

MINUTES

54th. ANNUAL SESSION OF THE STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST

Mike Stokes, clerk

The 54th. annual session of the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptist met June 26-27, 1992 at Heritage Free Will Baptist Church, Columbus, Ohio. The theme of the convention was "Presenting Christ to a Lost World." Richard Davis served as song leader with Myra Leonard at the piano.

FRIDAY MORNING

The meeting was opened by the congregation singing, "Victory in Jesus."

Clerk Mike Stokes called the meeting into official session and introduced the moderator Edwin Hayes.

The moderator introduced the pastor of Heritage Temple, Dr. Billy Sharpston, who welcomed the association to Columbus, and to Heritage Temple.

Rev. Franklin Harnice was called on to lead in prayer for the meeting.

The moderator's message to the association was taken from 2 Kings 20:14-15 His thoughts centered around the question of, what the world needs to see in our house of worship, and his conclusion was, they need to see what God wants them to see.

The clerk then informed the association that all credentials were in order and the moderator proceeded to seat the voting delegates in the center aisles.

The clerk was called on to give the General Board report. Item #1 Board members present 12, absent 6. The board voted on and approved David McGowan as proxy for Jerry McArthur from Tri-State. Item #2 The Executive Committee report was given by the clerk. Item #3 The Board of Directors report was given by chairman Forest Chamberlin. Brother Chamberlin informed the board that David Boggs and Robert Legg has resigned as members of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors recommends that the report and projected budget of the Ambassador Bible Book Store and State Office be adopted. Item #4 The Executive Secretary report was given by Alton Loveless. The General Board recommends that the report and projected budget of the Ambassador Bible Book Store and State Office be adopted. Item #5 There was a lengthy discussion concerning our method of financing the ministries of our state work. The General Board recommends to the State Association that the Board of Directors study this matter and make recommendations next year of a more efficient method of supporting our ministries. Item #6 The CTS report was given by Manuel Lopes. Item #7 The Ohio Mission Board report was given by Roy Hutchinson.

Item #8 Moderator Hayes introduced the Capitol Stewardship Campaign designed to liquidate the \$1.475 million debt of the National Office building in Nashville. The goal set for Ohio is \$5.00 per member over a three year period. Item #9 The moderator then appointed the chairmen of committees as follows: David McGowan, Resolution; Roy Hutchinson, Appreciation; Delmar Sparks, Business; John Jeffrey, Obituary. A motion carried to receive the General Board report.

The moderator then completed the appointment of committee members to serve during the convention. Those appointed to the Business committee were Bill Hayes and Billy Sharpston. The Resolution committee consisted of Don Hix and Manuel Lopes. Appointed to the Obituary committee were John Jeffrey and Roger Childers. Those serving on the Appreciation committee were Phil Dillon and Hansford Reed. The moderator appointed Bill Chadwick and Forest Chamberlin to fill vacancies on the Nominating committee for this year.

The moderator called for congregational singing while the convention welcomed Bob Shockey, Eugene Waddell, Stewart Snow, Roger Reed, and Danny Baer who were visiting with us.

Moderator Hayes then called for reports from various state and national departments.

Forest Chamberlin gave a report of the Board of Directors. A motion carried to receive this report.

Alton Loveless gave a detailed report of the State Office and Book Store. A motion carried to receive this report and to adopt the projected budget. There was a motion and second to have the congregation stand as an expression of appreciation to Brother Loveless. Carried.

Manuel Lopes gave the CTS report. A motion carried to receive this report.

There was a motion and second to adjourn from business until the afternoon session. Carried.

Richard Davis led the congregation in singing to begin the worship service.

An offering of \$169.00 was received from the congregation.

Special singing by Jerry Newman.

Rev. Robert Mead, pastor of the Forest Valley Free Will Baptist Church, Springfield, Ohio, was introduced to bring the message. His subject was "Sir's We Would See Jesus - In His Teaching."

A motion carried to recess the Friday morning session for lunch.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Melvin Worthington led the congregation in singing to begin the afternoon session. Bruce Beal read John 20:21 for devotional thoughts and led in prayer.

Moderator Edwin Hayes then introduced Melvin Worthington to give a report of the National Executive Office. A motion carried to receive this report.

The moderator then called on the clerk to read item #8 of the General Board report. There was a motion and second to adopt. After discussion the motion carried.

Roy Hutchinson gave the report of the Ohio Mission Board. Missionaries Roy Roach, Zanesville; Willie Booth, Lancaster; David McGowan, Hamilton each gave a report of their work. The Home Mission Board introduced "The 2250 Plan" a plan designed to make our three mission works in Ohio debt free. The plan calls for 2250 individuals to give a one time gift of \$100.00. A motion carried to receive these reports and to adopt the projected budget. Another motion carried to adopt the proposed plan.

Bob Shockey, Director of Public Relations for the Free Will Baptist Bible College gave a report. Brother Shockey expressed appreciation to Ohio Free Will Baptist for the financial support and for the 18 students enrolled at the college for 1991 - 92. A motion carried to receive this report.

Bill Kramer gave a report of "Youth For Christ Camp." The camp is owned and operated by First Dayton Free Will Baptist Church, and is located near Hillsboro, Ohio. A motion carried to receive this report.

Roger Reed gave a report of the National Sunday School and Church Training Department. A motion carried to receive this report.

Danny Baer gave a report of Southeastern Free Will Baptist College. A motion carried to receive this report.

Martha Bussey was introduced to give the Ohio Woman's Auxiliary report. Sister Bussey reported that the state project for 1992 - 93 is \$14,000.00 to be divided by our three home missionaries, and Foreign Missionaries Cathy Crawford, France, and Paul Gentuso, Ivory Coast. A motion carried to receive this report.

The moderator then appointed Bill Hayes as a corresponding messenger to the Kentucky State Association.

Director Eugene Waddell gave a report of the National Foreign Mission Department. A motion carried to receive this report.

Moderator Hayes then called on the clerk to read item #5 of the General Board report, which was adopted.

Delegate A.J. Dooley gave a report of the National Association meeting. A motion carried to receive this report.

Moderator Hayes then appointed delegates to the National Association meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana, July 19-23. This will be the first time that the National Association has met in Indiana. Delegates appointed were: A.J. Dooley, Evelyn Chamberlin, Rose Ferguson, Doris Ball, Geraldine Beal.

A motion carried to adjourn from business until Saturday morning.

FRIDAY EVENING SERVICE

Richard Davis led the congregation in singing "How Great Thou Art."

Delmar Sparks welcomed the congregation and led in prayer.

Manuel Lopes then presented CTS awards to division winners who will represent Ohio in national competition.

Special music and singing by Ken Fitzpatrick, the Heritage boys, and the Bloom Church choir under the direction of Mark Harney.

An offering of \$369.87 was received from the congregation.

Rev. Eugene Waddell was introduced to bring the message. His subject was "Sir's We Would See Jesus-In His Works."

SATURDAY MORNING

At 9:30 A.M. Richard Davis led the congregation in singing, "Holy, Holy, Holy." David Phillips read Romans 3:30 and brought devotional thoughts. Moderator Hayes then called on Redford Meadows to lead in prayer.

The moderator then introduced Roger Hood to give a report of the Free Will Baptist Home for Children located in Greenville, Tennessee. Brother Hood reported that the home has received approval to care for 45 children, this is up from 32 a year ago. They are seeking approval to care for 54 children by next year. A motion carried to receive this report.

Committee reports were then called for. Business: The committee recommends that the Friday morning and Saturday morning offerings be given to the account of Cathy Crawford. An amendment to the motion divided the amount into monthly gifts to Cathys account. A motion carried to receive this report. The amendment carried also.

Resolution: Two resolutions were presented. #1 Whereas there is a continual erosion of our christian heritage in our country and especially in our public school system-Be it resolved that we the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptist are opposed to the recent Supreme Court ruling banning prayer from graduation ceremonies in our nation's schools. #2 Whereas Article 6, Item 6 of our Ohio State Association Constitution and By-Laws states that, "Any member of the standing board of the State Association who does not put forth any interest in or function on said board for the period of one year, shall have his office declared vacant and a new member be elected by this Association to fill his unexpired term of office." Be it therefore resolved we reaffirm our position that all members who take a position on such boards participate fully in the support and efforts of the State Association. A motion carried to receive this report. A motion to amend Resolution #1 to send a letter to the Supreme Court of the United States was carried.

Obituary: Since we last met in June of 1991, the following fellow believers have gone to be with the Lord: Danette Dunham, Sadie Riggs, Richard Porch, Frank Turner, Sam Powers, Mertie Conley, Dorothy Scaggs, Stella Sparks, Emogene Boggs, Ed Bishop, Garnet Moore, Rev. Homer Harris, Sybil Wills, Tina Nelson. A motion carried which ask the association to stand in a moment of silence to remember these who have gone to be with the Lord, followed by a prayer.

Appreciation: The Heritage Temple Church for their warm welcome and the use of their facilities. All those involved in preparing the convention the State Office, preachers, committees, boards, speakers, singers, and musicians. The committee ask for a standing vote of appreciation. Granted.

Nominating Committee: Moderator, Edwin Hayes elected; Assistant Moderator, Robert Prichard elected; Clerk, Mike Stokes elected; Assistant Clerk, Oziel Jeffries elected; General Board, Hansford Reed, Waynesburg, elected; Densil Wright, Trinity, elected; Wendell Combs, South Central, elected; Dan King, Porter, elected; Redford Meadows, Pine Creek, elected; Merlin Teets, Meigs, elected; Andrew Parsons, Gallia, elected; Willie Booth, Cornerstone, elected; James Webb, North and Western, elected; Board of Directors, Forest Chamberlin elected; Billy Sharpston to fill an unexpired term of David Boggs, elected; Wayne Keeth to fill an unexpired term of Robert Legg, elected;

State CTS Board, John Beverly elected; State Mission Board, Roy Hutchinson elected; Nominating Committee, Bill Chadwick elected; National General Board Member, Delmar Sparks elected; Executive Committee, David McGowan, Forest Dyer, Delmar Sparks, Din Hix, elected.

Clerk Mike Stokes then read the report which be sent to the National Association meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana, July 19-23.

A motion carried to adjourn from business.

Assistant Moderator Robert Prichard led the worship service.

An offering of \$227.00 was received from the congregation.

Special singing by the Central Ohio Mass Choir.

Rev. Bill Chadwich was introduced to bring the message. His subject was, "Sir's We Would See Jesus-In His People." Benediction.