

MINUTES

OF THE

MT. MITCHELL ASSOCIATION
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF NORTH CAROLINA

Organizational Meeting
Held
March 9 and 10, 1956

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION
HELD WITH
PATTERSON BRANCH CHURCH, AUGUST 21-23, 1969

Joe Woody Moderator
Vinita Miller Deyton Clerk

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

Scheduled to Convene With South Bend Church
Thursday before the Fourth Sunday in August 1970
at 10:30 a.m.

Brother Cassie Thomas to Deliver the Introductory Message
Brother Wade Murphy to be the Alternate Speaker

IN DEDICATION



SISTER JOSEPHINE BLEVINS

This MINUTE is lovingly dedicated to Sister "Josie" Blevins. Due to her home condition she cannot be with us or be active in God's work as we know she desires to be. When we think of the years of Sister Josie's trials, which none of us fully know, we are reminded of the words penned by Grant Tullar...

My life is but a weaving
Between my Lord and me,
I cannot choose the colors
He worketh steadily.

Ofttimes He weaveth sorrow,
And I in foolish pride
Forget He sees the upper
And I, the underside.

Not till the loom is silent
And the shuttles cease to fly
Shall God unroll the canvas
And explain the reason why.

The dark threads are as needful
In the Weaver's skillful hand
As the threads of gold and silver
In the pattern He has planned.

PROCEEDINGS

The fourteenth annual session of the Mt. Mitchell Free Will Baptist Association convened with the Patterson Branch Church, Route 1, Burnsville, North Carolina, Thursday, August 21, 1969, at 10:30 a.m. The choir sang "Let Me Live Close to Thee" and "I'm Getting Ready To Leave This World." Welcome given by pastor of host church, Sister Frances Radford. Altar prayer led by Brother Guy Honeycutt. Sister Janue Towe sang "Redemption Draweth Nigh". Sister Edith Pauley read II. Kings 4:8-19, II. John 1, and Revelation 12:1, 2, after which she again led us in prayer. On the subject "A Great Woman" she brought a very good message. After a handshake there were several testimonies. Dismissed with prayer for lunch.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Reconvened at 1:00 p.m. for business. Service began with the choir singing "A Beautiful Life". Prayer led by Brother Wade Murphy. The Moderator, Brother Joe Woody, gave the opening remarks. Appointed Sister Frances Radford as reading clerk. Appointed the following committees:

To receive Disabled Ministers' Fund..Brother Sam Moore
To receive Foreign Missions Fund..Brother Wade Murphy
To receive Old Folks Home Fund..Brother Cassie Thomas
To receive Minute FundSister Vinita Deyton

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

BOWDITCH - Sisters Adlee Briggs, Marie Thomas, Jula Boone.

GREEN MOUNTAIN - Sisters Virginia Mitchell, Esther Fox; Brothers Dewey Mitchell, Earl Fox, James Walker.

MINE FORK - Brothers Hubert Freeman, Frank Laws

PATTERSON BRANCH - Brothers Jack Webb, Frank Robinson, Stanley Deyton.

PRICES CREEK - Sisters Camilee Thomas, Cathy Austin, Adeline Blankenship, Janie Towe; Brothers

Moscoe Towe, John Stanley Arrowood, Dwight Towe, Dennis Thomas, David Thomas.

SOUTH BEND - Sisters Lucy Deyton, Belle Edwards, Lydia Duncan; Brothers Levi Deyton, R. C. Edwards.

TERRYS FORK - Sisters Vivian Gardner, Barbara Hembree; Brothers Wayne Metcalf, Kenny Chambers.

Welcomed our visiting minister and his wife, Brother and Sister Andy Johnson, from the Brethren Church.

Elected Joe Woody as Moderator, Brother Sam Moore as Assistant Moderator.

Appointed Brother Charlie Miller to preach at the 7:30 evening service; Brother Sam Moore at the Friday morning service.

The following committees were appointed:

CARE FOR AGED AND CHILDREN - Sisters Lucy Deyton, Belle Deyton, Elsie Thomas.

CHURCHES AND PASTORS - Brothers Cassie Thomas, Jack Webb; Sister Camilee Thomas.

DEEPER DEVOTION - Brothers Moscoe Towe, Wade Murphy, Jack Webb.

DISABLED MINISTERS' FUND - Brothers Stanley Deyton, James Walker; Sister Adeline Blankenship.

EDUCATION - Sisters Vinita Deyton, Lucy Deyton, Lydia Duncan.

INVESTIGATION - Brothers Cassie Thomas, Sam Moore, Moscoe Towe.

LORD'S ACRE - Brothers Wade Murphy, Oscar Letterman, Dewey Mitchell.

MISSIONS - Sisters Frances Radford, Esther Fox; Brother Fletcher Bryant.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS - Brothers Moscoe Towe, Jack Webb; Sister Anna Scott.

TEMPERANCE - Brothers Cassie Thomas, Oscar Letterman, R. C. Edwards.

Enrolled the following ministers:

Sisters Vinita Deyton
Edith Pauley
Frances Radford

Brothers Guy Honeycutt
Charlie Miller
Sam Moore
Wade Murphy
Cassie Thomas

All enjoyed the testimonies submitted.

We were dismissed in prayer until the 7:30 p.m. worship service.

THURSDAY EVENING SERVICE

The 7:30 p.m. worship service began with the choir singing "I Have Found The Way" and "I Rejoice In The Lord". Opening remarks by Sister Frances Radford. Altar Prayer led by Brother Roosevelt Briggs. Sister Adeline Blankenship sang "The Holy Hills of Home". Brother Rothy Ogle sang "The Same Road". Brother Charlie Miller read Revelation 22:4, 5. On the subject "What Are The Dead Doing Tonight?" he brought a Spirit filled message. There was a Christian handshake, followed by several good testimonies. Brother Roosevelt Briggs was anointed with oil and prayed for with the laying on of hands. Dismissed in prayer by Brother Frank Robinson.

FRIDAY MORNING SERVICE

Service convened at 10:00 a.m. The choir sang "Keep On The Firing Line". Devotional conducted by Brother Wade Murphy, reading Revelation 21:1-7. Prayer led by Brother Raymond Whitehead.

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

Enrolled Brother Roy Whitson.

Welcomed Brother Raymond Whitehead, from Elizabethton, Tennessee, and Brother Ronald Creech, our State Evangelist, as our visiting ministers. Welcome extended to Sister Whitehead and daughter.

Brother Ronald Creech gave a report on the work of North Carolina Free Will Baptists: 1. Home for Aged, 2. Youth Work, 3. Missions, 4. Fund for Aged Preachers, 5. The Witness and bookstore.

Appointed Sister Frances Radford, Brothers Earl Fox, Moscoe Towe as a committee to submit a report concerning the yearly Bible Schools.

Testimonies by Sister Frances Radford and Brother Jack Webb.

Business session adjourned for preaching at 11:00 o'clock.

WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 A.M.

In the absence of Brother Sam Moore, Brother Raymond Whitehead read II. Timothy 2:1-7. He brought a very good message on the subject "What Kind of Soldiers Are We?" After a handshake we were dismissed by Brother Ronald Creech for lunch.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Reconvened at 1:00 p.m. for business. Devotional conducted by Brother Cassie Thomas, submitting his testimony. Prayer led by Sister Frances Radford.

Business session called to order by Moderator. Report of Committee on Daily Vacation Bible School called for. Read by Sister Frances Radford. Discussed by Sister Radford and Brothers Frank Laws, Dewey Mitchell. Received and adopted.

Report of Committee on Missions called for. Read by Sister Frances Radford. Discussed by Sister Radford. Received and adopted.

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

Report of Committee on Sunday Schools called for. Read by Brother Jack Webb. Discussed by Brothers Moscoe Towe, Cassie Thomas. Received and adopted.

Report of Committee on Care for Aged and Children called for. Read by Sister Lucy Deyton. Discussed by Brothers Joe Woody, James Walker, Jack Webb, Ronald Creech; Sister Anna Scott. Received and adopted.

Report of Committee on Churches and Pastors called for. Read by Sister Camilee Thomas. Discussed by Brothers Jack Webb, Moscoe Towe; Sister Frances Radford. Received and adopted.

Report of Committee on Disabled Ministers' Fund called for. Read by Sister Vinita Deyton. Discussed by Brother Joe Woody. Received and adopted.

Report of Committee on Deeper Devotion called for. Read by Brother Moscoe Towe. Discussed by Brother Towe and Sister Frances Radford. Received and adopted.

Report of Committee on Lord's Acre Work called for. Read by Brother Wade Murphy. Discussed by Brothers Murphy, Dewey Mitchell, Raymond Whitehead, Frank Laws, Joe Woody; Sister Frances Radford. Received and adopted.

Appointed Brother Ronald Creech to preach at the 7:30 p.m. worship service; Brother Cassie Thomas at the Saturday morning service.

Appreciation expressed to the church for her care of the Association.

Adjourned until 10:00 Saturday morning.

FRIDAY EVENING SERVICE

The 7:30 p.m. worship service began with the choir singing "I'm In A New World" and "It Won't Be Long". Opening remarks by Sister Frances Radford. Prayer led by Brother Charlie Miller. Brother Rothy Ogle sang "Reunion In Heaven" and "God's Only Son". Brother Ronald Creech read Hebrews 11:1, 2, 32-40. On the subject "God's Honor Roll" he brought an exceedingly good message. Brother Roosevelt Briggs testified of the improvement in his health since prayer. Dismissed in prayer by Brother Wade Murphy.

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

Service convened at 10:00 a.m. The choir sang "I've Never Been Sorry". Devotional conducted by Brother Jack Webb; reading St. Matthew 26:36-46. Altar prayer led by Brother Roosevelt Briggs.

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

Enrolled Brother Roosevelt Briggs.

Report of Committee on Temperance called for. Read by Brother Cassie Thomas. Discussed by Brothers Thomas, Guy Honeycutt; Sisters Belle Deyton, Lucy Deyton.

Adjourned until we meet with the South Bend Church on Thursday before the fourth Sunday in August 1970. Brother Cassie Thomas to preach the introductory message; Brother Wade Murphy to be the alternate speaker.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AGED AND DISABLED MINISTERS' FUND

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

"If we have sown unto spiritual things, it is a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things?" I. Corinthians 9:11

"Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel." I. Corinthians 9:14

"For this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing." Romans 13:6

We challenge each church to realize the responsibility of all the lay members toward our aged and disabled ministers. Carried from the year 1968 is the suggestion that each church set aside the fifth Sunday collection for this fund.

Stanley Deyton
James Walker
Adeline Blankenship

Treasurer's Report:

Amount on hand at close of last Association	\$1,237.34
Paid to Sister Josephine Blevins	180.00
Paid to Brother Sam Moore	100.00
Deduction for bonding fee	10.00
Amount on hand after above deductions	947.34
Received at Ministers' Conferences	76.00
Received at 1969 Association	133.69
Interest paid by Bank	52.11
Balance of August 1969	\$1,389.24

CARE FOR AGED AND CHILDREN

We, your Committee on Care for Aged and Children, submit the following:

We urge all the churches to do their best toward the support of our Rest Home.

"Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it." Proverbs 3:22

"Whoso hath this world's goods and seeth his brother have need and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue, but in deed and in truth."
I. John 3:17

Lucy Deyton
Elsie Thomas

Notice: All churches are advised to collect any produce for use at the Rest Home on or before October 15.

CHURCHES AND PASTORS

We, your Committee on Churches and Pastors submit the following Scriptures for consideration:

"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departure shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them." Acts 20:28-30

Cassie Thomas
Jack Webb
Camilee Thomas

DEEPER DEVOTION

We, your Committee on Deeper Devotion, present the following:

We believe that Deeper Devotion means giving or surrendering to God completely; to be set apart; to be dedicated to the cause of Christ; going on to perfection.

"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." Hebrews 6:1

Arm yourselves with the whole armour of God, as instructed in Ephesians 6:11-17. And put on the additions of the Spirit as mentioned in II. Peter 1:5-7. "For if these things be in you and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ." If you take heed to do these things, you will not fall. Be fully given to the cause of Christ, for His return is near.

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

Scripture reference... Daniel 6:10, 11

Moscoe Towe
Jack Webb
Wade Murphy

EDUCATION

We, your Committee on Education, submit the following:

If a person is educated we expect him to know something. We send our children to school to learn. Then we expect them to know.

The word "know" is mentioned at least 471 times in the Bible. God wants people to be educated -- in matters no public school can teach. He has established His Church as a school to impart knowledge of Himself. He seeks through this particular knowledge to develop men's minds: their attitudes, outlook; their hearts and spirits: personality and feelings. And the subject studied is not a thing, but a Person: Jesus Christ. For in Him is not only all the fullness of the Godhead, but also that which enables every human life to be usefully lived.

There are two outstanding ways of being spiritually educated. First is that way of experience with God, of walking so that His Spirit teaches us directly, opening to our minds the meaning of the Scriptures. "For ye yourselves are taught of God..." (I. Thessalonians 4:9) In Philippians 3 Paul spoke of all he had rejected --- for only one purpose --- in order to know Christ.

Second is the blessing of learning from that spoken by others. God said to covet the best gifts. In all our churches, if any one gift is sought from God, it should be the gift of teaching. God ordained teaching to be such an important part of His work. Paul told Timothy... "The things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." (II. Timothy 2:2)

And yet, concerning teaching, there are two warnings to the hearer:

1. "Take heed what ye hear..." (Mark 4:24)
2. "Take heed how ye hear..." (Luke 8:18)

Especially among our young people the knowledge of many things in the Bible is needed as a basis for faith in order for them to face the attack of an unbelieving world.

Vinita Deyton
Lucy Deyton
Lydia Duncan

LORD'S ACRE

We, your Committee on the Lord's Acre Work, submit the following:

We urge all our churches to take part in this project. It can be a great blessing to each one. We feel sure God is pleased to have a working church to help those in need.

Malachi 3:7-10

I. Corinthians 16:2... "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him, that there be no gathering when I come."

Wade Murphy
Dewey Mitchell

MISSIONS

We, your Committee on Missions, submit the following:

The word "mission" means... "the act of sending, or state of being sent, with certain powers, to do some special service."

We submit the following Scriptures for consideration and action by our body. John 20:21, 22 and Romans 10:9-15. "Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said, 'Receive ye the Holy Ghost'."

If we are sent as Jesus was sent, then missions are not optional; for one sent is responsible to give account to the one who sent him. Jesus could say "I have finished the work Thou gavest me to do..." We need to be able to make the same

report to Him who sent us when we finish our course.

Jesus' vision was correct. He was the world's first foreign missionary. He "came down from Heaven" to do the will of His Father. Then His work began in Galilee --- proceeded to the "next towns," until He died for the sins of the "whole world". Correct vision will give us the knowledge that, like our Saviour and example we are ---

1. sent to speak.....John 3:34
2. sent to serve.....Luke 22:27
3. sent to suffer.....John 12:27

Let every Christian realize that he is on a mission---and let each of us labor individually and as a body to be able to say to Him who sent us... "I have finished the work which Thou gavest me to do."

Frances Radford
Esther Fox

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, submit the following:

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." (Romans 8:1)

We should strive to be on time for Sunday School each Sunday and encourage our children and one another to be instant and willing in the Lord's work.

We should try to have the most devoted Christians to teach all classes.

We should strive for more reverence for the Church of God.

We should observe altar prayer and encourage a more devoted prayer life and also family devotions. We should

teach our children to pray at home and in Sunday School.

Jack Webb
Moscoe Towe
Anna Scott

TEMPERANCE

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

"And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares." Luke 21:34

"Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying." Romans 13:13

"But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection; lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway." I. Corinthians 9:27

"And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit." Ephesians 5:18

Cassie Thomas

DAILY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOLS

We, your Committee on Daily Vacation Bible Schools, submit the following:

We feel our Association should publicly commend Sister Vinita Deyton -- along with the teachers who have assisted her in each local church -- for the work they have done for

our young people in Bible Schools. We believe this is one of the most important services to our churches and it ought to be better promoted and supported by all our churches. We therefore recommend that the first named delegate on each church letter be appointed by the church to head a committee to see that the Bible School expenses are met and the director, at least, paid. It would perhaps be well for the young people themselves to be given the opportunity to earn at least part of the expense under the supervision of the committee named by the church.

Frances Radford
Moscoe Towe
Earl Fox

The following named delegates are to serve in each church on this committee:

Green Mountain Virginia Mitchell
Mine Fork Hubert Freeman
Prices Creek Moscoe Towe
South Bend Levi Deyton
Terrys Fork Vivian Gardner

CLERK'S NOTE: As director of the Bible Schools, I wish to make known that I appreciate the concern of the report committee for my financial welfare. And I think the idea of the young people's having part in raising money for this -- or any other cause -- is a worthwhile one. But I want to say also that I feel very unworthy of the great amount the churches give me for the conducting of the schools each year. I simply do not feel I could accept any greater amount from them than I have in the past.

REPORT OF "CROSS BEAMS"

The churches of Mt. Mitchell FWB Association have contributed to the support of Cross Beams Radio and Missionary Work approximately \$1395.80 during the Association year 1968-69. Most of this amount has been in the form of individual gifts and gifts from families who have taken the

regular support of a station. I have asked our clerk to place the amount contributed from each church with that church's report on the statistical table because I felt the churches should have proper credit, and there was no other agency of our denomination to which to report it. Of course I realize that the Lord is also keeping a record.

Perhaps the Prices Creek and Patterson Branch reports should be specifically noted. Prices Creek is the community where I now live, and 3 families from this church each support one of the new Cross Beams stations; Brother and Sister Joe Blankenship and girls, Brother and Sister James Burleson, and Brother and Sister Darryl Deyton. Also, Burl and Cathy Austin, with whom I've made my home since "Dad" Woody's homegoing, support a mission student in Mexico, and help very largely with the radio work as well as with my personal support. From Patterson Branch, Brother and Sister Stanley Deyton support a station, and Brother and Sister Rotha Ogle have contributed much to the mission arm of the work. Had the Lord not raised up these families to support the increased work of Cross Beams it would certainly not have been possible for it to be reaching out as it is. I cannot mention here all the names of those who have helped so much to make this "multiplication" possible. But from the very depths of my soul I thank every one who has given, prayed, or helped in any other way. The Cross Beams work is the Lord's, and He will reward you.

Report submitted by

Frances Radford

Minister of Cross Beams

SESSIONS OF ASSOCIATION

<u>Number</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Year</u>
15	South Bend Church	1970
16	Mine Fork Church	1971
17	Prices Creek Church	1972
18	Terrys Fork Church	1973
19	Green Mountain Church	1974
20	Bowditch Church	1975
21	Patterson Branch Church	1976

CONFERENCE

BOWDITCH CHURCH	November 28, 1969
TERRYS FORK CHURCH	March 27, 1970
MINE FORK CHURCH	May 29, 1970
SOUTH BEND CHURCH	August 22, 1970
PRICES CREEK CHURCH	November 27, 1970
GREEN MOUNTAIN CHURCH	1971
PATTERSON BRANCH CHURCH	1972

IMPORTANT: It is expected of the women of the churches to serve lunch at the Association on Thursday and Friday; at the Conference on Friday only.

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

FIRST QUARTERLY SESSION

The 49th session of Ministers' Conference met with the Mine Fork Church on September 27, 1968. Choir sang "Kneel At The Cross". Altar prayer led by Sister Edith Pauley. Brother Cassie Thomas read Luke 16:19-31, using for his subject "Why The Rich Man Went to Hell".

Business session. Reading of last minutes. Church letters read; delegates seated. Those ministers present were:

Sisters Vinita Deyton

Brothers Arnold Briggs

Edith Pauley

Roosevelt Briggs

Frances Radford

Charlie Miller

Sam Moore

Cassie Thomas

Received \$16.00 for Disabled Ministers' Fund.

Evening worship service. Choir sang "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms". Brother Rothy Ogle sang "God's Only Son". Sister Adeline Blankenship sang "The Lights Of Home". Prayer led by Brother Roosevelt Briggs. Sister Edith Pauley read I. Corinthians 3:1-23, using for her subject, "Take Heed How Ye Build".

Saturday morning business session began with the choir singing "Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus". Devotional by Brother Charlie Miller. Prayer led by Brother Sam Moore. Topic discussed: "The Secrets of Answered Prayer and Hindrances to Prayer Being Answered."

Worship service. Choir sang "We'll Work Til Jesus Comes". Sister Vinita Deyton read Matthew 5:20, using for her subject "The Righteousness That Exceeds the Righteousness of the Pharisees". Much presence of Spirit.

Brother Cassie Thomas, Moderator

Sister Vinita Deyton, Clerk

SECOND QUARTERLY SESSION

The 50th session of Ministers' Conference met with the Prices Creek Church on December 27, 1968. Choir sang "Face To Face". Prayer led by Brother Roosevelt Briggs. Brother Charlie Miller read Joel 2:1, using for his subject "The Trumpeting of the Gospel."

Business session. Reading of last minutes. Church letters read; delegates seated. Enrolled following ministers:

Sisters Vinita Deyton
Frances Radford

Brothers Arnold Briggs
Roosevelt Briggs
Guy Honeycutt
Charlie Miller
Sam Moore
Wade Murphy
Cassie Thomas
Roy Whitson

Received an offering of \$20.00 for Aged and Disabled Ministers' Fund.

Moved to continue the \$15.00 given monthly to Sister Josephine Blevins until her need is less.

Topic discussed: "The Occupations of Those in Heaven; and Things That Exist There."

Evening worship service. Choir sang "Pray The Clouds Away." Sister Thurlene Ward sang "I'll Follow Thee". Sister Cathy Austin sang "The Lights of Home". Sister Adeline Blankenship sang "Who Am I". Prayer led by Brother Moscoe Towe. Brother Arnold Briggs read John 15:1-7, using for his subject "Abide and Ask What Ye Will".

Saturday morning business session began with the choir singing "Sweeter As The Years Go By". Devotional by Brother Guy Honeycutt. Prayer led by Brother Roosevelt Briggs.

Discussion of topic: "Where Can We Hide From God?"

Worship service. Choir sang "Let Me Live Close To Thee". Brother Roosevelt Briggs read Matthew 25:6, using for his subject "The Cry at Midnight".

THIRD QUARTERLY SESSION

The 51st session of Ministers' Conference met with the South Bend Church on March 28, 1969. Choir sang "Heaven's Jubilee". Sister Frances Radford read Joshua 24:1-25, using for her subject "Those Who Cannot Serve the Lord".

Business called to order. Reading of last minutes. Church letters read; delegates seated. Enrolled following ministers:

Sisters Vinita Deyton	Brothers Roosevelt Briggs
Edith Pauley	T. A. Greene
Frances Radford	Wade Murphy
	Cassie Thomas

Received an offering of \$18.00 for Aged and Disabled Ministers' Fund.

Evening worship service. Choir sang "I Rejoice In The Lord". Prayer led by Brother Cassie Thomas. Sister Florine Coscia, missionary to Brazil, read from St. John 3, using for her text, "The Musts of Salvation". Brother Louis Coscia showed slides of the work in Brazil. Received an offering of \$25.06 for the Coscias.

Saturday morning business session began with choir singing "I Never Shall Forget That Day". Devotional by Brother T. A. Greene. Topic discussed: "What is the Duty of a Christian?" Appointed Sister Vinita Deyton, Brothers Cassie Thomas, Joe Woody, Jack Webb as delegates to the State Association in May.

Upon Brother T. A. Greene's request, a letter of recommendation was given him that he might be able to unite with a work closer to his home. Voted to retain his name as honorary member.

Worship service. Choir sang "Just A Little Talk With Jesus." Sister Edith Pauley read Joshua 4:1-7, using for her subject "A Memorial".

FOURTH QUARTERLY SESSION

The 52nd session of Ministers' Conference met with the Green Mountain Church on June 27, 1969. Choir sang "I'm In A New World". Prayer led by Brother Raymond Whitehead. Sister Vinita Deyton read II. Timothy 1:7-18, using for her subject "He..Was Not Ashamed of My Chain...".

Business called to order. Those ministers present during the two-day period were:

Sisters Vinita Deyton
Edith Pauley
Frances Radford

Brothers Arnold Briggs
Roosevelt Briggs
Guy Honeycutt
Charlie Miller
Wade Murphy
Cassie Thomas
Roy Whitson

Received an offering of \$23.00 for Aged and Disabled Ministers' Fund.

Welcomed Brother Raymond Whitehead to a seat in our body.

1:00 o'clock business session. Devotional by Brother Wade Murphy. Prayer led by Brother Charlie Miller. Reading of last minutes. Church letters read; delegates seated. Topic discussed: "The Importance of Obeying the Spirit and the Word of God".

Appointed Sister Virginia Miller as treasurer for newly-organized Flower Fund, for which we collected \$3.82.

Evening worship service began with choir singing "I've Never Been Sorry". Sister Thurlene Ward sang "Thank You For The Valley". Prayer led by Brother Wade Murphy. Sister Edith Pauley read Matthew 11:106, using for her subject "The Channels of the Holy Ghost".

Saturday morning business session. Choir sang "I Know I Have Religion". Devotional by Brother Roy Whitson. Prayer led by Brother Cassie Thomas. Topic discussed: "What Is Man That Thou Art Mindful of Him?"

Worship service. Choir sang "No Not One". Brother Raymond Whitehead read Luke 8:22-25, using for his subject "What Manner Of Man Is This?"

FIFTH QUARTERLY SESSION

The 53rd session of Ministers' Conference met with the Patterson Branch Church in connection with Association.

Enrolled following ministers:

Sisters Vinita Deyton	Brothers Roosevelt Briggs
Frances Radford	Guy Honeycutt
	Wade Murphy
	Cassie Thomas

Received \$15.00 for Aged and Disabled Ministers' Fund.

Received \$1.65 for Flower Fund.

Elected Brother Cassie Thomas as Moderator; Brother Wade Murphy as Assistant Moderator. Elected Sister Vinita Deyton as clerk. Elected members of Investigating Committee: Brothers Cassie Thomas, Sam Moore, Roosevelt Briggs. Authorized Investigating Committee to visit preachers who do not attend faithfully.

Elected Ordaining Council: Brother Charlie Miller, Chairman; Brothers Wade Murphy, Roosevelt Briggs.

Topic for discussion at next conference:

"The Anointing of the Lord....

1. What It Is
2. What It Does
3. Is there a difference between gifts of the Spirit and Anointing of the Spirit?"
 - I. John 2:7

Frances Radford
Edith Pauley
Moscoe Towe

Adjourned until Conference at Bowditch Church. Sister Frances Radford to preach introductory message; Brother Roosevelt Briggs to be alternate speaker.

Brother Cassie Thomas, Moderator
Sister Vinita Deyton, Clerk

OBITUARIES

URANUS B. DEYTON

Uranus B. Deyton was born April 26, 1896 and departed this life September 19, 1968. Surviving are the widow, Anna Renfro Deyton; six children: Mrs. Hubert Freeman, Mrs. David Ness, Mrs. H. S. Ray; U. B., Jr., Russell, and Richard; and twenty-three grandchildren.

Since his early manhood he had belonged to the Mine Fork Church, where he served as a deacon for many years. In thinking of Uranus, one remembers the words written by John Bunyan: THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS.... "My sword I give to him that shall succeed me in my pilgrimage, and my courage and skill to him that can get it. My marks and scars I carry with me, to be a witness for me that I have fought His battles who now will be my rewarder. When the day that he must go hence was come, many accompanied him to the riverside, into which as he went he said: 'Death, where is thy sting?' And as he went down deeper, he said: 'Grave, where is thy victory?' So he passed over, and all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side."

And, too, when gathering time comes and his place is empty, we remember Thomas Campbell's saying... "To live in hearts we leave behind, Is not to die".

A Friend,
Vinita M. Deyton

MRS. ETHEL BALDRIDGE CHAMBERS

Mrs. Ethel B. Chambers, formerly of the Terrys Fork community, passed away at Drexel, N. C. after a long illness. She had been a member of Terrys Fork Free Will Baptist Church for many years, and although she has lived away from this community for several years, her family and neighbors reported that her testimony was that she was ready to go.

She left her husband, Vernie T. Chambers; 4 daughters: Mrs. Inez Akquilian, Mrs. Mabel Anderson, Mrs. Faye Shope, Mrs. Darlene Singleton; 3 sons: Troy, Cline, John Chambers; a brother, Charles Baldrige; a sister, Mrs. Estie Phillips, and 8 grandchildren to mourn her passing. We trust that all will meet in Heaven when this life is over.

Frances Radford

MRS. ETTIE METCALF HONEYCUTT

Mrs. Ettie Metcalf Honeycutt was called to her eternal reward March 12, 1969 at the age of 78. She was a member of Terrys Fork Free Will Baptist Church, having professed faith in the Lord at an early age. Left a widow at an early age, with a large family of children, she knew many hardships, but proved the sufficiency of God's grace through them all. Perhaps it is some measure of her devotion that two of her sons are now deacons, and a third is a trustee, of the church where she belonged.

She left 3 daughters: Mrs. John Metcalf, Mrs. J. B. Robinson, Mrs. Carol Robinson; 6 sons: Milfred, Floyd, Harley, Troy, Cline, and Glenn Honeycutt; 5 sisters, 3 brothers, 22 grandchildren, and 5 great-grandchildren, and a host of friends to mourn her passing. Our prayers are that all will meet her with joy when this life is over.

The following poem, written by Mrs. Mack Allen, expresses the sentiment of many who were blessed by Sister Honeycutt's life:

"Her form now rests beneath the sod;
Her spirit is at peace with God.
Her life down here so simple and plain;
No earthly fortune, wealth, or fame.
She followed the way the old Mothers trod--
A way so simple, with the fear of God.
Trying to tell her children right
Before she vanished from their sight.
Unmovable was she in her Christian way,
Trusting by faith for a brighter day.

Until at last her race was run,
And her life crown she now has won.
God bless the memory she left below.
Take all the seed she strove to sow;
Pour out the prayers from the vial of love--
Lord, help us to meet her in Heaven above.
Don't leave one child out in the cold;
Please gather them all safe in the fold.
May they meet her face to face;
Saved by Thy mercy, kept by Thy grace."

Frances Radford

MRS. JUNE HIGGINS LEDFORD

Mrs. June Higgins Ledford departed this life at the age of 41. Surviving are the husband, Luther Ledford; a sister, Mrs. William T. Gates; two brothers, Reuben and Arnold Higgins of Burnsville, N. C. The friends who feel the loss of her includes all who knew her. She was a member of the Patterson Branch Church.

God declared the price of a virtuous woman to be far above rubies. The value of Sister June's life - to God and to mankind - cannot be determined in earthly terms. She was all a Christian woman should be. Her living was an example. Even in those months when disease filled her with pain; in those long weeks of lying in a hospital bed -- her patience, her endurance shone forth a witness to the power of God's salvation.

We rejoice for her that she is beyond all the suffering that being mortal means...but we miss her. And in remembering her we think of her thus: "Some die without having really lived, while others continue to live, in spite of the fact that they have died." (Anonymous)

And we feel the following words express what Death meant to June:

"Some day the bell will sound,
Some day my heart will bound,
As with a shout

That school is out
And lessons done,
I homeward run." (Anonymous)

A friend,
Vinita M. Deyton

MISS FAYE RECTOR

Miss Faye Rector of Taylor, Michigan, passed away in a Detroit hospital April 10, 1969, at the age of 23. She was a member of the Terrys Fork Free Will Baptist Church.

Left to mourn her loss are her mother, Mrs. Virgie Rector; 4 sisters, Mrs. Wilma George, Mrs. Buster Shelton, Mrs. Tommy Phillips, and Miss Blanche Rector; 4 brothers, Terrell, Fred, Blake, and Brank Rector.

"In the hands of our God, Who will surely do right,
We leave our loved ones, when out of our sight;
Trusting that we again shall meet,
When life is o'er, at the Saviour's feet ..."

Frances Radford

MINISTERS ROLL

ORDAINED

Arnold Briggs Rt. 2, Burnsville, N. C. 28714
Roosevelt Briggs Green Mountain, N. C. 28740
Guy Honeycutt Rt. 1, Burnsville, N. C. 28714
Charlie Miller Box 612, Burnsville, N. C. 28714
Sam Moore Burnsville, North Carolina 28714
Wade Murphy Rt. 10, Box 298, Lenoir, N. C.
Frances Radford Box 155, Burnsville, N. C. 28714
Cassie Thomas Rt. 5, Burnsville, N. C. 28714
Roy Whitson Green Mountain, N. C. 28740

PERMANENT LICENSE

Josephine Blevins Rt. 2, Burnsville, N. C. 28714
Vinita Miller Deyton ... Rt. 1, Burnsville, N. C. 28714
Edith Pauley Erwin, Tennessee

HONORARY MEMBER

T. A. Greene 2013 Cedar Fork Drive
Greensboro, North Carolina

TABLE OF STATISTICS

	(Union) Bowditch	Green Mountain	Mine Fork	Patterson Branch	Prices Creek	South Bend	Terrys Fork
Meeting Days	2 - 4	1 - 3	2 - 4	1, 2, 4	2 - 4	2 - 4	Full
Number Baptized	5	1	0	2	2	1	0
Added Otherwise	2	2	0	0	0	1	0
Excluded	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Dismissed	3	0	0	0	1	0	0
Deaths	0	0	1	1	0	0	3
Communion Services	4	1	1	1	2	1	1
Number in Sunday School	35	80	33	50	50	65	50
Total Membership	62	137	45	87	80	97	77
Times Pastor Present	30	23	23	34	24	23	Full
Minute Fund	15.00	20.00	15.00	10.00	23.24	28.00	20.00
Paid Pastor	361.16	663.80	408.36	784.41	748.27	335.13	1326.56
Paid for Revivals	154.00	126.77	79.81	336.10	80.00	50.00	30.00
Foreign Missions	74.00	109.87	128.01	434.90	559.00	207.44	373.00
Home for Aged	27.00	275.00	90.67	130.50	45.48	126.89	84.00
Poor and Sick	0	175.00	25.00	70.00	179.76	27.96	65.15
Monthly Missions Pledge	0	4.00	3.00	0	29.00	17.20	0
Value Church Property	10,500	10,500	7,250	3,236	7,676	7,140	10,250
Improvements	0	0	250.00	600.00	124.00	696.00	50.00
Disabled Ministers' Fund	0	50.00	0	10.00	52.74	0	10.00
Visiting Ministers	68.40	101.02	25.00	55.57	69.50	0	158.00
Lord's Acre Receipts	0	60.75	0	0	0	0	0
Sunday School and Local Church Operating Expense	225.00	358.21	323.27	157.44	316.13	248.06	205.00
Paid for Bible School	0	47.19	45.00	0	75.00	55.00	55.00
Paid to Cross Beams	105.00	26.00	0	280.80	898.00	91.00	

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

<u>Church and Pastor</u>	<u>Clerk and Address</u>	<u>Aged Home 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 Charlie Miller	Mrs. Joe Woody Route 1 Burnsville, N. C.	Earl Fox	Earl Fox
Mine Fork Charlie Miller	Mr. Bruce Laws Burnsville North Carolina	Carmon Laws	Hubert Freeman
Patterson Branch Frances Radford	Mrs. Burdette Deyton Route 1, Box 98 Burnsville, N. C.		
South Bend Charlie Miller Co-Pastor - Vinita Deyton	Mrs. Gene Thomas Route 2 Green Mountain, N. C.	Luther Renfro	Levi Deyton
Prices Creek Cassie Thomas	Mrs. D. Z. Thomas Route 3, Box 263A Burnsville, N. C.	Moscoe Towe	James Burleson
Terrys Fork Joint Pastors: Frances Radford Clarence Wheeler	Miss Judy Metcalf 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 I

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

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 deliberations 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.

ARTICLE 22

(Added as an amendment to ARTICLE 14)

Every minister coming from another Conference to seek membership in our body must bring with him a letter of recommendation from the Conference he is leaving.

BYLAWS 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 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 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

Saviour 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 Missions 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
\$ _____ . Paid for Bible School \$ _____ .
Paid to Cross Beams Radio Ministry _____ .
We believe our general spiritual condition as compared with a
year ago is _____

Pastor this year _____

Pastor-elect _____

Clerk _____

Address _____

Steward _____

