

MINUTES
OF THE
MT. MITCHELL
ASSOCIATION

**OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPISTS
OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**Organizational Meeting Held With
North Bend Church, March 9, - 10, 1956**
**Second Regular Annual Session Held With
North Bend Church, August 22, - 24, 1957**

oOo

T. E. WOODY, - - Moderator
VINITA GAYLE MILLER, Clerk
MOSCOE TOWE, - - Treasurer

THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

**Scheduled to convene with Mine Fork Church
Thursday before the fourth Sunday in August,
1958, at 10:30 a. m. Brother C. H. Honeycutt to
deliver the introductory message; Brother E. P.
Blevins to be the alternate speaker.**

PROCEEDINGS

MINUTES OF SECOND ANNUAL SESSION PROCEEDINGS

The Mount Mitchell Freewill Baptist Association convened in its second annual session with the North Bend Freewill Baptist Church, Rt. 1, Green Mountain, N. C., Thursday morning, August 22, 1957, 10:30, a.m. Service began with singing of "Heavens Jubilee," and "Everybody will be Happy Over There," by congregation. After which Bro. T. E. Woody led in prayer. Sister Frances Radford brought the Introductory Message from I Cor. 13, Prov. 10:12 and I John 4:7-8 and 16. Her subject was, "The Nature of Love," from which she preached a good sermon. Service closed with Christian handshake and prayer, after assignment of delegates to homes, dismissed to reconvene at 2:30 p.m. for business.

Assembled for afternoon session with congregation singing, "That Glad Reunion Day," and "When We All Get to Heaven." Devotional reading from St. Matthew 16 by Bro. T. A. Watts, after which there was special prayer for Bro. David Moore, at his request, for his healing. Opening remarks by Moderator in regard to transacting business according to the Lord's will. Appointed Bro. Roscoe Towe and Sister Bessie Woody as reading clerks. Bro. Levi Deyton was appointed to receive Disabled Ministers' Funds as churches were enrolled, and Bro. Hubert Freeman to receive the Orphanage funds. Church Letters read and approved, and delegates seated as follows:
Bowditch—Sisters Elsie Thomas, Lily Hensley, Julia Boone, Bert Hensley, Flossie Harris, Maxie Ray; Bros. Clarence Byrd, Cassie Thomas, Ralph Cook, Junior Briggs, Alec Hensley.

Green Mountain—Sisters Lora Randolph, Helen Wright; Bros. Earl Fox, Stanley Deyton, John Randolph.

Mine Fork—Sisters Louise Laws, Nora Ann Freeman; Bros. Hubert Freeman, Theodore Freeman, Bruce Laws, Uranus Dayton.

North Bend—Bros. Levi Deyton, Landon Briggs, Fulton Bennett, Luther Renfro, Clyde Duncan.

Prices Creek—Sisters Tomilee Burleson, Valdaree Penland; Bros. Joe Blankenship, Burl Ledford.

Terrys Fork—Sisters Vivian Gardner, Barbara Gardner, Essie Hicks, Minnie Radford; Bros. Wayne Metcalf, Albert Gardner.

An offering was taken for the minute fund. Committees were appointed as follows:

Committee on Investigation—Decided to retain old committee, which consists of Bros. E. P. Blevins, Alvin McPeters, Levi Deyton.

Committee on Missions—Sisters Frances Radford, Flossie Harris and Bro. Theodore Freeman.

Committee on Education—Sisters Vinita Miller, Julia Boone: Bro. Hubert Freeman.

Committee on Sabbath Schools—Bros. Hubert Freeman, Joe Blankenship, Clarence Byrd.

Committee on Temperance—Bros. E. P. Blevins, Levi Deyton.

Committee on Obituaries—Sisters Bert Hensley, Belle Deyton, Bessie Woody.

- Committee on Resolutions—Brothers Landon Briggs, Nate Renfro.
 Committee on Deeper Devotion—Sister Lydia Duncan; Bros. Alec Hensley, Clarence Byrd, Oscar Letterman, Joe Woody.
 Committee on Sessions—Sisters Helen Wright, Julia Boone, Flossie Harris; Bros. Hubert Freeman, Joe Blankenship, Levi Deyton.
 Committee on Orphanage—Sister Lydia Duncan; Bros. Moscoe Towe, John G. Peterson.
 Committee on Disabled Ministers' Fund—Sister Essie Hicks; Bro. T. A. Watts, Clyde Duncan, Wayne Metcalf.
 Committee on Churches and Pastors—Bros. Cassie Thomas, Clyde Duncan, Theodore Freeman.
 Committee on Spiritual Promotion—Sisters Frances Radford, Elsie Thomas, Tomilee Burleson.
 Committee on Lord's Acre Work—Bros. Alec Hensley, T. E. Woody, Earl Fox, Joe Blankenship, Levi Deyton.

Following completion of committee appointments, the Moderator called for visiting ministers; there was none. Elected officers for the following year as stated: Sister Vinita Gail Miller, Clerk, and Bro. T. E. Woody, Moderator. Dismissed to meet back at 7:30 p.m. for preaching by Sister Vinita Gail Miller.

Met at 7:30 p.m., service began with the congregation singing, "Amazing Grace." Afterwards the Mine Fork Choir sang, "The Bleeding Heart of Calvary," "I'll Have a Home Up in Heaven Some Glad Day," "When I Say My Father," "Keep Telling the Story," "Lord Jesus, Lead Me On," and "When I Get Home." Sister Radford gave the introductory talk and prayer was led by Brother Charlie Miller. Sister Miller delivered the message, reading I John 1:1-4, and using for her subject, "Our Acquaintance with God." The service ended with a song and handshake. Dismissed to meet back at 9:30 a.m., for business and preaching at 11:00 by Bro. E. P. Blevins.

Met at 9:30 a.m. Service began with the congregation singing "Unclouded Day" and "Leaning On the Everlasting Arms," after which Sister Josephine Blevins read for the Scripture lesson I Tim. 6 and gave the opening talk. Yesterdays' minute was read and adopted. Ministers present were then enrolled as follows:

Rev. E. P. Blevins	Micaville, N. C.
Rev. Josephine B. Blevins	Micaville, N. C.
Rev. Vinita Gail Miller,	P. O. Box 612, Burnsville, N. C.
Rev. Frances Radford	Rt. 2, Mars Hill, N. C.
Rev. T. E. Woody	Rt. 2, Burnsville, N. C.
Rev. C. H. Honeycutt	Marion, N. C.

(Note: Bro. Honeycutt appeared after the ten minute recess before preaching following the reading of the Ministers' roll this morning, and was counted present.) The Ministers absent were:

Rev. Alvin McPeters	Rt. 3, Burnsville, N. C.
Rev. T. A. Watts	Rt. 1, Weaverville, N. C.
Rev. James Peterson	Rt. 2, Travellers Rest, S. C.
Rev. Talmage Green	
Rev. Roscoe Briggs	Rt. 2, Spruce Pine, N. C.

The letter from Bro. Talmage Greene, who is now in Iraq, was read. Visiting ministers were called for. None responded.

Then called for committee reports.

Report on Sabbath Schools read and then discussed by Sisters Josephine Blevins, Tomilee Burlison, Frances Radford, Flossie Harris, and Bros. Hubert Freeman, Joe Blankenship, Levi Deyton, Cassis Thomas, Frank Laws, Moscoe Towe, T. E. Woody, Joe Woody. Adopted by body as read and discussed.

Voted to replace the members of the committee on Deeper Devotion which were absent—Bros. Alec Hensley and Clarence Byrd, with Bros. Oscar Letterman and Joe Woody. Dismissed for recess to assemble at 11:00 for preaching by Bro. E. P. Blevins. Reconvened at 11:00. Service began with the congregation singing, "Oh, Prepare to Meet Thy God" and "I'll Fly Away." Bro. Blevins read Ephesians 6:10-18, using for his text, the 12th verse, "For we wrestle not with flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." His subject was, "Why it is needful to take on the whole armor of God." He brought a wonderful, spiritual, message. Service ended with a song and a handshake, accompanied with a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Delegates were assigned and dismissed to meet back at 2:00 p.m.

Assembled at 2:00 for the evening session. Service opened with singing of, "Glory to His Name" and "In The Sweet Bye and Bye" by the congregation. Afterwards Bro. Honeycutt read the Scripture lesson from four verses of the fourth chapter of II Corinthians.

Business session then called to order. The following visiting ministers were welcomed to seats in the body: Sister Edith Pauley, from Southside Freewill Baptist Church, Erwin, Tenn. Brothers Jackson and Bradshaw, visitors to North Carolina, of The Brethren Church. Called for report of the Investigating Committee. There was none.

Reports on Missions and Lord's Acre Projects were submitted by the committees and discussed thoroughly by Sister Frances Radford. Received and adopted. Report of Committee on Temperance received and adopted. Report of Committee on Obituaries called for. (Note: The Obituaries were turned in to Clerk, later.)

Called for reports of Committees on Resolutions and Deeper Devotion. There was none. Report of Committee on Orphanage received and discussed by Sisters Minnie Radford, Josephine Blevins and Frances Radford, and Bros. Moscoe Towe, Cassie Thomas and E. P. Blevins.

Moved to appoint at least one delegate from each church for the duty of setting aside one Sunday in each month to collect the Church donations for the orphanage. The appointed delegates were as follows:

North Bend—Sister Ida Peterson and Bros. John G. Peterson and Oscar Letterman.

Ferrys Fork—Bro. Wayne Metcalf, Sister Vivian Gardner.

Mine Fork—Bro. Hubert Freeman.

Bowditch—Bro. Cassie Thomas.

Prices Creek—Bro. Moscoe Towe.

Green Mountain—Bro. Joe Woody.

Dismissed business session to assemble at 7:30 p.m. for preaching by Bro. T. E. Woody. Met back around 7:45 p.m. Service began with Sister Frances Radford and Vinita Miller singing, "The Bleeding Heart of Calvary." Young Brother Morris Ogle sang for us: "Heavenly Love" and "I Need No Mansions Here Below." Afterwards the congregation sang, "When I See The Blood" and "Standing on the Promises of God." Following the singing, Bro. Haden Honeycutt led us in prayer. Bro. Woody read the Scriptures, I Peter 5:1-12, John 4th chap., and some from Acts 20. His subject was, "How lightly do we esteem our salvation?" The message was good and widely needed. Effectual remarks were submitted by Frances Radford and Bro. Haden Honeycutt. Bro. Atkins led us in an altar of prayer. Dismissed to reconvene at 9:30 a.m. for business and preaching at 11:00 by Bro. Haden Honeycutt.

Assembled at 9:45 a.m. Service began with the congregation singing, "The Glory Land Way" and "Prayer Bells Of Heaven." Afterwards Bro. Cassie Thomas read I Peter 5:1-11, and Sister Frances Radford led us in an altar of prayer. Business session called to order. Yesterdays' minute read and adopted. Committee on Deeper Devotion and Sessions excused to prepare topics.

Report of Committee on Aged and Disabled Ministers Fund read and discussed by Sister Frances Radford. Adopted by body as read and discussed.

Report of Committee on Churches and Pastors read, and then discussed by Brothers Cassie Thomas, Haden Honeycutt and E. P. Blevins, and Sister Frances Radford. Adopted.

Omitted morning preaching by Bro. Haden Honeycutt, in order to finish business session. Bro. Honeycutt to preach at night service, instead.

Report of Committee on Deeper Devotion read and received, subject to discussion. Discussed by Sisters Josephine Blevins and Frances Radford and Brothers E. P. Blevins and Joe Woody. Report adopted.

Report of Committee on Spiritual Promotion read and discussed by Sister Frances Radford. Adopted.

Report of Committee on Sessions read and adopted.

Report of Committee on Resolutions read and adopted.

Received an offering at the amount of \$10.00 for the Moderator and Clerk.

The Moderator extended thanks for the entire Association to the Church at North Bend for their kindness in caring for the Association.

Business of Association adjourned to meet with Mine Fork Free Will Baptist Church in August, 1958.

PROCEEDINGS OF MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

The Mount Mitchell Original Free Will Baptist Ministers' Conference convened on Saturday afternoon, August 24, 1957, with the North Bend Church. Service opened with singing by congregation. Prayer was led by Bro. Cassie Thomas. Minute of the last conference read and adopted. Voted to write Bro. Talmage Greene and to carry his name as present. Enrolled ministers present were: Sisters Frances Radford, Josephine Blevins, and Vinita Gail Miller and Brothers T. E. Woody, Hayden Honeycutt, E. P. Blevins and T. A. Watts.

The ministers absent were: Brothers Alvin McPeters, Jimmy Peterson and Roscoe Briggs. Everyone present was in fellowship.

Bro. T. A. Watts applied for ordination. Sister Vinita Miller asked for renewal of license for one year. Her request was granted.

Officers elected for the coming year were:

Bro. T. E. Woody, Moderator.

Sister Josephine Blevins, Clerk and Treasurer of Aged and Disabled Ministers' Fund.

Voted to retain our Ordaining Council for the coming year.

Voted to have our next Conference with the Church at Bowditch, beginning on Friday before the fifth Sunday in December.

Offering taken for Disabled Ministers'; received \$12.50.

Bro. Watts submitted to the Ordaining Council and found worthy. He was ordained with prayer and laying on of hands, after which he was given the right hand of fellowship.

Moved to adjourn, to meet with the Church at Bowditch for the next session. Bro. T. E. Woody to preach the introductory message; Bro. T. A. Watts to be his alternate. Closed with prayer by Bro. T. E. Woody.



REPORTS OF FORMERLY NAMED COMMITTEES REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS

We, your committee on Sabbath Schools believe that all parents should encourage their children to take part in Sunday School classes. We should have the most spiritual teachers possible. Proverbs 22:6: "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it."

Hubert Freeman
Joe Blankenship

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LORDS' ACRE WORK

We, your committee on the Lord's Acre and Lord's Hour work, believing that the first fruits of everything belongeth unto the Lord and that we should "honor the Lord with our substance and with the firstfruits of all our increase." (Proverbs 3:9), urge all our churches to support this work. In some churches, individual projects are more practical; in others, a project by the church as a whole or perhaps a Sunday School class, may work better; and some churches may use both systems profitably. We believe anyone who tries this work will find it such a blessing, he will want to continue. Our church reports for this year are ample proof of the financial returns of this work and the testimonies of those who have engaged in it prove its spiritual worth. God will bless every effort we put forth to serv Him and each other in love; and we, your committee, feel that the Lord's Acre and Lord's Hour work is one of the most practical ways we have found to advance His cause—both spiritually and financially.

T. E. Woody
Levi Deyton

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS

We, your committee on missions, submit the following Scriptures for your consideration: Mark 16: 15-16—"And He said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be dammed." Romans 10:12-15. "For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek; for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon Him. For whosoever shall call you the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? and shall they preach except they be sent?" Acts 2:3. "As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for work wherewith I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them forth." Please notice these first missionaries were sent forth both by the Lord and the Church.

We therefore urge that we go on record as favoring both home and foreign missions, and that we do our best, both as individuals and as a body to thus promote the work of our Lord, who came to earth that He might seek and save that which is lost.

Frances Radford
Flossie Harris
Theodore Freeman

Mission Secretary's Report of Receipts and Disbursements for
Associational Year of 1956-57.

Balance Now On Hand in Mission Fund

Bowditch	\$40.24
Mine Fork	\$ 3.00
And addition of	\$ 2.40
North Bend	4.50
Terry's Fork	3.77
Individual Gift	23.76

Total on Hand	\$75.27
Plus additional \$2.40 equals	\$77.67

Totals By Churches

Bowditch	\$121.44
Mine Fork	39.66
North Bend	78.07
Terrys Fork	55.70
Prices Creek	50.77

Total for the Year as of August 21 ,1957

Mailed	\$291.73
On Hand	77.67

\$369.40

Mailed September 15, 1956

Terrys Fork Church	\$ 6.44
--------------------------	---------

Mailed December 8, 1956

Prices Creek Church	\$ 13.00
Terrys Fork Church	18.08
North Bend Church	12.66
Mine Fork Church	12.26
Bowditch Church	32.00

Mailed March 1, 1957

Prices Creek Church	\$ 10.00
North Bend Church	45.91
Terrys Fork Church	17.80
Mine Fork Road	10.00
Bowditch Church	29.06

Mailed August 20, 1957

Prices Creek Church	\$ 27.77
North Bend Church	15.00
Terrys Fork Church	9.61
Mine Fork Church	12.00
Bowditch Church	20.14

Total of given report	\$291.73
-----------------------------	----------

Total mailed since last association, and some individual gifts
are not recorded here.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE

We, your committee on temperance offer the following to be considered in the light of the Scripture, and to be in harmony with sound doctrine and godliness:

Temperance—Moderation, self control, and restraint from over-indulgence of any kind.

Temperate—Moderate, mild, and calm. Man can be temperate in things that are lawful, but things that are unlawful, he should abstain from, such as indulgence in strong drink and every thing that is sinful. Be mild and calm in talking; moderate in our eating. We think that modesty is very much related to temperance.

Scripture reference: Galations 5: 13-26; II Peter 1:6; Acts 24:25; I Timothy 2:8-11; Titus 1:1-3; Romans 14:21.

E. P. Blevins
Levi O. Deyton

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

We, your committee on resolutions do recommend that we keep the commands of our Lord, and to earnestly contend for the faith that was once delivered to the saints.

Landon Briggs, Nathan Renfro

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ORPHANAGE

We, your committee on orphanage recommend that each church in our Association have one Sunday in each month set aside for an offering for the orphanage. Also, all the churches that have Lord's Acre Project set aside a certain per cent of it for them. The first Monday in October has been set for the general collection of foods, which will be delivered to the Green Mountain Church on Tuesday, to be picked up by the orphanage trucks. Let's think of them as our own children and our responsibility, remembering them in our prayers. As the Bible teaches, pure and undefiled religion before God the Father, is to visit the widows and orphans in their afflictions, and to keep ourselves unspotted from the world.

John G. Peterson
Lvdia Duncan
Moscoe Towe

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON AGED AND DISABLED MINISTERS' FUND

We, your committee on aged and disabled ministers' fund wish to urge every church to work harder to build this fund, so not one of our ministers who become disabled or get old, will be dependent on the world, or charity. We feel this is our responsibility, and we should be adequately prepared to aid whenever need arises.

Wayne Metcalf
Clyde Duncan
Mrs. T. D. Hicks

Balance on hand	\$133.24
Received at Association and Conference	292.64
Paid for bond	5.00
Balance in bank	287.64

Joe Woody
Josephine Blevins, Treasurer
Moscoe Towe.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CHURCHES & PASTORS

We, your committee on churches and pastors wish to offer the following Scripture, for which we feel it more needed at present than any other Scripture on our minds: John 3:16.

Theodore Freeman

Clyde Duncan

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DEEPER DEVOTION

We, your committee on deeper devotion submit the following. Our Scripture reference is from Romans 12:1-2. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Lydia Duncan

Joe Woody

Oscar Letterman

REPORT of COMMITTEE on SPIRITUAL PROMOTION

We, your committee on spiritual promotion, realizing that the life and power of our churches depends upon the spirituality of individual members of the body make the following recommendations:

- (1) That each of us devote more time to prayer and Bible study.
- (2) That each church have a regular prayer and Bible study service at least once a week and that each Christian be loyal to attend these services.
- (3) That we give individual attention to developing our young Christians in the way of the Lord and that we seek to strengthen them if any seems to waver.
- (4) That we "follow the things that make for peace" and if dissention arise among us that we endeavor to settle it according to Matthew 18:15-17 and Matthew 5:23 and 24. "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit."—Galations 5:25.

Frances Radford

Tommie Lee Burleson

Elsie Thomas

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SESSIONS

We, your committee on sessions, have all agreed that the next session of the Mt. Mitchell Free Will Baptist Association will be held with the Mine Fork Free Will Baptist Church, Rt. 1, Burnsville, N. C., beginning on Thursday before the fourth Sunday in August, 1958. The introductory sermon will be delivered by Bro. C. H. Honeycutt; his alternate to be Bro. E. P. Blevins.

Hubert Freeman

Helen Wright

Joe Blankenship

Levi Deyton

Flossie Harris

Julia Boone

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

We, your committee on resolutions do recommend that we keep the commands of our Lord and to earnestly contend for the faith that was once delivered to the Saints.

Landon Briggs
Nathan Renfro

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES

Master Michael Boyd Moore . . . was born November 27, 1952, and died April 21, 1957. He is survived by the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Moore, of Burnsville, Rt. 1. The funeral services were held at the Green Mt. Free Will Baptist Church, April 23, 1957, where he was a faithful attendant. Our darling is gone so soon.

Written by the parents,
Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Moore

Bro. Everett Ray . . . was born February 25, 1919, and departed this life February 4, 1957, at the age of 37 years, 11 months, and 9 days. As a young man, he was joined in marriage to Miss Niaphrata Hughes. Survivors to Bro. Ray are: the widow; five children—Duane, Stanley, Jennings, Ronnie, and Connie Lynn; the parents, John Ray and Cora Fox Ray; two sisters, Mrs. Biss Robinson and Mrs. George Anderson, and six brothers—James, Carl, Roy, Frank, Arthur, and Paul.

Bro. Ray was converted on his 37th birthday, was baptized, and shortly afterward united with Bowditch Church. He was true to his profession; patient during his long illness and left the testimony that he was ready to go. His one request to his faithful wife was to live for Jesus, bring up their children in church and Sunday School, that they might all meet in Heaven. We hope and expect to meet him again, by the grace of God.

Written by his pastor,
Frances Radford

Bro. W. Dell Woody . . . was born in October, 1873, and departed to be with the Lord he loved, May 19, 1957. In early manhood, he was united in marriage to Miss Martha Thomas, who preceded him in death. To their union, one daughter was born, now Mrs. C. H. Crawford of Fort Payne, Alabama. She, with his two grandsons, Ray and Billy Crawford, survive him. He was also survived by one brother, John C. Woody of Green Mountain, N. C., and two sisters, Mrs. I. D. Edwards of Raleigh and Mrs. J. R. Freeman of Charlotte, N. C.

He professed faith in Christ in his youth, and for many years he held membership in Mars Hill Baptist Church. He later transferred his membership to Terrys Fork Free Will Baptist Church, where he was assistant Sunday School superintendent and deacon until his death. A seat loyally and faithfully filled among us is empty now; but we are confident of finding him among that "great cloud of witnesses" just beyond the veil.

Written by his pastor,
Frances Radford

CONSTITUTION FOR PRESENTATION TO DELEGATE OF FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES CONVENED IN BUSINESS SESSION WITH THE NORTH BEND CHURCH.

ARTICLE 1

This Association shall be known as the Mount Mitchell Association of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina.

ARTICLE 2

The objects of this Association shall be: to proclaim a full salvation and lift up a standard of holy living in accordance with the teaching of the Bible; to promote unity, fraternity, fellowship, and cooperation within the bounds of our own churches, and Christian charity toward all Christians; to encourage and engage in larger Christian enterprises than can be carried on by one church; to combine and direct the energies of the Free Will Baptists within its bounds in one sacred effort to encourage and promote the general spread of the Gospel, and all of its benevolent enterprises.

ARTICLE 3

1. This Association shall be composed of all licensed and ordained ministers, and of delegates chosen and sent by each church within its bounds, said delegates being duly recommended by letter from the church to which they belong.

2. Each church, irrespective of size, shall be entitled to five (5) delegates, with an additional delegate for every ten (10) members or fraction thereof above fifty (50). Each church is expected to send with its delegation a contribution to help defray the expenses of the Association and the causes which it fosters.

3. The Association disclaims the right to exercise lordship over the churches, or to have any power which entitles it to infringe upon the internal affairs or rights of any of the churches composing it. Each church shall consider its internal affairs to be its own business, but it shall not disrespect the Association and those placed in authority by the proper processes.

ARTICLE 4

The Association may withdraw from any church that becomes disorderly or refuses to be represented by letter or delegation, providing however, that any church accused of disorderly walk or unscriptural doctrine shall have the same right as an individual in the church to have specific charges presented in writing, together with convincing evidence; a fair opportunity for defense, and to be considered innocent until proved guilty.

ARTICLE 5

This Association shall make use of the Treatise of the Faith and Practices of Free Will Baptists adopted by the National Association November 7, 1935, at Nashville, Tennessee; recognizing however, the truth stated therein, that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our only infallible rule of faith and practice.

ARTICLE 6

Churches coming from another denomination will be carefully examined and approved as to doctrine and practice before being received as members.

ARTICLE 7

1. The officers of this Association shall be Moderator and Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer and Historian, all of whom shall be elected for a term of two years, except the Moderator and Assistant Moderator, who shall be elected annually. They shall enter upon the duties of their offices at the close of the current session.

2. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over all the meetings of the Association.

3. It shall be the duty of the Assistant Moderator to preside in the absence of the Moderator.

4. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a faithful record of the proceedings of the Association in a business-like manner, to superintend printing and distribution of the minutes, and to give over all properties belonging to his or her office to his or her duly elected successor.

5. The clerk shall be paid a fee to be determined by the Association. Minutes of the Association shall be sent to all visiting Free Will Baptist Ministers.

6. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all funds belonging to the Association, and to disburse same as directed by the Association. The treasurer shall be bonded for an amount sufficient to cover all the funds for which he is responsible.

7. It shall be the duty of the Historian to keep a record of such items of interest as may be useful in the future, especially a file of all the minutes, and to preserve the same in a book. He or she shall also be required to give over all properties of the office to the successor to the office.

ARTICLE 8

The Association shall appoint annually such committees as it shall deem necessary to expedite its business. These committees may be called upon to serve in either a temporary or standing capacity. Temporary committees complete their work and make a report of it during the same session in which they are appointed. Standing committees are appointed to assist in such matters as may require service both during and between sessions. The Moderator is empowered to choose the Chairman of each Committee, and the delegates may assist in choosing other members of said committees from among their own ranks.

ARTICLE 9

The Executive Board of this Association shall consist of the Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, Historian, and three (3) members elected from the floor. It shall be the duty of the Executive Board to have the supervision of the work of the Association between sessions. The Moderator and Clerk, by virtue of their respective offices, shall be Chairman and Secretary, respectively, of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE 10

It shall be the duty of this Association to encourage a sound ministry, such as present Christ as an all-sufficient Saviour, having made salvation possible to every human being on the terms of the Gospel, which is freely offered to all.

ARTICLE 11

A church may become a member of this Association by making request by delegation, which delegation shall present a letter showing vital statistics of said church, provided however, that such church shall be examined as to doctrine, practice, and willingness to abide by the Constitution and By-laws of this Association.

ARTICLE 12

The by-laws of this Constitution shall be read annually immediately after the body is organized.

ARTICLE 13

This Association advises all its churches to commemorate the death and sufferings of our Lord at least twice a year, with the service of feet-washing to follow the communion.

ARTICLE 14

This Association shall meet annually on Thursday before the second Sunday in September for the purpose of worship and the transaction of business. There shall be no less than two (2) worship services daily while the Association is in session.

ARTICLE 15

This Association's printed Minutes shall consist of a record of all business transacted and all worship services during the annual meeting, the proceedings of the quarterly sessions of Conference, the Constitution and By-laws of the Association and the Constitution and By-laws of the Ministers' Conference, the Church Covenant, and such tables of statistics and blank forms as may be necessary.

ARTICLE 16

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote at any annual meeting of the Association.

BY-LAWS OF THE MOUNT MITCHELL ASSOCIATION OF THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

ARTICLE 1

A session of this Association shall meet annually.

ARTICLE 2

This Association shall be opened with Bible reading and prayer.

ARTICLE 3

There shall be no conversation with members, one with another, so as to interrupt business, while in session.

ARTICLE 4

Every person wishing to speak shall first arise to his feet, address the moderator and receive recognition.

ARTICLE 5

No member shall interrupt another who is speaking.

ARTICLE 6

Every member shall attend to the subject under consideration.

ARTICLE 7

No member shall speak more than three (3) times on any one subject.

ARTICLE 8

Every motion made and seconded shall be acted upon after suitable discussion unless withdrawn by those who made it.

ARTICLE 9

A motion before the house must be acted upon before another motion can be made.

ARTICLE 10

On all motions, when a vote of the body is taken, a majority shall prevail.

ARTICLE 11

The Moderator shall have the same privilege to speak as any other member, provided the chair is filled.

ARTICLE 12

We will admit of no other title but that of Brother or Sister while in session.

ARTICLE 13

No member shall absent himself from the body while in session without permission of the Moderator.

ARTICLE 14

Any person transgressing these by-laws shall be admonished by the Moderator.

ARTICLE 15

No less than seven (7) members shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE 16

These by-laws may be amended at any regular annual meeting by two-thirds vote.

CONSTITUTION FOR PRESENTATION TO MINISTERS' CONFERENCE OF THE NEWLY FORMED MOUNT MITCHELL ASSOCIATION OF THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

ARTICLE 1

This body shall be known as the Ministers' Conference of the Mount Mitchell Association of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina.

ARTICLE 2

This body is formed under and by the authority of the Mount Mitchell Association, and shall be composed of its licensed and ordained ministers, with such delegates as provided by Article 8.

ARTICLE 3

This body shall have entire jurisdiction over the ministry in said Association, issuing license, prescribing qualifications for the ministry, conducting examinations and ordaining ministers, and at all times working for the most harmonious and effective ministry. Each licensed minister shall work under a license for a period of not less than one year; then being eligible for ordination, providing he can meet all other requirements set forth by the Ordaining Council.

ARTICLE 4

We deem it necessary for the protection of the Gospel not to receive anyone as a minister who has two living wives.

ARTICLE 5

Suitable women may be ordained to the Christian ministry, provided there are no objections to such indorsement other than the matter of sex. (NOTE: This is a word for word copy of a ruling passed in the General Conference of the Free Will Baptist Church in 1886.)

ARTICLE 6

We believe the Bible teaches that Christian women should wear modest apparel, have long hair, and avoid adorning their persons with useless jewelry. This body shall require its female members to be guided by these principles.

ARTICLE 7

The officers of this Conference shall be a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, and Clerk-Treasurer, who shall be elected annually, and shall perform the duties usually performed by such officers.

ARTICLE 8

Each church shall be advised by its pastor to send two delegates to each session of this Conference, with a letter of authorization from the church, which delegation shall enjoy equal privileges with the ministry, both in deliberations and in voting.

ARTICLE 9

Each year, upon being organized, this body shall elect an Ordaining Council. This Council shall consist of three (3) ordained ministers. One member of this Council shall be retained from the preceding year's Council, the other two (2) to be elected at the discretion of the Conference.

ARTICLE 10

The Ordaining Council, when properly organized, shall have charge of all examinations and ordinations of candidates for the ministry, who have been ordered before it by the Conference. It shall also conduct due investigation into the social life of any candidate for ordination.

ARTICLE 11

This Conference may receive any Christian minister as a visiting member, and when thus received he may enjoy all rights and privileges of regular members except voting privileges.

ARTICLE 12

This Conference shall meet on Friday before each fifth Sunday, with some church in the Association previously agreed upon, or at the call of the Moderator, provided that more than one session may not be held with any church during the same Conference year; and providing also that there be no session held at the fifth Sunday in April immediately following the adoption of this Constitution.

ARTICLE 13

The Moderator is empowered, and it is his duty, to call an extra session of the Conference, upon receiving a properly signed petition from five (5) members, at least (3) three of whom shall be ordained ministers.

ARTICLE 14

Each applicant for either license or ordination shall present a letter of recommendation from his church, properly signed by both pastor and clerk. He must of necessity be a member of a church within the bounds of this Conference. Any minister coming from another denomination shall first unite with one of our churches, then present a letter of recommendation from the church, just as any applicant for license or ordination.

ARTICLE 15

Any minister who does not represent either in person or by letter for two (2) successive sessions of Conference shall be charged with delinquency and shall be deprived of his vote on any question until his disability is removed by vote of the Conference. However, if the delinquent brother offer a satisfactory reason for his absence, a majority vote of the Conference may remove his disability.

ARTICLE 16

The Conference may withdraw fellowship from any member who becomes disorderly, provided however, all Scriptural and Christian means have first been used to help him.

ARTICLE 17

The Moderator is empowered to appoint any Committee the Conference deems necessary to expedite its business.

ARTICLE 18

Any article of this Constitution or its By-laws may be suspended or amended by a two-thirds vote of the Conference.

ARTICLE 19

A session of Conference shall be held in connection with the yearly Association.

ARTICLE 20

Five (5) members shall constitute a quorum, provided at least three (3) of them shall be ordained ministers.

BY-LAWS OF THE MOUNT MITCHELL FREE WILL BAPTIST MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

No licentiate shall succeed to ordination unless he can furnish sufficient evidence that he has obeyed the Scriptural admonition to "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of Truth." The Ordaining Council must be satisfied that he or she is divinely called, and the fruit of life and work during the period served under license must be satisfactory to the Ordaining Council. If it deems such a course advisable, the Ordaining Council may require a licentiate to renew his license, for as often as may be necessary, before ordination.

ARTICLE 2

Necessary expenses of this organization shall be met by voluntary contribution or by assessment of its members.

ARTICLE 3

No member shall serve as pastor of a church which does not enforce discipline, care for its pastor according to its ability, and strive to go forward in spiritual progress and the advancement of the cause of Christ.

ARTICLE 4

Any member who meddles with the work of another, or injures another's reputation for usefulness shall be subject to a charge of disorderly conduct, and shall be dealt with according to Article 16 of the Constitution.

ARTICLE 5

Each member, not excused by age or infirmity, is expected to do some work to advance the Cause of Christ and make a full report at each annual meeting.

ARTICLE 6

Membership in this body shall be proof of good standing in the ministry.



FAITH

Saving faith is an asset of the mind to the fundamental truths of revelation; an acceptance of the Gospel, through the influence of the Holy Spirit; and a firm confidence and trust in Christ. The fruit of faith is obedience to the Gospel. The power to believe is the gift of God; but believing is an act of the creature, which is required as a condition of pardon, and without which the sinner cannot obtain salvation. All men are required to believe in Christ; and those who yield obedience to this requirement become the children of God by faith.

Scripture References to Faith: II Cor. 7:10; Prov. 28:13; Ezek. 18:30; Acts 17:30; Luke 13:5; Heb. 11:6; Rom. 10:9, 10; Acts 16:31; James 2:17; Phil. 1:29; Gal. 3:26.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to the Lord, through Jesus Christ, we agree to accept the Free Will Baptist articles of faith; we give ourselves to each other by the help of God. (2) We solemnly covenant before God that we will carefully observe, rebuke and admonish those having gone astray and watch over each others reputation, use our influence to the upbuilding of the church, commands implied in a profession of faith, and in the spirit of kindness and for the advancement of the cause of Christ, endeavoring to seek the unity of the spirit in the bonds of Peace, and to confess our faults to one another, and to strengthen those who are weak. (3) We promise by the help of God, that we will faithfully practice family and secret prayer and strive to cultivate the doctrine of Gods revealed Word in the minds of those under our care. (4) We also agree to use our influence for the support to the Gospel and contribute liberally to aid the ministry according to our several abilities. Also we agree to be liberal with those who are afflicted and needy, and especially to those of the household of faith. (5) We also agree to attend the monthly meetings regularly if not Providentially hindered, and to submit to all ordinances applied in a profession of faith. (6) We also agree to abstain from all sinful and vain amusements. (7) We also agree to abstain from all intoxicating liquors; not to use it as a beverage, nor aid or assist in the manufacture of such, nor to furnish it to others. We also agree to encourage home and foreign missions, education, Sabbath Schools, good moral and everything that is for the glory of God, and to the welfare of men, and may the God of peace sanctify us wholly and preserve us blameless until the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, that we may be happily admitted into the Kingdom of God, where we can ascribe honor unto the Lamb forever. Amen.

TABLE OF STATISTICS

	BOWDITCH	GREEN MOUNTAIN	MINE FORK	NORTH BEND	PRICES CREEK	TERRYS FORK
Meeting Days	Full	2-4	1-3	2-4	2-4	1-2-3
No. Baptized	0	7	8	5	2	0
Added Otherwise	2	3	8	1	2	0
Excluded	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dismissed	3	0	0	5	0	7
Deaths	1	0	0	0	3	1
Communion Services	1	1	1	0	1	1
No. in Sunday School	70	85	40	75	65	30
Total Membership	55	112	42	141	65	59
Times Pastor Present	50	30	24	30	23	35
Minute Fund	10.00	15.06	10.00	10.30	9.11	10.00
Paid Pastor	644.47	320.55	215.00	465.13	390.00	318.83
Paid for Revivals		92.17	112.70	149.13	57.00	50.00
Home Missions	78.50	96.13	55.00	80.00	80.00	30.00
Foreign Missions	121.44	0	50.66	78.07	48.00	55.70
Orphanage	175.77	147.05	4.00	160.81	342.49	36.88
Poor and Sick	350.00	165.40		73.97	16.38	20.00
Monthly Mission Pledge	5.00	0	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Value Church Property	10,050.00		6,000.00	6,000.00	3,000.00	2,300.00
Improvements	0	100.00	195.00	100.00	400.00	125.00
Aged Ministers' Fund	31.02	50.00	8.00	41.60	9.11	8.17
Visiting Ministers	60.00	38.25	16.00	0		
Lord's Acre Receipts	154.48	0	42.93			

**DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES, PASTORS, CLERKS, LOCAL ORPHANAGE,
AND LORD'S ACRE WORK COMMITTEE**

Church and Pastor	Clerk and Address	Orphanage Chairman	Lord's Acre Work Chairman
BOWDITCH—E. P. Blevins	Julia Boone Micavile , N. C.	Bertie Hensley	Alec Hensley
GREEN MOUNTAIN—T. E. Woody	Mrs. Joe Woody Rt. 1, Burnsville, N. C.	Belle Deyton	Earl Foxx
MINE FORK—Frances Radford	Mrs. Essie Laws Rt. 1, Burnsville, N. C.	Carmon Laws	Hubert Freeman
NORTH BEND—Frances Radford	Mrs. Clyde Duncan Rt. 1, Green Mtn., N. C.	Luther Renfro	Levi Deyton
PRICES CREEK—E. P. Blevins	Moscoe J.owe Rt. 3, Box 241, Burnsville, N. C.	Moscoe Towe.	James Burleson
TERRYS FORK—Frances Radford	Barbara Gardner Rt. 2, Mars Hill, N. C.	Phil Anderson	

CHURCH LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION

We, the.....Free Will Baptist Church,
now in session, send Christian greetings to the Mount Mitchell Association,
and the following delegates to represent us in your body

.....
.....
.....

Our statistics are as follows:—

Our regular preaching days are.....; Number baptized.....;
Members added otherwise.....; Excluded.....; Dismissed
.....; Deaths.....; Total membership.....; Average
number in Sunday School.....; Number of communion and feet-
washing services.....; Number of times pastor present.....
We paid our pastor \$.....; Paid for revivals \$.....; Paid for
Orphanage support \$.....; For foreign missions \$.....; For
local church and Sunday School operating expense \$.....; To aged
and disabled ministers' fund \$.....; For minute fund \$.....;
For poor and sick \$.....and to the visiting ministers \$.....
We pledge to pay to Aged and Disabled ministers' fund \$.....;
To foreign mission support \$.....per month.

Our church property is valued at \$..... We have spent ap-
proximately \$.....for church property improvement.
Number of revivals..... Conducted by.....

.....
We believe our general spiritual condition, as compared with a year
ago is

.....
Pastor this year

Pastor-elect

Clerk

Address

Steward

