

**The
Wolverine
Association
of
Free Will Baptist**

1945

**Proceedings of the
4th. Annual Session**

**Convened at
Ecorse F. W. B. Church
Ecorse, Mich.**

MINUTES

OF THE

THE WOLVERINE ASSOCIATION

OF

FREE WILL BAPTIST

HELD WITH

Proceedings of the Fourth Annual Session
When convened with Ecorse Free Will Baptist Church
Charlotte and High St., Ecorse, Michigan
On August 30-31 and September 1, 1945

OFFICERS

Moderator, Rev. C. E. Riggs
Ass't. Moderator, Rev. George P. Warren
Clerk, Sis. Gladys Sloan
Ass't. Clerk, Rev. Edgil Howard
Treasurer, Rev. Raymond Riggs

The next annual session will convene with the Highland Park Free Will Baptist Church, 242 Victor Ave., Highland Park, Mich. Beginning on Thursday evening July 4th, and continuing through July 6th, 1946.

The Introductory sermon by Rev. McKinley Newsome.

PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY EVENING SERVICES

Service opened at 7:45 P.M. with singing, directed by Rev. McKinley Newsome and Rev. N. P. Gates. After prayer by Rev. F. C. Zinn, Bro. Preston Slocum conducted the Devotional Service. A Quartette number was rendered by Rev. McKinley Newsome, Rev. N. P. Gates, Rev. C. R. Riggs and Bro. Lawrence Shivel. There was also special singing and music by Bro. Henry Sharrow.

The Message for the evening was brought by Rev. Edgil Howard, using as his Scripture, Matt. 28:1-20. Services were dismissed by prayer.

FRIDAY MORNING

Opened by singing, directed by Rev. McKinley Newsome. Prayer by Rev. George P. Warren. The Moderator used as his Scripture reading for the morning, Psa. 36, after which he declared the Conference open and read the rules of Decorum.

Moderator calls for the letters from the various churches and they were read. Those were, Courville Church, East Side Church, Ecorse Church, First Free Will Baptist Church of Flint, Free Will Baptist Temple, James St. Church, Highland Park Church, whose delegates were seated in conference. It was voted by the body that the corresponding letter from Mo. be received and the delegate Rev. F. C. Zinn be seated.

After a prayer of consecration by Rev. C. E. Riggs, 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. Rev. George P. Warren was elected by the body to serve as Assistant Moderator. Sis. Gladys Sloan was elected clerk, and Rev. Edgil Howard assistant clerk. Rev. C. R. Riggs was elected by acclamation to serve as treasurer.

By vote of the body, Rev. N. P. Gates and Rev. Horton T. Davis were retained on the Business Committee. Bro. Vint Kirk was elected to serve on the Business Committee in the place of Rev. Virgil Greenway, who has moved to Missouri. The morning Session was adjourned with prayer by Bro. Jack Hagen.

Friday morning Worship Service was opened with singing under the direction of Rev. N. P. Gates, prayer by Rev. McKinley Newsome. There was special singing and music by Bro. Henry Sharrow after which, Rev. Dan Cronk brought an inspiring message, taking his text from the entire book of John and using as his subject, "And This". Benediction by Rev. F. A. Seminole.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Opened with singing lead by Rev. N. P. Gates. The Scripture, Eph. 4:1-16, was read by the Moderator. After prayer, Moderator opens conference for business. The Moderator appoints the various committees as follows:

DIVINE SERVICE COMMITTEE: Sis. Ruby Kirby, Sis. Letha Jaco, Bro. Oddis Birchett.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Sis. Pauline Bennett, Sis. Anna Newsome, Rev. George P. Warren.

OBITUARY COMMITTEE: Bro. Lewis Turner, Sis. Lucy Carrier, Bro. Henry Sharrow.

Rev. F. A. Seminole was received into the body as an honorary member.

The following Resolutions were submitted by the Business Committee and adopted by the body: Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7. (See Resolutions).

Minutes of the Ministerial Council were read and accepted.

Minutes of the preceeding quarterly Session, read and accepted.

The Editor's report on the Associational paper, (Echo) was read and accepted. Two recommendations made by the Editor, were accepted by vote of the Conference. (See Recommendations).

Board of Directors of the Associational paper, were elected as follows: Rev. McKinley Newsome, Rev. Edgil Howard, Rev. V. S. Versnick.

The present Editor, Rev. C. R. Riggs, was retained as editor for another year.

Report from the delegate, Bro. Jack Hagen, to the National Association read.

The afternoon session was closed with prayer by Sis. Lucy Carrier.

FRIDAY EVENING SERVICE

Opened by singing, lead by Rev. McKinley Newsome, after which a song service was conducted by Rev. C. R. Riggs. There was special singing by two Quartettes and a special number on the Accordion by Bro. Henry Sharrow.

The Devotional Service was conducted by Rev. Dan Cronk, after which a free will offering was lifted and given to Rev. F. C. Zinn to help pay his expenses to Detroit.

Rev. F. C. Zinn brought the evening message, taking his text from Heb. 12 and I Cor. 9:24; using as his subject, "The Christian Race". Benediction by Bro. LaVan Pearce.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Opened by singing, lead by Rev. McKinley Newsome. Scripture read by the Moderator, I Peter 2. Prayer by Bro. Henry Sharrow.

It was voted that the Messenger for the Memorial Service on Saturday of each Annual Conference, be elected by the Conference annually.

It was voted by the body that Rev. McKinley Newsome bring the Introductory Message at the next annual Association Conference.

Rev. C. E. Riggs was elected by the body to bring the Memorial Message at the next Annual Association Conference.

Tardy letters were called for and received from the First Free Will Baptist Church of Hazel Park.

It was voted by the Conference to hold the next Annual Conference at the Highland Park Church.

The next quarterly Session is to be held at the Hazel Park Church, by mutual understanding. Due to the omitting of the last quarterly session, the arrangements that were made for that Conference will stand for the next quarterly Conference.

All Ministers and Deacons examined and their characters were found blameless.

The names of Rev. Harvey Garrison, Deacons H. P. Rippitoe and Carson Jaquess were removed from roll upon personal request.

Ministerial Reports were read.

Rev. Horton T. Davis, was elected by the body, to the Presbytery Board to fill vacancy left by Rev. Virgil Greenway. Motion was made to adjourn, benediction by Rev. George P. War-

ren.

SATURDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Open at 11:00 A.M. with a Song Service lead by Rev. McKinley Newsome, prayer by Rev. Horton T. Davis. The report of the Obituary Committee was read, accepted and Committee discharged. The message for the Memorial Service was brought by Rev. C. R. Riggs; Text: I Thes. 4:13-18; Rev. 14:13; Subject: "Why Pay Tribute To the Dead". Benediction by Rev. George P. Warren.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Song Service lead by Rev. McKinley Newsome, after which the Moderator turned the services over to Sis. McCage of the Ecorse Church, who took charge of the Young Peoples' League Programs. The Churches were called as follows: Highland Park Church, directed by Rev. L. D. Nance; Hazel Park Church directed by Sis. Eileen Dalton; James St. Church, Bro. Henry Sharrow. It seemed the Lord was leading in the preparation of these programs as they were closely linked together along the line of Missions.

A Special Mission offering was lifted which amounted to \$19.20. The Ecorse Church presented their program which was in charge of Sis. McCage. This program was a wonderful climax to the afternoon Service.

Moderator opened the Conference for transaction of Business.

Report of Finance Committee and its Recommendations were read and accepted. (See Committee Reports). Committee discharged.

Treasurer's Report and Recommendation was read and accepted with necessary corrections. (See Reports). Bro. Vint Kirk was elected as a member of the Finance Committee in place of Bro. James F. Sandafer, whose term expired.

The need of the widowed, Sis. Violet Hagen and her six children was brought before the Conference. Motion was made that the Treasurer be empowered to settle a standing grocery bill which amounted to \$97.13, and that the evening offering be placed in the treasury to reimburse this amount. Motion carried.

F. W. B. Temple requests the ordination of Bro. Lee Lacey as Deacon. Bro. Lee Lacey was not present.

The James St. Church requests that Bro. Henry Sharrow

be licensed to preach the Gospel.

Benediction by Rev. L. D. Nance.

SATURDAY EVENING SERVICE

The service was opened at 7:45 p.m. by Bro. Henry Sharrow playing "Sweet Hour of Prayer" on the Accordion. The song service was conducted by Rev. McKinley Newsome and Bro. LaVan Pearce. Prayer by Bro. Ezra Walker. An offering was lifted which amounted to twenty dollars.

The evening message was brought by Rev. N. P. Gates, Text: John 14:15. The beautiful song, "Precious Memories" was sung, then the Communion and Feet Washing Service followed. The final Resolution was accepted by a rising vote. (See Resolutions). The closing Hymn, "God Be With You."

Rev. C. E. Riggs, Moderator
Sis. Gladys Sloan, Clerk

RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolved that each student from our Association that attends our Bible College in Nashville, Tenn., next year be given the same allotment as this year. Which was \$25.00 per quarter.

Be it further resolved that the same amount be paid to Bro. Dan Cronk who will attend school in South Carolina.

2. Resolved that the meetings of our Quarterly Conference and Association be changed to the following time.

First meeting—Thursday night before the first Sunday in January.

Second meeting—Thursday night before the first Sunday in April.

Third meeting—Thursday night before the first Sunday in July.

Fourth meeting—Thursday night before the first Sunday in October.

Be it further resolved that the meeting in July be held as our Annual Association.

3. Whereas the National Association has launched an expansion program to raise \$100,000.00 in the next three years, to expand our Bible College, and whereas a suggested goal of \$5000.00 has been allocated to Michigan, we recommend that we co-operate with the National body and that a Board of Education, consisting of three members to be elected by this

Association, and that this board make plans and recommendations, whereby we may be able to raise \$5000.00 to aid in the expansion of our Bible College.

We further recommend that this board begin functioning as soon as possible and that every Church co-operate to the fullest extent.

4. Resolved that the proposed Constitution and By-Laws as recommended by the Superannuation Board of the National Association of Free Will Baptist be adopted by this body and said Board proceed to function.

5. Resolved that the funds of our Association be allocated as follows, during the following year:

Unified Program of the National Ass'n. of F. W. B.	10%
Board of Education	20%
Home Mission Board	20%
Foreign Missions	20%
Superannuation	10%
Operating Expense	20%

6. Resolved that the Clerk have 500 copies of minutes printed of this sitting and funds taken from Treasury, to pay for same.

7. Be it resolved that we extend to the Ecorse 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.

Respectively submitted: The Committee: Rev. Raymond Riggs, Rev. McKinley Newsome, Rev. Horton T. Davis, Rev. N. P. Gates, Bro. Vint Kirk.

Recommendation of the Finance Committee:

We the Committee recommend that each Church turn in their Tithes and Offerings at each Quarterly Session of the Association, if possible.

The Committee: Rev. George P. Warren, Sis. Anna Newsome, Sis. Pauline Bennett.

Recommendations made by the Editor of the Free Will Echo.

1. That a new board of Directors be elected at this session.

2. In addition to obtaining as many subs. as possible, that each church receive a quarterly offering toward the expense of the paper.

Recommendation of the Treasurer.

That the members of the Standing Finance Committee be empowered to audit the Treasurer's books every year and report their findings before the Annual Association.

REPORTS

We, the Committee on Obituary, are happy to make the following report:

That our kind Heavenly Father has not seen fit to call any one from our number in the past year for which we sincerely thank and adore His matchless name.

The Committee: Sis. Lucy J. Carrier, Bro. Henry Sharrow, Bro. Lewis Turner.

Associational Paper: Free Will Echo:

Since the Free Will Echo has become an Associational paper it has been used as a medium of correspondence and communication for our work. The Free Will Baptist Gem Press prints 1000 copies per month which have been distributed among the Churches of our Association, mailed to our boys in Service, and mailed to the regular subscribers which at present, consist of approximately 250 or 310 paid subscribers.

Following is a report of the receipts and disbursements in maintaining the Free Will Echo since Jan. 1, 1945.

Disbursements:

January and February printing	\$60.00
March and April printing	80.00
May, June and July	99.25
August printing	30.00
Mailing Expenses	39.25
Total Disbursements	\$308.50

Receipts:

Amount received from Subs.	\$89.00
Gift received from Hazel Park	14.00
Gift received from Ecorse	7.35
Total Receipts	110.35
Amount of cost to Association	198.15

Respectfully Submitted

Rev. Raymond Riggs, Editor

Report of Committee on Finance:

We your Committee on Finance beg to submit the following report:

Received for this Quarter from:

Highland Park Church	\$259.83
Hazel Park Church	50.00
Free Will Baptist Temple	50.00
Flint Church	14.80
Ecorse Church	40.00

East Side Church	8.60
Total	\$423.23

The Committee: Rev. George P. Warren, Sis. Anna Newsome,
Sis. Pauline Bennet.

MINISTERIAL REPORTS

• Rev. George P. Warren

Number Churches pastored	1
Number Sermons preached	79
Number of Weddings	None
Number of Church Papers Read	1
Number of Funerals Conducted	None
Number of Revivals Conducted	None
Number of Members Received into Church	6
Amount Received for Services	\$11.00

Rev. C. E. Riggs

Number of Churches pastored	None
Number Sermons preached	25
Served as Moderator of Association	
Teacher of Bible Class in Hazel Park	
Been in Services regularly	
Have been elected pastor of East Side Church for ensuing year	
Received	\$150.00

Rev. Horton T. Davis

Number churches pastored	1
Number sermons preached	130
Received into Church	7
Number Baptized	3
Number of Weddings	1
Number of Funerals	2
Witnessed Conversions	25
Attended National Association	
Received as Salary	\$3,120.00
Received as Love Offerings and Revivals	985.00
Total Amount Received	\$4105.00

Rev. N. P. Gates

Number of churches pastored	1
Number of Miles traveled	4000
Number of sermons preached (about)	100
Number of Funerals	2
Assisted at one funeral	
Number of Weddings	3
Number of Conversions witnessed (about)	50
Number Baptized	11

Preached occasionally elsewhere	
Taught Two Singing Schools	
Published the Evangel	
Received for pastoral care of church	\$2600.00
Free Will Offerings elsewhere	252.00
Received for funerals	10.00
Received for Weddings	25.00
Total Received	\$2887.00

Rev. H. E. Willis

Number churches pastored	1
Number sermons preached	120
Number miles traveled	4000
Number of Funerals	3
Conducted Revivals	6
Number of Conversions	105
Baptized	51
Number Received into Church	15
Taught Bible Class	
Organized two Free Will Baptist Leagues	
Organized one Sunday School	
Organized one Woman's Auxiliary	
Attended the Free Will Baptist Bible College	
Served as Editor of the Free Will Baptist Promoter	
Amount received for all work	\$1000.00

Rev. Dan Cronk

Number of Sermons preached	16
Number Devotional Talks	17
Number of Sunday Schools taught	11
Number of Lectures on League	7
Number of Sunday School Institutes taught	6
Number of Lectures on Sunday School	36
Number of Youth meetings held	2
Number of League Camps taught in	2
Number of Daily Vacation Bible Schools held	2
Number of Miles traveled	over 4000
Number led to Christ	53
Led singing for all types of services	
Finished and graduated from Free Will Baptist Bible College	
Received approximately from offerings and gifts	\$800.00

Rev. McKinley Newsome

Number of churches pastored	1
Number of sermons preached at Ecorse Church	60
Number of Sermons preached at other churches	18
Assistant Bible Class Teacher	

Served church without salary, but was well reimbursed by the Spirit and Grace of God.

Number added to the church	3
Received as love offering	\$80.00

Rev. Raymond Riggs

Number of churches pastored	1
Number sermons at Home Church	100
Number sermons at revivals	80
Number of Memorial Services	2
Number of funerals	3
Total number of sermons preached	185
Number of weddings	13
Number of conversions	124
Number of baptisms	30
Number of members received into church	48
Amount received from church	\$3525.00
Amount received in revivals	558.42
Amount received for weddings	95.00
Amount received for funerals	20.00
Total amount received	\$4198.42

In addition to this report I have conducted a weekly radio broadcast, taught a Sunday School Class, made a trip to Cuba in the interest of our Mission work, attended a Christian Workers Institute and also the National Association.

Rev. Edgil Howard

Number of sermons preached	32
Number of Radio Programs conducted	10
Number of weddings	1
Number of funerals assisted in	1
Number of Conversions	4

Taught an Adult Bible Class

Served as Director of the F. W. B. League

Assisted the Pastor of the Highland Park Church in carrying on the various phases of the work:

Attended the National Association

Attended one Christian Workers Institute

Received for the year	\$1502.00
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Rev. L. D. Nance

Number sermons preached	41
Number conversions	18
Traveled approximately	10,000
Number of Tracts distributed (about)	10,000
Number of Radio Sermons	2

Visited seven states in the interest of the Cause

Led prayer meetings, preached in two hospitals, preached on the street several times and attended our Bible College nine months, receiving upon graduation both the certificate and the Evangelical Teachers certificate.

Received from my parents for school expenses	\$490.00
Received from the Wolverine Association	75.00
Received while on a League Itinerary in Miss. and Ala.	304.60
Total amount received	\$869.60

TREASURER'S REPORT

Following is a report of the receipts and disbursements of the Wolverine Association since Feb. 9, 1945.

Foreign Missions

Hazel Park	\$118.45
Highland Park	268.86
Flint	30.55
F. W. B. Temple	61.94
East Side	65.50
Offering at Conference	20.00
Total	\$565.30

Tithes and Offerings

Hazel Park	\$100.00
Highland Park	588.82
F. W. B. Temple	168.18
East Side	58.60
Ecorse	75.00
Courville	5.00
Institute Dues	100.00
Total	\$1124.93

Received from Echo	\$63.75
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Special Offerings

Free will offering	\$31.58
Offering for Institute	57.91
Received students of Institute	128.00
Offering for Rev. F. C. Zinn	20.00
Received from Estel Blaylock	12.00
Free will offering	19.22
Offering for Missions	20.00
Total	\$288.71

Total amount received since Feb. 9, 1945	\$2022.69
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Balance brought forward	453.77
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Total	\$2476.46
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Disbursements

Foreign Missions	\$565.30
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Gift to Bro. Sharrow	26.00
Unified Program of National Association	221.85
Bank service charge	1.18
F. W. B. Gem for Echo printing	269.25
Mich. Corp. and Securities Commission	15.00
Printing of Minutes	46.50
Church Letter Forms	3.60
Students of Bible College	100.00
Expense of Institute	297.81
Delegation to National Association	100.00
Registration to National Association	10.00
Service of Moderator	50.00
Service of Clerk	50.00
Service of Treasurer	25.00
Offering to Rev. F. C. Zinn	20.00
Gift to widow woman	97.13
Total Expenditures	\$1878.62
Balance on hand in all accounts	\$597.84

STANDING BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Rev. C. R. Riggs, term expiring in 1947; Bro. Vint Kirk, term expiring in 1946; Rev. McKinley Newsome, term expiring in 1946; Rev. Horton T. Davis and Rev. N. P. Gates, both terms expiring in 1948.

STANDING FINANCE COMMITTEE

Rev. George P. Warren, term expiring in 1947; Bro. Preston Slocum, term expiring in 1946; Bro. Vint Kirk, term expiring in 1948.

PRESBYTERY

Rev. C. E. Riggs, Rev. N. P. Gates, Rev. Raymond Riggs, Rev. Horton T. Davis, Rev. George P. Warren.

HOME MISSION BOARD

Rev. C. R. Riggs, Rev. V. R. Greenway, Rev. N. P. Gates, Rev. C. E. Riggs, Rev. Edgil Howard.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Rev. N. P. Gates, Rev. Edgil Howard, Rev. C. R. Riggs.

SUPERANNUATION BOARD

Bro. Preston Slocum, Bro. LaVan Pearce, Rev. N. P. Gates, Rev. Edgil Howard, Rev. Horton T. Davis.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE DENOMINATIONAL PAPER

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 Rev. McKinley Newsome, Rev. Edgil Howard, Rev. V. S. Versnick.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. N. P. Gates, Lock Box 41, Hazel Park, Mich.
Rev. C. E. Riggs, 944 E. Harry, Hazel Park, Mich.
Rev. C. R. Riggs, 804 Annin St., Detroit, Mich.
Rev. George P. Warren, 2106 Harwine St., Flint, Mich.
Rev. James Grisham, Milan, Mich.
Rev. V. S. Versnick, 18020 Fleming St., Detroit, Mich.
Rev. Virgil Greenway, Verona, Mo., Rt. 1
Rev. Everett L. Hall, Owensboro, Ky.
Rev. Horton T. Davis, 23138 Hazelwood, Hazel Park, Mich.
Rev. McKinley Newsome, 7511 Hipp St., Melvindale, Mich.
Rev. Homer Willis, 3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.
Rev. Jimmy Gillim, 157 Dwight St., River Rouge, Mich.
Rev. Edgil Howard, 4937 Culver, Dearborn, Mich.
Rev. William Newsome, U. S. Navy
Rev. Dan Cronk, Columbia University, South Carolina
Rev. Carson Whitaker, Baxter, Tenn.

LICENTIATES

Rev. L. D. Nance, Parrish, Ala.
Rev. Finley J. Hendrics, Graham, Ky., Rt. 1, Box 16
Rev. James T. Holman, Sparta, Tenn. Rt. 5
Rev. Malcom Rogers, Baxter, Tenn.

DEACON ENROLLMENT

Daniels, Preston Slocum, Thomas Carlile.
Ecorse Church: Vint Kirk, Gilbert Burris.
Flint Church: Oddis Birchett.
Free Will Baptist Temple: J. C. Presley, Beecher Cope, Y. V. Hayley, Willie Whitaker.
East Side Church: R. A. Parrish.
James St. Church: Jack Hagan, Henry Cochrane.

DELEGATE ENROLLMENT

Highland Park: Sis. Virgie Howard, Sis. Letha Jaco, Sis. Gladys Sloan.
Ecorse Church: Sis. Macie Maynard, Sis. Anna Newsome, Sis. Edith Burris.
Free Will Baptist Temple: Bro. Lewis Turner, Sis. Imolene

Bradford, Sis. Ruby Jo Kirby.

Flint Church: Sis. Eva Birchett.

East Side Church: Sis. Pauline Bennett, Sis. Frances Walker.

Courville Church: Sis. Lucy Carrier.

James St. Church: Rev. Henry Sharrow.

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 drop-

ped 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 July.

(Supplement to the Constitution)

By-Laws Adopted By The Association Regarding Ministerial Council And Presbytery

I Purpose:

The Ministerial Council is for the purpose of encouraging, supporting and maintaining a higher standard of true discipline in our staff of ministers, as pertaining to their character, qualification, honorary membership and soundness in doctrine. That each minister is urged to attend or give a written report. Said council presided over by the Associational Moderator. Program to be arranged by committee.

II. Membership:

All ministers who have been approved by the presbytery shall automatically become members of the council.

III. Authority:

The ministerial council shall be considered strictly an advisory body and shall at no time assume ruling authority.

Presbytery:

1. The presbytery of the Wolverine Association of Free Will Baptists shall be composed of five duly ordained ministers who are members in good standing of the Association.

2. The members of the presbytery shall be elected by the Association as follows: one for five years, one for four years, one for three years, one for two years and one for one year. Each member to be elected for five years thereafter.

3. Any duly ordained minister or deacon, who is in good standing with this body, has the privilege of sitting in council with the presbytery at any time, but will not be permitted to vote unless he is appointed to serve by proxy, by the absentee member or selected by a majority of the members present.

4. The purpose of the presbytery shall be for the mutual improvement of the ministry, their protection against hostile influences, for the maintaining of a clean and pure character among those of the ordained authority. It shall also become the duty of the presbytery to examine all candidates for license to preach the gospel or to ordain the same at the request of the local church.

5. Before granting a license or endorsing credentials of any minister from another denomination to preach the Gospel, the candidate must have been a member of a church in this Association at least six months.

6. The local church must first request by letter the licensing or ordaining of all candidates before the presbytery can act.

7. Before license or ordination, the candidate is examined as to his gifts, personal piety and doctrines, his call to the ministry, his adaptability and devotion to the work, his reputation, character, ability and his present and prospective educational and professional qualification. A list of not less than twenty-five questions should be prepared by the presbytery and the candidates should be required to make a grade of not less than 70% before license is granted. The examination for ordination should include all that is required for license, and also satisfactory examination respecting the life and labors of the candidate and his attainments, at least in the departments of English education, Doctrinal and Pastoral theology and Homiletics.

8. The examination of deacons shall be according to I Timothy, chapter 3.

9. The term of license shall be one year after which local

church may request another examination, and the presbytery shall decide whether or not the license be extended, or the candidate ordained. If an offense is made during year, and candidate repents, his license will be forfeited, and he will be forced to begin anew.

10. A minister from another denomination wishing to unite with this Association must first make application to a church which requests action of the presbytery the same as for license or ordination.

11. Be it known that any minister or deacon coming under the hands of this presbytery walks disorderly, or commits an offense must come before this body and make restitution or willingly give up such rights of license or ordination papers or card given by this body, or they agree to be published in any or all newspapers as this body deems necessary.

12. An annual written report of the activities of the presbytery shall be made by the clerk to the Association, or as often as is necessary.

13. All ministers of this Association are required to report in person or letter to the ministerial council quarterly and to have a written report of their work at the annual Association. Failure to report to the Association at least once per year will forfeit the minister's standing and he will be dropped from the Association.

14. These Rules and By-laws to be printed in minutes at all times.

Faithfulness in its varied forms has always been rewarded by our Lord Jesus Christ. He rewards us even for the small common place things we do.

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 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; Heb. 1:4; 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, transgressing 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; I 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; the Gospel invites all; the Holy Spirit strives with 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 saints' 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 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, impresses 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 the 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. PERSEVERANCE. 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 side-step 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.

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 REPORT

Membership Enrollment	22
F. W. B. L. Enrollment	18
S. S. Average Attendance	35
Ministers	130
Deaths	168
Excluded	35
Dismissed by Letter	70
Received into Fellowship	199

Church	Pastor	Clerk
Courville Church	Rev. V. S. Versnick	Joyce Kennedy
First Flint Church	Rev. Geo. P. Warren	Oddis Birchett
First Hazel Park Church	Rev. Horton T. Davis	Mattie Shelton
Highland Park Church	Rev. Raymond Riggs	Rev. Edgil Howard
James St. Church	Rev. James E. Gillim	Thelma Hagen
East Side Church	Rev. C. E. Riggs	Frances Walker
F. W. B. Temple	Rev. N. P. Gates	Lewis Turner
Ecorse Church	Rev. McKinley	Frances McCage
		Total

8	0	0	1	30	0	22
6	0	0	2	35	0	18
14	4	0	4	130	35	150
44	4	1	4	168	70	199
19	0	2	2	35	0	27
0	5	0	2	0	0	18
19	2	2	3	70	30	52
3	1	0	2	50	30	23
167	16	5	20	518	165	509