



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

Sixth Annual Session Held With
Green Mountain Church
August 24-26, 1961

Sam Moore. Moderator
Loyce Deyton Clerk

Seventh Annual Session
Scheduled to Convene With Bowditch Church
Thursday Before the Fourth Sunday in
August 1962 at 10:30 A. M.

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Brother Charlie Miller to Deliver Introductory Message

Brother Arnold Miller to be the Alternate Speaker

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MINUTES OF THE SIXTH SESSION

The sixth annual session of the Mt. Mitchell Free Will Baptists Association convened with the Green Mountain Church, Burnsville, N. C., Route 1, Thursday, August 24, 1961 at 10:30 A. M. Services began with singing by choir of "What A Joy To Know My Saviour." Opening remarks by the Moderator, Bro. T. E. Woody. Prayer led by Sister Frances Radford. Sister Bonnie Farmer from the Children's Home at Middlesex, N. C. spoke to us briefly thanking the Association for their support of the home. The Concert Class from the home then presented a song program. All visitors made welcome by the Moderator. Bro. Charlie Miller then led us in prayer. Many good testimonies by our Brothers and Sisters in Christ, after which we had a Christian handshake as the choir sang, "I Feel Like Traveling On." Brother Gilbert Adkins led us in prayer. Elected Brother Adkins to preach at 3:00 P. M. Dismissed for lunch by Moderator, to meet at 1:30 P. M. for business.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Reconvened at 1:30 P. M. for business. Service began with choir singing, "What A Friend We Have In Jesus." Devotional conducted by Brother Sam Moore, reading John 14: 1-16. Brother J. C. Letterman led us in an altar prayer.

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

Church letters were then read and delegates seated as follows:

Prices Creek Church - Brothers Moscoe Towe,
W. R. Arrowood, Sister Ruth Towe.

Green Mountain Church - Brothers Charles Wilson
Erskine Miller, Fred Blankenship, Joe Woody.

Mine Fork Church - Brothers Carmon Laws,
Lester Laws, Mrs. Emory Laws, Mrs. Clair
Laws.

Bowditch Church - Brothers Cassie Thomas, Alex
Hensley, Sisters Maude Briggs, Bertie Hensley,
Elsie Thomas, Frances Hughes.

Terrys Fork Church - Brothers Clyne Honeycutt,
Phil Anderson, Oscar Robinson.

South Bend Church - Brothers Rex Renfro, Fred
Peterson, Earnest Peterson.

Called for applications for churches requesting
membership in the body. None presented. The
following committees were appointed:

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

Committee on Missions - Sisters Vinita Miller
Deyton, Frances Radford, Shirley Wilson.

Committee on Education - Sister Frances Radford,
Brothers Moscoe Towe, Cassie Thomas.

Committee on Sabbath Schools - Brothers J. C.
Letterman, Charlie Miller, Phil Anderson.

Committee on Temperance - Brother Sam Moore,
Sister Frances Radford.

Committee on Obituaries - Sisters Ruby Metcalf, Frances Hughes.

Committee on Deeper Devotions and Spiritual Promotion - Sisters Frances Radford, Josephine Blevins, Brother Charlie Miller.

Committee on Sessions - Brothers Clyne Honeycutt, Cassie Thomas, Carmon Laws, Charles Wilson, Moscoe Towe, Rex Renfro.

Committee on Orphanage - Brothers Arnold Miller, Joe Woody, J. C. Letterman.

Committee on Aged and Disabled Ministers Fund - Brothers Sam Moore, Moscoe Towe, W. R. Arrowood, Fred Blankenship.

Committee on Lord's Acre Work - Sisters Bessie Woody, Elsie Thomas, Brother Levi Deyton.

Committee on Churches and Pastors - Brothers Erskine Miller, Cassie Thomas, W. R. Arrowood, Alex Hensley.

Committee on Topics - Brothers E. P. Blevins, Charlie Miller, Carmon Laws.

The following officers were elected: Brother Sam Moore, Moderator; Brother T. E. Woody, Assistant Moderator. Appointed Trustees for Mt. Mitchell Building Fund. Those appointed were: Brothers Levi Deyton, Arnold Miller, Cassie Thomas.

Brother Gilbert Adkins was given a seat in the body.

Ministers present were: Rev. T. E. Woody, Rev. E. P. Blevins, Rev. Josephine Blevins, Rev. Frances Radford, Rev. Sam Moore, Rev. Arnold Miller, Rev. Edith Pauley, Rev. Vinita Gayle

Deyton, Rev. Charlie Miller, Rev. J. C. Letterman, Rev. T. A. Greene (by letter).

Deacons present were:

- Nathan Renfro South Bend Church
- Fred Peterson South Bend Church
- W. R. Arrowood Prices Creek Church
- Cassie Thomas Bowditch Church
- Alex Hensley Bowditch Church
- Carmon Laws Mine Fork Church
- Joe Woody Green Mountain Church
- Fred Blankenship Green Mountain Church
- Erskin Miller Green Mountain Church

Intermission given.

Services at 3:00 P. M. began with choir singing, "We'll Go To See The Lord." Prayer led by Brother Charlie Miller. Brother Gilbert Adkins then read the Scripture lesson from Hebrews 12. He brought a Spirit-filled message. Dismissed by Brother Sam Moore to meet at 7:30 P. M. for preaching by Brother J. C. Letterman.

THURSDAY NIGHT SESSION

Met at 7:30 for preaching. Service began with choir singing, "What Joy To Know My Saviour." Singing by the Green Mountain Quartet. Brother J. C. Letterman then brought a good message, using John 15:5 for the Scripture. An altar call was made. Prayer by Brother Sam Moore. Dismissed to meet at 10:00 A. M. for business.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Met at 10:00 A. M. for business. Service began with choir singing, "I Have A True Shepherd." Devotional given by Sister Josephine Blevins, reading II Corinthians 4: 1-10. Prayer led by Sister

Josephine Stevens. Business called to order. Yesterday's minutes read and adopted. Visiting ministers called for. Brother Ralph Mumpower, Brother Harold Stevens were seated. Voted to omit preaching at 11:00 A. M. and continue business. Report of Committee on Investigation called for. No report. Report of Committee on Education called for, read then discussed by Sister Frances Radford, Brothers Cassie Thomas, Harold Stevens, Rex Renfro, Sister Josephine Stevens, Brothers Sam Moore, Sister Josephine Blevins. Received and adopted. Voted to have Sister Frances Radford contact Sister Florine Faulkner in regard to her teaching Bible School in our Churches during the summer. Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools called for. Committee adopted last year's report. Read, then discussed by Brother J. C. Letterman, Sister Vinita Gayle Deyton. Received and adopted. Report of Committee on Churches and Pastors called for, read then discussed by Brothers Erskine Miller, W. R. Arrowood. Received and adopted. Report of Committee on Temperance called for read by Sister Frances Radford. Received and adopted. Moved to have Brother Harold Stevens give a report on our State Convention. Brother Stevens gave a very enlightening report on our State Convention. Moved to send delegates and ministers from our Association to our Free Will Baptist State Convention at Mount Olive, N. C. September 13-14. Appointed Brother Moscoe Towe as delegate from our Association to attend the Convention. Offering taken for Minute Fund in amount of \$15.50. Dismissed by Brother Arnold Miller 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, "Will I Then Be Missed." Brother Arnold Miller then read Colossians 4: 1-6. Brother Harold Stevens led us in prayer. Business called

to order. Called for report of Committee on Missions. Read by Sister Vinita Deyton. Discussed by Sister Josephine Stevens (our missionary to Africa), Brother Harold Stevens, Sister Frances Radford, Brothers Arnold Miller, Moscoe Towe; Sister Josephine Blevins moved to appoint a secretary from each Church in our Association to send the monthly pledges to our missionary. Called for report of Committee on Orphanage. Committee adopted last year's report. Read, then discussed by Brother Levi Deyton, who gave us a report on the pledges for the Children's Home Trust Fund. Moved to hold money in fund until we hear from the State Convention. Dismissed for short intermission. Service at 3:00 P. M. began with choir singing, "I'll Live With Jesus." Brother Harold Stevens led us in an altar prayer. Sister Frances Radford then read from Revelations 1:9-20 and Revelations 2 and 3, bringing a much needed message. As the choir sang, we had a Christian handshake. A Spirit of love dwelled among us. Prayer led by Brother T. E. Woody. A good testimony by Sister Vinita Deyton. Dismissed to meet at 7:30 P. M. for preaching.

FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

Service began with singing, "A Great Day Is Coming", by the choir. Special singing by Terry Fork Church. Prayer by Brother Guy Honeycutt. Sister Edith Pauley then read the Scripture lesson from Genesis 9, Revelations 6: 2, Revelations 19:11-16. Prayer by Sister Frances Radford. Christian handshake. Some good testimonies. Dismissed to meet at 10:00 A. M. for business.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Service began with choir singing, "Amazing Grace." Brother Guy Honeycutt then read James 5: 17-19. Brother John Murphy then led us in prayer. Busi-

ness brought to order. Visiting ministers called for. Brother John Murphy seated. Called for report on Aged and Disabled Ministers Fund. Received and adopted. Moved to have each member of our Churches give one dollar a year to our Aged and Disabled Ministers Fund. Report discussed by Bros. Sam Moore, W. R. Arrowood, Joe Woody, Guy Honeycutt, Cassie Thomas, Nathan Renfro. Treasurer's report read and adopted. Report of Committee on Lord's Acre called for, read by Sister Besie Woody; discussed by Bros. Levi Deyton, Guy Honeycutt, Sister Vinita Deyton, Brothers Rex Renfro, E. P. Blevins, Sister Josephine Blevins. Received and adopted. Report of Committee on Deeper Devotions and Spiritual Promotion called for. Read, received and adopted. Report of Committee on Sessions called for, read by Sister Vinita Deyton. Received and adopted. The Moderator extended thanks for the entire Association to the Green Mountain Church for their kindness in caring for the Association. Moved to carry report of Committee on Topics over to the Ministers Conference. Appointed Brother Fred Blankenship to attend State Convention as delegate for the Mt. Mitchell Association since Brother Moscoe Towe cannot attend. Dismissed by Brother E. P. Blevins to meet with the Bowditch Church, Micaville, N. C. for the next Association in August 1962.

REPORTS OF FORMERLY NAMED COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS

We, your Committee on Missions believe that the cause of Christ is the cause of missions. The Bible is a Missionary Book. Christ spoke to his disciples in Matthew 10:8, "freely ye have received, freely give." We have received the Gospel. How can we refuse it to others? We know that sharing something with others usually requires sacrifice. And yet we know that the requirement of God is that we make to Him the presentation of our bodies and our lives as a sacri-

face. A part of this requirement is to further the spreading of the Gospel. This should not only be our duty, but also our greatest joy. We believe that if we do not share salvation, we do not keep it. We esteem the greatness of the Apostle Paul next to that of Christ. Paul was a missionary. Perhaps the Jews doubted the necessity of Paul's going to the idol-worshipping Gentiles, but we read that his brethren bade him Godspeed by giving him the hand of fellowship, (Gal. 2:9) and that the Churches which he visited gave him their support. There are many who sit in darkness, having never heard the Gospel. What hope have we of their salvation, because "neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under Heaven given among men whereby we must be saved." And what excuse have we if they remain in darkness and never hear the Word?

We wish to mention also that it is the request of our missionaries that each Church appoint its own secretary to send in the money the Church accumulates each month. This is desired, too, that the Churches may know continually of the work of the missionaries.

Vinita Gayle Deyton
Frances Radford
Shirley Wilson

Our missionary's address at the present time is:

Mrs. Harold Stevens
Swannanoa, North Carolina

After November 7 it will be:

Mrs. Harold Stevens
Mseleni Mission Station
P. O. MKUZE
Zululand, South Africa

The address of our Mission Board is:
Free Will Baptist Foreign Mission Board
3801 Richland Avenue
Nashville 5, Tennessee

Mission Secretaries in our Churches are:
Vinita Gayle Deyton . . . Green Mountain Church
Lydia Duncan South Bend Church
Moscoe Towe Prices Creek Church
Frances Hughes Bowditch Church
Carmon Laws Mine Fork Church
Frances Radford Terrys Fork Church

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth. But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness." II Timothy 2:15-16. If we accept this dual command as God's Word, then we must take our stand for Christian education, and against profane and vain babblings, which abound in our day. We, your Committee, also feel that we should first confess to ourselves and to God that as a body we have never done very much for Christian education except to pass a resolution annually favoring it. We perhaps would have been better off to do nothing at all since the Bible says, "He that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

We would like to make some practical recommendations to amend our ways in this matter. First, let us all become (if we are not already) earnest and prayerful students of God's Word, and let us avail ourselves of helps to this study, such as Bible Dictionary, Concordance, Webster's Dictionary of the English language, and such other tools as God may provide us. And let us be careful to avoid, especially for young Christians, unprofitable reading matters.

God has blessed our denomination with a fine, spiritual school at Nashville, Tennessee; a four-year college specializing in the training of Christian workers. We feel that the young people of our connection who desire to go beyond high school in their education should be encouraged to choose such a school, and that the Churches should help any of their young people who are not financially able, and yet desire to sharpen the best tool God gives to man, a consecrated mind. We further recommend that more time and attention be devoted to the training of our youth in the Church through vacation Bible Schools and youth meetings in addition to Sunday School. An hour in Sunday School and an hour or two in other services during the week just is not enough to arm our young people for the conflict with modernism and communism. Let us do something about it!

Frances Radford

Moscoe Towe

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.

J. C. Letterman
Charlie Miller
Phil Anderson

COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE

Temperance, as the word is used in the Bible, means a proper and limited use of all lawful enjoyments; keeping every sense under proper restraint, and never permitting the body to bring the spirit under subjection; in other words self-control. It is one of the additions to faith mentioned in II Peter 1:6, which, if they be in us and abound, they make us to be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is part of the fruit of the spirit mentioned in Galatians 5:23. We are taught in I Corinthians 9: 25 that every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things; and Titus 1:8 teaches that one of the qualifications a bishop must have is temperance.

We, your Committee, submit that the word temperance is not properly used in relation to the use of alcoholic beverages, from which all followers of Jesus should abstain, and we recommend that we discuss this subject in relation to such things as conversation, eating, proper pleasures like reading, visiting, hobbies, etc. which may master us if we do not keep our body under subjection. Nor would we overlook the fact that a person may become intemperate in religious zeal, and injure the very cause he seeks to aid.

Frances Radford
Sam Moore

COMMITTEE ON SESSIONS

We, your Committee on Sessions agree for the Association to go to Bowditch Church, Micaville, N. C., Thursday before the fourth Sunday in August 1962 at 10:30 a. m.

Brother Charlie Miller to preach the introductory sermon. Brother Arnold Miller to be the alternate speaker

Carmon Laws
Moscoe Towe
Charles Wilson
Cassie Thomas
Rex Renfro
Cline Honeycutt

COMMITTEE ON DEEPER DEVOTION

We, your Committee on Deeper Devotions, being convinced that God's Holy Word teaches that all Christians are devoted to the Lord, in that "We are not our own; we are bought with a price"; and being further convinced that God calls upon us all to present ourselves wholly unto Him, which is the essence of deeper devotion (meaning that we have recognized God's claim that we are His by creation and redemption, and that we completely yield ourselves to be His, soul, spirit and body forevermore.) therefore, we submit the following thoughts for consideration by this body:

1) Devotion and deeper devotion are both taught in the Bible. See Leviticus 27, where we are told of certain sacrifices and vows which could be redeemed (or brought back) by the one who devoted them. There we are also told of a devotion not subject to this provision (vs. 28 and 29) thus, a deeper devotion, the thing devoted becoming most holy unto the Lord.

2) We believe that some of the elements of deeper devotion as taught in the New Testament, as well as typified in the Old, are as follows:

- a. Separation from the world, and unto the Lord. Romans 12:1-2
- b. Diligence. I Peter 1: 5-11
- c. Faithfulness. St. Luke 12:41-44, I Cor. 4:2

We therefore strongly urge that if this report be adopted by the body, we each of us realize that the spiritual progress of our Churches and this Association is dependent upon our devotion as individuals, and that we set our face to seek the Lord for a greater portion of His grace, and that knowing that He is faithful that promised to fill the hungry soul with good tidings.

Frances Radford
Josephine Blevins
Charlie Miller

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."

Arnold Miller
Joe Woody
J. C. Letterman

We now have \$1,749.99 in the Mt. Mitchell Building Fund.

Trustees:
Levi Deyton
Arnold Miller
Cassie Thomas

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 churches 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.

Sam Moore
Moscoe Towe
W. R. Arrowood
Fred Blankenship

TREASURER'S REPORT ON AGED AND DISABLED
MINISTERS FUND

Amount on hand	\$531.29
Received at Association	128.55
Total Amount	<u>\$659.84</u>

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 - I Peter 5: 2-3

For Churches - I Peter 2: 24.

We feel that Churches should love their pastors and stand by them and help them to win souls to Christ.

Erskin Miller

Cassie Thomas

W. R. Arrowood

COMMITTEE ON LORD'S ACRE WORK

We, your Committee on Lord's Acre Work, urge all our Churches to take part in this project. We feel that in working together we learn to love each other more. Also this gives each member of the Church an opportunity to work for the Lord. We have found in our Churches that working together has drawn us closer to each other and to God. We use the money we make to help others and to improve our Church. We feel that God is pleased when he sees people who are willing to work with their hands to gain the things necessary in this life.

Bessie Woody

L. O. Deyton

Elsie Thomas

OBITUARY OF MRS. LUCILLE SHEPHERD

Mrs. Lucille Shepherd died June 8, 1961, at the age of 88. She is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Clyde Anders of Barnardville, N. C. and two sons, Gaston of Burnsville, N. C., Glen of Pensacola, Florida. A number of grandchildren and great grandchildren. She became a Christian early in life. She joined the Free Will Baptist Church in 1901. She was a devoted wife and mother. We feel our loss is Heaven's gain.

OBITUARY OF HILLARD CHAMBERS

Hillard Chambers was born November 6, 1871, departed this life June 7, 1961. He is survived by the widow, Mrs. Bertie Radford Chambers; one daughter, Mrs. Columbus Dorkery of Mars Hill, N. C.; three sons Kenneth and Murphy of Mars Hill, N. C., and Herbert of Woodfin, N. C. Eight grandchildren and five great grandchildren. He professed faith in Christ in early life. He joined the Free Will Baptist Church in 1902. He was an active member until he became ill a few years ago. He died in the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ.

OBITUARY OF MICHAEL DAVID WRIGHT

Little Michael David, son of Mr. and Mrs. Danny Wright, who are members of the Green Mountain F. W. B. Church, was born June 17, 1961, died June 20, 1961. His life on earth was short, but he will have a long life with Jesus over in Glory, for we know without a doubt that is where he has gone. For Jesus said, "Of such is the Kingdom of Heaven."

Written by an aunt - Bessie Woody

OBITUARY OF NELLIE CANNON

Nellie Miller Cannon born July 26, 1879 departed this life March 29, 1961 at the age of 82. She was the daughter of Rev. Dan Miller. In early womanhood she was united in marriage to John Cannon who preceded her in death. To them were born two children, Mrs. A. E. Miller and Burlus Cannon, both of Burnsville, N. C. Surviving are eight grandchildren, eighteen great grandchildren and two great, great grandchildren. She was a steadfast Christian and a member of the Green Mountain Free Will Baptist Church for approximately eighteen years. She was a mother to all who knew her. She was a virtuous crowned

woman, often rising while it was yet night, giving meat to her household. She girded her loins with strength, and strength and honor were her clothing; wisdom opened her mouth; and the law of kindness was on her tongue.

Written by a granddaughter
Vinita Gayle Deyton

OBITUARY OF MRS. HOZETTIA WOODY

Mrs. Hozettia Shepherd Woody departed this life April 29, 1961 at the age of 72. She professed faith in Christ early in life and joined the Free Will Baptist Church. She was a faithful member until her illness. She is greatly missed at home and in the Church. We feel that our loss is Heaven's gain. She is survived by her husband, Rev. T. E. Woody, one daughter, Mrs. H. L. Morris, Asheville, N. C. and three step-daughters, three step-sons, one grandchild.

Somewhere the sun is shining; in a
beautiful land not too far away.
To know you are there; and happy
comforts us this day.
God works only for our good; and
we know you are at rest.
With heavy hearts we will be content;
for God does everything for the best.
Sometimes it's hard to understand;
why some things have to be;
But in his Wisdom God has planned;
beyond our power to see.
Our memories of you will bring
new comfort every day;
As we remember you are not dead;
but have just gone away.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MINISTERS CONFERENCE

The Conference met with the Green Mountain Church August 26. Opened with song by Brother Ralph Towe and Sister Ruth Towe. Received a collection for Minute Fund - amount of \$20.03. Brothers Charlie Miller and J. C. Letterman were ordained. Brother Arnold Miller had his license renewed for one year. Sister Vinita Gayle Deyton given permanent license. Offering taken for Aged and Disabled Ministers Fund. Received \$18.00. Next Conference to be at Terrys Fork Church, Friday before the next fifth Sunday. Brother Charlie Miller to preach the introductory message. Brother Guy Honeycutt to be the Alternate Speaker.

MINISTERS ROLL

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|---------------------------|--|
| 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. |
| Rev. Guy Honeycutt | Burnsville, N. C. |

CONSTITUTION OF MOUNT MITCHELL
FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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

The 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 OF THE MINISTERS' CONFERENCE OF 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.

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 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.

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 other's 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 God's 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 morals 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

	(Union) Bowditch	Mine Fork	Green Mountain	Prices Creek	South Bend	Terrys Fork
Meeting Days	2-4	1-3	2-4	2-4	1-3	Full Time
Number Baptisted	0	2	5	2	1	18
Added Otherwise	0	2	1	0	2	15
Excluded	0	2	0	0	0	0
Dismissed	1	0	0	0	0	1
Deaths	1	1	1	0	0	2
Communion Services	1	1	1	1	1	2
Number in Sunday School	65	40	60	81	50	45
Total Membership	51	44	90	66	73	60
Times Pastor Present	38	38	19	22	25	52
Minute Fund	10.00	10.00	15.00	12.86	8.25	10.00
Paid Pastor	467.49	122.26	400.00	297.20	234.45	340.83
Paid for Revivals	95.07	130.26	92.36	22.75	0	200.00
Foreign Missions	90.88	0	35.00	66.50	11.20	75.00
Orphanage	87.15	0	126.50	208.00	87.38	74.96
Poor and Sick	0	0	423.37	12.00	22.50	63.00
Monthly Mission Pledge	13.00	0	5.00	18.00	1.00	5.00
Value Church Property	10,500.00	6,250.00	6,500.00	4,000.00	7,000.00	2,000.00
Improvements	0	250.00	587.00	710.00	0	63.20
Aged & Disabled Ministers						
Fund	8.00	0	80.00	11.50	16.05	15.00
Visiting Ministers	56.50	73.37	66.80	0	0	50.00
Lord's Acre Receipts	0	0	569.06	0	0	0
Sunday School and Local						
Church Operating Expense	80.00	90.00	98.00	80.00	109.95	75.00

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

Church and Pastor	Clerk and Address	Orphanage Chairman	Lord's Acre Work Chmn.
(Union) Bowditch - Sam Moore	Mrs. Frances Hughes Micaville, N. C.	Bertie Hensley	Alec Hensley
Green Mountain - T. E. Woody	Mrs. Joe Woody Rt. 1 Box 25 Burnsville, N. C.	Earl Fox	Earl Fox
Mine Fork Charlie Miller	Mrs. U. B. Deyton Rt. 1 Box 105 Burnsville, N. C.	Carmon Laws	Hubert Freeman
South Bend T. E. Woody	Mrs. Lydia Duncan Rt. 2, Green Mountain, N. C.	Luther Renfro	Levi Deyton
Prices Creek John Murphy	Mr. Moscoe Towe Rt. 3 Burnsville, N. C.	Moscoe Towe	James Burleson
Terrys Fork Horace Honeycutt	Miss Barbara Ann Gardner Rt. 2 Mars Hill, N. C.	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 Disabled 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 _____

