

MINUTES

OF THE

110th Annual Session

OF THE

CLINCH VALLEY
ASSOCIATION

OF

Freewill Baptist

HELD WITH

RED HILL CHURCH

Gate City, VA

MAY 10, 1986

JOHN PIERSON

MODERATOR

JAMES MYERS, JR.

CLERK

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OFFICERS ELECTED

MODERATOR Elder James McDavid
ASSISTANT MODERATOR. Elder Erritt Darnell
TREASURER. Russell Sanders
CLERK. James Myers, Jr.
ASSISTANT CLERK. Sophie Darnell

EXECUTIVE BOARD

1 Year Cecil Pierson
2 Year Carl Perry
3 Year Bill Hillman

The next session will be held with the Doran Addition Church in the Tri-City Quarterly Meeting, on May 9, 1987, at 9:00 a.m.

110TH SESSION PROCEEDINGS

The 110th session of the Clinch Valley Association met with the Red Hill Church in the Sunbright Quarterly Meeting on Saturday, May 10, 1986. The session was opened by singing "I Feel Like Traveling On." The clerk read from the 3rd chapter of Malachi, verses 6 through 12, and spoke on tithes and offerings. Brother Cecil Pierson was anointed with oil at his request and James McDavid led the congregation in prayer in his behalf. The host pastor James McDavid gave a warm welcome to the Association. The clerk called the Association to order and introduced the moderator, John Pierson. Following the moderator's remarks, the officers of the Association were enrolled. All the officers were present.

The ministers and deacons belonging to this Association were enrolled. The letters from the Midway, Sunbright, and Tri-City Quarterly Meetings were read, approved, and their delegates seated. The clerk informed the Association that the Orebank Quarterly Meeting had been dissolved and the Orebank Church had united with another Association.

JoAnn Myers, Bobby Joe Sanders, Jean Hass, Mary Ann Presley, and Gladys Dockery were elected delegates, and Elsie Herron was elected as an alternate to the State Association. Ronnie Floyd was given authority to appoint delegates as needed.

The treasurer's report of \$949.00 was given by the treasurer, Russell Sanders, and approved by the Association.

The Association approved sending \$700.00 with our letter to the State Association.

The ministers' reports were read and all that reported were given cards in good standing.

The Association approved printing 250 minutes of this session.

The executive board selected Lonnie Townsend to bring the morning message. After singing "The Lifeboat," Sister Polly Carter sang "How Great Thou Art." Brother Townsend read from the 25th chapter of Proverbs, verse 25, and brought an inspiring message on "Good News From a Far Country." While singing "The Old Time Religion," fellowship was

enjoyed by all.

A wonderful lunch was enjoyed by all. The afternoon session was opened by singing "At Calvary." Bill Hillman was elected to a three-year term on the executive board. James McDavid was elected moderator, and Eritt Darnell assistant moderator of the next session which the executive board sent to the Doran Addition Church in the Tri-City Quarterly Meeting at Kingsport, Tennessee, on Saturday, May 9, 1987.

These minutes were read and approved with corrections as made.

Kenny Hammond dismissed the Association by prayer.

MINISTERS ENROLLED

Ronnie Floyd
Jimmy Combs
Willie Jennings
John Clifford Pierson
Eckel E. Herron
William Paul Presley
Robert L. Ramey
James M. Baker, Jr.
Terry Rhoton
James H. Mann
James Vernon McDavid
Paul L. Smith
Willie Ashworth
Kenny M. Hammond

Milligan Herron
Ewing Gilliam
Samuel P. Bowen
Howard Bowen
Carl France
George Hubbard
Lonnie Townsend
Rufus Hood
Ronald Morrison
Larry R. Kincer
William O. Bowen
Marvin Winkle
Sherman Grace

DEACONS ENROLLED

James Myers
Orbin Lane
Russell Sanders
Bill Hillman
Carl Perry
George Dockery
David Watkins
Kyle Carter
Elmer Hill

Cecil Pierson
L. Joe Hill
Donald R. Bowen
Shirell Hass
Omer Fields
Jerry Townsend
Arlie C. Kerns
Eugene Tipton

Moderator - John Pierson
Assistant Moderator - James McDavid

Clerk - James Myers
Assistant Clerk - Sophie Darnell

REPORTS OF THE QUARTERLY MEETINGS

MIDWAY QUARTERLY MEETING

Delegate.	Gladys Dockery
Delegate Alternate.	Gwendolyn Pierson
Number of Churches.	8
Number of Ordained Ministers.	17
Number of Ordained Deacons.	22
Number of Sunday Schools.	7
Sunday School Enrollment (Avg.)	274
Number of Prayer Meetings	4
Number Women's Auxiliaries.	2
Women's Auxiliaries Enrollment.	30
Church Membership	406
Members Received.	26
Members Dismissed	14
Members Deceased.	1
Pastor's Salaries	\$ 12,956.51
Evangelistic Work	\$ 7,340.39
Building & Repairs.	\$ 6,970.38
Literature.	\$ 870.54
Charity	\$ 1,809.25
Oil, heat, lights	\$ 3,364.52
Free Will Baptist Childrens Home.	\$ 400.00
Foreign Missions.	\$ 1,693.00
State Home Missions	\$ 2,063.09
Flowers	\$ 753.81
Total Expenditures.	\$ 38,221.29
Amount Enclosed With Letter	\$ 300.00

Eritt T. Darnell, Moderator
Sophie Darnell, Clerk

Ministers belonging to the Midway Quarterly Meeting:
Willie Ashworth, Clinchport, VA
William Bise, Route 1, Gate City, VA
Eckle Carter, Route 1, Ft. Blackmore, VA
Eritt Darnell, Sr., Route 1, Ft. Blackmore, VA

Sherman Grace, 216 Packing House Rd., Kingsport, TN
 Glen Hillman, Route 1, Ft. Blackmore, VA
 Lubert Hammond, Clinchport, VA
 Rick Kincer, Route 4, Clinchport, VA
 Donald McDavid, Clinchport, VA
 Paul Presley, Kingsport, TN
 John Clifford Pierson, 853 Pace St., Kingsport, TN
 Charles Puckett, Route 1, Ft. Blackmore, VA
 Ronald Puckett, Route 1, Ft. Blackmore, VA
 J. B. Quillen, Route 2, Independence Dr.,
 Kingsport, TN
 L. W. Sallings, Route 1, Ft. Blackmore, VA
 Marvin Winkle, Kingsport, TN
 Terry Rhoton, Route 1, Ft. Blackmore, VA

SUNBRIGHT QUARTERLY MEETING

Delegate.	Eugene Tipton
Delegate Alternate.	Lucy Carter
Number of Churches.	7
Church Membership	235
Number of Ordained Ministers.	22
Number of Ordained Deacons.	19
Number of Sunday Schools.	7
Sunday School Enrollment.	259
Prayer Meetings	5
Members Received.	6
Members Dismissed By Letter	6
Members Deceased.	3
Pastor's Salaries	\$ 6,283.96
Offerings for Visiting Ministers.	\$ 268.25
Donated to Singers.	\$ 864.36
Gave to Charity	\$ 379.36
Spent for Building and Repair	\$12,254.54
Paid for Janitorial Service	\$ 1,126.21
Paid for Fuel and Electricity	\$ 2,620.18
Paid for Flowers.	\$ 945.45
Paid for Literature	\$ 526.14
Love Offerings.	\$ 2,801.37
Spent for Church Supplies and Cleaning.	\$ 1,769.52
Free Will Baptist Children's Home	\$ 374.55
Gideons	\$ 94.69
Christmas Expenses.	\$ 607.91
Church Expenses	\$ 1,769.52

Total Expenditures. \$32,572.51
 Amount Enclosed With Letter \$ 150.00.

Moderator - Elder Lonnie Townsend
 Clerk - Carol Bowen

Ministers belonging to Sunbright Quarterly Meeting:
 Elders:

Willie Jennings, 109 Virgil St., Kingsport, TN
 Howard Bowen, Route 1, Duffield, VA
 Jimmy Combs, Route 1, Gate City, VA
 George Hubbard, 2309 Cranshaw Dr., Kingsport, TN
 Eckel Herron, Route 4, Gate City, VA
 James V. McDavid, Route 1, Duffield, VA
 James Baker, Route 5, Duffield, VA
 Milligan Herron, Route 6, Box 142, Gate City, VA
 Lonnie Townsend, Route 4, Clinchport, VA
 Kenny Hammond, Route 4, Gate City, VA
 Lee Knowles, W. Carters Valley, Church Hill, TN
 Rufus Hood, Route 3, Clinchport, VA
 M. D. Hyatt, Jonesborough, TN
 Carl France, Route 1, Gate City, VA
 Pat Bishop, Route 1, Duffield, VA
 Fred Gillenwater, Gate City, VA
 Paul Smith, Route 6, Gate City, VA
 Wrightly Lane, Route 1, Gate City, VA
 William Bowen, Route 1, Box 54, Duffield, VA
 Glenn Dockery, Kingsport, TN
 Robert Ramey, Route 1, Box 285, Fall Branch, TN
 Samuel P. Bowen, Route 4, Clinchport, VA 24244

22

TRI-CITY QUARTERLY MEETING

Delegate.	JoAnn Myers
Delegate Alternate.	Guy McCray
Number of Churches.	2
Number of Ordained Ministers.	2
Number of Ordained Deacons.	8
Number of Sunday Schools.	2
Sunday School Enrollment.	159
Number of Prayer Meetings.	2
Number Women's Auxiliaries.	1
Women's Auxiliaries Enrollment.	30
Number Master's Men Chapters.	1

Master's Men Enrollment	12
Church Membership	151
Members Dismissed	3
Members Deceased.	2
Pastor's Salaries	\$11,700.00
Evangelistic Work	\$ 1,210.00
Building and Repairs.	\$23,207.76
Literature.	\$ 3,934.65
Charity	\$ 1,310.00
Free Will Baptist Childrens Home.	\$ 300.00
Foreign Missions.	\$ 4,410.63
National Home Missions.	\$ 1,301.00
State Home Missions	\$ 240.00
Total Expenditures.	\$47,614.04
Value of Church Properties.	\$235,000.00
\$ 20.00 - State Dues	
\$ 20.00 - National Dues	
\$110.00 - Association	
Amount Enclosed With Letter	\$ 150.00

Rev. Ron Morrison, Moderator
Rev. Ronnie Floyd, Assistant Moderator
James Myers, Clerk

Ministers:

Rev. Ron Morrison, Route 16, Box 378, Gray, TN
Rev. Ronnie Floyd, 446 Independence Drive,
Kingsport, TN 37660

MINISTERS REPORTS

WILLIE ASHWORTH

Churches Pastored	1
Conversions.	10
Received Into Church	3
Funerals	9
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	4

JAMES M. BAKER, JR.

Revivals	2
Sermons Preached	32
Conversions.	5

Quarterly Meetings Attended.	4
Offerings Received	\$ 462.01

WILLIAM BISE

Churches Pastored	1
Sermons Preached	52
Funerals	1
Offerings Received	\$ 120.00

PAT BISHOP

Sermons Preached	20
Offerings Received	\$ 20.00

HOWARD BOWEN

Churches Pastored	1
Revivals	3
Sermons Preached	50
Conversions.	5
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	3

SAMUEL P. BOWEN

Churches Pastored.	1
Revivals	3
Baptized	3
Sermons Preached	69
Conversions.	12
Received Into Church	3
Marriages.	3
Funerals	1
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	4
Offerings Received	\$1,686.36

WILLIAM BOWEN

Revivals	2
Baptized	1
Sermons Preached	55
Conversions.	5
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	4
Offerings Received	\$62.00

ECKEL CARTER

Revivals	1
Sermons Preached	15
Funerals	6

JIMMY COMBS	
Sermons Preached	23
Conversions.	4
Funerals	1
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	1
Offerings Received	\$ 156.80

ERITT T. DARNELL, SR.	
Sermons Preached	24
Marriages.	3
Funerals	5
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	4

GLEN C. DOCKERY	
Sermons Preached	27
Marriages.	1

RONNIE FLOYD	
Churches Pastored.	1
Revivals	1
Baptized	4
Sermons Preached	106
Conversions.	7
Received Into Church	4
Marriages.	3
Funerals	3
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	4

CARL R. FRANCE	
Revivals	2
Sermons Preached	50
Funerals	1
Offerings Received	\$ 50.00

FRED R. GILLENWATER	
Sermons Preached	30
Conversions.	3

SHERMAN GRACE	
Churches Pastored.	1
Sermons Preached	140
Conversions.	1
Received Into Church	1
Marriages.	2

Funerals	1
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	4
Offerings Received	\$ 5,100.00

EWING K. GILLIAM
Ordained May 3, 1986

KENNY M. HAMMOND	
Churches Pastored.	1
Revivals	1
Sermons Preached	117
Conversions.	5
Marriages.	1
Funerals	1

LUBERT HAMMOND	
Revivals	1
Sermons Preached	38
Conversions.	18
Offerings Received	\$ 100.00

ECKEL E. HERRON	
Churches Pastored	1
Baptized	7
Sermons Preached	46
Conversions.	22
Marriages.	6
Funerals	8
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	2

MILLIGAN HERRON	
Churches Pastored	1
Revivals	1
Sermons Preached	56
Conversions.	2
Funerals	2
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	1

RUFUS HOOD	
Sermons Preached	25
Conversions.	10
Marriages.	5
Funerals	16

GEORGE HUBBARD

Sermons Preached	12
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	1

M. D. HYATT

Sermons Preached	24
Conversions.	6
Funerals	1

NATHAN JACKSON, JR.

Sermons Preached	11
Conversions.	3
Marriages.	1
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	1
Offerings Received	\$ 36.40

WILLIE JENNINGS

Churches Pastored	1
Sermons Preached	44
Received Into Church	5
Marriages.	4
Funerals	10
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	2
Offerings Received	\$ 693.50

LARRY R. KINCER

Churches Pastored.	1
Revivals	4
Baptized	5
Sermons Preached	107
Conversions.	24
Received Into Church.	2
Funerals	2
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	3
Offerings Received	500.00

LEE. L. KNOWLES

Revivals	1
Sermons Preached	30
Conversions.	6

JAMES H. MANN

Revivals	10
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Baptized	8
Sermons Preached	58
Conversions.	22
Funerals	1
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	3
Offerings Received	\$227.00

DONALD McDAVID

Churches Pastored.	1
Sermons Preached	35
Conversions.	10
Received Into Church	2
Marriages.	4
Funerals	2
Offerings Received	\$50.00

JAMES VERNON McDAVID

Churches Pastored.	1
Baptized	3
Sermons Preached	72
Conversions.	4
Marriages.	1
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	2

RONALD MORRISON

Churches Pastored	1
Baptized	7
Sermons Preached	70
Marriages.	1
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	4

JOHN CLIFFORD PIERSON

Baptized	1
Sermons Preached	49
Conversions.	1
Funerals	7
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	4

WILLIAM PAUL PRESLEY

Churches Pastored.	1
Baptized	2
Sermons Preached	21
Conversions.	2

Received Into Church	6
Funerals	1
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	3

CHARLES PUCKETT

Churches Pastored	1
Revivals	1
Sermons Preached	43
Conversions.	21
Funerals	1

RONALD PUCKETT

Churches Pastored	1
Baptized	5
Sermons Preached	39
Conversions.	7
Received Into Church	1
Marriages.	3
Funerals	1
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	3
Offerings Received	\$ 783.63

J. B. QUILLEN

Sermons Preached	21
Marriages.	1
Funerals	11

ROBERT L. RAMEY

Revivals	1
Sermons Preached	25
Conversions.	2
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	3

TERRY LEE RHOTON

Churches Pastored	1
Revivals	6
Baptized	5
Sermons Preached	70
Conversions.	25
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	4
Offerings Received	\$ 796.45

L. W. SALLINGS

Churches Pastored	1
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Revivals	3
Sermons Preached	92
Conversions.	6
Received Into Church	3
Marriages.	6
Funerals	3
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	3
Offerings Received	\$ 500.00

PAUL L. SAMS

Churches Pastored.	1
Revivals	1
Baptized	1
Sermons Preached	64
Conversions.	1
Received Into Church	5
Funerals	1
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	6

LONNIE TOWNSEND

Churches Pastored	1
Sermons Preached	32
Conversions.	3
Marriages.	1
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	4
Offerings Received	\$ 111.81

MARVIN WINKLE

Churches Pastored.	1
Sermons Preached	13
Conversions.	3
Funerals	3
Quarterly Meetings Attended.	3
Offerings Received	\$ 194.41

Ministers Who Did Not Report This Year:
 Midway Quarterly Meeting:
 Glen Hillman

CLINCH VALLEY ASSOCIATION

Delegate.	JoAnn Myers
Delegate.	Bobby J. Sanders
Delegate.	Jean Hass
Delegate.	Mary Ann Presley
Delegate.	Gladys Dockery
Alternate	Elsie Herron
Number Quarterly Meetings	3
Number Quarterly Meetings Reported.	3
Number of Churches.	17
Church Membership	792
Members Received.	40
Members Dismissed	23
Members Deceased.	6
Number of Sunday Schools.	16
Sunday School Enrollment.	820
Number of Women's Auxiliaries	3
Women's Auxiliaries Enrollment.	60
Number of Master's Men.	1
Master's Men Enrollment	12
Number of Ordained Ministers.	41
Number of Ordained Deacons.	49
Paid Pastors.	\$ 30,940.47
Paid Evangelistics.	\$ 9,683.00
Literature.	\$ 5,331.33
Charity	\$ 7,948.03
Foreign Missions.	\$ 6,410.63
Home Missions	\$ 3,604.09
Children's Home	\$ 1,074.55
Building and Repairs.	\$ 53,082.63
Total Expenditures.	\$108,074.73
Value of Church Property.	\$998,000.00
Number of Parsonages.	1
Value of Parsonages	\$ 60,000.00
Number of Fellowship Halls.	2
Value of Fellowship Halls	\$ 80,000.00
Enclosed for Association.	\$ 700.00
State Dues	\$ 170.00
National Dues	\$ 170.00

John Clifford Pierson, Moderator
James Myers, Clerk

CLINCH VALLEY ASSOCIATION MINISTERS

Ron Morrison, Route 16, Box 374, Gray, TN 37615
Ronnie Floyd, 446 Independence Drive,
Kingsport, TN 37660
Willie Ashworth, Clinchport, VA
William Bise, Route 1, Gate City, VA
Eckle Carter, Route 1, Fort Blackmore, VA
Eritt Darnell, Route 1, Fort Blackmore, VA
Sherman Grace, 216 Packing House Rd., Kingsport, TN
Glen Hillman, Route 1, Fort Blackmore, VA
Lubert Hammonds, Clinchport, VA
Rick Kincer, Route 4, Clinchport, VA
Donald McDavid, Clinchport, VA
Paul Presley, Kingsport, TN
John C. Pierson, 853 Pace Street, Kingsport, TN
Charles Puckett, Route 1, Fort Blackmore, VA
Ronald Puckett, Route 1, Fort Blackmore, VA
J. B. Quillen, Route 2, Independence Drive,
Kingsport, TN
L. W. Sallings, Route 1, Fort Blackmore, VA
Marvin Winkle, Route 1, Kingsport, TN
Terry Rhoton, Route 1, Fort Blackmore, VA
Willie Jennings, 109 Virgil Street, Kingsport, TN
Howard Bowen, Route 5, Duffield, VA
Jimmy Combs, Route 1, Gate City, VA
George Hubbard, 2309 Cranshaw Drive, Kingsport, TN
Eckel Herron, Route 4, Gate City, VA
James V. McDavid, Route 1, Duffield, VA
James Baker, Route 5, Duffield, VA
Milligan Herron, Route 6, Box 142, Gate City, VA
Lonnie Townsend, Route 4, Clinchport, VA
Kenny Hammond, Route 4, Gate City, VA
Lee Knowles, W. Carters Valley, Church Hill, TN
Rufus Hood, Route 3, Clinchport, VA
M. D. Hyatt, Jonesborough, TN
Carl France, Route 1, Gate City, VA
Pat Bishop, Route 1, Duffield, VA
Fred Gillenwater, Gate City, VA
Paul Smith, Route 6, Gate City, VA
Wrightly Lane, Route 1, Gate City, VA
William Bowen, Route 1, Box 54, Duffield, VA
Glen Dockery, Kingsport, TN
Robert Ramey, Route 1, Box 258, Fall Branch, TN
Samuel P. Bowen, Route 4, Clinchport, VA

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. The Bible: - The scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. God: - There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe; and in the scriptures as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore and obey.

3. Christ: - Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God; in His human nature truly man; the mediator between God and man. Once crucified, He is now risen and glorified, and is our ever present Savior and Lord.

4. The Holy Spirit: - The scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God.

5. The Government of God: - God exercised a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of men requires.

6. The Sinfulness of Man: - Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherits a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability, sin, and become guilty before God.

7. The Work of Christ: - The Son of God, by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection, effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of Salvation by Faith.

8. The Terms of Salvation: - The conditions of Salvation are: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith, or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord, with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith, the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin, and becomes a child of God.

3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

9. Election: - God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ, men become His elect.

10. Freedom of the Will: - The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the Truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.

11. Salvation Free: - God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will, may come and take of the water of life freely.

12. Perseverance: - All believers in Christ, who through Grace, persevere in Holiness to the end of life, have promise of Eternal Salvation.

13. Gospel Ordinances: - Baptism, or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel; feet washing, and ordinance teaching humility of universal obligation, and to be ministered to all true believers.

14. Tithing: - God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ endorsed it in the Gospel (Matt. 23:23) and the Apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God has prospered him." (I Cor. 16:2)

15. The Christian Sabbath: - The Divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, Holy works, and activities, and for personal communion with God.

16. Resurrection, Judgement and Final Retribution: - The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now 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 Savior 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, 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 every where hold Christian principles 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.

CONSTITUTION

Article 1. This Association shall be called the Clinch Valley Association, and shall be composed of such regularly organized and well disciplined Freewill Baptist Quarterly Meetings, conveniently located, as may embody themselves under this constitution.

Article 2. The Conference of this Association shall consist of delegates from the several Quarterly Meetings of which it is composed, every Quarterly Meeting being entitled to one delegate, every Quarterly Meeting containing five hundred members to two delegate, and one additional delegate for every additional five hundred members.

Article 3. The officers of this Association shall be a standing clerk and treasurer and a moderator who shall be chosen at every session of the Association, with assistants as may be found necessary.

Article 4. Any well-organized and well-regulated Freewill Baptist Quarterly Meeting, composed of such churches as conform to the practices, and adopt the doctrines of the Freewill Baptist domination, as published in the Treatise of their faith, and in the Minutes of the National Association, and are in favor of all the benevolent enterprises of the denomination, may at any time, on application by vote of this body, become a member thereof.

Article 5. This Association shall have power to discipline the Quarterly Meetings of which it is composed, and to exclude them for disorderly walk if labor proves unsuccessful, but in no case to reverse their decisions, nor to interfere with any of their internal regulations.

Article 6. The sessions of this Association shall be held on Saturday before the 2nd Sunday in May, at which time it shall be the duty of the Quarterly Meetings of which this Association is composed to represent themselves by letter and

delegates, and report their standing, prospects, and statistics; at which time the Association shall act upon such questions and topics as may be referred to it by its respective Quarterly Meetings, and transact such other business not repugnant to this Constitution, nor to the practices of the denomination, as in its judgement may promote the cause of Christ and the interests of the churches and the Quarterly Meetings within the limits of this Association.

Article 7. This Association shall have power to adopt any regulations or by-laws, not inconsistent with this constitution, which may be deemed essential to the further regulation of its sessions.

Article 8. This constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of the Association at any regular session; notice of such intended alteration having been given in writing, and recorded at the next previous session.

BY-LAWS OF THE CLINCH VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF FREEWILL BAPTISTS

Article I

Each session of this association shall be called to order by the clerk, or in his absence the assistant clerk, or in their absence the senior minister in years. They will then give charge to the moderator; or in his absence the assistant moderator; or in the absence of both, a moderator and assistant will be elected from the floor.

Article II

Each session shall be opened by reading a portion of the Bible and prayer and shall end with prayer.

Article III

Membership: The acting members of this association shall be the ordained deacons, ministers, and all elected officers who (a) belong to member conferences in good standing, (b) comply with the rules and regulations of their Quarterly Conference

and (c) comply with the rules and regulations of this yearly association.

These will be considered standing delegates and will transact business along with the regularly elected delegates as prescribed in Article II of the constitution of this yearly association.

Article IV

Duties of Officers:

Section 1: Moderator -

(a) It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over all the business sessions of the association.

(b) He is to see that all business is carried on according to Robert's Rules of Order Revised (1915 edition).

(c) He is to maintain proper Christian order and discipline.

(d) He is to call and preside over any special called meeting of the association between sessions should an emergency arise that warrants immediate attention. (The voting body of such special sessions will consist of all standing delegates and those lay delegates who were seated at the last regular session of this association.)

(e) His tenure of office shall begin at the opening of the regular session for which he was elected and end at the opening of the next regular session.

Section 2: Clerk -

(a) Call each session of this conference to order with reading of scripture and prayer.

(b) Read the letters sent from member Quarterly Meetings.

(c) Enroll all ordained officials present.

(d) Keep clear and concise records of all proceedings of this body whether in special session or in regular session.

(e) Perform such duties as his office may direct.

Section 3: Treasurer -

(a) He will keep accurate records of all association finances and be ready to report such at the direction of the conference.

Section 4: Executive Committee -

- (a) Select speaker for each session.
- (b) Choose the meeting place for the next session.
- (c) Handle special issues when referred to them by any member of the body.

Article V

Government:

Section 1

This body will be governed as stipulated in the most current Treatise of the Freewill Baptists.

Section 2

The Moderator's rulings will stand unless challenged, seconded, and passed by a 2/3 majority vote.

Section 3

Any person not a member of this association may be allowed to take part in it's discussions by general consent of the voting body.

Section 4

No person shall be allowed to speak more than 10 minutes or twice on the same subject except by express permission from the moderator.

Section 5

No women will be received as ministers or deacons.

Article VI

Business:

Section 1

Such business will be transacted as set forth in Article VI of the constitution of this body.

Section 2

This body will yearly listen to reports from each individual minister. The examination and reporting will be as follows:

(a) Each member will be required to report each year in the prescribed manner. Failure to do so for two consecutive years constitutes a breach of faith and he will be reported to his Quarterly Meeting to have his credentials recalled.

(b) He will be required to report in person unless providentially hindered. Persons subject to such hindrances will be allowed to report by letter.

(c) This body will vote on his report as to his ministerial conduct and standing and issue cards of good standing based on his effectiveness and reliability as a minister.

(d) All ministers who do not receive a card of good standing will be reported to their Quarterly Meeting for its action.

(e) The clerk has the power to write the Quarterly Meeting clerk and so notify the Quarterly Meeting when a minister has not reported to the association for two years. The Quarterly Meeting Ordaining Council will then be instructed to take the ministers credentials. After the following procedure has been followed by the association's clerk and the Quarterly Meeting does not comply, their letter will not be accepted by this association.

NOTE: An exception to this rule can be made in cases of physical disability at the recommendation of the Quarterly Meeting, subject to the approval of this association.

Article VII

Revision of these By-Laws will be by a vote of the association at any regular session; notice of such intended alteration having been given in writing, and recorded at the next previous session.

N O T E S
