

MINUTES OF THE 60TH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE OHIO STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

The 60th annual session of the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists met June 26th and 27th, 1998, at Heritage Temple FWB Church in Columbus, Ohio. The theme for the convention was, "EARNESTLY CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH." Jack Born served as song leader with Doris Born at the piano.

FRIDAY MORNING

At 9:30 AM, Clerk Mike Stokes called the meeting into official session and introduced the moderator, Robert Prichard.

The Moderator introduced Dr. Billy Sharpston, pastor of Heritage Temple FWB Church, who welcomed the convention to Heritage Temple and to Columbus.

The Moderator's message to the convention was taken from II Corinthians 5. His theme was, "THE CONSTRAINTS OF LOVE." Brother Prichard then offered a prayer for the convention.

After seating the delegates in the center aisle, the Moderator then called for the General Board Report. **Item #1:** Board members present 14, absent 4. **Item #2:** The Executive Committee Report was given by the clerk, which was voted on and received. **Item #3:** The Executive Committee recommends that the State Association designate a Prayer Committee and a Registration Committee to serve at the State meeting each year. Voted on and approved. **Item #4:** The Central Ohio Conference and the Franklin County Conference recommended that Article 5, Item 2 of our Constitution and by-laws be changed to read, "EACH BOARD OR AGENCY SHALL BE REQUIRED TO PRESENT A PROJECTED BUDGET TO THE STATE ASSOCIATION WHEN IN SESSION. ALL BUDGETS MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE GENERAL BOARD FOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE ASSOCIATION DELEGATES FOR APPROVAL." **Item #5:** Members of the General Board expressed concern about the condition of the grave sight of David Marks, who is buried in Oberlin, OH. The General Board voted to empower the Moderator to appoint Jim McComas to do a comprehensive assessment of the need and cost of this project. **Item #6:** The Ohio Mission Board Report was given by Chairman Roy Hutchinson, which was voted on and received. The General Board recommends that the report and projected budget of the Home Mission Board be adopted. **Item #7:** The CTS Report was given by Manuel Lopes, which was voted on and received. The General Board recommends that the report and projected budget of the CTS Board be adopted. **Item #8:** The Board of Directors Report was given by Roger Childers, which was voted on and received. **Item #9:** The Board of Directors recommends that the following statement be added to Article 5, Section 1 of our Constitution and by-laws, "NO PERSON WHO IS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE STATE ASSOCIATION MAY BE ELECTED TO ANY STANDING BOARD OF THIS BODY." The General Board recommends that this item be adopted. **Item #10:** The State Office Report was given by Edwin Hayes, which was voted on and received. The General Board recommends that the report and projected budget of the State Office be adopted. **Item #11:** Jeff Dunn gave a report of the Ambassador Bible Bookstore, which was voted on and received. The General Board recommends that the report and projected budget of the Ambassador Bible Bookstore be adopted. **Item #12:** The Moderator then appointed the chairman of committees as follows: Resolution-Mark Bailey; Obituary-John Jeffries; Appreciation-Tim Crank. The General Board Report was then voted on and received. Items 4,5,9 of the General Board was then presented to the delegates who adopted each item.

The Moderator then completed the appointment of committee members to serve during the convention. Those appointed to the **Resolution Committee** were Freddy Dutton and Manuel Lopes. The **Obituary Committee** consisted of Blaine Etterling and Grant Cordell. Those serving on the **Appreciation Committee** were Forest Dyer and Taefo Talu Teo.

The Moderator then recognized Alton Loveless who gave a report of the **National Sunday School and Randall House**. A motion carried to receive this report.

The State Home Mission Board report was given by Chairman Roy Hutchinson. Three churches and ten conferences were recognized for their generous giving to the Home Mission Department. A motion carried to receive this report and to adopt the projected budget.

Bill Evans gave a report of the National Board of Retirement and the Free Will Baptist Foundation. A motion carried to receive this report.

Moderator Robert Prichard then called for music while the convention welcomed visitors and corresponding messengers. Visitors included James Kilgore, Eddie Payne, Roger Bennett, Jim Cox, and Tim Campbell.

The Moderator then entertained a motion and second to adjourn from business for worship which carried.

Assistant Moderator Mike Mounts led the congregation in worship. The Lordsmen Quartet from Campbell Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Ironton, OH, provided the special singing.

An offering of \$254.46 was received from the congregation.

Rev. Brian Phillips, pastor of Wyandotte Free Will Baptist Church, Mansfield, OH, was introduced to bring the message. His subject was, "Discerning the Times in Which We Live." The convention then recessed for lunch.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

At 1:30 PM, Jack Born led the congregation in singing. Mark Bailey gave devotional thoughts and offered prayer.

Manuel Lopes gave a report of the State CTS Department. A motion carried to receive this report and to adopt the budget.

The **Board of Directors Report** was given by Roger Childers, which was voted on and received.

Edwin Hayes gave a report of the **State Office**. A motion carried to receive this report and to adopt the projected budget. There was discussion on the floor concerning the feasibility of resuming monthly publication of the Ambassador Magazine. It was decided that Brother Hayes would study this possibility of monthly publication and report to the Board of Directors.

Jeff Dunn gave a report of the **Ambassador Bible Bookstore**. A motion carried to receive this report and to adopt the projected budget.

Sandy Mounts gave a report of the **Ohio Woman's Auxiliary**. The theme for this year was, "LIVING SACRIFICES." Special guest speaker was Eddie Payne. The 1998-99 state project is to raise \$10,500.00. A motion carried to receive this report.

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

Jim Cox gave a report of **Free Will Baptist Bible College**. A motion carried to receive this report.

Eddie Payne gave a report of the **National Foreign Mission Department**. A motion carried to receive this report.

James Kilgore gave a report of the **Children's Home in Greenville, TN**. A motion carried to receive this report.

Roger Bennett gave a report of the **Children's Home in Alabama**. A motion carried to receive this report.

The convention then adjourned from business until Saturday morning.

FRIDAY EVENING

Jack Born led the congregation in singing. Mike Mounts gave a welcome and called for singing and fellowship.

Manuel Lopes was then introduced to present the CTS awards to division winners who will represent Ohio in national competition.

An offering of \$7,533.21 was received from the congregation.

Special music was provided by the Free Will Baptist Bible College Quartet, Matt Thornburg, Urbana Free Will Baptist Church, Harrison Choir, Minford, OH.

Rev. Calvin Evans, founder of Evangelistic Outreach, Pedro, OH, was introduced to bring the message. His subject was, "**Declaring the Faith We Preach.**"

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 James Webb gave devotional thoughts and offered prayer.

Moderator Robert Prichard then recognized Tom Dooley, designated director of the **National Masters Men Department**. 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.

Committee reports were then called for.

Obituary: Since we last met in June of 1997, the following fellow believers have gone to be with the Lord: Hobert Ashby, Pearl Dutiel, Eugene Roof, Elmer Loop, Margaret Jones, Hester Pinson, Roy Chamberlin, Charles Harrison, Lola Meyerring, Caroline Felton, Phyllis Maggard, Gladys Monday, Maxine Rogers, Lois Sikora, Walter Erndt, Lucy Workman, Pauline Willis, Mamie Jewell, Millie Johnson, Lou Hackworth, Ed Dingey, Fern Calliccoat, Henry Smith, Harold Oman, Velvia Stevens, Charles Moore, Earl Elliott, Howard K. Smith, Charles Reed, Elbert Davis, Argielly Vanover, Charles Stidham, William Sparks, Bethel Mullins, Dorothy Etterling, Lena Graff, Kathleen Conkey, Ruffus Dryden, Zelda Bryant, Harold Bryant, Buddy Manson, Jim Salyers, Goldie Downing, Ernest Phillips, Mike Akers, Les Gannon, Minnie Bussa, Ray Bowers, and Jack Berry. A motion carried which asked for a moment of silence to remember those who have gone on to be with the Lord followed by Lester McMahan offering prayer.

Appreciation: Special thanks to Heritage Temple Free Will Baptist Church and Pastor Sharpston for the warm welcome and the use of their facilities, the Moderator Robert Prichard, Assistant Moderator Mike Mounts, Clerk Mike Stokes, Assistant Clerk Bruce Beal, for song leader Jack Born, for pianist Doris Born, all special singers, speakers, boards, committees, Edwin Hayes and his staff. There was a motion, 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, North and Western*, Dave Trustee-elected; *South Central*, Mark Bailey-elected; *Porter*, Dan King-elected; *Pine Creek*, Redford Meadows, elected; *Meigs*, Charles Hively-elected; *Gallia*, Andrew Parsons, elected; *Cornerstone*, Blaine Etterling, elected; *Southern Ohio*, Danny Boggs, elected; *Trinity*, Densil Wright-elected; *Executive Committee*, Kenneth Frisbee, Dan King, Fred Dutton, Tim Crank-elected; *Board of Directors*, Don Hix-elected, *CTS Board*, Mark Price-elected; *State Mission Board*, Forest Dyer-elected; *Nominating Committee*, Bill Chadwick-elected; John Wallace was elected to the *General Board* to replace Forest Dyer; Billy Sharpston was elected to the *Board of Directors* to complete the term of Carl Dunn which expires in 2000; Cecil Farmer was elected to the *CTS Board* to complete the term of Chuck Stewart which ends in 1999.

The clerk then read the report, which will be sent to the National Association meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in July. The report was voted on and approved.

A motion carried to adjourn from business.

Assistant Moderator Mike Mounts led the worship service.

An offering of \$146.50 was received from the congregation. Total offerings and gifts from various churches to the convention was \$7,934.17.

Special singing was by Jack Born with Doris Born at the piano.

Rev. Bill Hayes, pastor of the Hillview Free Will Baptist Church, Reynoldsburg, OH, was introduced to bring the closing message. His subject was, "**Demonstrating the Faith We Embrace.**" Benediction.

Mike Stokes, Clerk