

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

Eighth Annual Session Held With  
South Bend Church  
August 22-24, 1963

Sam Moore . . . . Moderator ✓  
Loyce Deyton . . . . Clerk ✓

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Ninth Annual Session  
Scheduled to Convene With Mine Fork Church  
Thursday Before the Fourth Sunday in  
August 1964 at 10:30 A. M.

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Brother J. B. Letterman to deliver introductory message

Brother Arnold Briggs to be the Alternate Speaker

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Dedicated to:

Rev. T. E. Woody

Rev. E. P. Blevins

For their many years  
of faithful service, in  
the Gospel of The Lord  
Jesus Christ.

Rev. T. E. Woody  
Born April 5, 1875  
Ordained to the Ministry  
September 8, 1908



Rev. T. E. Woody  
Born April 5, 1876  
Ordained to the Ministry  
September 8, 1908

(The following poem was written by Loyce W. Deyton in honor of her grandfather, The Rev. T. E. Woody, pastor at the Green Mountain Baptist Church).

"I'd like you to know my Grandpa  
just the way that I do.  
Then I'm sure you'd love him with  
love so very true.

He's so kind and gentle, children  
love him so,  
As he pats their heads and says,  
'How are you today?'

But I think I love him best when  
in the pulpit he stands,  
And speaks the wonderful words  
of truth, led by the Saviour's  
hand.

Ah, so many times I've listened  
to his voice, so soft and sweet,  
Bringing words from the Bible  
to feed his 'sheep'.

I've seen when the angel of death  
came into Grandpa's home,  
How the Lord gave him peace,  
though his heart was surely  
broken.

It makes us think of these words  
by David spoken,—

"Thy rod and thy staff, they  
comfort me."

And something else, too, I would  
'like to mention here.

That's the times I have seen  
Grandpa break the Bread,  
pour the wine

And bless them, at our communion  
services.

Then gird a towel about him, as  
Jesus did so long ago  
And start washing his brothers'  
feet, as the tears began to  
flow.

I've heard it told from the lips of  
many how Grandpa rode a  
mule

Over hills and mountains,  
Through rain and snow,

To get the Word of God to people,  
who surely loved him so;

And when he got there, he'd take  
his knife and scrape away the  
mud and ice.

Today Grandpa has a car to take  
him to his churches, but he  
still

Has the same Holy Spirit to  
guide him, as he did in the  
days gone by.

Now when Grandpa stands before  
God, I'm sure he'll hear Him  
say:

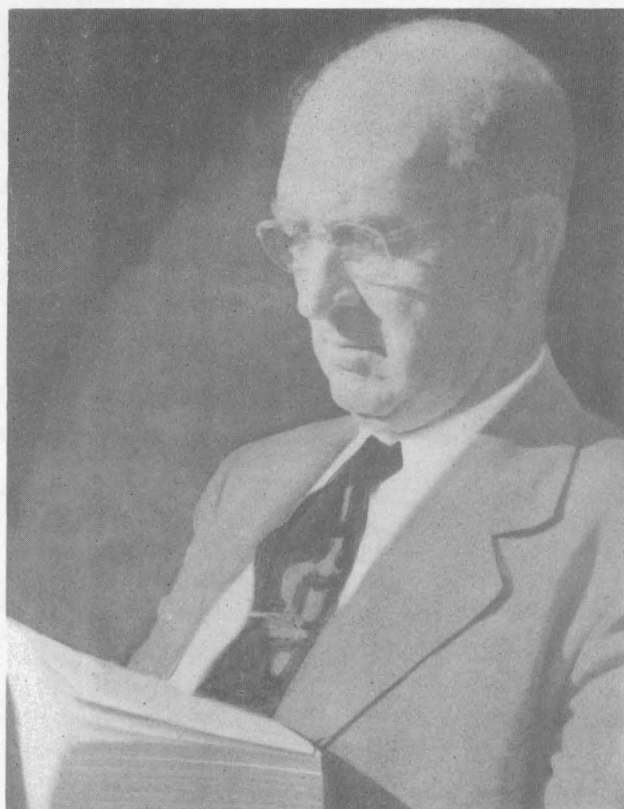
"Welcome home, my good and  
faithful servant!

Through the years you have  
served me, and done your very  
best.

Now a crown awaits you, and a  
blessed place of rest!"

Now if I follow Grandpa, as he  
follows God, then surely I'll  
have

A home in heaven, when this  
body rests beneath the sod."



Rev. E. P. Blevins  
Ordained to the Ministry  
October 8, 1916

## MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH SESSION

The eighth annual session of the Mt. Mitchell Free Will Baptists Association convened with the South Bend Church, Green Mountain, N. C., Thursday, August 22, 1963 at 10:30 a. m. Service began with choir singing "Just A Little Talk With Jesus." Opening remarks by Brother Charlie Miller. Prayer led by Sister Edith Pauley. Brother Cassie Thomas read for the scripture lesson Mark 2: 1-13. Using for his text "A Vision of Faith," Brother Thomas then brought a much needed message that we all should follow. Good testimonies by Sisters Vinita Deyton and Josephine Bleyins. A Christian handshake followed as the choir sang. All visitors made welcome by the Moderator, Brother Sam Moore. Dismissed for lunch by Moderator to meet at 1:30 p. m. for business.

### THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Reconvened at 1:05 p. m. for business. Service began with choir singing "I Love the Lord." Devotional conducted by Sister Edith Pauley, reading John 15: 1-12. Prayer led by Sister Frances Radford.

Proceeded with business. Voted to retain Brother Moscoe Towe and Sister Frances Radford as 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 - Brother Moscoe Towe, Sisters Opal Blankenship, Tomilee Burleson, Camilee Thomas, Kathy Austin.



Green Mountain Church - Brothers Arnold Briggs, Dewey Mitchell, Joe Woody, Sisters Geneva Briggs, Virginia Mitchell.

Mine Fork Church - Brothers Carmon Laws, Johnny Thomas, Sister Malinda Laws.

Bowditch Church - Brother Paul Briggs, Sisters Julia Boone, Maxie Ray, Bertie Hensley, Frances Hughes.

South Bend Church - Brothers Levi Deyton, Nathan Renfro, Oscar Letterman, Gene Thomas, Fred Peterson.

Terrys Fork Church - Sisters Vivian Gardner, Essie Hicks.

The following committees were appointed:

Voted to retain last year's Committee on Investigation - Brothers Levi Deyton, Moscoe Towe, Joe Woody.

Committee on Missions - Sisters Edith Pauley, Bertha Bennett, Frances Hughes.

Committee on Education - Sisters Frances Radford, Vinita Deyton, Brother Charlie Miller.

Committee on Sabbath Schools - Brothers Moscoe Towe, Joe Woody, Gene Thomas.

Committee on Temperance - Brother Cassie Thomas, Sisters Josephine Blevins, Vivian Gardner.

Committee on Deeper Devotions - Brothers T. E. Woody, Roscoe Briggs, J. C. Letterman.

Committee on Sessions - Brothers Moscoe Towe, Dewey Mitchell, Carmon Laws, Paul Briggs, Levi Deyton.

Committee on Orphanage Building Fund - Brothers Levi Deyton, Junior Briggs, Joe Woody.

Committee on Aged and Disabled Ministers' Fund - Brothers Junior Briggs, Fred Peterson, Sister Bertie Hensley.

Committee on Lord's Acre Work - Brothers Arnold Miller, Roscoe Briggs, Paul Briggs.

Committee on Churches and Pastors - Brothers Nathan Renfro, E. P. Blevins, Dewey Mitchell, Charlie Miller.

Committee on Topics - Sister Vinita Deyton, Brothers Arnold Briggs, Charlie Miller.

Offering taken to pay bond for Building Fund. Amount received \$14.25.

The following officers were retained: Brother Sam Moore, Moderator; Brother T. E. Woody, Assistant Moderator.

Ministers roll called. Ministers present were: 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. Roscoe Briggs, Rev. Vinita Deyton, Rev. Charlie Miller, Rev. J. C. Letterman, Rev. Cassie Thomas, Rev. Junior Briggs.

Deacons present were:

Joe Woody . . . . . Green Mountain Church



Nathan Renfro .....	South Bend Church
Fred Peterson .....	South Bend Church
Carmon Laws .....	Mine Fork Church
Paul Briggs .....	Bowditch Church
W. R. Arrowood .....	Prices Creek Church

Called for visiting ministers. None present. Report of Investigating Committee called for. No report. The Clerk then read a letter from Brother R. Eugene Waddell, editor of our State Paper, "The Witness," urging our association to help in the work. Sister Frances Radford then urged the people to subscribe to the paper and help in the financial situation.

A wonderful testimony service followed, with much outpouring of the Holy Spirit. We received a great blessing from Brother Johnny Wilson singing "The Blood That Stained the Old Rugged Cross," and Sister Kathy Austin singing "Every Hour and Every Day." A Spirit of love dwelled among us. An altar pray led by Sister Josephine Blevins. Dismissed by Sister Frances Radford to meet at 7:30 p. m. for preaching by Sister Vinita Deyton.

#### THURSDAY NIGHT SESSION

Service began with choir singing "Living By Faith." Opening remarks by Brother Arnold Miller. Prayer led by Brother Arnold Briggs. Sister Vinita Deyton read for the scripture lesson Acts 11:22-26, after which she led us in prayer. Sister Deyton brought a wonderful message, using for her text "Christianity." As the choir sang we had a Christian handshake.

Testimony given by Brother Guy Honeycutt. Closing remarks by Sister Frances Radford. Dismissed by Sister Edith Pauley 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 "I'll Be A Friend to Jesus." Devotional given by Brother Junior Briggs, reading John 20:11-19. Prayer led by Brother E. P. Blevins. Business called to order. Visiting ministers called for. Brother Sykes Smith given a seat in the body. Yesterday's minutes read and adopted. Offering received for minute fund. Amount of \$27.25. Report of Committee on Missions called for. Read by Sister Edith Pauley. Discussed by Sisters Pauley, Vinita Deyton, Frances Radford, Brother Arnold Miller, Sister Josephine Blevins, Brother Moscoe Towe, adopted. Report of Committee on Education called for. Received. Tabled until the afternoon session.

Intermission given.

Service at 11:00 began with choir singing "I Have Somebody With Me." Prayer led by Brother T. A. Greene. Sister Frances Radford read for the scripture lesson Galatians 5:1-26, Galatians 6:1-2. Prayer led by Sister Radford, after which she brought a Spirit-filled message. As the choir sang we had a Christian handshake, with much rejoicing in the Lord. A good testimony service followed. Dismissed by Brother E. P. Blevins to meet at 1:30 p. m. for business.

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Met at 1:30 for business. Service began with choir singing "Heaven's Jubilee." Devotional given by Brother J. C. Letterman, reading Matthew 13:23. Prayer led by Brother Sykes Smith. Business brought to order. Terrys Fork Church letter read. (Not available at the time the church letters were read yesterday.) Report of Committee on Education (tabled

earlier) discussed by Sisters Vinita Deyton, Frances Radford, Josephine Blevins, Brothers Cassie Thomas, T. A. Greene, Sykes Smith, Joe Woody, George Wilson, adopted.

Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools called for. Read and received. Discussed by Brothers Moscoe Towe, Joe Woody, Sam Moore. Adopted.

Report of Committee on Temperance called for. Committee adopted last year's report. Read and adopted. Moved to adjourn until 7:30 for preaching by Brother T. A. Greene. Dismissed by Brother Roscoe Briggs.

### FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

Met at 7:30 p.m. for preaching. Service began with choir singing "Where We'll Never Grow Old." Opening remarks by Brother Charlie Miller. Prayer led by Brother Sam Moore. Brother and Sister Will Bennett then sang "I'll Stroll Over Heaven With You Someday." Brother T. A. Greene read for the scripture lesson I Corinthians 2:1-16, Ephesians 3:1-5. Brother Greene brought a wonderful, enlightening message on "The Revelation of The Holy Spirit." An altar call was made as the choir sang. Brother Sam Moore gave a good testimony. A Christian handshake followed. Good testimonies by Sister Eula Price and Brother George Wilson.

Closing remarks by Sister Frances Radford. Dismissed by Brother Burl Ledford 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 "It's A Grand and Glorious Feeling."

Devotional given by Brother Arnold Briggs, reading Luke 15:3-7. Prayer led by Brother Junior Briggs. Business brought to order. Yesterday's minutes read and adopted. Report of Committee on Deeper Devotions called for. Read by Brother T. E. Woody. Received. Discussed by Brothers J. C. Letterman, T. E. Woody, T. A. Greene, Sister Josephine Blevins, Brother Roscoe Briggs.

Then we had a Christian handshake, with much rejoicing and a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Brother Cassie Thomas then discussed the topic, "Deeper Devotions." Also, Brothers Sam Moore, Burl Ledford. Report adopted. Report of Committee on Sessions called for. Received and adopted. Report of Committee on Aged and Disabled Ministers' Fund called for. Read, received and adopted. Report of Committee on Orphanage Building Fund called for. Read, received and adopted. Report of Committee on Lord's Acre Work called for. Read, received, adopted. Moved to omit report of Committee on Topics. (Clerk to have the report in minutes.) Brother Sam Moore extended thanks to the South Bend Church for the entire association, for the wonderful way they have cared for the association. May God's blessings rest more abundantly upon them daily. Adjourned to meet with the Mine Fork Church, Burnsville, N. C., Route 1, for the next association in August 1964.

Intermission.

Met at 11:00 for preaching by Brother Sykes Smith. Service began with choir singing "Take It To The Lord In Prayer." Opening remarks by Brother Sam Moore. Prayer led by Sister Lucy Deyton. Brother Smith then read Romans 13:10-14. Using for his text "Awaken Out of Sleep," Brother Smith brought an inspiring, Spirit-filled message. An altar of prayer was made for the unsaved. Dismissed.

MINISTERS ROLL

Rev. Arnold Briggs	Rt. 2, Burnsville, N.C.
Rev. Junior Briggs	Micaville, N. C.
Rev. Roscoe Briggs	Rt. 2, Spruce Pine, N.C.
Rev. E. P. Blevins	Micaville, N. C.
Rev. Josephine B. Blevins	Micaville, N. C.
Rev. Vinita Gayle Deyton	Rt. 1, Burnsville, N.C.
Rev. T. A. Greene	2013 Cedar Fork Dr. Greensboro, N. C.
Rev. Guy Honeycutt	Rt. 1, Burnsville, N.C.
Rev. Burl Ledford	(address unknown)
Rev. J.C. Letterman	Spruce Pine, N. C.
Rev. Arnold Miller	Relief, N. C.
Rev. Charlie Miller	Burnsville, N. C.
✓ Rev. Sam Moore	Burnsville, N. C.
Rev. Edith Pauley	Erwin, Tennessee
Rev. Frances Radford	Rt. 2, Mars Hill, N.C.
Rev. Cassie Thomas	Micaville, N. C.
Rev. T. A. Watts	Rt. 1, Weaverville, N.C.
Rev. T. E. Woody	Rt. 2, Burnsville, N.C.

REPORTS OF FORMERLY NAMED COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS

We, your Committee on Missions, present the following for consideration. Matthew 28:19-20 - 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.

Luke 14:23 - And the Lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.

Sister Edith Pauley  
Sister Bertha Bennett

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

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 understand;
3. Yea, if thou criest after knowledge and liftest up thy voice for understanding;
4. If thy 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 2:1-5.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.  
Proverbs 1:7.

Education is the getting of knowledge, the exercising of our abilities. It isn't God's will that we be ignorant of Him. It is a day when education is one of the chief gods of society. In order for us to prove to the world what we are, we must follow on to know the Lord.

Sister Vinita Deyton  
Brother T. A. Greene  
Brother Charlie Miller



## COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, recommend that all our churches have a Sabbath School. Have good teachers with the Cause at heart. A Sabbath School is the church at work, teaching the truths of the Bible and instructing the young as well as the older ones. Doing business for the Lord, such as the Orphanage work, home and foreign missions and Disabled Ministers' Funds. Also, to them that are taught in the Word to communicate with them that teach. These things will advance the Cause of Christ.

Brother Moscoe Towe  
Brother Joe Woody  
Brother Gene Thomas

## COMMITTEE ON DEEPER DEVOTION

We, your Committee on Deeper Devotion, submit the following Scriptures for consideration:

"He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me." - Matthew 10:37, 38

"For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it." - Matthew 16:25

"I beseech ye, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." - Romans 12:1

1. Following Christ means to DENY OURSELVES.
2. It means to WALK IN THE LIGHT.

3. It means to CLEANSE OURSELVES.
4. It means to OBEY THE WORD.

Brother T. E. Woody  
Brother Roscoe Briggs  
Brother J. C. Letterman

### COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE

We, your Committee on Temperance, submit the following: Temperance as the word is used in the Bible means a limited use of 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. Titus 1:8 teaches that one of the qualifications a bishop must have is temperance. The use of the word temperance is not properly used in relation to the use of alcoholic beverages, from which all Christians should abstain, this subject should be discussed in relation to bodily subjection such as eating, talking, visiting and be careful that nothing brings us under subjection.

Brother Cassie Thomas  
Sister Josephine Blevins  
Sister Vivian Gardner

### COMMITTEE ON ORPHANAGE BUILDING FUND

We, your Committee on Orphanage Building Fund, recommends that each church in our Association have one Sunday each month set aside for an offering for the

Orphanage Building Fund. Also, all who have Lord's Acre Project set aside a certain per cent of it for this cause.

Brother Levi Deyton  
Brother Joe Woody  
Brother Junior Briggs

Treasurer's Report on Orphanage Building Fund:

Amount on hand	\$2,682.68
Received at association	<u>395.31</u>
Total Amount.....	\$3,077.99

Trustees  
Brother L. O. Deyton  
Brother Arnold Miller  
Brother 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 37:31.

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.

Brother Junior Briggs  
Brother Fred Peterson  
Sister Bertie Hensley

Treasurer's Report on Aged and Disabled Ministers' Fund:

Amount on hand	\$ 793.17
Received at association	316.83

(cont'd.)

Donated by Brother W.R. Arrowood	5.00
	<u>\$1,115.00</u>
Used to pay bond	5.00
Total Amount.....	<u>\$1,110.00</u>

Treasurer: Sister Josephine Blevins

COMMITTEE ON LORD'S ACRE WORK

We, your Committee on Lord's Acre Work, believe that all churches should have a Lord's Acre Program and put it to practice. We believe that God is not pleased without a working church. I Corinthians 15:58 - Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord. I Thessalonians 4:11 - And that ye study to be quiet and to do your own business and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you.

Brother Arnold Miller  
 Brother Roscoe Briggs  
 Brother Paul Briggs

Lord's Acre Receipts

Green Mountain Women's Club	450.30
Green Mountain Junior Class	211.90

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.

Brother Dewey Mitchell  
Brother Carmon Laws  
Brother Paul Briggs  
Brother Levi Deyton  
Sister Vivian Gardner

### COMMITTEE ON TOPICS

We, your Committee on Topics, present the following scripture for discussion: Matthew 6:22- "The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light." The subject under consideration being "The Eye of a Christian."

Sister Vinita Deyton  
Brother Charlie Miller  
Brother Arnold Briggs

### OBITUARY OF JAMES D. RAY

Born December 31, 1912. Died April 28, 1963 after a long illness. James with his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. John Ray, moved to this community when he was a young man and has attended Bowditch Church all his life. He lived a good Christian life and was loved by everybody. Those that knew him best, loved him best. He always met you with that good Christian smile and handshake. He leaves a fine family to mourn for him. Not only the family, the community and the church. We feel that we have lost a lot since he went to glory. Our Heavenly Father called him home. Lord help the family and all of us to be ready to meet him again, when our Call comes. He is gone but not forgotten, never shall his memory fade. Sweetest thoughts will ever linger around the grave where he is laid.

A friend - Church Clerk

OBITUARY OF MRS. JANE McINTOSH

Mrs. Jane Anderson McIntosh was born in 1866 (exact date unknown); passed to her reward May 3, 1959 at the age of 93. In young womanhood, she was united in marriage to John McIntosh, who preceded her in death. To their union were born 3 children who also survive, Mr. J. B. McIntosh and Mrs. Ella Canter of Asheville, N. C. and Miss May McIntosh of Mars Hill, N. C., Rt. 2; also several grandchildren. Mrs. McIntosh was a charter member of Terrys Fork Free Will Baptist Church, the last surviving of the charter members. As long as she was able she continued to attend the services, and delighted in prayer services being conducted in her home after she was no longer able to go to church. (This obituary was inadvertently omitted from the 1959 minutes.)

Written by Frances Radford.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MINISTERS CONFERENCE

The conference met with the South Bend Church August 24, 1963. Opened with the choir singing. Then Brother Sykes Smith sang "The Love of God." Devotional given by Sister Vinita Deyton reading I Peter 5:1-11. Prayer led by Brother Arnold Briggs. Business brought to order by Moderator, Brother Charlie Miller. Minutes of last conference read. Everyone in fellowship. Received offering for Aged and Disabled Ministers' Fund. Amount of \$21.40. Retained Brother Charlie Miller as Moderator. Elected Brother Arnold Briggs assistant Moderator. Authorized Brothers T. A. Greene and Sykes Smith as agents for the conference to buy a church in Mt. Airy, N. C. so that a Free Will Baptist Church will be established there. Elected Sister Vinita Deyton as Clerk. Appointed committee to rotate conferences in the churches. Ordained Brother Junior Briggs. Ordaining Council - Chairman, Brother Roscoe Briggs,



Brother Sam Moore, Brother Cassie Thomas to serve with him. Dismissed to meet with the Green Mountain Church Friday before the fifth Sunday in September. Sister Edith Pauley to preach the introductory message. Brother Junior Briggs to be the Alternate speaker.

Report of Committee on Conference Sessions

- Green Mountain Church . . . . . September 27, 1963
- Bowditch Church . . . . . December 27, 1963
- Prices Creek Church . . . . . March 27, 1964
- Terrys Fork Church . . . . . May 29, 1964
- Mine Fork Church . . . . . August 28, 1964
- South Bend Church . . . . . November 27, 1964

Brothers Joe Woody, Levi Deyton  
and Cassie Thomas

CONSTITUTION OF MOUNT MITCHELL  
FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I

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 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 rights 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 infalliable 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, providing 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 CARO-  
LINA

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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 endorsement 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 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 deliverations and 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 offers 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.

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### 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 God by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith, and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn Covenant.

We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men." We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions and social worship; and by self denial, faith and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for Church Conferences; public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able promote the success of the church and of the Gospel. We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in

society; constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of Missions, the success of Sunday Schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

TABLE OF STATISTICS

	(Union) Bowditch	Mine Fork	Green Mountain	Prices Creek	South Bend	Terrys Fork
Meeting Days	2-4	2-4	2-4	2-4	2-4	Full Time
Number Baptized	0	3	14	2	12	0
Added Otherwise	2	3	0	0	2	2
Excluded	0	0	0	0	0	2
Dismissed	0	0	0	0	1	0
Deaths	1	0	0	1	0	0
Communion Services	4	1	1	1	1	0
Number in Sunday School	60	35	80	70	60	45
Total Membership	57	44	124	74	93	77
Times Pastor Present	52	24	23	23	24	24
Minute Fund	15.00	10.00	20.00	7.00	15.75	12.00
Paid Pastor	266.50	110.00	408.27	725.40	188.62	300.00
Paid for Revivals	133.50	46.00	84.28	251.03	142.56	84.00
Foreign Missions	130.00	12.00	206.22	346.17	19.00	75.00
Orphanage	0	0	154.81	55.17	8.50	110.00
Poor and Sick	55.35	25.28	293.40	104.93	40.00	55.00
Monthly Mission Pledge	10.00	0	4.00	18.00	0	5.00
Value Church Property	10,500.00	6,000.00	7,850.00	7,000.00	7,000.00	3,300.00
Improvements	51.45	0	129.00	2,071.20	127.20	0
Aged and Disabled Ministers' Fund	0	0	200.00	68.30	10.25	20.57
Visiting Ministers	63.00	25.78	120.09	32.00	65.00	200.00
Lord's Acre Receipts	0	0	662.20	0	0	0
Sunday School and Local Church Operating Expense	149.00	18.00	245.00	162.58	156.04	71.80

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

<u>Church and Pastor</u>	<u>Clerk and Address</u>	<u>Orphanage Chairman</u>	<u>Lord's Acre Work Chmn.</u>
(Union) Bowditch Sam Moore	Mrs. Frances Hughes Micaville, N. C.	Bertie Hensley	Alec Hensley
Green Mountain T. E. Woody	Mrs. Joe Woody Route 1 Burnsville, N. C.	Earl Fox	Earl Fox
Mine Fork Charlie Miller	Mrs. Clair Laws Route 1 Burnsville, N. C.	Carmon Laws	Hubert Freeman
South Bend Charlie Miller Co-Pastor - Vinita Deyton	Mrs. Lydia Duncan Route 2 Green Mountain, N. C.	Luther Renfro	Levi Deyton
Prices Creek John Murphy	Mr. Moscoe Towe Route 3, Box 241 Burnsville, N. C.	Moscoe Towe	James Burleson
Terrys Fork Joint Pastors: Cassie Thomas Frances Radford	Virginia Anderson Route 2 Mars Hill, N. C.	Wayne Metcalf	Phil Anderson

## CHURCH LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION

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

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Our statistics are as follows:

Our regular preaching days are \_\_\_\_\_ ;  
Number baptized \_\_\_\_\_ ; Members added other-  
wise \_\_\_\_\_ ; 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 Orpha-  
nage Support \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ; For Foreign Missions  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ ; for local church and Sunday  
School operating expense \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ; To aged  
and disabled ministers' fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ; For  
minutes fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ; for poor and sick  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ and to visiting ministers \$ \_\_\_\_\_ .  
We pledge to pay to Aged and Disabled Ministers'  
Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ; To foreign missions support  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month. Our church property is  
valued at \$ \_\_\_\_\_ . We have spent approxi-  
mately \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for church property improve-  
ment. 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 \_\_\_\_\_

