# WOLVERINE ASSOCIATION

THE

# OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

1950

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE 9TH ANNUAL SESSION

When Convened With THE HIGHLAND PARK F. W. B. CHURCH 242 Victor Avenue Highland Park, Michigan

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM-MONETT, MO.

### MINUTES

Of The NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

Of The

**WOLVERINE ASSOCIATION** 

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Of •

HELD WITH

The Highland Park Free Will Baptist Church 242 Victor Avenue,

## Highland Park, Michigan On June 29, 30; July 1, 1950

OFFICERS

### PROCEEDINGS

#### Thursday Evening Worship Service

The Annual Conference of the Wolverine Association of Free Will Baptists was opened on Thursday, June 29th at 7:30 p.m. Bro. Chester Marine conducted the congregational singing. Opening prayer by Bro. Ira Carpenter. Rev. Raymond Riggs conducted the Devotional service, using Ecc. 11:1-10 as the Scripture reading. Special music was rendered by the Highland Park Church Choir. Prayer by Rev. Raymond Riggs.

Rev. Homer Willis introduced Rev. J. L. Drummond of the Covenant Community Church of Redford, Michigan as the speaker for the evening. Rev. Drummond used as his Scripture Text, Heb. 9:24-28; Subject, "Three Appearances.

1. Appeared to put away sin.

- (a) Method—by the sacrifice of Himself.
- 2. Appears in the presence of God for us. / (Is at present working for us)
- 3. Appear to complete the work of Salvation. (2nd coming-Redemption will be complete)

Rev. Drummonds presence and message was greatly appreciated. Closing prayer by Bro. Chester Marine.

### Friday Morning Business Session

- Conference opened by Rev. Raymond Riggs conducting the congregational singing. Opening prayer by Rev. John Roberts. Rev. Homer Willis conducted the devotional service, using II Cor. 4:1-18 as the basis for the devotional thought.

The clerk called the roll of churches. Those present were: West Wayne Church, Philadelphia Church, River Rouge Church, Hazel Park Church, and the Highland Park Church. (The Flint Church represented by letter. Letters were received from the Breckenridge and the Owensboro churches after the close of the conference.) Letters read. Roll 'call of delegates. Delegates, and Ordained Authority, receive the right hand of fellowship. Prayer of consecration led by Bro. Elbert Anderson, closed by Rev. Edgil Howard.

The moderator read the rules of Decorum. Visitors welcomed. Committees were appointed as follows: Obituary Committee—Sisters Allie Allison, Maud Graves, and Mrs. John Roberts. Temperance Committee—Sisters Laura Edna Kenemer, Ova Bean and Rev. Sherman Lilly, <

Nominations were declared in order for someone to fill a vacancy on the Standing Business Committee. Nominee: Rev. Raymond Riggs. Motion made that nominations cease and proceed to elect by acclamation. Motion properly sustained and carried. Rev. Raymond Riggs declared elected. Rev. Sherman Lilly appointed to serve • temporarily on this committee for this session.

Rev. Edgil Howard presents his resignation from all Boards of which he is a member, due to the fact that he is leaving the city and cannot be present to serve. Motion made, properly sustained and carried that his resignation be accepted.

Nominations declared in order for someone to fill the unexpired term of Rev. Howard on the Standing Business Committee. Nominees: Rev. Sherman Lilly and Bro. Ira Carpenter. Motion made and carried that nominations cease and proceed to elect. Bro. Ira Carpenter elected.

Nominee for the Standing Finance Committee, Rev. Homer Willis. Motion carried that nominations cease and proceed to elect by acclamation. Bro Willis declared elected.

Rev. Raymond Riggs elected to serve a three year term on the Presbytery Board and Rev. Wm. T. Newsome elected to serve out the unexpired term of Rev. Edgil Howard. Nominations declared in order for someone to fill an expired term on the Home Missions Board. Nominee: Bro. Howard Lyle. The moderator declared nominations closed. Bro. Lyle declared elected.

Rev.' John Roberts declared elected to serve on the Board of Education.

Nominees to fill an expired term on the Superannuation Board: Bro. Van Paschall and Rev. Homer Willis. Bro. Van Paschall elected.

Nominee to fill the unexpired term of Rev. Edgil Howard on the Superannuation Board, Rev. Homer Willis. Bro. Willis declared elected.

Motion to retain the present program committee. Motion carried. Rev. Homer Willis declines to serve on the program committee. Rev. Raymond Riggs declared

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elected as a member of the program committee.

Nominee for Associational Reporter: Mrs. Hubert B. Sloan. Mrs. Sloan declared elected.

Nominee for moderator, Rev. Raymond Riggs. Motion made that nominations cease and proceed to elect by acclamation. Motion carried. Rev. Riggs declared elected as moderator.

Nominee for assistant moderator, Rev. Homer E. Willis. Motion made that nominations cease and proceed to elect by acclamation. Motion carried. Rev. Willis declared elected as assistant moderator.

Nominee for clerk, Mrs. Hubert Sloan. Motion made that nominations cease and proceed to elect by acclamation. Motion carried. Mrs. Sloan declared elected to serve as clerk.

Motion made that Sis. Violet Newsome be retained as Assistant Clerk. Motion carried.

Motion made to retain Rev. Raymond Riggs as treasurer. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn the morning session, properly sustained and carried. Closing prayer by Rev. Homer E. Willis.

#### Friday Morning Worship Service

Singing conducted by Rev. Raymond Riggs. Opening

prayer by Sis. Laura Edna Kenemer. Messenger for the hour, Rev. Edgil Howard. Scripture—Isaiah 6:1-8. Benediction by Sis. Allie Allison.

#### Friday Afternoon Business Session

Singing conducted by Rev. Homer Willis. Opening prayer by Sis. John Roberts. Devotional by Rev. John Roberts who read Romans 12 for our devotional thought. The moderator read the Rules of Decorum. The following reports were made and filed as information: Superannuation Board by Rev. Edgil Howard. Board of Education by Rev. Raymond Riggs. Youth Camp by Rev. Raymond Riggs.

The body agreed to hold the next quarterly conference of this Association with the West Wayne Free Will Baptist Church.

Report received from the Temperance Committee (See Recommendations.) Motion made to adopt the recom-

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mendation and discharge the committee. Motion carried.

Motion made to amend No. 4, under temperance, to read as follows, "That we discourage the patronizing of any business establishment which sells beer, wine or any intoxicating drink. Motion properly sustained and carried.

Obituary report received. (See recommendations.)

Congregation stands, for prayer in memory of Bro. Hicock.

Ministerial reports read and filed as information.

Motion made that 350 copies of the annual minutes be printed and draw from the treasury to pay for same. Motion properly sustained and carried.

Motion made to send an honerarium of \$15.00 to Rev. J. J. Drummond. Motion carried.

Motion made that a greeting be cabled to Bro. and Sis. Dan Cronk in India. Motion carried.

Motion made that \$50.00 be allocated to Rev. Homer Willis for serving as moderator. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn properly sustained and carried. Closing prayer by Sis. Ova Bean.

#### Friday Evening Worship Service

Singing conducted by Rev. Raymond Riggs. Opening prayer by Bro. Bob Edwards. A missionary play was presented by the Hazel Park Church, at the close of which the congregation joined in special prayer for our missionaries led by Sis. Rosalyn Montgomery. Singing conducted by Rev. Raymond Riggs. The Highland Park Church presented its Daily Vacation Bible School program. Announcements. Closing prayer by Rev. Wm. T. Newsome.

#### Saturday Morning Business Session

Singing conducted by Rev. Homer Willis. Opening prayer by Bro. Tancel Orr. Devotional by Bro. Claude Pinkston. Scripture reading Heb. 4:1-11.

The moderator read the Rules of Decorum. Temporary Finance Committee appointed as follows: Bro. Tancel Orr and Sis. Allie Allison.

Rev. Raymond Riggs makes treasurer's report. Motion made that report be received as read, properly sustained and carried. A discussion was entered into concerning the program for the Association. Motion made to accept everything that was said concerning the program and that the program committee keep these in mind when preparing the program. Motion carried.

Finance Committee report accepted.

Woman's Auxiliary report received as information. Motion made to extend to the Highland Park Church a standing vote of thanks for their hospitility in entertaining this session of the conference. Motion carried. Report received from the Presbytery Board. (See reports.)

Motion to adjourn, properly sustained and carried. Closing prayer by Rev. Wm. T. Newsome.

#### Saturday Morning Worship Service

Singing conducted by Rev. Raymond Riggs. Opening prayer by Bro. Bill McClintock. Message by Rev. Sherman Lilly (Acts 3).

Ordination service conducted by Rev. Homer Willis. (I Tim. 3.) Ordination prayer led by Rev. Raymond Riggs and Rev. Sherman Lilly, for the ordination of Rev. John Roberts. Closing prayer by Bro. Gordon Brown.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Homer Willis, Moderator Mrs. Hubert Sloan, Clerk

\$1,478.67

## REPORTS

### Report No. 1

Treasurer's Report Cash on hand July 1, 1949..... Receipts:

### Tithes

Hazel Park Church.	\$ 905.33
Highland Park Church	1,200.83
West Wayne Church	
Philadelphia Church	
River Rouge Church	250.00
Flint Church	

'Owensboro' Church	5.00	
Missions		•
Highland Park Church\$1	,891.00	
Highland Park Senior S. S. Class	12.65	
Highland Park League	205.52	
Highland Park Prayer Band	230.00	.'
Highland Park Auxiliary		
West Wayne Church	78.80	
Hazel Park Church	201.31	
	18.00	•
Hazel Park Auxiliary	91.00 ·	ر: , .
Hazel Park Sunday School Bank	<b>•</b> 5.10	
Flint Church	- 36.37	
River Rouge Church	-56.65	: Ì
Owensboro Auxiliary	<b>14.92</b>	•
Owensboro Church	$13.00$ $\sim$	
River Rouge Church. Owensboro Auxiliary. Owensboro Church. Breckenridge Church.	6.00	,
Miscellaneous		
Amount received from Youth Camp\$ Amount received from camp store and	505.00	
sale of extra merchandise	49.34	

Total Receipts ...

.\$6,663.17

.•	Grand Total		8,141.	84
	Disbursements:			•
	Molerator\$	3 100.00		
	Clerk,	. 50.00	•	
-	Rev. Edgil Howard (Owensboro)	50.00		
	Treasurer and Ins't. Exp			•
	James F. Miller			
· · ·	F. W. B. Bible Collège	287.46	÷	4
	National Home Missions	66.63		
	United Program	287:46		
,	National Superannuation	66.63		•2. 
•	Foreign Missions	3,673.78	1	مید. 4
	Owensboro Church	250.00	· · · ·	
•	Highland Park Church	200.00		
	Rev. Mark Lewis	25.00		
	Printing of Minutes	· 73.00		•
			2010	

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Michigan Conservation	50.00
Derald West	75.00
Stationary	19.17
F. W. B. Bible College (Lumni)	
H. E. Willis.	5.00
E. T. T. A.	30.00
Rev. Tom Malone	15.00
Filing Cabinet.	50.90
Delegate Exp. to National Association.	60.00
Telephone Calls	
Cablegram to India	3.52
Cost of renting and operating Youth	•
Camp	570.79
	0.0
Total	\$6,160.18
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Balance July 1, 1950	\$2,031.66
Balance in Various Accounts:	
General Fund\$	1,013.03
Home Missions	
Superannuation	
Unified Program	
Board of Education	11 64
Foreign Missions	195.00
Total	49 N21 66
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Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Raymond Riggs, Treasurer

#### MINISTERIAL REPORTS

Rev. Homer E. Willis-Served as pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Hazel Park, Michigan. Officiated at 11 weddings. Conducted 2 funerals. Baptized 14. Held revivals at First Free Will Baptist Church of Flat River, Missouri; First Free Will Baptist Church of Owensboro Kentucky; West Wayne Free Will Baptist Church, and Clark Street Baptist Church of Monroe. Received 28 members into the church. Attended National Association at Columbus, Georgia and Bible Conference at, Nashville, Tennessee. Conducted 41 Prayer Meetings, witness a number of conversions. Served as Missions
Director of the State, Moderator of the local conference, Assistant Moderator of the National Association, Assistant Camp Director. Taught two Teacher Training In-

stitutes. Served as clerk of the Hazel Park Pastors Association. Taught Bible Class in local church. Conducted a weekly radio broadcast. Received as salary from church \$75.00 per week and some love offerings. Total amount received approximately \$4,500.00. Directed one vacation Bible school, and assisted in two revivals in own church.

Rev. Frank Pritchard—Sermons, 15; conversions, 6; miles traveled, 1,500.

Rev. W. S. Lilly—Revivals, 2; conversions, 29; sermons, 130; marriages, 1; miles traveled, 5,000; money received, \$3,120.

Rev. Raymond Riggs-Full time pastor of the Highland Park Free Will Baptist Church. Sermons preached in pastorate, 140; Teacher of Adult Bible Class; conducted by-weekly Radio Program; Teacher in Junior Bible School; Taught in two Teacher Training Institutes; Taught in Daily Vacation Bible School; Served as Chairman of the Foreign Mission Board of the National Association of Free Will Baptists; Served as Treasurer of Wolverine Association of Free Will Baptists; Served as Trustee of the Greater Detroit Gospel Singing Association; Conducted 3 revival meetings out of own pastorate: Walnut Ridge, Arkansas; Columbus, Mississippi, and Flat River, Missouri. Sermons preached in revivals, 37; conversions in revivals, 64; amount received in revivals, \$465.00; weddings performed (approximately), 15; amount received from weddings, \$100.00; funerals conducted, 5; amount received from funerals, \$40.00; conversions in own pastorate, 69; members received, 54; No. baptized, 38; salary received from church, \$4,230.00; amount received elsewhere, \$605.00; total income, \$4,835.00; total conversions, 133. I also attended the National Association in Columbus, Georgia and the Bible Conference in Nashville, Tennessee.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

No. 1. We, your Committee on Temperance, wish to submit the following report:

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1. Be it resolved that the use of beer, wine, and liquor

in any form be condemned by the ministers and laymen in this Association.

2. That our people refuse to work in establishments that sell intoxicating drinks.

3. That our people refuse to support anyone at the polls, who is supporting the liquor traffic.

4. That we discourage the patronizing of any business establishment which sells beer, wine or any intoxicating drink.

5. As intoxicating drinks have neither food value nor value as a stimulant, be it resolved that this body cooperate with all other groups who are working in interest of National Prohibition.

Respectfully submitted,

Sis. Laura Edna Kenemer Sis. Ova Bean Rev. Sherman Lilly

No. 2. Acknowledging that God in His infinite wisdom has called Bro. James Worden Hicock, better known to his many friends as Dad Hicock of the Hazel Park Church, to that great City to which he faithfully looked forward to, be it resolved, that the Wolverine Association express its deepest sympathy to the family and to the Hazel Park Church by sending expression of sympathy to the family and also a copy to the Hazel Park Church.

Obituary Committee,

Sis. Allie Allison Sis. Maude Graves Sis. Margaret Roberts

Obituary of James Worden Hicock

James Worden Hicock was born February 24, 1877 in Kingston, Ont., Canada. He came to Michigan at the age of five years and lived in this state for the remainder of his life. "Dad" as he was known to his many friends passed away November the 8th of last year. He was converted at an early age and united with the Free Methodist Church. After moving to Royal Oak some years ago, he united with the First Free Will Baptist Church of Hazel Park and remained a most devoted member until his passing. His absence from the church is most keenly felt.

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In addition to his many friends, he leaves four daughters: Mrs. Bernice Roose, Mrs. Faye Fielder, Mrs. Winfred O'-Conner, and Mrs. Geraldine Loveland. Funeral services were held at his church attended by a host of friends and ralitives. His pastor, Rev. H. E. Willis conducted the service, assisted by the "Glad Tidings Quartet". His remains were laid to rest in River Road Cemetary of Bélding, Michigan.

### COMMITTEES AND BOARDS'

#### Name

Rev. John Roberts.

### Term Expires

1952

### Standing Business Committee

Rev. Raymond Riggs	5	
Rev. Everett Hellard		
Bro. Ezra Walker		
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### Standing Finance Committee

Bro. Ocil Dalton	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	

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#### Presbytery Board

Rev. Wm. T. Newsome	1
Rev. Homer E. Willis	1.
Rev. Sherman Lilly	
Rev Mark Lowis 195	9
Rev. Raymond Riggs	3
Home Mission Board	•
Bro. LaVan Pearce	1
Bro Fowler Kirby 195	1
Rev. Homer E. Willis	2
Bro. Van Paschall	$\mathbf{\hat{2}}$
Bro. Howard Lyle195	3
Board of Education	
Rev. Wm. T. Newsome195	
Rev. Raymond Riggs	1

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#### Superannuation Board

Rev. Wm. T. Newsome	1951
Rev. Homer E. Willis	1951
Rev. John Roberts	1952
Rev. Everett Hellard	
Bro. Van Paschall.	

#### **Program Committee**

Rev. Sherman Lilly Rev. Raymond Riggs Bro. Ezra Walker

### ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. Robert Galloway, New Butler Parsonage, Rt. No. 1, Hazelton, Indiana

Rev. Homer E. Willis, 1023 Longfellow, Royal Oak, Mich. Rev. and Mrs. Dan Cronk, Missionaries to India Rev. James Gillim, 904 Algonquin, Detroit 14, Mich. Rev. Raymond Riggs, 206 California, Highland Park, Mich.

Rev. Edgil Howard, 4465 Townsend, Detroit, Mich.

Rev. George P. Warren, 2106 Harwine St., Flint, Mich. Rev. Wm. T. Newsome, 8375 Belleville Rd., Belleville, Mich.

Rev. Everett D. Hellard, Box 163, Breckenridge, Mich. Rev. Sherman Lilly, 1057 15th St., Detroit, Mich. Rev. Frank Pritchard, 1748 Vermont, Detroit 16, Mich.

Rev. John H. Roberts, 9306 Murry St., Detroit, Mich.

#### LICENTIATES

Rev. James Taylor, Owensboro, Ky.

### DEACON ENROLLMENT

Flint Church—Oddis Birchett Owensboro Church—William Warren, Oswald Jewell, Ernest Renfrow, and Henry Brown. Breckenridge Church—Earl Dutcher. Rouge Church—Herman Thomas and Eugene Aldridge.

Philadelphia Church-Herman Rippetoe, Carson

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Jaques, Fowler Kirby, and Ezra Walker. Highland Park Church—Thomas Carlile, Tancil Orr, Preston Slosum, Fred McChesney, and Douglas Moore. West Wayne Church—Adolph Felan.

Hazel Park Church—David Allison, Paul Carrier, Le-Van Pearce, and Ira Carpenter.

#### DELEGATE ENROLLMENT

Flint Church—Represented by letter. Owensboro Church—Represented by letter. Breckenridge Church—Represented by letter. Rouge Church—Sis. John Roberts and Elbert Ander-

son.

Philadelphia Church—Sis. Ova Bean and Sis. Maude Graves.

Highland Park Church—Sis. Laura Edna Kenemer, Sis. Emma Lou Harrison, and Bro. Bill McClintock.

West Wayne Church—Represented by letter.

Hazel Park Church—Sis. Lottie Pearce, Sis. Alta Dalton, and Sis. Allie Allison.

#### CONSTITUTION

1. This Association, when properly organized, shall consist of a Moderator and a Clerk who shall be chosen a by the sufferage 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 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 fellow-

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ship, 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 been 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 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 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 and 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 in 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 cases of difficulty that may arise in the churches. 12. Each annual Association shall be held on Thursday evening through Saturday afternoon before the first Sunday in July.

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#### **BY-LAWS**

Supplement to the Constitution)

Adopted By the Association Regarding Ministerial Council and Presbytery

1. Rurpose:

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. Mempership.

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

III. Authority:

The Ministrial 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 three years, two for two years, and two for one year. Each member to be elected for three 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 an 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.

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5. Before granting a license or endorsing credentials of any minister form 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 qualifications. 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 the year, and the 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 request 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.

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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 are 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 for the small, common things we do.

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; I 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. Fook upon Himself the form of humanity, 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 the inspiration of God, is our way-bill from earth to heaven, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice. II Peter 1:19-21; If 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 penaltics 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; 6:5; Rom. 5:12-19; John 3:6; Eph. 2:3.

6. REDEMPTION, SALVATION, ADOPTION. We believe 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 glorfied 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. CONDITION OF SALVATION. We believe that all persons, dying in infancy and all idoits are saved by the atoning merits of the Son of God without an 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 3; 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, and whosoever will may come and be saved upon the terms of the Gospel. I Peter 1:9-25; 2:9-25; Rev. 22:17.

9. BAPTISM. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of believers in water in the name of the Father, 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; I 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 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; I 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 13:12-18; 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 irresistable to 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 Able to the restitution of all things, from every kindred, nation, tongue, and people. Eph. 3:16-21; Heb. 12:22, 23; I Pet. 2:5; Eph. 2:20-22; Acts.2:47; Matt. 16:18. 14. THE VISIBLE CHURCH. We believe that a visable church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women having obtained fellowship with the Lord and each other, agreeing to keep up a good discipline and

doctrine according to the rules of the Gospel. II Thess. 1:1; Acts 16:5; III John 1:10; Matt. 18:17; Acts 20:28; Rev. 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 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 willfully refuse or neglect to perform their duty, they would backslide; if persistently continued, would be eternally lost. II Pet. 1:12; II Cor. 9:10; II Pet. 1:4-8; 2:2; Rom. 8:35-39; Apostacy: II Pet. 1:8, 9; I Cor. 10:1-13; Heb. 12: 15-17; I John 5:16; Heb. 6:1-6; I 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. I Cor. 6:11; II Thess. 2:13; Heb. 12:14; Phil. 3:21; II Thess. 5:19-23; St. John 17:17-19; II 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 forever; but the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment. Matt. 28:6; John 5:28, 29; I 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. JUDGMENT. 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. II Thess. 1:4-9; Rev. 14:9-13; Luke 16:23; Rev. 21:8; II 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 member 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 it 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

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- 6. Call for corresponding letters
- 7. Call for petitionary letters
- 8. Unfinished business

9. New business

#### 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 all 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 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 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 pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, 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 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.

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

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ATISTICAL TABLE

