

46th OHIO STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

On June 22, 1984, at 9:30 A.M. the 46th annual Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists opened at Heritage Temple Free Will Baptist Church, Columbus, Ohio. The meeting was opened by the congregation singing "Love Lifted Me," followed by scripture reading from Nehemiah 4:19-20 by the State Clerk, Wayne Frost. Assistant Moderator, Howard Kimble, then led in prayer. The Clerk then called the Association into order and introduced the Moderator, Wendell Combs.

Moderator then proceeded to seat the delegates in the center section of the church.

Moderator then introduced the Host Pastor, David Boggs. Pastor Boggs welcomed the Association to Columbus and placed himself and the facilities at the Association's disposal.

Moderator then gave the Moderator's message from II Corinthians 13:5 and I John 5:4, "Examining Your Self."

Visiting messengers from other bodies were then welcomed by singing "Amazing Grace," and extending the right hand of fellowship. Visitors were: Billy Sams and Dave Parson, West Virginia; Tim York, James Hayes, Kentucky; Clyde Eldridge, Mississippi; <sup>Carl</sup> Marvin Vallance, Don Sexton, Connie Cariker, Jim Vallance, Fred Green, Frank Breeden, Tennessee; Edwin Wade, Oklahoma.

Report of General Board (Item 1) was read by the Clerk. Motion to accept report by Clarence Newman, second and passed.

Report of Board of Directors (Item 2) was given by Hobert Ashby praising Alton Loveless for his 10 years of service to Ohio Free Will Baptists. Board made the following recommendations: 1. State Association approve the possibility of purchasing land to build a State Office and Book Store complex or property already built suitable for same. 2. That Board of Directors be trustees for the property. 3. That the Promotional Secretary be delegated the responsibility of raising funds for an initial investment. 4. That no property be purchased without the approval of the General Board in special session or this Convention in regular session.

Motion by Roy Hutchinson to accept the recommendations and proceed, second and passed.

Alton Loveless gave <sup>an</sup> detailed report of the State Office (Item 3) titled "A Decade of Progress." In 1974 Brother Loveless started with 1 fulltime employee, \$2,500.00 and a ~~three~~ <sup>one</sup> room bookstore (480 square feet) with the help of ~~three~~ <sup>four</sup> publishing companies: Moody Press, Scripture Press, and Zondervan, <sup>and Randall House.</sup> The decade of progress began. Now ten years later Ohio now has five fulltime employees, net worth of \$194,569.00, and a bookstore with 3,600 square feet. Motion to receive Brother Loveless' report, second and passed with a standing vote of approval.

Brother Loveless also read a letter (Item 3a) from Homer Nelson thanking the Association for the plaque given to him last year.

A letter from Cathy Crawford (Item 3b) was also read expressing her thanks to Ohio Free Will Baptists for their prayers and support.

Report of the Free Will Baptist Bible College (Item 4) was given by Frank Breeden detailing the 42 years of the college. Ohio gave \$12,171.14 last year just short of our quota. Motion to accept report by Jim Jewell, second and passed.

Motion to adjourn from business by Clarence Newman, second and passed.

Morning worship offering was \$128.61.

Special music by Bety <sup>†</sup>Ashby, Mark and Myra Leonard, message "Burden of the Work" by Blaine Etterling.

A certificate of appreciation was then awarded to Wayne Frost for serving as State Clerk for the past three years by the moderator on behalf of the State Association.

Afternoon session was opened by singing "He Lives" followed by Lester McMahan giving a devotion "Definition of the Ideal Church" I Corinthians 14:23-25 and Ephesians 3.

Report of the National Executive Office (Item 5) was given by Delmar Sparks expressing thanks to Ohio for their support through the Co-operative Plan. Ohio gave \$18,817.14 last year. 6,000 people registered at the National Association in Columbus last year. Motion to receive report by Charlie Wright, second and passed.

Report of the National Sunday School Department (Item 6) was given by Fred Green

detailing the work of Randall House Book Store. Motion to accept report by Marvin Swayne, second and passed.

Report of the Womans Auxiliary (Item 7) was given by Delois Loveless detailing the work of Ohio women last year. The Auxiliary raised \$8,480.62 for missions, also bought gifts to add to the missionary provision closet totaling \$951.73. Also gave \$312.65 in gifts to the Children's Home. 84 were registered for the State Women's Auxiliary Convention this year. Motion to receive report by Jim Jewell, second and passed.

Nominating Committee Chairman, Clarence Newman, asked Convention to approve someone to take the place of John King for this session. Motion by Mike Stokes to have Mike Mounts to fill in for John King this session. Second and passed.

Report of Hillsdale Free Will Baptist Bible College (Item 8) was given by <sup>President</sup> Edwin Wade expressing their thanks for Ohio's support and the warm reception given to the evangelistic team that was here in March. Plans are now underway to build a new library and class room building. Hillsdale now has 175 enrolled. Motion to accept report by Charlie Wright, second and passed.

Report of Hamilton Mission work given by Tom Dooley. Tom assumed the work in January of this year and the work is progressing. Tom expressed his thanks to everyone who is supporting the work in Hamilton. August 30 is workshop. Motion to accept report by Marvin Swayne, second and passed.

Report of the National Home Missions (Item 8) was given by Connie Cariker detailing the work of home missions. 58 missionaries on the field now. Ohio gave \$61,567.69 which was \$16,567.79 over our quota. Brother Cariker asked Ohio to continue their support as in the past. Motion to accept report by Joel Ragger, second and passed.

Report of Free Will Baptist Radio and Television Commission given by Brother Vallance (Item 9). Now have a pilot radio program ready for the 85 Convention with Tom Malone from First Free Will Baptist Church in Florence, Alabama.

Report of Masters Men (Item 10) given by Jim Vallance. Now have three chapters in Ohio and 30 to 50 thousand men involved in Masters Men work nationally.

84 theme is "Sharing the Load" and the project is to raise \$8,000.00 to build Metcalf Memorial Dormitory at Free Will Baptist College.

Report of messengers sent to other Associations last year. Charlie Wright reported on the Kentucky Association that met in Marion, Ohio, this year. Kentucky Association churches discussed adopting the Co-op Plan of giving. Motion to accept report by Blaine Etterling, second and passed.

Appointment of messengers to other Associations. Charlie Wright to the Kentucky Association and John <sup>Jeffries</sup> ~~Jeffers~~ to the West Virginia Association.

Report of the National Foreign Missions (Item 11) given by Alton Loveless in the place of Don Sexton detailing the work of Foreign Missions the past year. Ohio gave \$106,630.00 for the work of Christ thru missions. Over 200,000 people were reached with the Gospel in the Ivory Coast because Ohioians cared enough to give. Motion to accept report by Alton Loveless, second and passed.

Motion to adjourn by Clarence Newman, second and passed.

#### Friday, P.M. Service.

CTS Youth competitive activities awards were presented to the division winners by <sup>Director</sup> Doug Worley.

A plaque was given to Rev. and Mrs. Alton Loveless for the work they have done for Ohio Free Will Baptists the past ten years.

A plaque was given to Carl Dunn for his work with Ohio youth.

Attendance was 650, offering \$300.07. Special music by Southern Ohio mass choir. Message, "Obstacles of the Work" by Connie Cariker.

#### Saturday service

Session opened by singing, "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder" followed by prayer.

Roy Hutchinson gave a devotional, "How to Reach the Goal of the Ideal Church,"

I Peter 1:22-23.

Report of State Home Missions (Item 12) was given by Paul Collins. Had to replace two missionaries the past year. Now have Tom Dooley in Hamilton, Willie Booth in Lancaster. Brother Collins asked that all funds for missionaries be channeled through the Home Mission Board so that they can keep the accounts of each one current.

Willie Booth gave a report of the mission work in Lancaster. The work is growing and they have now purchased a home with four acres that they are remodeling to meet their needs. Now have an average of 47 in attendance. Motion to accept reports by Jim Jewell, second and passed.

Report of CTS Board (Item 13) given by Doug Worley. Four people resigned from the CTS Board this past year because of other works. Had three state wide youth rallies with each a big success. Motion to accept report by Carl Dunn, second and passed.

Report of Evangelism Today given by Tim York now have 3 radio broadcast, a bi-monthly publication and an active evangelistic outreach to win souls to Christ. Motion to accept report by Tim Baldwin, second and passed.

Report of the Youth for Christ Camp in Hillsboro, Ohio, was given by Gregg McCarty to let Ohio know we have a camp available for their use. Three camping sessions are planned for this year and the camp can be rented out to any church or youth group. Motion to accept report Marvin Swayne, second and passed.

Report of the Obituary Committee (Item 14) was read by the clerk. Committee asked the Association to stand in a moment of silent prayer for the following: Russell Fike, Akron FWB; Grace McCoy, First FWB, Austintown; Gary James, Heritage Temple; Elise Shires, Mable Jackson, Urbana FWB; Roy Hiles, Porter FWB; Delbert Simpson, Porter FWB; Tom Moore, Woodstock FWB; Charles Jones, Marysville FWB; John Boyd. Motion to adopt report by Oscar Baldwin, second and passed.

Report of the Appreciation Committee (Item 15) was read by the clerk thanking Heritage Temple for the use of their facilities, all officers, organist, pianist, songleader, speakers, singers, and all who made this Association possible. Motion to accept report by Jim Jewell, second and passed.

Report of the Resolution Committee (Item 16) was read by the clerk. Resolved that we reaffirm our stand against abortion, homosexuality, and all sins that cause God to turn His face from a nation. Psalm 9:17.

Resolve that we stand and join hands to form a circle and ask God to use us as one to bring about revival to our churches, community, and our nation. Motion to accept report and adopt by Willie Booth, second and passed.

Report of the Business Committee (Item 17) was read by the clerk suggesting that each local church donate \$100.00 towards the purchase of land for State Office and bookstore.

Suggest that each local church participate in the roll call Sunday and work towards a 15% increase. Motion to accept report by Clifford Ball, second and passed.

Roger Childers introduced an item of business from the floor. (Item 18) Motion to change Article IV Section 1. The article should read that the clerk may succeed himself as often as this body shall desire. Second by Jerry Neer. Motion was made by John Jeffries to table the motion, second and failed. Vote on original motion passed. Motion made by Clarence Newman that Article 9 Section 2 shall read that changes must be in writing and be tabled until the next business session of this Association. Second by James Blair and failed.

Report of the Nominating Committee (Item 19) was ready by the clerk. Nominations were as follows: Moderator, Robert Prichard declined, Wendell Combs nominated from floor, Assistant Moderator, Delmar Sparks; Clerk - Mike Stokes declined, Wayne Frost nominated from floor, Assistant Clerk, Wayne Frost declined, Mike Stokes nominated from floor, General Board, two year term. Members: Southern Ohio-Delmar Marks (85); Waynesburg-Rosco Adkins, Trinity-Oscar Baldwin, South Central-Robert Maynard, Porter-Floyd Estep, Pine Creek-Blaine Etterling, Northeastern-Cecil Jessie, Meigs-W. E. Curfman. Board of Directors: seven year term. Roger Childers to fulfill term of Delmar Sparks (87), Hobert Ashby nominated from floor. State Home Missions: Paul Collins (91), to fulfill term of James Blair (90) Dana Booth. CTS Board: Marty Bussey (91), to fulfill term of Carl Dunn (89) Bill Thompson, to fulfill term of

Bobby Blackburn (88) Mark Leonard, to fulfill term of Gene Peak (87) Marvin Swayne. Nominating Committee-three year term: Mike Mounts (87). National General Board Member: 1 year, Delmar Sparks. Executive Committee members: Fred Dutton, Edwin Hayes, Oscar Baldwin, Don Hix. "Note" (Fred Dutton was elected to serve as General Board Member by the Cuyahoga-Lorain Conference to replace Alex Sexulich (85). Fred is also a member of the Board of Directors and cannot serve both. He will inform the Conference next time they meet and elect someone to replace him on the General Board and Executive Committee upon approval of the General Board).

Report of Delegates sent to the National Association in Columbus, Ohio, given by Van Meadows. Motion to accept report by Van, second and passed.

Appointment of delegates to National Association in Little Rock, Arkansas was Van Meadows, Jerry Neer, Jean Blair, Meriel Dempsey, Terida Dunn.

Motion to adjourn till next year by Van Meadows, second and passed.

Saturday worship offering \$79.20. Special music by Heritage Men's Quartet, message, "Revival of the Work," Edwin Hayes.

Adjourned.