



IN MEMORIAM



## In Tribute To My Husband

He walked the earth with banner high,  
Brave Soldier of the King;  
He shrank not at the toil and strife,  
But ever the war cry did ring.  
He stood the test through storm and wind;  
He faltered not in the cold,  
But ran the race with valiant grace,  
'Til call into the fold.  
He wavered not when tempest howled,  
He bore the cross with pride.  
And when the way got dark and rough  
In Christ he would always hide.  
He preached the Word without applause.  
He tried his work to do.  
He struggled on when others failed,  
That he his home might view.

Lord, help us all to heed the call,  
That we the crown might gain;  
That when we're called to leave this shore  
In Heaven we shall meet again.

Josephine Bryant Blevins

## PROCEEDINGS

The tenth annual session of the Mt. Mitchell Free Will Baptist Association convened with the Prices Creek Church, Rt. 3, Burnsville, North Carolina, Thursday, August 19, 1965, at 10:30 a.m. Service began with the choir singing "Camping in Canaan" and "Jesus Spoke to Me". An altar prayer was led by Sister Vinita Deyton. Encouraging remarks and a hearty welcome were given by the Moderator, Brother T. E. Woody. Brother T. A. Greene read Ephesians 1:1-11, using for his text, "The Mystery of His Will". The message was revealing, sweet, and wonderful. While the congregation sang "The Old Rugged Cross" we had a Christian handshake with a spirit of great fellowship. We were dismissed for lunch by Brother Charlie Miller.

### THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Reconvened at 1:15 p.m. for business. Service began with the choir singing "Down On My Knees". Devotional conducted by Brother Cassie Thomas, reading II Corinthians 4:1-12. Prayer led by Sister Frances Radford.

Proceeded with business. Appointed Sisters Frances Radford and Edith Pauley as reading clerks. Appointed Sister Frances Hughes to receive Disabled Ministers' Fund, Brother Charlie Miller to receive Foreign Mission Fund, Brother Joe Woody to receive Old Folks Home Fund, and Brother Cassie Thomas to receive Minute Fund.

Church letters read. Churches with delegates were enrolled as follows: -----

BOWDITCH - Brothers Fonzer Hughes, Clarence Byrd; Sisters Marie Thomas, Bill Burlison, Julie Boone, Berta Hensley.

GREEN MOUNTAIN - Brother James Walker; Sisters Virginia Miller, Bertha Bennett, Tilda Bennett.



MINE FORK - Brother Lloyd Laws; Sisters Mattie Laws,  
Lena Laws.

PRICES CREEK - Brother Joe Blankenship; Sisters Ruth Towe,  
Cathy Austin.

SOUTH BEND - Brother Nathan Renfro; Sisters Lydia Duncan,  
Bula Thomas.

TERRYS FORK - Sisters Essie Hicks, Sandra Anderson,  
Patricia Anderson, Judy Metcalf. (Did not  
represent until second day.)

The following Committees were then appointed: ---

MISSIONS - Brother T. A. Greene; Sisters Frances Radford,  
Bula Thomas.

EDUCATION - Sisters Vinita Deyton, Lydia Duncan, Edith  
Pauley.

SABBATH SCHOOLS - Brothers Joe Woody, William Dale  
Robinson, Clarence Byrd.

CHURCHES and PASTORS - Sister Frances Radford; Brothers  
T. E. Woody, Charlie Miller.

CARE for AGED and CHILDREN - Brothers Joe Woody, James  
Burleson, Francis Arrowood.

DISABLED MINISTERS - Brothers Joe Woody, Joe Blankenship;  
Sister Bertie Hensley.

TEMPERANCE - Sisters Ruth Towe, Berta Hensley; Brother  
Cassie Thomas.

TOPICS - Brothers T. A. Greene, Cassie Thomas; Sister  
Vinita Deyton.

DEEPER DEVOTION - Brothers T. A. Greene, Charlie  
Miller, Cassie Thomas.

INVESTIGATION - Retained: Brothers Joe Woody, Levi Deyton, Moscoe Towe.

SESSIONS - Sisters Ruth Towe, Bula Thomas, Marie Thomas; Brothers Lloyd Laws, James Walker.

LORD'S ACRE - Brothers William Dale Robinson, Fonzer Hughes; Sister Edrus Ledford.

Elected Brother T. E. Woody as Moderator of the Association; Brother Charlie Miller as Assistant Moderator.

Ministers' Roll called. Ministers present were:

Brother T. A. Green	Sister Vinita Miller Deyton
Brother Charlie Miller	Sister Edith Pauley
Brother Cassie Thomas	Sister Frances Radford
Brother T. E. Woody	

Those who were present later than the first day were:

Brother Roscoe Briggs  
Brother Arnold Briggs  
Brother Guy Honeycutt

Called for visiting ministers. Welcomed Brother William Dale Robinson to a seat in our body, as he is yet not licensed.

Called for unfinished business. None presented.

Appointed Sister Frances Radford to preach at the 7:30 evening service; Brother Charlie Miller to preach at the 11:00 o'clock Friday morning worship service.

Sister Frances Radford presented Brother E. P. Blevins as an object of prayer, as his sickness is worse. Received an offering for Brother Blevins amounting to \$39.50.

Sister Cathy Austin sang "Every Hour, Every Day" and "Cup of Loneliness". The singing blessed our hearts.

We were dismissed by Brother Cassie Thomas to meet at 7:30 for worship service.

### THURSDAY NIGHT SERVICE

The 7:30 p.m. worship service began with the choir singing "Heavenly Love" and "Hide Me, Rock of Ages". Prayer was led by Brother Charlie Miller. Brother Rothy Ogle sang "Glorified Body" and "Happy Reunion". Opening remarks by Brother T. E. Woody. Sister Frances Radford read I Kings 3:5-28, Hebrews 4:12, 13, and James 3:13-18, using for her text, "The Christian's Judgment -- According to the Wisdom From Above". Never was there a more God-inspired, needful message for our church age than the one she brought. While the congregation sang we had a handshake in testimony that we will endeavor to judge all causes in the wisdom of God. After several Spirit-enriched testimonies we had an altar prayer for the objects presented. We were dismissed to meet at 9:30 Friday morning for business.

### FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Service convened at 9:30 a.m. The choir sang "O, How I Love Jesus". Devotional conducted by Brother T. A. Greene, reading Romans 6:1-23, and delivering many beneficial remarks. Following the reading Brother Greene led us in prayer.

Business session called to order by Moderator. Minutes of yesterday's session read and adopted. Received offer for Minute Fund amounting to \$15.36.

Called for visiting ministers. Welcomed Brother Paul Ray of Old Fort, North Carolina, to a seat in our body.

Report of Committee on Education called for. Read and discussed by Sister Vinita Deyton. Received and adopted.

Terrys Fork Church letter read. Delegates seated as previously mentioned.

Appointed Sister Vinita Deyton to preach at the 7:30 evening service.

We were dismissed by Brother T. E. Woody for a recess before the worship service.

### WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 A.M.

Assembled for preaching by Brother Charlie Miller. Service began with the choir singing "Glad Reunion Day". Prayer was led by Brother Roscoe Briggs. Brother Miller read Numbers 19:7 and I Peter 2:5, using for his text, "Ye Are a Priesthood to Serve". He brought an extremely needful message of pure truth. After a Christian handshake and some testimonies we were dismissed for lunch.

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Reconvened at 1:15 p.m. for business. Devotional given by Sister Frances Radford, reading Romans 12:1,2. Prayer led by Brother Paul Ray. Sister Sandra Anderson of the Terrys Fork Church sang "Supper Time" and "Robe of Calvary".

Business called to order. Report of Committee on Care of Children and Aged called for. Read by Brother Joe Woody; discussed by Brothers Joe Woody, Francis Arrowood; Sisters Frances Radford and Bonnie Brinkley, Manager of the Old Folks Home at Burnsville. Moved that each pastor be given the responsibility to appoint a person or committee in each church to see that an offering for the payment of the home be sent to the Treasurer of the Home Fund, whose address is given below:



Rev. W. H. Calvert  
402 East 5th Street  
Gastonia, North Carolina

Report received and adopted.

Report of Committee on Missions called for. Read by Sister Frances Radford. Discussed by Brothers Cassie Thomas, T. A. Greene, Rex Renfro; Sisters Frances Radford, Vinita Deyton, Tommy Lee Burlison. Received and adopted.

There were good testimonies by Brothers James Walker and Paul Ray.

We were dismissed by Sister Frances Radford to meet at 7:30 p.m. for worship service.

### FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Assembled at 7:00 to hear the playing of the tape sent to us by Brother Louis and Sister Florine Coscia, missionaries of one year to Brazil. It was wonderful to hear their voices again and to hear also their accomplishment in the Portuguese language. What an enjoyment the playing of the tape was to all who heard it!

Regular worship service began at 7:30 with the choir singing "Looking for a City" and "The Last Mile". Prayer led by Brother T. A. Greene. Brother Ralph and Sister Ruth Towe sang "I Will Not Be A Stranger". Sister Vinita Deyton read Job 32:8, using for her text "The Sins of The Spirit". There was a Christian handshake while the congregation sang. Upon the request of Sisters Atlas Greene and Berta Hensley Brother Charlie Miller conducted a healing service, with the anointing of oil and the laying on of hands, while the congregation prayed. There were testimonies by Sisters Frances Radford and Vinita Deyton and Brother Rothy Ogle to the effect of past healing

experiences in their lives. An offering was taken to buy some flowers for Brother E. P. Blevins, who is in the hospital. We were dismissed to meet at 9:30 Saturday morning for business.

### SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Service convened at 9:30 a.m. The choir sang "The Home-Coming Week". Devotional given by Brother Charlie Miller, reading Proverbs 22:1-5. Prayer led by Brother Guy Honeycutt.

Business called to order by Moderator. Minutes of yesterday's session read and adopted.

Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools called for. Read by Brother William Dale Robinson. Received and adopted.

Report of Committee on Temperance called for. Read by Brother Cassie Thomas. Received and adopted.

Report of Committee on Sessions called for. Submitted by Sister Ruth Towe. Received and adopted.

Report of Committee on Deeper Devotion called for. Read and discussed by Brother T. A. Greene. Received and adopted.

Report of Committee on Aged and Disabled Ministers' Fund called for. Read by Brother Joe Blankenship. Discussed by Brothers Blankenship, Cassie Thomas; Sister Frances Radford. Moved that a monthly amount of five dollars (\$5.00) be paid to Brothers T. E. Woody and E. P. Blevins. Authorized the Committee on Aged and Disabled Ministers' Fund to authorize Sister Josephine Blevins to write a check of the amount of \$5.00 per month until the next conference for Brothers Woody and Blevins.

Report of Committee on Lord's Acre called for. Read by Brother William Dale Robinson. Sister Frances Radford

presented the report of the Junior Class and Young Teens Class (united group) at Green Mountain, with the letter that the class teacher, Sister Loyce Deyton, wrote to these young people. Moved to include this letter in report. Received and adopted.

Moved to table the report of the Committee on Topics.

Heart-felt thanks were expressed to the Prices Creek Church for the wonderful care of the Association. Never was a more bountiful, more welcome table spread than was set before the Association.

Moved to adjourn this Association until we meet with the Terrys Fork Church, on Thursday before the 4th Sunday in August of 1966; Brother Charlie Miller to preach the introductory message; Sister Edith Pauley to be the alternate speaker.

We were given a recess before preaching at 11:00 o'clock by Sister Edith Pauley.

#### WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 A.M.

Assembled at 11:00 a.m. for worship. The choir sang "Heavenly Love". Prayer led by Brother Arnold Briggs. Sister Edith Pauley read Ezekiel 37:1-15 and I Corinthians 12:12-31, using for her text, "The Body of Christ". She brought a necessary, Spirit-filled message. After a handshake with much fellowship of the Spirit, we were dismissed for lunch.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EDUCATION

We, your Committee on Education present the following:

The meaning of an education stands from years past: it is the getting of knowledge. We know that Satan fully equips men with the knowledge of sin; he withholds none of the vices of evil. Men are educated in sin in many different ways. We believe that because of God's love for us, He does not want us to be spiritually uneducated or without a knowledge of Himself. And we, as Children of the Light, should use every means to obtain more of this knowledge.

God told Hosea:

"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge."  
(Hosea 4:6)

It is but a common fact that the more one pursues the study of a course, the better educated one is in that field. The Christian life is not the study of a religion, or of a certain course; it is rather the study of a Person, that person being Jesus Christ, for in Him is the complete Godhead revealed. Our study of the Word of God is not educational until that Word becomes alive to us.

Paul told the Philippians in chapter 3, verse 10:

"Yea, doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord:  
.....That I may know Him."

We are not to be excused for not obtaining this education in God, for Jesus said, as it is recorded in St. John 14:26:

"But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost.....



shall teach you all things."

God has listed some parts of our education:

"We know we have passed from death unto life."

"I know whom I have believed."

"We know, that when He shall appear, we shall be like Him."

This education gives us abilities:

1. It prepared the demon-possessed to witness; the blind man to testify.
2. It enabled the apostles to speak boldly and with authority.

Our human natures are in enmity to the Kingdom of Heaven. Thus God keeps us on this earth after we are saved to educate us. It is many times painful to our humanity to learn the language and laws of that country, as they are entirely Love.

We learn, and then God allows us to be tested. All these minor tests are preparing us for the final examination. And the grade our records shall show before that great Throne will depend entirely on how well we knew Him.

Vinita Miller Deyton  
Edith Pauley  
Lydia Duncan

Remarks: As a result of the Bible Schools held in four of the six churches, there were thirteen children either saved or renewed their covenant; and approximately 128 children had Bible training.

### LORD'S ACRE WORK

We, your Committee on Lord's Acre Work, know that all churches should work in every way possible to further the

Gospel of Jesus Christ. God not only owns the cattle of a thousand hills, but He also owns the hills. Then surely we won't lose by giving to God just a small section of what is already His. We may do great things when we want to, for Nehemiah 4:6 says:

"So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work."

We need not build a wall around our cities, but we do need to build a wall to protect us at judgment, for "If we call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work.....", (I Peter 1:18). By our means we give, by others' means we receive, so let us all work together on a Lord's Acre Program so that we may prosper.

"But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give: not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, also having all sufficiency in all things may abound to every good work: (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever)." (II Corinthians 9:6-9)

We move that every church plan and carry out a Lord's Acre Program.

William Dale Robinson

Edrus Ledford

Fonzer Hughes

Below is the report of the Lord's Acre Work done by the Young People's Class of the Green Mountain Church and the letter

written to these young people by their teacher, Sister Loyce Deyton. It is the hope and wish of the Association that the following letter and report will be an example to the churches that do not have the Lord's Acre Work. And it is our prayer that in each church someone will think seriously of the work among the young people and will strive to encourage them to work for the Lord.

August 19, 1965

Dear Class,

These words come from my heart, not from books I've read. To me you all are wonderful and I feel our church should be proud of you. I am sure they are.

As you have worked so faithfully for the cause of our Lord in the last few years, I have watched you closely.

In the last year as you worked so hard on the three projects you selected I am sure the Lord felt proud of you. Many of you have sacrificed very much for the cause you were working for. You didn't personally tell me this, but I know. Some of you did without your candy, gum, soft drinks, and even some of you gave your lunch money a part of the time. Some of you gave money that had been given to you as a birthday gift. Jesus saw all these things. Do you know what I believe He said to His Father? -- "These are some of My little Lambs".

Many things I have seen about you that surely pleased the Lord, as it did me. The way you worship, in your singing, your music and even in the handshake you all seem to enjoy so much.

As I have told you often, whatever talent God gives you, use it.

I've seen you rejoice when a soul was saved.

I've seen you cry when someone was in trouble.

Those times I have asked you to pray a special prayer for some object of mine, I saw the sadness in your eyes that must have been in mine. I've seen tears in your eyes at these times. Then when God answered your prayers and I told you about it, you smiled with me. We always

gave God the honor, didn't we?

Some of you are almost young men and women. Someday you will be gone from us, but don't ever leave the Lord. I'll always have a part of you tucked away in some corner of my heart. I'm so glad God made our hearts large enough to hold all the sweet memories we want to be there, aren't you?

Through the years I have been with you, I think often of things you have done to please me. Those are some of the things I'll never forget.

Class, before I started this letter I asked God if it would be pleasing to Him. He sent His approval by the Holy Spirit and a still small Voice whispered, "I'll be pleased."

You will always be the Junior Class that belongs to God and me!

Always yours in Christ,  
Loyce

Project Report

Old & Disabled Ministers' Fund .....	\$ 48.37
Mission Fund .....	67.28
Rest Home Fund .....	145.15
Total .....	<u>\$260.80</u>

TEMPERANCE

We, your Committee on Temperance, submit the following:

Temperance, as the word used in the Bible, means a limited use of lawful enjoyments, keeping every sense under proper restraint and never permitting the mind and body to become self controlled, but always abounding the law of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

"...But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate; holding fast the faithful word as



he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayer." (Titus 1:8, 9)

"...That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience. The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things." (Titus 2:2, 3)

Ruth Towe  
Frances Hughes  
Cassie Thomas

#### AGED AND DISABLED MINISTERS' FUND

We, your Committee on Aged and Disabled Ministers' Fund submit the following:

Remember thy Brother when he is old who has so faithfully labored among you.

"The righteous sheweth mercy and giveth."  
(Psalms 37:21)

Joe Woody  
Joe Blankenship  
Bertie Hensley

#### MISSIONS

We, your Committee on Missions, believe that Matthew 28:18-20 is as valid and authoritative as John 3:3-7. We do not believe our Lord was talking of non-essentials in this, one of His last commands to the church before His ascension. We further believe that the promise of the last clause of verse 20, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world" is

vitality connected with, and conditioned upon our obedience to, His command in verses 19 and 20 to "Go into all the world..." The field was never less than the whole world in the mind of our Lord, if the Bible is the truth. Hear just a few passages:

"God so loved the world ----" (John 3:16).

"For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved." (John 3:17).

"Come near, ye nations, to hear; and hearken, ye people; let the earth hear, and all that is therein; the world, and all things that come forth of it..." (Isaiah 34:1).

"Ye are the light of the world..." (Matthew 5:14).

"The field is the world." (Matthew 13:38).

"This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world..." (Matthew 24:14).

The Samaritans to the woman who brought them to Jesus:

"Now we believe, not because of thy saying; for we have heard Him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world." (John 4:42)

These are only a few passages, but enough to show that God never intended His Son's death and suffering and resurrection and ascension and second coming to be a local news report. He meant it for the world, and He left it in the hands of His church to carry the message.

"As the Father hath sent me, so send I you..." (John 20:21).

In the light of these things, we recommend the policy Jesus outlined to the early church for all our churches:

"But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem--(the home field); in all Judaea, (nearby) and in Samaria, (a little farther);

and unto the uttermost part of the earth." (Acts 1:8).

This is God's Word: we ignore it, disbelieve it, refuse to obey it, to our own peril! God help us to lay these things to heart!

T. A. Greene  
Frances Radford  
Bula Thomas

### PASTORS & CHURCHES

We, your Committee on Churches and Pastors prayerfully and humbly submit the following observations and recommendations:

First, to the churches: Be prayerful and careful in the selection of a pastor, for not every good preacher is a good pastor... See I Cor. 14:18, 28 and Ephesians 4:11-13. Pastors should never be chosen on the basis of "I like Bro. So and So. Let's get him for pastor next year..." The church is not at liberty to choose the man of God like going to the store and picking out a shirt or dress from the many displayed in the window... The Holy Spirit must be allowed to place the members in the body as "it hath pleased Him" if the church is to prosper, and if the church, with its leaders, will pray and submit to the Lord's will, He will direct, and there will be unity in the selection of a pastor. We recommend that our churches prayerfully agree upon their pastor each year not later than the last of July, so that both church and pastor will have ample time to consider the will of the Lord before the beginning of a new Associational year... We further recommend that our churches recognize their responsibility for the support of their pastor and His family on an equality with--neither above nor below--the average living standard of the families of the church. We applaud the willingness of our pastors, like Paul, to labor with their hands that they may make the Gospel of Christ without charge, but we do not believe that this is God's perfect

will, for I Corinthians 9:14 tells us that--"God hath ordained that they which preach the Gospel shall live of the Gospel", and we believe the church which by-passes God's ordained plan will suffer. If only ten families in a church tithe, then the pastor will be supported on a level with the rest of the church. If all families tithe, not only will the pastor be supported, but all the phases of the work of the church can be carried on without stint.

Second, to the ministry: A pastor is a servant, and an example to the flock; not a lord over God's heritage. We believe he should recognize this truth, and lead, not drive, the church. We believe he should devote Himself to the care of the souls of the flock, giving as much time as possible to prayer, Bible study, visitation, and such like. (We do not believe that the church should leave all the visitation for the pastor, however; for seeing to the material needs of the flock was the original purpose of the ordination of deacons.)

To both pastors and other preachers, we urge an application of Proverbs 24:27: "Prepare thy work without, and make it fit for thyself in the field; and afterwards build thy house." Jesus said, "The field is the world..." Our older ministers, filled with holy zeal, saw the need of churches being established where no church was. They conducted revivals in homes, old store buildings, brush arbors, or wherever else they could. God blessed, souls were saved, and afterwards "they built their house"...If some of our older ministers had not sacrificed to grub the spiritual new-grounds of our religion, to "work the field," we would not have the organized churches and established groups that we have. Brethren, we must grow or die! We therefore urge strongly that all our Brother ministers not actively serving as full time pastor seek the Lord to find out where He would have them labor "in the field," and that the churches and pastors rally to the help of any who are led of God to clear a new-ground and establish a church.



Frances Radford  
T. E. Woody  
Charlie Miller

### SABBATH SCHOOLS

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, hope that all churches realize the importance of its Sabbath School. It is the Sabbath School that gets much of God's Word to the individual. Many people, we are sorry to say, are too busy to study the Bible during the week, and the Sabbath School offers a great opportunity for personal Bible Study. In the Sabbath School we may analyze the Bible and apply its word to our needs and profit thereby. The workers of the Sabbath Schools should in no wise step out of God's Divine direction, for they have a great responsibility. We may sum up our duty in our Sabbath Schools by quoting II Timothy 2:15:

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth."

William Dale Robinson  
Joe Woody  
Clarence Byrd

### CARE OF CHILDREN AND AGED

We, your Committee on Care of Children and Aged, do ask that the old report be retained, as follows:

The church committees responsible for gathering the food-stuff:

BOWDITCH -- Clarence Byrd  
GREEN MOUNTAIN -- Earl Fox  
MINE FORK -- Theodore Freeman

PRICES CREEK -- James Burleson

SOUTH BEND -- Gene Thomas

TERRYS FORK -- Phil Anderson, Wayne Metcalf

I. The Association having appointed a committee in each church to gather produce - canned goods, frozen food, fruits, potatoes, bed linens, or anything else churches may wish to give - we request that this committee gather these gifts on or before the 15th of October and deliver them to the home in Burnsville by that date.

II. We further urge that the pastor and committee appointed to this business in each church put this matter before the churches, emphasizing the need and importance of the work and urging that the people give sacrificially and their best for this is "for the Lord" and He will accept nothing less than our best.

With this addition:

That each church appoint one to see to this work and mail a monthly payment to our treasurer.

Scripture Reference: St. John 21:16, 17.

Treasurer's address given below:

Rev. W. H. Calvert  
402 East 5th Street  
Gastonia, North Carolina

Joe Woody  
James Burleson  
Francis Arrowood

DEEPER DE VOTION

We, your Committee on Deeper Devotion, submit the following

scriptures for your consideration:

"Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. And this will we do, if God permit." (Hebrews 6:1-3)

"But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost..." (Jude 20)

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.  
And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." (Philippians 4:6-8)

T. A. Greene  
Charles Miller  
Cassie Thomas

### SESSIONS

We, your Committee on Sessions, recommend that the next session will be held at the Terrys Fork Church, Route 2, Mars Hill, North Carolina, beginning on Thursday before the fourth Sunday in August 1966 at 10:30 a.m. (The date being August 25-27,) Brother Charlie Miller to preach the Introductory Message; Sister Edith Pauley to be the alternate speaker.

Ruth Towe  
Bula Thomas  
Marie Thomas  
James Walker  
Lloyd Laws

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

MINE FORK CHURCH ..... January 28, 1966  
SOUTH BEND CHURCH ..... May 27, 1966  
TERRYS FORK CHURCH ... August 27, 1966  
GREEN MOUNTAIN ..... October 28, 1966

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

FIRST QUARTERLY SESSION

The 33rd session of Ministers' Conference met with the South Bend Church November 27, 1964. The choir sang "Lord Lead Me On." Prayer led by Brother Arnold Briggs. Brother Cassie Thomas brought a much-needed message, reading St. John 13:33-38, his text - "The Proof of Discipleship". Welcomed members of the Committee for Care of the Aged and Children, who all testified. Took offering for the Rest Home, amounting to \$60.83.

Met at 1:30 p.m. for business. Devotional by Brother Arnold Miller. Prayer by Brother Guy Honeycutt. Remarks by Moderator. Reading of last minutes. Roll call of ministers. Those present were:

Sister Edith Pauley	Brother Guy Honeycutt
Sister Vinita Miller Deyton	Brother Arnold Miller
	Brother Charlie Miller
Brother Arnold Briggs	Brother Cassie Thomas
Brother Junior Briggs	Brother T. E. Woody

Amount of \$12.00 received for Aged and Disabled Ministers' Fund. Called for fellowship, all responded. Church letters read; delegates seated. Enrolled Brothers Adam Scott, Sherman Branch, W. H. Calvert, Gene Outland, James Childers as visiting ministers. Called for applications for license or ordination; none presented.

Report of Topic Committee submitted as follows:

Scripture: "Be ye strong in the Lord," (Ephesians 6:10)

Question: How can an individual, church, or conference be strong?

Discussion very profitable, if applied.

Omitted night service, due to revival at neighboring church.

Met Saturday morning for business. Choir sang "Just A Little Talk With Jesus". Altar prayer led by Brother J. C. Letterman. Devotional by Brother Letterman. Yesterday's minutes read. Enrolled Brother J. C. Letterman. Voted to drop Brother Burl Ledford's name from roll, as he has joined a church in another association (ministers are required to belong to a church within the association to which they wish to belong), and to notify Brother Ledford of this move. Granted Brother Junior Briggs a letter of dismissal at his request. Empowered clerk to write Brother T. A. Watts letter of admonition for not appearing at conference.

Worship service began with choir singing. Sister Edith Pauley read II Corinthians, using for her text, "Our Two Houses". Much rejoicing.

### SECOND QUARTERLY SESSION

The 34th session of Ministers' Conference met with Green Mountain Church January 29, 1965. Choir sang "I Have Somebody With Me". Prayer by Brother Sam Moore. Brother J. C.

Letterman brought a good message on Psalm 89:47: "Remember how short my time is". Handshake; much rejoicing.

Met at 1:15 for business. Special singing by Sister Cathy Austin. Devotional by Brother Arnold Briggs. Prayer by Brother Sam Moore. Remarks by Moderator. Welcomed Brother Harrison Street, visiting minister. Minutes read. Roll call of ministers. Present were:

Sister Frances Radford	Brother J. C. Letterman
Sister Vinita Deyton	Brother Charlie Miller
	Brother Sam Moore
Brother Arnold Briggs	Brother Cassie Thomas
Brother Guy Honeycutt	Brother T. E. Woody

Amount of \$13.35 received for Aged and Disabled Ministers' Fund. Church letters read; delegates seated.

Report of Topic Committee presented as follows:

Scripture: "Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord." (Romans 12:11)

Met at 7:15 p.m. for worship. Choir sang "I'm Free Again". Prayer by Brother Cassie Thomas. Sister Frances Radford brought a very challenging message on "A Higher Vision." Singing by Terrys Fork Quartet and Duet.

Met Saturday morning for business. Choir sang. Devotional by Brother Cassie Thomas. Prayer by Brother Roscoe Briggs. Unfinished business called for. Moved to write Brother T. A. Watts, informing him of our love for him, and of the requirements of our rules, that we request his presence or his credentials at the next conference.

Met at 11:00 for worship. Brother Sam Moore brought a spiritual, helpful message on "The Uplifted Christ". Received an offering for Brother Robert Arrowood, who is in



the hospital, amounting to \$8.27.

### THIRD QUARTERLY SESSION

The 35th session of Ministers' Conference met with the Bowditch Church May 28, 1965. Choir sang "Trust and Obey". Prayer by Brother Roscoe Briggs. Brother Charlie Miller brought an arousing message on the text "Let Us Build Babel and A Tower Unto Heaven".

Minutes read. Roll call of ministers. Present were:

Sister Edith Pauley	Brother Charlie Miller
Sister Vinita Deyton	Brother Cassie Thomas
Brother Roscoe Briggs	Brother T. E. Woody

Church letters read. Delegates seated.

Met at 1:30 for business. Sister Cathy Austin sang "Because of Him". Devotional by Brother Cassie Thomas. Prayer by Sister Edith Pauley. Report of Topic Committee submitted as follows:

Scripture: "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood." (Acts 20:28, I Peter 5)

The 7:30 p.m. message brought by Sister Edith Pauley, preaching a very needed message on "The Plantings of the Lord." Handshake.

Met Saturday morning for business. Devotional by Brother Charlie Miller. Prayer by Brother Arnold Briggs. Enrolled Sister Frances Radford, Brothers Arnold Briggs, Guy Honeycutt, J. C. Letterman, Total amount of \$16.00 received for Aged and Disabled Ministers' Fund. Letters for application

of license presented by Brothers Roosevelt Briggs and William Dale Robinson. Sister Frances Radford presented an amendment to Article 15 of the constitution.

Report of Topic Committee to be discussed at the Conference at Terrys Fork:

Scripture: "What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? Can faith save him?" James 2:14

Granted Brother Roosevelt Briggs license, as he had been under watchcare of conference for three months; placed Brother William Dale Robinson under watchcare of Conference for three months. Received Brother T. A. Watts' credentials.

Met at 11:00 for worship. Brother T. E. Woody expounded such needful truths on the subject, "Birth".

Sisters Frances Radford, Vinita Deyton, Pearl Briggs requested prayer for their physical conditions. They were anointed by Brothers Charlie Miller and Roscoe Briggs and prayed for by the group. There was very great outpouring of the Spirit.

REMARK: Sister Radford was due to have major surgery. During this service she was healed and the cause for surgery was removed.

#### FOURTH QUARTERLY SESSION

The 36th session of Ministers' Conference met with the Prices Creek Church August 21, 1965, in connection with the Association. Called to order by Moderator. Minutes read. Roll call of ministers. Those present were:

Sister Vinita Deyton

Brother T. A. Greene

Sister Edith Pauley	Brother Guy Honeycutt
Sister Frances Radford	Brother Charlie Miller
	Brother Cassie Thomas
Brother Arnold Briggs	Brother T. E. Woody

Amount of \$14.00 received for Aged and Disabled Ministers' Fund.

Called for fellowship. All responded. Brother William Dale Robinson granted license to preach for one year. Elected moderator and clerk. Adjourned.

Officers for first three quarterly sessions:

Brother Charlie Miller.....Moderator  
Sister Vinita Deyton.....Clerk

Officers elect:

Brother Cassie Thomas ..... Moderator  
Brother Charlie Miller ..... Asst. Moderator  
Brother William Dale Robinson .... Clerk

FOR THE QUARTERLY SESSION

OBITUARIES

Robert Arrowood

"Uncle" Robert Arrowood departed this life April 9, 1965 at the age of 79.

He left eight children and a host of friends and loved ones who mourn his going.

He joined Prices Creek Church at an early age and was the oldest deacon of the church. He was a faithful member as long as he lived. He loved the church with a deep and devoted love. The Association and Conference were a treasured part of his life.

We are looking to live with him when this life is over.

A niece,  
Mrs. Joe Blankenship

Rev. E. P. Blevins

Our dear Brother and Father in the Gospel, E. P. Blevins, finished his race on August 26, 1965. He was 77 years old. Brother Blevins had preached the Gospel of Christ for 50 years.

He is survived by the widow - Josephine Bryant Blevins; two daughters - Mrs. Murray Wright and Mrs. Frank McMahan; four sons - Luther, Wiley, and E. P., Jr., of Burnsville and Phillip, of Maggie, N. C.; one sister, Mrs. Galon Holly and one brother, P. H. Blevins, both of Johnson City, Tennessee; ten grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

His influence will live until his name is forgotten -- and then live still.

Lizzie B. Briggs

Lizzie B. Briggs departed this life September 2, 1965 at the age of 77.

She is survived by the husband, Tommy Jack Briggs; one daughter, Mrs. Buck Fox; two sons, Roosevelt and Andrew; one sister, Mrs. Belle Briggs; several grandchildren and an innumerable host of friends.

She surely waits for us to come on. For on this earth she was always faithful to her Lord and true to her fellow-man. We expect to meet her -- soon.

Clyde Epraim Duncan

Clyde Epraim Duncan of Green Mountain, Rt. 2, N. C., was born September 11, 1903, the son of John and Loretta Duncan. He passed away October 8, 1964 at the age of 61 years, 28 days.

He was converted to Christ at an early age and his chief interest in life was the promotion of the Lord's cause and the salvation of the lost. He united with Borings Chapel Methodist Church and served as steward and superintendent for several years. Later he moved his membership to North Bend Free Will Baptist Church, on February 2, 1947. He united with the South Bend F.W.B. Church when it was organized, on August 19, 1958. He taught the Young People's Sunday School Class until his health failed. His favorite book was the Bible. When he could no longer see to read, he would ask almost everyone who came to see him to read and pray with him. Most of his Sundays were spent listening to sermons on the radio.

Surviving are his widow - Mrs. Lydia Peterson Duncan, whom he married September 14, 1931, at Jonesboro, Tennessee; one son, Dannie Stephen Duncan of High Point, N. C.; five sisters - Mrs. Fannie Evans, Mrs. Mary Silvers, and Miss Carthie Duncan, of Burnsville; Mrs. Cora Arrowood of Erwin, Tennessee;

and Mrs. Esther Elliott of Brevard, N. C.; two brothers, Will and Roy, both of Burnsville. Also surviving is a large number of relatives and friends.

We believe we'll meet him on the morning of the First Resurrection, not with a diseased, crippled body, but with a new and glorified body. We thank the Lord for this hope.

Written by His Wife

Mary Miller Edwards

Mary Miller Edwards exchanged this life for a more glorious one on December 6, 1964 at the age of 99 years, 2 months, and 9 days.

She is survived by one son, Thomas Payne, of Burnsville; 10 grandchildren; 47 great-grandchildren; and 11 great-great-grandchildren; three sisters - Mrs. Christina Johnson, Mrs. Frank Laws, and Mrs. Grover Hunter, all of Burnsville.

She professed faith in Christ early in life and was faithful to Him until death.

Her love for us was so great  
It could not have ended here;  
It must be waiting to embrace us  
When we finally reach her - there.

Surely she is waiting for us,  
And especially for us children four --  
Peeping, from habit, from Heaven's window,  
Or standing by Heaven's door!

A Great-Granddaughter,  
Vinita Miller Deyton



John A. Fox

John A. Fox departed this life May 2, 1965 at the age of 68. He put his trust in the Lord. He loved the Lord and his children.

Surviving are the widow, four boys and three girls and several grandchildren who mourn his leaving.

He joined the Prices Creek Church in 1947. We cherish the hope of living with him when this life is over.

A Daughter,  
Mrs. Joe Blankenship

Omey Payne

Omey Payne passed away February 27, 1965 at the age of 82 years.

She is survived by the husband, Thomas Payne; three sons - Reggie, Cleter, and James; three daughters - Mrs. Joe Bowlin, Mrs. Tommy Thomas and Mrs. Willie Elkins; two brothers - Augustus Lingerpelt and Pierce Lingerpelt; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was a member of the Green Mountain Church. She never sought those heights of life from which men look unequal. In her sight all were worth befriending. This is a virtue which many greater men and women have lacked. She left the testimony that she was prepared to go.

MINISTERS ROLL

Arnold Briggs ..... Rt. 2, Burnsville, N. C.  
Roosevelt Briggs..... Green Mountain, N. C.  
Roscoe Briggs ..... Rt. 2, Spruce Pine, N. C.  
Josephine Blevins ..... Rt. 2, Burnsville, N. C.  
Vinita Miller Deyton ..... Rt. 1, Burnsville, N. C.  
T. A. Greene ..... 2013 Cedar Fork Drive  
Greensboro, N. C.  
Guy Honeycutt ..... Rt. 1, Burnsville, N. C.  
J. C. Letterman ..... Spruce Pine, N. C.  
Arnold Miller ..... Relief, N. C.  
Charlie Miller ..... Box 612, Burnsville, N. C.  
Sam Moore ..... Burnsville, N. C.  
Edith Pauley ..... Erwin, Tennessee  
Frances Radford..... Box 155, Burnsville, N. C.  
William Dale Robinson ..... Rt. 1, Burnsville, N. C.  
Cassie Thomas ..... Micaville, N. C.  
T. E. Woody ..... Rt. 2, Burnsville, N. C.

TABLE OF STATISTICS

	(Union) Bowditch	Mine Fork	Green Mountain	Prices Creek	South Bend	Terrys Fork
Meeting Days	2-4	2-4	1-3	2-4	2-4	Full
Number Baptized	0	6	0	0	0	0
Added Otherwise	0	7	7	0	0	3
Excluded	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dismissed	4	2	1	0	1	0
Deaths	0	0	2	2	1	0
Communion Services	3	1	1	1	1	2
Number in Sunday School	35	45	80	58	65	60
Total Membership	55	52	132	75	93	80
Times Pastor Present	48	21	24	44	24	Full
Minute Fund	15.00	10.00	20.00	15.00	15.00	20.00
Paid Pastor	266.55	177.04	326.44	473.55	204.63	600.00
Paid for Revivals	58.60	48.90	117.15	185.00	190.86	80.00
Foreign Missions	137.12	12.00	279.28	470.91	20.00	267.00
Home for Aged	23.84	144.20	648.38	154.00	13.44	70.00
Poor and Sick	30.00	68.86	526.89	67.63	119.73	60.00
Monthly Mission Pledge	10.00	12.00	4.00	18.00		
Value Church Property	10,500	6,410	8,500	7,000	7,140	1,000
Improvements	365.00	155.00	0	0	0	250.00
Aged and Disabled Ministers' Fund	0	0	50.00	41.25	0	
Visiting Ministers	17.50	20.80	51.54	0	0	60.00
Lord's Acre Receipts	0	0	396.90		0	
Sunday School and Local Church Operating Expense	130.00	216.48	273.47	142.38	201.78	144.00

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 Quince Miller	Mrs. Frances Hughes Micaville, N. C.	Bertie Hensley	Alec Hensley
Green Mountain Charlie Miller	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 Cassie Thomas	Mr. Moscoe Towe Route 3, Box 241 Burnsville, N. C.	Moscow Towe	James Burleson
Terrys Fork Joint Pastors: Cassie Thomas Frances Radford	Virginia Anderson Route 2 Mars Hill, N. C.	Wayne Metcalf	Phil Anderson

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 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 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 proven 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 season.
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 Bylaws 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 Bylaws of the Association and the Constitution and Bylaws 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.

BYLAWS OF THE MOUNT MITCHELL  
ASSOCIATION OF THE ORIGINAL  
FREE WILL BAPTIST 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 Bylaws shall be admonished by the Moderator.

ARTICLE 15

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

ARTICLE 16

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

CONSTITUTION OF THE MINISTERS' CONFERENCE OF  
MT. MITCHELL ASSOCIATION OF THE ORIGINAL FREE  
WILL BAPTISTS OF NORTH CAROLINA

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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 Mt. 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, having 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 Bylaws 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.

### ARTICLE 21

(Added as an amendment to ARTICLE 15)

Every minister granted license or ordination by this body shall be required to pledge that he will faithfully attend and support the Conference--sickness or death being the only acceptable reason for non-attendance.

BYLAWS OF THE MOUNT MITCHELL  
FREE WILL BAPTIST  
MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

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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 contributions 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.

#### ARTICLE 7

All ministers seeking license to preach must be kept under the watchcare of the Conference for the period of three months.

## FAITH

Saving faith is an assent to 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 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.

CHURCH LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION

We, the \_\_\_\_\_ Free Will Baptist Church,  
now in session, send Christian greetings to the Mt. 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 Aged & Children's Home 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 Mis-  
sions 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 \_\_\_\_\_



