Rev. C. E. Riggs. After our hearts were turned to God in prayer, Rev. George P. Warren conducted a period of devotion in which many gave ringing testimony of the saving and keeping grace of our Lord.

Rev. Dan Kronk using as a topic "The Cup" preached the introductory sermon which was a heart-searching and soul-stirring message. Services dismissed with prayer.

FRIDAY MORNING SERVICES

Opened by singing, directed by Rev. Virgil Greenway. Prayer by Rev. N. P. Gates, after which the moderator read Heb. 3 as scripture lesson and proceeded by reading the rules of decorum.

Moderator declares the Conference open for consideration and transaction of such lawful business as may come before it.

Letters from the various churches called for and read. Those reporting were, East Side Church, First Church of Flint, First Church of Hazel Park, Highland Park Church, Philadelphia Church, F. W. B. Temple, Ecorse Church, whose delegates were seated in conference.

After a prayer of consecration by Rev. H. T. Davis the conference proceeded with the first business in order, that of electing officers for the coming year.

By acclamation Rev. C. E. Riggs succeeds himself as moderator for the ensuing year. By vote of body Edgil Howard was elected clerk, and Ida Marine assistant clerk. By vote of body LeVan Pearce was elected treasurer and Rev. V. S. Versnick assistant-treasurer.

By vote of body Rev. Virgil Greenway was elected to succeed himself as assistant-moderator for the ensuing year. Morning business session concluded by prayer.

Friday morning worship service opened at 11:00 o'

clock with singing. Prayer by Rev. Virgil Greenway. Message by Rev. Edgil Howard, subject: "Reflecting the Glory of the Lord". Text 2 Cor. 3:18. Benediction by Bro. Carson Whitaker.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Opened with singing under the direction of Rev. McKinley Newsome who also directed the devotional service. After prayer, moderator opens conference for business.

Business Committee submits Resolutions No. 4, which was adopted by vote of body. (See Resolutions).

The Conference then proceeded to elect the Business Committee as follows: Rev. Raymond Riggs-3 years, Rev. Virgil Greenway-2 years, Rev. McKinley Newsome-2 years, Rev. H. T. Davis-1 year, Rev. N. P. Gates-1 year.

The Conference voted to elect the Finance Committee in the same manner as the Business Committee, and the present committee were elected to succeed themselves in the following manner: Rev. George P. Warren-3 years, Bro. Preston Slocum-2 years, Bro. James F. Sandafer-1 year.

The Moderator appoints the various committees as follows:

OBITUARY COMMITTEE: Sis. Anna Newsome, Sis. Lottie Pierce, Bro. Howard Lyle.

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE: Rev. N. P. Gates, Rev. Dan Kronk, Rev. Carson Whitaker.

Report of Business Committee given and accepted. (See Committee reports).

The following resolutions were adopted by vote of Conference: Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. (See Resolutions).

Benediction by Rev. Harvey Garrison.

FRIDAY EVENING SERVICE

Opened at 7:30 by singing under the direction of Bro. Carson Jacquess. Prayer by Bro. James Gentry. Devotional service directed by Rev. Virgil Greenway, after which Rev. H. T. Davis came forth and delivered one of his usual old-fashioned heart warming, soul thrilling messages. Service closed with prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Opened with singing. Prayer by Rev. Napier, Moderator read book of Jude as scripture lesson.

Tardy letters called for and received from James St. Church and Courville Church. Sis. Smith, delegate from Courville and Sis. Maynard from Ecorse Church were seated in Conference.

By vote of Conference the price of our Associational Paper, the Free Will Echo, was raised from 50c to \$1.00 per year, and the present editor, Rev. Raymond Riggs, was retained as editor for another year.

The report of the presbytery was submitted and approved, after which the morning business session was dismissed with prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Opened at 11:00 o'clock by singing under the direction of Rev. Raymond Riggs. After prayer Rev. Homer E. Willis brought us a very impressive message on the subject of Friendliness.

As a token of appreciation for the splendid service rendered, the congregation responded with a love offering to the moderator, Rev. C. E. Riggs.

Dismissed with prayer.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Opened by singing under the direction of Rev. Virgil Greenway.

The Moderator calls for the program of the leagues of the various churches, and Sis. Ruth Brown presides, calling the churches as follows: Courville Church directed by Rev. and Mrs. H. E. Willis and Lady Ruth Marine, East Side Church directed by Bro. Click, Ecorse Church directed by Sis. McCage, Highland Park Church directed by Genella Evans and Hazel Park Church directed by Ruth Brown.

The program of the leagues were enjoyed by all and the Moderator opened the Conference for transaction of business.

The report of the evangelist was given and accepted.

The Conference voted not to sponsor an evangelist next year.

Bro. Killen given hand of fellowship as visitor to this body.

The report of Finance Committee covering the period

since our last Quarterly Conference was given and accepted. (See Treasurer's Report).

All deacons examined and their characters were found blameless.

Philadelphia Church requests the ordination of Bro. Carson Jacquess as a deacon.

F. W. B. Temple requests the ordination of Bro.'s Willis Whittaker, Y. V. Haley and J. C. Pressly as deacons.

Dismissed by Bro. Killen.

SATURDAY EVENING SESSION

Opened with singing under the direction of Rev. Raymond Riggs, after which Bro. Carson Jacquess was ordained as a deacon of the Philadelphia Church.

The message of the evening was delivered by Rev. N. P. Gates which was followed by communion and foot-washing.

Dismissed with prayer. "And they sang an Hymn and went out."

Rev. C. E. Riggs, Moderator
Rev. Edgil Howard, Clerk

WOLVERINE ASSOCIATION

Resolutions

1. Resolved that a complete itemized report of the Treasurer be read at every setting of our Quarterly and Annual Meetings. The Program Committee setting an approximate time for report in order that the Treasurer may know when to have his report ready.

2. Resolved that the Treasurer be authorized to have a book of 500 checks printed, using the associational name on the face of the check, and be it further resolved that it be written on each check stub what the check was used for.

3. Resolved that the Moderator and Clerk of our Association be paid the amount of \$50.00 each, for their services during the ensuing year, and the Treasurer be paid \$25.00 for his services, and if assisted by others, the regular elected officers shall assume the obligation of remuneration.

4. Resolved that the members of the Business Committee be elected as follows: One, for 3 years; two for

2 years and 2 for 1 year, and hereafter the expired term to be elected for 3 years.

Note: Those elected to the Business Committee were as follows: Rev. Raymond Riggs for 3 years, Rev. Virgil Greenway, Rev. McKinley Newsome, 2 years; Rev. N. P. Gates, Rev. Horton T. Davis, 1 year.

5. Resolved that the Association pay \$25 per quarter toward the expense of each student from the Wolverine Association, who attends the F. W. B. College in Nashville, Tennessee. Payments to be made only while they are in school.

6. Recommendations:

We recommend that every Christian begin now, to pray, that we may soon have an Orphan's Home here in the state of Michigan. Realizing the great need of such an institution, we need first of all to pray that God will lead in every phase and possibly some day we can maintain our own Orphan's Home.

7. Whereas the Hazel Park Church has entertained the last few sessions of the Quarterly Meetings and also the present session of the Annual Meeting, be it resolved that we extend to the Hazel Park Church, its pastor and the people of the community a rising vote of thanks for their splendid hospitality and entertainment received while in their midst.

Respectfully submitted:

The Committee: Rev. Raymond Riggs, Rev. Virgil Greenway, Rev. McKinley Newsome, Bro. Max Brown, Bro. Cecil D. Vire.

Temperance Resolution:

We, your committee on temperance, beg to submit the following resolution: That whereas, the many crimes being committed in the liquor traffic, the evils arising as a result of the use of intoxicating beverages, Be it resolved that we, the Wolverine Association of Free Will Baptist, go on record as being opposed to the sale and use of the same.

And be it further resolved that we extend our influence to abolish, and to stamp out its existence.

Prayerfully submitted:

Rev. N. P. Gates

Rev. Carson Whittaker

Rev. Dan Kronk

REPORTS

We, the Committee on Obituary, desire to make the following report:

That our kind heavenly Father through His kind providence has seen fit to call from our midst Bro. A. M. Hagen of the Ecorse Church and Sis. Goldie Quait, daughter of Sis. Mary Madden of the F. W. B. Temple. We pray God's blessings on their families and friends.

The Committee:

Sis. Pearce

Sis. Newsome

Bro. Howard Lyle

Evangelistic Report:

Held ten day's meeting with Rev. W. A. Fowler, pastor of Gen. Baptist. Six conversions, received \$15.00.

Held ten day's meeting with Rev. V. S. Versnick, pastor Courville F. W. B. Church, no conversions, no receipts.

Organized the James St. Church, River Rouge, Mich.

Assisted in organizing the Philadelphia Church, at Seminole and Gratiot Aves., Detroit, Michigan.

Attended F. W. B. Institute, at the Highland Park Church.

Officiated the Ordaining Council of Rev. Bill Newsome, at the Ecorse Church, and attended a funeral at the Ecorse Church.

Helped in two revivals at the First Church of Hazel Park.

Officiated at a Special Conference with the Flint Church, paid a special visit to the same church.

Conducted six months weekly broadcast, edited the F. W. B. Evangel, eight months, baptized eighteen, witnessed about fifty conversions, also had full time pastorate of the Free Will Baptist Temple, 8521 John R. Detroit, Michigan.

Rev. N. P. Gates

Associational Paper: Free Will Echo.

Since the Association has assumed the financial obligation of the Free Will Echo and it has been published as an Associational Enterprise several new subscribers have been added. As of this date there are 360 names on the Echo mailing list. 53 of these names are of boys who are in the armed forces. Many of these boys names who are in the service of our country have been added without collecting the subscription price. We feel they

should receive the paper whether they pay for it or not. Then, too, many of the old subscribers will soon have to renew their subscription which will certainly aid in the maintenance of the paper.

One thousand copies of the paper per month has been printed, and aside from those that the editor uses to supply the mailing list, the other copies have been sent direct from the printer to the various churches and pastors of the Association. Whether or not these copies have been properly disposed of or not, is not for the Editor to decide. We hope however, that they were distributed to the reading public of our various communities. It no doubt will soon be necessary to cut down on the number of copies sent to each church as the mailing list grows, or else have more copies printed.

The amount of subscription money turned over to the Association since the Echo became an Associational paper is \$70.25. The entire cost of the Echo to the Association has been \$187.80. This shows that actually the paper has cost the Association \$117.55. The average cost per month for the printing and mailing of the aforesaid number of Echoes is \$35.00.

Again we want to say to those who have helped to make the Echo what it is to keep up the good work, and especially do we need to send our monthly church reports to the paper for print. We have tried to give equal opportunity to the various pastors for sermon material. We hope that you are pleased.

Due to the fact that it does cost somewhat to print and mail the paper, I would like to recommend that the subscription price of the Echo be raised to \$1.00 per year as of this date. I would also like to add the suggestion that every one of us serve as an agent for the paper and see if we can make it pay its own way next year.

There is quite a bit of work involved in preparing the manuscript, and editing the same, as well as addressing the papers, folding them and stamping them for mailing, but I have enjoyed the work and trust that much good has been accomplished.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Raymond Riggs, Editor

Presbytery's Report:

Since our last Annual Meeting the regular presbytery has had four meetings, at these meetings, the following

business was transacted:

Sept. 4, 1943

The ordination papers of Rev. Harvey Garrison were endorsed.

Bro. Roy Wood was granted license to preach.

Jan. 1, 1944

The ordination of Rev. Dan Kronk.

Jan. 29, 1944

The ordination of Bro. Jimmy Gillim to preach the gospel and a license was granted to Bro. Finley J. Hendricks to preach.

April 29, 1944

The endorsement of Rev. Edgil Howard's credentials as an ordained minister.

July 28, 1944

Bros. L. D. Nance and Carson Whitaker was granted a license to preach the gospel.

Also during the year a special meeting of the presbytery was called at the Flint Church which resulted in the ordination of Bro. Birchett from that church as deacon.

Also on March 7, 1944, a special called meeting was arranged by the Ecorse Church and Bro. William Newsome of the United States Navy was ordained to preach the gospel.

We trust that those who have had hands laid on them this past year will feel their responsibility, first of all to their God, and second to their Association.

Respectfully submitted

Rev. Raymond Riggs, Clerk of Presbytery

MINISTERIAL REPORTS

Rev. Harvey Garrison
Sermons preached 24
Amount received as love offering \$125
Officiated at one wedding
Offering received \$5
Conversions witnessed 12
Pastored one church from July 16, 1944
No salary.

Rev. McKinly Newsome
Pastored one church, assistant Bible Class teacher.
Sermons preached 59
Funerals conducted 3

Baptized 2
 Donated to Ecorse Church of F. W. B. since our last
 Annual Association \$306.91
 Served church without salary.

C. E. Riggs

Sermons preached (about) 25
 Baptized 12
 Funerals conducted 1
 Received for services as Moderator \$50
 Other services \$60

No pastorate, served as Moderator in conferences.
 Served as teacher of Adult S. S. Class in Hazel Park
 Church.

Helped organize one church.

Rev. Virgil Greenway

Sermons preached 94
 Funerals conducted 1
 No members received into church 13
 Number conversions 11
 Amount received for services \$420

Rev. Raymond Riggs

Number sermons preached to church as pastor, 140; pro-
 fessions 131; amount received \$3,402.50.

Number sermons preached outside of church:

Flint Church, sermons preached 1, amount received \$10.

Akron Baptist Temple, Akron, Ohio, sermons preached
 2, professions 2, amount received \$43.00.

East Side F. W. B. Church, sermons preached 2, pro-
 fessions 3, amount received \$9.00.

Sermons preached at Quarterly Meetings 2.

F. W. B. Church, Monett, Mo., sermons preached 2, a-
 mount received \$1.00.

Sermons preached in revival at Tulsa, Okla. 17, pro-
 fessions 20, amount received \$235.00.

Number of weddings 12, amount received \$81.00.

Number of funerals 5, amount received \$30.00.

Love offering at Christmas from church \$100.00.

Love offering for revival from church \$87.00.

Total number sermons 166

Total professions 156

Total amount received for services \$3,998.50

I have also received 35 members into the church, bap-
 tized 36, conducted a weekly broadcast, attended a ses-

sion of Christian Worker's Institute, attended the National Association, supervised a Daily Vacation Bible School and edited the Associational Paper.

Rev. H. E. Willis

Pastored one Church two months.
 Number of sermons preached, approx. 165
 Visited F. W. B. Churches in Mich. 10
 Held meetings with other denominations in state 4
 Baptized 20
 Attended Quarterly Meetings 5
 Attended National Association
 Traveled miles 7,000
 Conducted 3 weeks of Young People's Meetings.
 Number conversions 82
 Amount received \$1,800.50

Rev. George P. Warren

Number sermons preached 61
 Number funerals conducted none
 Number conversions 2
 Amount received for services \$5.00

Rev. N. P. Gates

Number churches pastored 1
 Number sermons preached (about) 80
 Number revivals 4
 Number conversions 50
 Number received into fellowship 32
 Number baptized 18
 Number of funerals 2
 Number miles traveled 3,000
 Number churches organized 1
 Amount received from church \$2,100.00
 Received as Associational Evang. \$500.00
 Received from F. W. B. U. at Temple \$60.00
 Received as free will offerings and other sources \$500.00
 Total received \$3,160.00
 Operating cost printing Evangel \$300.00
 Broadcast \$210.00
 Mailing expenses \$50.00
 Total expenses \$560.00
 \$2,600.00

Rev. Daniel A. Kronk

Number sermons preached 16
 Number conversions 4

Number tracts	3,000 to 5,000
Money received from Wolverine Association	\$100.00
Money received from Home Church	\$200.00
Money received from Flint Church	\$30.00
Miscellaneous	\$218.00
Total	\$578.00

Spoke once over the radio.
Held prayer meetings in homes.
Worked in street services.
Led song services and devotions.
Witnessed for Jesus' Love wherever I chanced to be.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Received since last Quarterly Meeting:

Philadelphia Church	\$8.00
Courville Church	5.00
Highland Park Church	76.60

MISSIONS

East Side Church	33.00
Free Will Baptist Temple	10.36
Total	\$132.96

The books as of the 31st day of August show the following figures:

On hand at the close of the previous year	\$282.40
Received from:	
Echo subscriptions	\$70.25
Special offerings	321.87
Hazel Park Church	429.78
Highland Park Church	1,378.82
Ecorse Church	116.00
Flint Church	220.49
F. W. Temple	363.00
East Side F. W. B. Church	343.15
Courville F. W. B. Church	25.00
River Rouge F. W. B. Church	6.00
Total receipts	\$3,274.36
Expenses and investments:	
20% to Nat. Ass'n. or united budget program	\$413.23
Delegate to National Ass'n.	50.00
Salaries:	
Moderator	50.00
Clerk	50.00
Evangelist	500.00

Education, 3 boys at Institute	300.00
Rev. Crawford to Nat. Program	100.00
Cooks	105.00
Gro. and meats	192.43
Rent of hall	110.00
Clerical:	
Minutes	45.00
Forms and cards	7.00
Bank charges	4.82
Foreign Missions	923.97
Echo expense	187.80
Total expense	3,039.25
Net. balance for 1944	\$235.11
Balance on hand as of August 31, 1944	\$517.51

Standing Business Committee

Rev. Raymond Riggs, Rev. Virgil Greenway, Rev. McKinley Newsome, Rev. Horton T. Davis, Rev. N. P. Gates.

Standing Finance Committee

Rev. George P. Warren, Bro. Preston Slocum, Bro. James F. Sandafer.

Presbytry Board

Rev. C. E. Riggs, Rev. N. P. Gates, Rev. Raymond Riggs, Rev. Virgil Greenway, Rev. George P. Warren.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. N. P. Gates, Lock Box 41, Hazel Park, Mich.
 Rev. C. E. Riggs, 944 E. Harry, Hazel Park, Mich.
 Rev. Raymond Riggs, 804 Annin St. Detroit, Mich.
 Rev. George P. Warren, 2106 Harwine St., Flint, Mich.
 Rev. Jas. Grisham, Milan, Mich.
 Rev. V. S. Versnick, 18020 Fleming St., Detroit, Mich.
 Rev. Virgil Greenway, Highland, Mich.
 Rev. Everett L. Hall, Owensboro, Ky.
 Rev. Horton T. Davis, 23138 Hazelwood, Hazel Park, M.
 Rev. McKinley Newsome, 7511 Hipp St., Melvindale, M.
 Rev. Homer E. Willis, 3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, T.
 Rev. Harvey Garrison, 18020 Fleming, Detroit, Mich.
 Rev. Jimmy Gillim, 3871 Fischer, Detroit, Mich.
 Rev. Edgil Howard, 4937 Culver, Dearborn, Mich.
 Rev. William Newsome, U. S. Navy.
 Rev. Dan Kronk, 3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn

LICENTIATES

Rev. L. D. Nance, 3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.
Rev. Carson Whitaker, 1420, 16th St., Detroit, Mich.
Rev. Finley J. Hendricks, Graham, Ky. R. 1, Box 16

DEACONS ENROLLMENT

HAZEL PARK: W. E. Gates, LaVan D. Pearce, Jas. F. Sandafer, Chas. E. Miller, Otis Butcher, Paul E. Carrier, Wm. Childres.

HIGHLAND PARK: Douglas Moore, Bert Bagwell, Tancil Orr, Tom Daniels, Preston Slocum, Thomas Carlile.

ECORSE CHURCH: Vint Kirk, Gilbert Burris.

FLINT CHURCH: Bro. Birchett.

FREE WILL BAPTIST TEMPLE: Cecil D. Vire, Theodore R. Goolsby, Carson Whitaker.

EAST SIDE CHURCH: R. A. Parrish, H. P. Rippitoe.

PHILADELPHIA CHURCH: Bro. Carson Jaquess.

DELEGATE ENROLLMENT

HIGHLAND PARK: Bro. Howard Lyle, Sis. Margaret Van Riper, Sis. Leola McCormick.

ECORSE CHURCH: Sis. Maynard, Sis. Newsome, Sis. Burris.

FREE WILL BAPTIST TEMPLE: Sis. Reba Pressley, Bro. Y. V. Hayley.

HAZEL PARK: Sis. Lottie Pearce, Bro. Geo. Ritter, Bro. Hicok.

PHILADELPHIA CHURCH: Sis. Rose Jaquess, Sis. Mary Garrison.

FLINT CHURCH: Sis. Dorotha Willis, Sis. Eva Birchett.

EAST SIDE CHURCH: Bro. Walker, Sis. Walker, Sis. Napier.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. GOD. We believe in one true and living, Triune God; composed of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, equal in divine Essence, Purpose, Power and Glory.—St. John 1:1; 1 Cor. 8:6; St. John 10:30.

2. CHRIST. We believe that Jesus Christ is the Divine Son of God. Was with the Father and the Holy Spirit at the time of the Creation, left the Courts of Heaven and came to this earth. Took upon Himself the form of humanity, sin excepted,

by being born of the Virgin Mary, manifested His power, was crucified, placed in Joseph's tomb, rose from the dead the third day, completed the great plan of salvation, walked and talked with His disciples, publicly ascended up to Heaven, and that He will descend again to gather His jewels home.—Isaiah 9:6; St. John 1:14; Luke 1:26-28; Matt. 14:13-21; Mark 16:9-19; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:9:12; Mark 15:22-47.

3. **HOLY SPIRIT.** We believe that the Holy Spirit has visited true believers in all ages, and especially since the ascension of the SON back to the Father, and His coming on the day of Pentecost. Has taken up His office work among all nations of people, as a Divine Reprover, Comforter and Guide.—Judges 6:34; 11:29; St. John 16:8-14; Isaiah 63:10-12; Ephesians 4:30; Acts 8:17-20; Ezek. 36:27; Joel 2:28.

4. **THE BIBLE.** We believe the Bible, which is composed of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, was given by Inspiration of God, is our way-bill from earth to heaven, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice.—2 Peter 1:19-21; 2 Tim. 3:14-17; Daniel 10:21; Acts 1:16-17; Matt. 21:42.

5. **THE FALL OF MAN.** We believe that GOD created man good, gave him a just law by which he should be governed; with promise of reward for faithfulness and with penalties of punishment for disobedience. Gave man power of free moral agency to choose the right and reject the wrong. But our first parents heeded the voice of the great enemy of souls, voluntarily transgressed the law of GOD, fell, with their posterity, under the just penalty of the same, and were unable of their own power to extricate or save themselves from the great dilemma into which they had fallen. God gave them the hope of salvation through the coming of CHRIST.—Gen. 1:27; 2:16-17; Psalms 51:5; Gen. 3; Gen. 6:5; Rom. 5:12-19; John 3:6; Eph. 2:3.

6. **REDEMPTION, SALVATION, ADOPTION.** We believe that Jesus Christ by His birth, death, burial, resurrection and ascension paid the purchase price for the redemption of the whole human race, arranged a pardon for all who come upon Gospel terms; and a law of adoption into the Kingdom of Heaven, and an eternal inheritance into the glorified Kingdom above.—Heb. 9:12; Gal. 3:13; 4:4-5; Titus 2:14; St. John 3:16; Isaiah 15:22.

7. **CONDITIONS OF SALVATION.** We believe that all persons, dying in infancy and all idiots are saved by the atoning merits of the Son of God without any act on their part; that persons coming to the years of accountability, transgres-

sing the law of God, must upon their part, exercise faith in Jesus Christ through repentance toward God, at the completion of which pardon takes place in the mind of the Father and by the Holy Spirit they pass through the ordeal of regeneration, are washed in the blood of the Lamb and are planted in the Kingdom of Christ.—John 3rd chapter; Matt. 19:13-22; 1 Cor. 7:10; Luke 18:16-17; St. John 4:11-16; Psalms 98:3.

8. SALVATION FREE. We believe that God desires the salvation of all Christ died for all; and whosoever will may come and be saved upon the terms of the Gospel.—1 Peter 1:9-25; 2:9-25; Revelation 22:17.

9. BAPTISM. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of believers in water, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, in which are represented the burial and resurrection of Christ; also represents our death to sin, and only those who have come under the presbytery of the elders are qualified to administer the same.—Matt. 3:14-16; 3:5-6; 1 Peter 3:21; St. John 3:23; Acts 10:47; Matt. 28:19.

10. COMMUNION AND FEET WASHING. We believe that the Lord's Supper and the washing of the saint's feet are ordinances of the Gospel of Christ; the Lord's Supper was instituted by our Saviour to commemorate His broken body and shed blood for the sins of the world, and to show our remembrance of Him till He comes. All Christians have a right to the Lord's Supper and should be invited; "Let a man examine himself and so let him eat."

The washing of the feet was instituted by our Lord at the same time that the Supper was instituted as an act of humility to show our love for each other, and both ordinances should be perpetuated by all Christians until His second coming.—Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:20-29; St. John 13:1-17; Matt. 26:26-29.

11. THE SABBATH. We believe that the Christian Sabbath should be observed as a day of rest and for the worship of God; that we should abstain from all sinful amusements and secular employments, works of mercy and piety excepted.—Exodus 20:11; 31:12-18; Deut. 5:12-15; Ezek. 20:12; Matt. 28:1; Luke 23:56; Acts 13:42-48; Mark 2:27.

12. CALL TO THE MINISTRY. We believe in a divine call of the ministry; that God in His goodness and power of grace, impress His ministers with the burden of lost souls, to the extent that the call becomes irresistible with personal contentment; that when they yield to the call and exercise the native gifts according to the Scriptures, with a full reliance upon Him, He accompanies them in person of the Holy Spirit

to guide them in the way of truth and to bless their labors according to His purpose.—Jonah 1:1; Jer. 1:5; Mark 3:14; Acts 1:22-26; Matt. 28:19.

13. **THE INVISIBLE CHURCH.** We believe that the Invisible or Spiritual Church is the redeemed in the aggregate, is the family of God, is composed of all true Christians of every congregation from righteous Abel to the restitution of all things, from every kindred, nation, tongue and people.—Eph. 3:16-21; Heb. 12:22-23; 1 Pet. 2:5; Eph. 2:20-22; Acts 2:47; Matt. 16:18.

14. **THE VISIBLE CHURCH.** We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women, having obtained fellowship with the Lord and with each other, agreeing to keep up a good discipline and doctrine according to the rules of the Gospel.—2 Thess. 1:1; Acts 16:5; 3 John 1:10; Matt. 18:17; Acts 20:28; Revelation 1:4-20.

15. **PERSERVERANCE.** We believe that all true believers in Christ should persevere in divine grace and in the knowledge of the truth, and that God's grace is sufficient to help them to overcome all the obstacles of life, and that all the combined forces of the great enemy of souls on earth and in hell (or in his eternal abode) are not able to pluck them from His hand so long as they walk in the path of duty; but those who sidestep and wilfully refuse or neglect to perform their duty, they would backslide if persistently continued, would be eternally lost.—2 Pet. 1:12; 2 Cor. 9:10; 2 Peter 1:4-8; 2 Peter 2:2; Rom. 8:35-39; Apostasy: 2 Peter 1:8-9; 1 Cor. 10:1-13; Heb. 12:15-17; 1 John 5:16; Heb. 6:1-6; 1 Tim. 4:1-2; Heb. 3:12; St. John 15:1-7; Matt. 12:31-32.

16. **CHRIST THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH.** We believe that Christ is the Head of the Church, and that the government of the local church is with the body.—Col. 1:18-19; Matt. 16:18; Heb. 12:23; Matt. 21:42; Eph. 1:22; Acts 16:4-5.

17. **SANCTIFICATION.** Sanctification is a work of God's grace, by which the soul is cleansed from all sin and wholly consecrated to Christ. It takes place in regeneration, and the Christian can and should abide in this state to the end of life. Constantly growing in the grace and the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.—1 Cor. 6:11; 2 Thess. 2:13; Heb. 12:14; Phil. 3:21; 2 Thess. 5:19-23; St. John 17:17-19; 2 Tim. 2:20-21.

18. **THE RESURRECTION.** We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of the righteous and the wicked. When the resurrection shall take place, the soul and body shall be united, the righteous shall be received into everlasting happiness to

reign with God for ever; but the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment.—Matt. 28:6; John 5:28-29; 1 Cor. 15:51-58.

19. THE SOUL. The soul is endless, hence does not die with the body, but immediately after death enters into a conscious state of happiness or misery, according to the spiritual character here possessed.—Phil. 1:23; Luke 23:43; Rev. 6:9; Luke 16:19-25; Matt. 10:28.

20. JUDGEMENT. We believe that there will be a general universal judgment, when all men shall be judged according to their works, whether they be good or bad, and that immediately thereafter the wicked shall enter into everlasting punishment, and the righteous into eternal happiness.—2 Thess. 1:4-9; Rev. 14:9-13; Luke 16:23; Rev. 21:8; 2 Cor. 5:10; Matt. 12:36-37; Rev. 20:12-13; Acts 17:31.

CONSTITUTION

1. This Association, when properly organized, shall consist of a moderator and a clerk, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present. The duty of the moderator shall be to keep the Association in order, state questions fairly and take the vote thereon; to have the liberty of speech as other members, providing his seat to be filled; to have no vote unless the Association be equally divided, in which case he shall have the deciding vote. The duty of the clerk shall be to keep a fair record of the proceedings of the Association.

2. The Association shall be composed of ordained ministers, deacons, and licentiates, together with the messengers duly chosen by the several churches in our union and sent to represent them in this Association, said messengers being members of some church within this Association, whom the members judge best qualified for the purpose, who, on producing letters certifying to their appointment, shall be entitled to seats.

3. In the letters from the several churches shall be expressed their respective number of members in fellowship, and the number received, dismissed, excluded or died since the last sitting of the Association, and day of church meeting.

4. No query shall be received by the Association from any church unless it has acted on in said church and cannot be settled, in which case the Association shall take up same and act upon it.

5. Every church in the Association shall be entitled to a representation of messengers not exceeding three.

6. Every motion made and seconded shall be acted upon unless withdrawn by the mover.

7. The Association shall not have power to lord it over God's heritage so as to infringe on any of the internal rights of the churches; nevertheless, we agree that the churches composing the Association shall stand in the same relationship to each other in this Association that individuals do to each other in the churches; that is to say, if a church trespass against a sister church the church injured shall try to reclaim them by Gospel steps; if they cannot be reclaimed, they shall be dropped by our union.

8. We agree to do all business by a majority of all the members present.

9. Any church may be admitted into this Association by letter and messengers. If upon examination it is found to be orthodox and orderly, such admission shall be manifested by the moderator giving the right hand of fellowship to the messengers thereof.

10. This Association shall have power to sit as an advisory council, to give churches all necessary advice in matters of difficulty; to inquire into the cause why churches neglect to represent themselves in this Association; to appoint any members, by and with his or her consent to transact any business they may deem necessary; to invite brethren in the ministry to a seat with the Association; to adjourn the Association at any time and place that may be thought necessary; to exclude from his seat any member who does not conform to the Rules of Decorum, and shall report his or their conduct to the churches from which he or they were messengers.

11. The Association possesses appellate jurisdiction in all case of difficulty that may arise in the churches.

12. The Lord's Supper and Feet Washing shall be administered at each annual session of the Association.

13. Each annual Association shall be held on Thursday evening through Saturday before first Sunday in September.

RULES OF DECORUM

1. The Association, when convened, shall be opened and closed by singing and prayer.

2. Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall arise to his feet and address the moderator.

3. Each person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in speech, except by the moderator, until he gets through; nor shall the moderator interrupt him unless he breaks order.

4. The person speaking shall adhere to the question and shall in no wise cast reflections on any person who may have spoken before him.

5. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave of the Association.

6. No person shall laugh or whisper in time of public speech.

7. Members shall address each other by the appellation of brother or brethren, and sisters.

8. No members of this Association shall absent himself when the Association is sitting in conference without leave of the moderator.

9. The names of the members of this Association shall be enrolled and called over as often as the Association thinks is necessary.

10. No member shall speak longer than fifteen minutes at any one time without leave of the moderator.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to order by moderator.
2. Call for letters from churches.
3. Election of moderator and clerk.
4. Read Rules of Decorum.
5. Appointment of Committees: Divine Service, Finance, Obituary, Arrangement of Business.
6. Call for corresponding letters.
7. Call for petitionary letters.
8. Unfinished business.
9. New business.

FREE WILL BAPTIST 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 give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant. We Promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid the appearance 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 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 bonds 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 principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society; constantly praying and toiling that the kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls, and the conversion of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

STATISTICAL TABLE

Church	Pastor	Clerk	Received into Fellowship	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Deaths	Ministers	S. S. Average Attendance	F. W. B. L. Enrollment	Membership Enrollment
Courville Church	Rev. V. S. Versnick	V. S. Versnick	7	0	0	1	40	0	13	13
First Flint Church	Rev. Geo. P. Warren	Ruth Wood	0	4	1	3	35	0	16	16
First Hazel Park Church	Rev. Horton T. Davis	Nellie Smith	12	4	0	5	100	49	130	130
Philadelphia Church	Rev. Harvey Garrison	Zina Bean	13	0	0	1	30	0	13	13
Highland Park Church	Rev. Raymond Riggs	Carl Kirk	35	24	1	4	150	55	150	150
James St. Ch. River Rouge	No Pastor	J. T. Gaylor	7	0	0	0	35	0	7	7
East Side Church	Rev. Virgil Greenway	Robert Parrish	15	4	0	3	30	0	23	23
F. W. B. Temple	Rev. N. P. Gates	Y. V. Hayley	32	0	0	2	70	30	43	43
Ecorse Church	Rev. McKinley Newsome	Frances McCage	3	1	0	2	45	0	21	21
Total			124	37	5	21	530	134	416	416