

MINUTES OF THE 58TH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE OHIO STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

The 58th annual session of the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists met June 21-22, 1996 at Heritage Temple Free Will Baptist Church, Columbus, Ohio. The theme for the convention was "**PRAYER-OUR GREATEST NEED.**" Tom Damron served as song leader with Donna Dean at the piano and Dione Smart at the organ.

FRIDAY MORNING

Clerk Mike Stokes called the meeting in official session and introduced the Moderator Robert Prichard.

The Moderator introduced Dr. Billy Sharpston, pastor of Heritage Temple Free Will Baptist Church, who welcomed the Association to Heritage Temple and to Columbus.

The Moderator then called for a moment of silence to remember Phil Wiley who had recently passed away followed by prayer.

The Moderators message was taken from John 4:19-26. His theme was "**WE KNOW WHAT WE WORSHIP.**"

The Clerk was then called upon to give the General Board Report. **Item #1** Board members present 14, absent 6. **Item #2** The board voted on and approved Jim McComas as proxy for Bruce Beal of Great Lakes, and David Phillips as proxy for Roland Luthy of Tri-State. **Item #3** The Executive Committee Report was given by the Clerk which was voted on and approved. **Item #4** the General Board recommends that the recently formed Southern Ohio Conference be accepted in to the Ohio State Association. **Item #5** The Ohio Mission Board Report was given by Chairman Roy Hutchinson. The General Board recommends that the report and projected budget be adopted. **Item #6** The CTS Report was given by Manuel Lopes which was voted on and received. **Item #7** The Board of Directors report was given by Billy Sharpston which was voted on and received. **Item #8** The Executive Secretary's Report was given by Edwin Hayes. Bookstore Manager Jeff Dunn reported on the progress of the Ambassador Bookstore and gave a presentation of the proposed remodeling. The General Board recommends that each report and the projected budgets be adopted. **Item #9** The Moderator then appointed the Chairmen of Committees as follows: Obituary, *David Phillips*; Resolution, *Blaine Etterling*; Appreciation, *Desil Wright*. The General Board report was voted on and received. Item #4 of the General Board report was voted on and the Southern Ohio Conference was received into the Ohio State Association. Then all voting delegates were seated in the center aisle.

The Moderator then completed the appointment of committee members to serve during the convention. Those appointed to the **Obituary Committee** were *Willie Booth* and *Millard Gibson*. The **Resolution Committee** consisted of *Dan King* and *Paul Etterling*. Those serving on the **Appreciation Committee** were *Jim Blankenship* and *Robert Bryant*.

Moderator Robert Prichard then called for music while the convention welcomed visitors and corresponding messengers.

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

The **STATE HOME MISSION** Board report was given by Roy Hutchinson. The Taefa Talo Teo families were honored for their work in the Zanesville Church. Special thanks were given to three church for their support of Home Missions: First place, Westerville Free Will Baptist Church, Rev. Mike Mounts, pastor; Second place, Dailyville Free Will Baptist Church, Rev. Carl Dunn, pastor; third place, Gahanna Free Will Baptist Church, Rev. Curtis Booth, pastor. A motion carried to receive this report.

Alton Loveless gave a report of the **NATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL AND RANDALL HOUSE.** A motion carried to receive this report.

Fred Warner gave a report of the **NATIONAL FOREIGN MISSION DEPARTMENT.** A motion carried to receive this report.

There was a motion and second to adjourn from business for worship which carried.

Assistant Moderator Mike Mounts led the congregation in worship. Tom Damron provided the special singing.

An offering of \$171.00 was received from the congregation.

Rev. Freddy Dutton, pastor of the Westside church was introduced to bring the message. His subject was "**THE PASSION OF PRAYER.**"

Following the message the convention recessed for lunch.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

At 1:00 PM Tom Damron led the congregation in singing.

Paul Etterling gave devotional thoughts from Acts 4:31-33.

The **BOARD OF DIRECTORS** Report was given by Billy Sharpston. A motion carried to receive this report.

PROMOTIONAL SECRETARY Edwin Hayes was recognized to give a report of the State Office. Jeff Dunn gave a report of the Ambassador Bookstore and a presentation of proposed remodeling of the Bookstore. A motion carried to receive these reports and to adopt the projected budgets.

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

Sandy Mounts gave a report of the **OHIO WOMAN'S AUXILIARY**. The theme for this year was "**WITNESSING, HOLD THE LIGHT HIGH.**" Special guest missionaries were Marcie and Walter Ellison, missionaries to Uruguay. the State project for 1995/96 which was \$14,000.00 was exceeded by \$581.15. The project for 1996/97 is \$18,000.00. A motion carried to receive this report.

The Moderator then appointed delegates to the National Association meeting in Fort Worth, Texas in July. Those appointed were *A.J. Dooley, Geraldene Beal, Pam Luthy, Tom Chaffin, and Ollie Newman.*

Tim Cambell gave a report of **FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE**. A motion carried to receive this report.

Richard Adams gave a report of the **NATIONAL HOME MISSION DEPARTMENT**. A motion carried to receive this report.

Roger Hood gave a report of the **CHILDRENS HOME** located in Greenville, Tennessee. A motion and second was defeated to petition for a seat on the Board of Trustees of the Children's Home. A motion carried to receive Brother Hood's report.

A motion carried to adjourn from business until Saturday morning.

FRIDAY EVENING

Tom Damron led the congregation in singing. John Jeffrey led in prayer.

Forest Dyer welcomed the congregation and introduced Manuel Lopes to present CTS awards to division winners who will represent Ohio in national competition.

Special music was provided by Jason Weaver of New Hope Church; the Representatives from Canaan Church, and Melissa Keith of Mansfield Church.

An offering of \$2,306.92 was received from the congregation. Various churches sent a special offering previous to the state meeting total of \$5,280.40.

Rev. Fred Warner was introduced to bring the message. His subject was, "**THE PRACTICE OF PRAYER.**"

Following the service there were activities for the young people in the church annex and an open house at the Ambassador Bookstore.

SATURDAY MORNING

At 9:30 AM Tom Damron led the congregation in singing. Wiley Perkins gave devotional thoughts on the subject of prayer. Moderator Robert Prichard offered a prayer.

Manuel Lopes was introduced to give the **STATE CTS** Report. A motion carried to receive this report.

Jack Lassiter gave a report of **SOUTHEASTERN BIBLE COLLEGE**. A motion carried to receive this report.

Melvin Worthington gave a report of the **NATIONAL EXECUTIVE OFFICE**. A motion carried to receive this report.

Committee reports were then called for.

OBITUARY; Since we last met in June 1995, the following believers have gone to be with the Lord: *Henry Bates, Gerstel Dickenson, Allen Williams Jr., Chalmer Smith, Robert Hollingshead, Rev. Wallace Jackson, Rev. Louis Bartrum, Charles Ward, Cecil Butts, Julia Stallard, Callie Moore, Manie Wayan, Michael Watson, Rev. Franklyn Harness, Betty Hamilton, Jack Cruse, Samuel Pennington, Lucille Cain, Mary Arrick, Clara Etterling, Jeff Clements, Phillip Wiley, and Billy Keyes.*

A motion carried which asked for the congregation to stand in a moment of silence to remember these who have gone to be with the Lord followed by prayer offered by Edwin Hayes.

APPRECIATION: Special thanks to Heritage Temple Free Will Baptist Church for the use of their facilities, the Moderator, all special singers and musicians, the song leader, speakers, boards, committees, Edwin Hayes and his staff and all who made the convention a success. There was a motion and second which asked for a standing vote of appreciation, which was granted.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Moderator, *Robert Prichard* elected; Assistant Moderator, *Mike Mounts* elected; Clerk, *Mike Stokes* elected; Assistant Clerk, *Bruce Beal* elected; General Board, Lawrence, *John Haney Sr.* elected; Trinity, *Densil Wright* elected; South Central, *Mark Bailey* elected; Porter, *Dan King* elected; Pine Creek, *Redford Meadows* elected; Meigs, *Earnest Phillips* elected; Gallia, *Andrew Parsons* elected; Cornerstone, *Blaine Etterling* elected; North and Western, *James Webb* elected; Southern Ohio, *Danny Boggs* elected; Great Lakes, *Jim McComas* elected; Board of Directors, *Wayne Keith* elected, 2003; Nominating Committee, *Paul Keener* elected, 1999; Sate Mission Board, *Garland Roberts* elected, 2003; CTS Board, *Jerry Sargent* elected, 2003; National General board Member, *Delmar Sparks* elected, 1998; Executive committee, *Forest Dyer, Delmar Sparks, Dan King, and Freddy Dutton* elected.

Clerk Mike Stokes then read the report which will be sent to the National Association meeting in Fort Worth, Texas, July 21-25. The report was voted on and approved.

The total registration for this year's convention was 151. A motion carried to adjourn from business.

Assistant Moderator Mike Mounts led the worship service. An offering of \$126.00 was received from the congregation. Special singing was presented by the Maranatha Singers from Central Ohio.

Rev. David Crowe was introduced to bring the message. His subject was **"THE POWER OF PRAYER."** After the message we adjourned with a benediction.

Mike Stokes, Clerk