

MINUTES OF THE MT. MITCHELL ASSOCIATION

ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF NORTH CAROLINA

Organizational Meeting Held With  
North Bend Church  
March 9 and 10, 1956

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Fifth Annual Session Held With  
South Bend Church  
August 25-27, 1960

T. E. Woody ..... Moderator  
Loyce Deyton ..... Clerk

Sixth Annual Session  
Scheduled to Convene With Green Mountain Church  
Thursday Before the Fourth Sunday in August 1961  
at 10:30 A. M.

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Brother E. P. Blevins to Deliver Introductory Message

Sister Edith Pauley to be the Alternate Speaker

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## MINUTES OF THE FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

The fifth annual session of the Mt. Mitchell Free Will Baptists Association convened with the South Bend Church, Green Mountain, N. C. Thursday, August 25, 1960 at 10:30 A.M. Services began with singing by choir of "I Want to Know More About Jesus." Opening remarks by the Moderator, Bro. T. E. Woody. Brother Charlie Miller led us in an altar prayer. Sister Frances Radford then read the Scripture lesson from Matthew 25:14-30, Exodus 35:4-29, Proverbs 11:24-25, Luke 6:38 and Acts 20:35, after which she brought a wonderful message on "Being a Willing Christian." Message closed with a Christian handshake and song "I'd Rather Be an Old Time Christian." All visitors made welcome by the Moderator. Dismissed by Brother T.E. Woody to meet at 1:30 p.m. for business. We enjoyed a bountiful lunch in the church basement, prepared by the ladies of the community.

### THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Reconvened at 1:30 p.m. for business. Services began with Choir singing "I'm in a New World." Devotional conducted by Brother Charlie Miller, reading from John 14:1-3. Prayer led by Sister Frances Radford. Brother J. W. Everton, Superintendent of The Children's Home at Middlesex, N. C., then spoke to us thanking the Association for their support of the home and urging us to help in the future.

Brother R. H. Jackson, Vice President of The Free Will Baptist State Convention spoke briefly urging general denominational work.

Proceeded with business by appointing Sister Frances Radford and Brother Moscoe Towe for reading clerks, Brother Levi Deyton to receive Disabled Ministers Fund, Brother Joe Woody to receive Orphanage Fund and Sister Frances Radford to receive Foreign Mission Fund.

Church letters were then read and delegates seated as follows:  
Prices Creek Church - Brothers Moscoe Towe, W. R. Arrowood, James Burleson, Burl Ledford, Sisters Mallie Towe, Ruth Towe and Tommie Lee Burleson.

Green Mountain Church - Sisters Esther Fox, Virginia Miller, Peggy Wilson, Bonnie Allen and Katherleen Blankenship.

Mine Fork Church - Sisters Ruth Freeman, Malinda Laws, Louise Laws, Brothers Carmon Laws, Hubert Freeman and Theodore Freeman.

Bowditch Church - Sisters Bertie Hensley, Elsie Thomas, Frances Hughes and Brother Cassie Thomas.

Terrys Fork Church - Sister Vivian Gardner, Brother Kenneth Chambers, Brother and Sister Carroll Metcalf.

South Bend Church - Brothers Luther Renfro, Levi Deyton, Nate Renfro, Oscar Letterman and Jay Briggs.

Called for applications for churches requesting membership in the body. None presented. Following officers then elected:

Sister Loyce Deyton, Clerk; Brother T. E. Woody, Moderator and Brother Sam Moore, Assistant Moderator. The following committees were appointed:

Committee on Investigation - Brothers Levi Deyton, Moscoe Towe, Joe Woody.

Committee on Missions - Sisters Frances Radford, Frances Hughes, and Vinita Miller.

Committee on Education - Sisters Virginia Miller, Vinita Miller, Katherleen Blankenship and Brother Cassie Thomas.

Committee on Sabbath Schools - Brothers Arnold Miller, James Burleson, Carmon Laws.

Committee on Temperance - Brothers E. P. Blevins, Sam Moore, Charlie Miller.

Committee on Obituaries - Sisters Lydia Duncan, Vivian Gardner, Bertie Hensley.

Committee on Deeper Devotions and Spiritual Promotion - Sisters Edith Pauley, Frances Radford, Josephine Blevins.

Committee on Sessions - Brothers Luther Renfro, Moscoe Towe, Sisters Bertie Hensley, Ruth Freeman, Vivian Gardner, Esther Fox.

Committee on Orphanage - Brothers Levi Deyton, J. G. Peterson, Joe Woody.

Committee on Aged and Disabled Ministers Fund - Brothers Jay Briggs, Robert Arrowood, Charlie Miller, Tim Renfro.

Committee on Lord's Acre Work - Brothers Moscoe Towe, Joe Woody, Cassie Thomas, Carmon Laws, Carrol Metcalf, Levi Deyton.

Committee on Churches and Pastors - Brothers James Burleson, Cassie Thomas, Levi Deyton.

Committee on Topics - Brother E. P. Blevins, Sisters Josephine Blevins, Edith Pauley.

Ministers present were as follows:

Rev. T. E. Woody, Rev. E. P. Blevins, Rev. Josephine B. Blevins, Rev. Frances Radford, Rev. Sam Moore, Rev. Arnold Miller, Rev. Edith Pauley, Rev. Vinita Gayle Miller, Rev. Charlie Miller, Rev. J. C. Letterman.

Deacons present were:

Nathan Renfro . . . . . South Bend Church  
Fred Peterson . . . . . South Bend Church  
W. R. Arrowood . . . . . Prices Creek Church  
Cassie Thomas . . . . . Bowditch Church  
Carmon Laws . . . . . Mine Fork Church  
James Burleson . . . . . Prices Creek Church  
Joe Woody . . . . . Green Mountain Church

Voted to retain Sister Josephine Blevins as Treasurer for Aged and Disabled Ministers Fund. Dismissed by Brother T. E. Woody to meet at 7:30 p. m. for preaching.

#### THURSDAY NIGHT SESSION

Met at 7:30 p. m. for preaching. Service began with Choir singing "I'm Going That Way." Opening remarks by Brother Arnold Miller, followed by an altar prayer led by Brother James Burleson. Sister Edith Pauley then read for the Scripture lesson from Matthew 13:1-9 and Hebrews 6:1-3. Sister Pauley brought a Spirit-filled and much needed message on "The Deepness of a Christian." A Christian handshake followed as the Choir sang "Press On, It Won't Be Long." Brother Harris Peterson gave a good testimony. Closing remarks by Brother Arnold Miller. Dismissed by Brother Burl Ledford to meet at 9:30 a. m. for business.

#### FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Met at 9:30 a. m. for business. Service began with Choir singing "When Our Lord Shall Come Again." Devotional given by Sister Vinita Miller reading from Psalms 119:121-128. Prayer led by Brother E. P. Blevins. Business called to order. Yesterday's minutes read and adopted. Visiting ministers called for. None present. Report of Committee on Investigation called for. No report. Report of Committee on Education called for, read, then discussed by Sisters Virginia Miller and Frances Radford. Received and adopted. Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools called for. Committee adopted last year's report. Read, then discussed by Brothers James Burleson, Arnold Miller. Received and adopted. Report of Committee on Churches and Pastors called for. Read and discussed by Brothers James Burleson, Cassie Thomas, Levi Deyton. Received and adopted. Report of Committee on Temperance called for. Read, then discussed by Brothers E. P. Blevins, Sam Moore, Sisters Frances Radford, Josephine Blevins, Brothers Joe Woody, Levi Deyton. Received and adopted. Dismissed for short intermission. Service at 11:00 a. m. began with Choir singing "Watching You." Prayer led by Sister Frances Radford.

Brother Charlie Miller then read 2 Timothy 2:15 and Acts 2:39. Brother Miller brought a wonderful message on "Following the Instructions of God and Gaining His Promises." As the Choir sang "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be" we had a Christian handshake, with much outpouring of the Holy Spirit. An altar call was then made. Good testimonies by Brother George Wilson, Sister Frances Radford and Mrs. Ralph Munpower. Dismissed by Brother T. E. Woody to meet at 1:30 p.m. for business.

### FRIDAY EVENING SESSION

Met at 1:30 p.m. for business. Service began with Choir singing "Let Me Live Close to Thee." Brother Arnold Miller then read Revelations 22:10-17. Then we had a special prayer for Brother Fred Peterson who is sick. Prayer led by Brother Charlie Miller. Business called to order.

Report of Committee on Missions called for. Committee readopted last year's report. Read, then discussed by Sisters Frances Radford, Vinita Miller and Brothers T. E. Woody, Moscoe Towe, Rex Renfro, Arnold Miller, Sisters Josephine Blevins, Nora Miller. Appointed a committee consisting of Brothers Levi Deyton, Cassie Thomas and Sister Frances Radford to add second report to this one pertaining to tithes. Tabled first report until second one is complete.

Called for report of Committee on Orphanage. Committee adopted last year's report. Discussed by Brothers Levi Deyton, Joe Woody, T. E. Woody, Sister Frances Radford, Brother Moscoe Towe. Received and adopted. Received an offering to pay for bond, clerk and moderator in the amount of \$26.04.

Called for report of Committee on Aged and Disabled Ministers Fund. Read, then discussed by Brothers Charlie Miller, W. R. Arrowood, Sister Tommie Lee Burleson. Received and adopted.

Treasurer's report read and adopted. Voted to take an offering for Brother E. P. Blevins to buy him a hearing aid.

Received an offering for the Aged and Disabled Ministers Fund in the amount of \$18.38. Closing remarks by Brother T. E. Woody. Dismissed by Brother E. P. Blevins to meet for preaching at 7:30 p. m.

### FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

Met at 7:30 p. m. for preaching. Service began with Choir singing "I'll Meet You By the River." Opening remarks by Brother Arnold Miller. Prayer led by Brother Robert Arrowood. Brother Sam Moore then read for the Scripture lesson John 14:14-33. After prayer, Brother Moore, using for his text, John 6:12, "Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost," brought a good message. A handshake followed as the Choir sang "Glad Reunion Day." Dismissed by Brother E. P. Blevins to meet at 9:30 a. m. for business.

### SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Met at 9:30 a. m. for business. Service began with Choir singing "Just A Little Talk With Jesus." Sister Josephine Blevins then read 1 John 3:1-7, followed by an altar prayer led by Brother Calvin Barnett. Business called to order. Yesterday's minutes read and adopted. Visiting ministers called for. Brother Calvin Barnett was then seated. Report of Committee appointed to complete second report on Missions called for. Committee given the name "Ways and Means." Report read, then discussed by Sister Frances Radford. Pledges for Children's Home Trust Fund were taken in the amount of \$773.00.

Report of Committee on Lord's Acre called for. Discussed by Brothers Levi Deyton, Arnold Miller, Cassie Thomas.

Report of Committee on Deeper Devotions and Spiritual Promotion called for. Read, then discussed by Sister Josephine Blevins. Received and adopted.

Report of Committee on Sessions called for, read by Brother Moscoe Towe. Received and adopted.

Motion presented by Sister Frances Radford that she take Brother E. P. Blevins one day next week for examination for eye-glass hearing aid. If examination reveals that such a hearing aid would benefit Brother Blevins, that a down payment be made from the Aged and Disabled Ministers Fund. The remaining amount to be made known to our churches for payment.

The Moderator extended thanks for the entire association to the South Bend Church for their kindness in caring for the Association. We will always remember them with love and pray God's blessings upon them.

Business adjourned to meet with the Green Mountain Church for the next association in August 1961. Dismissed by Brother E. P. Blevins. Service at 11:00 a.m. began with Choir singing "Be A Light." Prayer by Brother J. C. Letterman. Sister Vinita Miller then read Ecclesiastes 11:1, John 6:46, John 16:14. She brought a Spirit-filled message on "The Bread of Life." We then had a Christian handshake as the Choir sang "Power in the Blood." There was much rejoicing and the Spirit of the Lord was with us. Closing remarks by Brothers E. P. Blevins, T. E. Woody and George Wilson. Dismissed by Brother T. E. Woody.

#### REPORTS OF FORMERLY NAMED COMMITTEES

We, your Committee on Missions, believe that it is impossible for one to fully believe and obey the Word of God without believing in and practicing missions. Our Lord's last command to his disciples before his ascension was "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen. Matthew 28:19-20. Jesus, Himself, was the first Gospel foreign missionary. In his parables of the kingdom He tells us "The field is the world." Matthew 13:38. He did not say a certain portion of the world, but



"the world" meaning all the inhabited earth. He also said, "As my Father hath sent me, so send I you." John 20:21. We further believe that Jesus gave us his own pattern for missionary labor when he said, "But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and into the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:8. The divine order is:

1. Empowerment by the Holy Ghost.
2. Witnessing begins at home.
3. Spreads from home to the uttermost part of the earth.

We further submit that the early Church was strongly missionary-minded in its faith and practice. See the entire book of the Acts of the Apostles, especially Chapter 15:1-4. Our recommendation is, therefore, that all our Churches realize the responsibility laid upon us by our Lord Himself, and that both as individuals and as a body we take Him at His word and obey His command.

We believe that when God calls one of our members to foreign mission service, we should deem it one of the greatest honors He could bestow upon us and pledge ourselves to support such, both in school while preparing and after he or she is on the field. Acts 13 is our authority for this recommendation.

Frances Radford.  
Frances Hughes.  
Vinita Gayle Miller.

For benefit of any who may wish to write Sister Josephine Stevens (our Missionary Worker) while she is sick, we here record her present address:

Mrs. Harold J. Stevens  
Route 1  
Goldsboro, North Carolina

REPORT OF MISSION TREASURER FOR ASSOCIATIONAL  
YEAR 1959-1960.

The following amounts have been received from various churches and individuals and forwarded to our African missionary, Sister Josephine Stevens. They include some funds now on hand to be forwarded immediately following the Association.

Bowditch Church . . . . .	\$ 92.00
Green Mountain Church . . . . .	6.00
Mine Fork Church . . . . .	49.00
Prices Creek Church . . . . .	38.50
South Bend Church . . . . .	44.14
Terrys Fork Church . . . . .	45.16
Individuals . . . . .	63.00
	<u>\$337.80</u>

(Note: Some individual gifts were credited to the Churches to which the givers belong. Others were designated by the givers as individual offerings.)

Frances Radford.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

We, your Committee on Education submit the following scriptures for your consideration:

1. My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee;
2. So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom and apply thine heart to understanding;
3. Yea, if thou criest after knowledge and liftest up thy voice for understanding;
4. If thou seekest her as silver and searchest for her as for hid treasures;
5. Then shalt thou understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God. Proverbs 2:1, 2, 3, 4, 5. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Proverbs 1:7.

We recommend that each one of our ministers and teachers avail themselves of all Christian education that they possibly can, that we may rightly divide the Word of God. Since men today are striving to attain worldly knowledge, we as God's children need to seek for a greater knowledge of God and His Word.

Virginia Miller.  
Vinita Gayle Miller.  
Kathleen Blankenship.  
Cassie Thomas.

### COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS

We, the Committee on Sabbath Schools should not only encourage our children to go to Sabbath School, but we feel it is a parent's duty to go and take them to see that they stay in Sunday School.

We also believe that all Churches should have their Sunday Schools on the time set for them. A child gets more training there than any other part of the church.

We do urge all Churches to have their Sunday Schools and to have the most devoted Christians for teachers. "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6.

Arnold Miller.  
James Burleson.

### COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE

We, your Committee on Temperance report the following:

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

1 Corinthians 9:27 - But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection:

Proverbs 23:20 - Be not among winebibbers, among riotous eaters of flesh."

1 Corinthians 6:12 - All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient. Strong drink is forbidden. Handle not, touch not that which is unclean. We can be temperate only in that which is lawful.

E. P. Blevins.  
Sam Moore.  
Charlie Miller.

### COMMITTEE ON SESSIONS

We, your Committee on Sessions agree for the Association to go to Green Mountain Church, Burnsville, N. C., Rt. 1, Thursday before the fourth Sunday in August 1961 at 10:30 a. m.

Brother E. P. Blevins to deliver the introductory sermon.  
Sister Edith Pauley to be the alternate speaker.

Moscoe Towe.  
Luther Renfro.

### COMMITTEE ON DEEPER DEVOTION AND SPIRITUAL PROMOTION

We, your Committee on Deeper Devotions and Spiritual Promotion submit the following:

Devote: To give or surrender completely as to some person or end, to set apart, dedicate, consecrate. To give ourselves to God completely to be used for His glory and to the upbuilding of His kingdom. Deeper Devotion is to give ourselves to God as Abraham did and not stagger at His promises. Then when we do we will be promoted by the Power of the Holy Ghost, for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto man. I beseech you, therefore, by the mercies of God that you present your bodies a living sacrifice holy and acceptable

unto God which is your reasonable service. Romans 12:1.

Frances Radford.  
Edith Pauley.  
Josephine Blevins.

### COMMITTEE ON ORPHANAGE

We, your Committee on Orphanage recommend that each church in our association have one Sunday each month set aside for an offering for the orphanage. Also, all who have Lord's Acre Project set aside a certain per cent of it for them.

The first Monday in October has been set for general collection of food, which will be delivered to Green Mountain Church on Tuesday, to be picked up by the orphanage truck. Let us remember them in our prayers and our financial support. For the King shall say to those on His right hand, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Levi Deyton.  
J. G. Peterson.  
Joe Woody.

### WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

Being appointed by our Moderator to draft a supplementary report as to what practical means we may be able to use to put into effect the recommendations of some of our regular committees (especially the committees on orphanage and foreign mission work) we submit the following:

1. That our Association should in the coming year at least raise enough money to match the \$1000.00 already deposited by Mr. Solomon Hensley of Burnsville for a building for boys at our Children's Home to be known as the Mt. Mitchell building.

2. That we undertake the sponsorship of the young Arab converted to Christ in Iraq by our Brother Talmadge Greene at our Bible College.

To put this into effect we recommend the following practical means: That the pastor and deacons of each of our churches secure from every individual member who will help a definite personal pledge to the orphanage trust fund. For instance, 20 pledges of \$50.00 would raise \$1000.00, 40 pledges of \$25.00, 100 pledges of \$10.00 each, etc.) That the pledges be started here, to encourage others, and that people be made to understand the pledge may be paid in installments over a year's time or in full by next association.

Then, concerning the young brother from Iraq who feels called to prepare for missionary work among his own people, we recommend that Brother Greene be notified that he may start immigration proceedings and that we, by faith in God, will pledge ourselves to raise funds to begin his schooling being assured by the president of F. W. B. Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee that he will see to it that other Free Will Baptists are notified of our effort and believing that God will stir them up to help.

Finally, we recommend that all the regular offerings of our churches to the Children's Home (except the food collection in October and the money specially raised to take it to Middlesex) during this year, be turned over to the trustee of the building fund, Brother Levi Deyton, Green Mountain, North Carolina, Route. 1 and deposited by him to enable us to reach our goal of \$1000.00 more in this fund should our Lord tarry until our next association.

Levi Deyton.  
Frances Radford.  
Cassie Thomas.

The following pledges were taken at the Association for the building fund:

Frances Radford . . . . .	\$ 50.00
T. E. Woody . . . . .	50.00
Arnold Miller . . . . .	100.00
Moscoe Towe . . . . .	50.00
Edith Pauley . . . . .	50.00
Joe Woody . . . . .	50.00
W. R. Arrowood . . . . .	25.00
Sam Moore . . . . .	50.00
E. P. Blevins . . . . .	50.00
Ralph Towe . . . . .	50.00
Cassie & Jimmy Thomas . . . . .	25.00
Fulton Bennett . . . . .	10.00
Rex Renfro . . . . .	10.00
Vinita Gayle Miller . . . . .	10.00
J. C. Letterman . . . . .	10.00
John G. Peterson . . . . .	10.00
Rothea Ogle . . . . .	10.00
Lydia Duncan . . . . .	10.00
Calvin Barnett . . . . .	5.00
George Wilson . . . . .	25.00
Oliver Peterson . . . . .	50.00
Ruth Towe . . . . .	5.00
Charlie Miller . . . . .	50.00
Flossie Harris . . . . .	12.00
Lester Murphy . . . . .	1.00
D. W. Enson . . . . .	5.00
Total Amount . . . . .	<u>\$773.00</u>

COMMITTEE ON AGED AND DISABLED MINISTERS FUND

We, your Committee on Aged and Disabled Ministers Fund submit the following: The righteous sheweth mercy and giveth. Psalm 37:21.

We urge all chruches to set a goal toward this worthy cause. Those who have given their service to God and to us while they were able need our support when they can no longer serve.

Charlie Miller.

Jay Briggs.

W. R. Arrowood, Tim Renfro.

TREASURER'S REPORT ON AGED AND DISABLED  
MINISTERS FUND

Amount on Hand	\$672.29
Received at Association	<u>151.67</u>
Total Amount.....	\$823.96

Treasurer: Josephine Blevins.

COMMITTEE ON CHURCHES AND PASTORS

We, your Committee on Churches and Pastors desire our pastors to be led by the Holy Ghost in all points without respect of persons. We desire our pastors to know the Holy Ghost and stand by the truth.

For Pastors - 1 Peter 5:2.

For Churches - 1 Peter 2:2.

We feel that the pastor and deacons should meet at least four times a year and discuss the needs of the church, or more times if necessary.

James Burleson.  
Levi Deyton.  
Cassie Thomas.

OBITUARY OF SHIRLEY FAY WATTS

Shirley Fay Watts, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. T. A. Watts of Weaverville, North Carolina, Route 1, departed this life December 7, 1959. She is survived by the parents, two brothers, Jerry and Gary; two sisters Jo Anne and Sharon Kay; the paternal grandparents, Rev. and Mrs. Jesse Watts and the maternal grandmother, Mrs. Oscar Ledford. She was nine years old.

OBITUARY OF REV. M. B. WESTALL

Rev. M. B. Westall born April 15, 1875 died November 22, 1959. He is survived by six daughters and two sons. He



was a member of the Prices Creek Free Will Baptist Church. He was ordained by the Jacks Creek Free Will Baptist Conference September 4, 1915. Died in the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### ORBITUARY OF JOHN RENFRO

John Renfro born June 29, 1876, departed this life July 7, 1960 at the age of 84.

In early manhood he was united in marriage to Eliza Honeycutt who proceeded him in death. To them were born five children, two daughters, Mrs. Oscar Letterman of Green Mountain, N. C. and Mrs. Arvil Tipton of Johnson City, Tennessee, three sons, Nathan, Tilman and Luther, all of Green Mountain, N. C. Seven grandchildren, seventeen great grandchildren and one great, great grandson.

He professed faith in Christ early in life and was faithful until death. He united with the Free Will Baptist Church. He was a devoted husband and father. We feel our loss is Heaven's gain.

Written by his daughter-in-law,  
Mrs. Tilman Renfro.

### PROCEEDINGS OF THE MINISTERS CONFERENCE

Minutes of the Mt. Mitchell Free Will Baptists Ministers Conference from November 27, 1959 through August 27, 1960:

The Conference met with the Bowditch Church November 27, 1959. Opened with singing and prayer. Offering taken for Aged and Disabled Ministers Fund. Received \$14.00. Brother Frank Laws presented to ordaining council, which decided to wait until next conference. Voted to have next conference with Green Mountain Church. Ministers present were:

Rev. T. E. Woody  
Rev. E. P. Blevins

Rev. Frances Radford  
Rev. Josephine Blevins  
Rev. Frank Laws  
Rev. Roscoe Briggs  
Rev. Sam Moore  
Rev. Vinita Gayle Miller  
Rev. Arnold Miller - by letter

The Conference met with the Green Mountain Church May 27, 1960. Opened with prayer and singing. Offering taken for Aged and Disabled Ministers Fund. Received \$23.50. Brother T. A. Greene presented a letter from an Iraq convert wishing to come to the United States for training for missionary work in Iraq. Requested each church give this careful consideration until the next conference. Voted to grant the request of Brother Hayden Honeycutt that we dismiss him from our conference. Voted to give Brother J. C. Letterman, Charlie Miller licenses to preach until the Association. Next conference to meet with South Bend Church at the association. Ministers present were:

Rev. T. E. Woody  
Rev. E. P. Blevins  
Rev. Frances Radford  
Rev. Josephine Blevins  
Rev. Edith Pauley  
Rev. Vinita Gayle Miller  
Rev. T. A. Watts  
Rev. Roscoe Briggs  
Rev. Talmadge Greene  
Rev. Sam Moore  
Rev. Arnold Miller  
Rev. Charlie Miller  
Rev. J. C. Letterman

The conference met with the South Bend Church August 27, 1960. Opened with singing and prayer. Offering taken for Aged and Disabled Ministers Fund. Received \$20.00. Brother Charlie Miller, Brother J. C. Letterman and Sister Vinita Gayle Miller had their licenses renewed for one year. Sister Edith Pauley given permanent license. Voted to have

our next conference with the Bowditch Church. Voted to retain Brother E. P. Blevins as Moderator and Sister Josephine Blevins as Clerk.

MINISTERS ROLL

Rev. T. E. Woody	Rt. 2, Burnsville, N. C.
Rev. E. P. Blevins	Micaville, N. C.
Rev. Josephine B. Blevins	Micaville, N. C.
Rev. Frances Radford	Rt. 2, Mars Hill, N. C.
Rev. Sam Moore	Burnsville, N. C.
Rev. T. A. Watts	Rt. 1, Weaverville, N. C.
Rev. Arnold Miller	Relief, N. C.
Rev. Frank Laws	Rt. 1, Burnsville, N. C.
Rev. Edith Pauley	Erwin, Tennessee
Rev. Roscoe Briggs	Rt. 2, Spruce Pine, N. C.
Rev. Vinita Gayle Miller	Burnsville, N. C.
Rev. Charlie Miller	Burnsville, N. C.
Rev. J. C. Letterman	Spruce Pine, N. C.
Rev. T. A. Greene	442-A-1 Rashid St. Derbendi Kham Contractors Baghdad, Iraq

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 of 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 fourth 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 deliveries 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.

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 assent 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.

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



## 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.

Country	City	Year	Value	Notes
Canada	Montreal	1853	1000	
Canada	Montreal	1854	1000	
Canada	Montreal	1855	1000	
Canada	Montreal	1856	1000	
Canada	Montreal	1857	1000	
Canada	Montreal	1858	1000	
Canada	Montreal	1859	1000	
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Canada	Montreal	1995	1000	
Canada	Montreal	1996	1000	
Canada	Montreal	1997	1000	
Canada	Montreal	1998	1000	
Canada	Montreal	1999	1000	
Canada	Montreal	2000	1000	

TABLE OF STATISTICS

	(Union) Bowditch	Mine Fork	Green Mountain	Prices Creek	South Bend	Terrys Fork
Meeting Days	Every Sunday Night	2-3-4	2-4	2-4	1-3	Full Time
No. Baptized	0	0	1	1	2	0
Added Otherwise	0	0	5	1	1	0
Excluded	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dismissed	0	0	6	0	0	0
Deaths	0	0	0	1	0	0
Communion Services	0	0	1	1	1	2
No. in Sunday School	60	30	60	60	65	38
Total Membership	52	44	110	64	70	40
Times Pastor Present	35	40	21	20	20	79
Minute Fund	12.00	10.00	15.00	12.04	19.10	12.00
Paid Pastor	510.53	351.00	409.51	303.00	239.22	416.45
Paid for Revivals	0	91.03	97.50	160.00	69.45	120.00
Foreign Missions	92.00	49.00	6.00	38.50	44.14	45.16
Orphanage	191.49	50.00	150.10	176.00	104.45	76.84
Poor and Sick	81.92	97.66	181.40	32.00	36.00	24.40
Monthly Mission Pledge	5.00	3.00	0	3.00	0	3.00
Value Church Property	10,500.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	3,000.00	7,000.00	2,500.00
Improvements	115.00	500.00	4,500.00	125.00	400.00	75.00
Aged & Disabled Ministers Fund	0	10.00	50.00	20.00	23.00	10.00
Visiting Ministers	0	25.00	61.47	20.00	37.66	17.04
Lord's Acre Receipts	0	0	771.32	0	765.85	0
Sunday School and Local Church Operating Expense	80.00	60.00	40.00	90.00	56.00	48.00

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 Chmn.
Bowditch - Frances Radford Sam Moore (Assistant)	Mrs. Frances Hughes Micaville, N. C.	Bertie Hensley	Alec Hensley
Green Mountain - T. E. Woody	Mrs. Joe Woody Burnsville, N. C. Route 1, Box 25	Earl Fox	Earl Fox
Mine Fork - Frances Radford	Mr. Hubert Freeman Burnsville, N. C. P. O. Box 341	Carmon Laws	Hubert Freeman
South Bend - T. E. Woody	Mrs. Lydia Duncan Green Mountain, N. C. Route 1	Luther Renfro	Levi Deyton
Prices Creek - John Murphy	Mr. Moscoe Towe Burnsville, N. C. Route 3	Moscoe Towe	James Burleson
Terrys Fork - Richard Ward	Miss Barbara Ann Gardner Mars Hill, N. C. Route 2	Wayne Metcalf	

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 Dis-  
abled Ministers' Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_; To foreign mission  
support \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month.  
Our church property is valued at \$ \_\_\_\_\_.  
We have spent approximately \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for  
church property improvement.  
Number of revivals \_\_\_\_\_. Conducted  
by \_\_\_\_\_  
Lord's Acre receipts \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

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

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Pastor this year \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor-elect \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Steward \_\_\_\_\_

