

MINUTES OF THE 61ST ANNUAL SESSION OF THE OHIO STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

The 61st annual session of the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists met June 25-26, 1999, at Heritage Temple Free Will Baptist Church, Columbus, Ohio. The theme for the convention was, "Valiant For the Truth." 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's message to the convention was taken from Ezekiel 43. His theme was, "THE LAW OF THE HOUSE." Brother Prichard then offered a prayer for the convention.

After seating the voting delegates in the center aisle, the moderator then called for the General Board Report. **Item #1** Board members present 13, absent 6. **Item #2** The Executive Committee Report was given by the clerk, which was voted on and received. **Item #3** The General Board recommends that the State Association request to host the National Association meeting for the year 2009, to be held in Columbus, or Cincinnati, Ohio. **Item #4** The General Board recommends that Ohio churches support the relocation campaign of Free Will Baptist Bible College. **Item #5** The Board of Directors Report was given by Roger Childers. Voted on and received. **Item #6** Edwin Hayes gave a report of the State Office. Voted on and received. The General Board recommends that the report and projected budget of the State Office be adopted. **Item #7** Brother Edwin Hayes gave a report of the Ambassador Bible Bookstore. Voted on and received. The General Board gave a unanimous vote of confidence in Edwin Hayes, the Board of Directors, and the bookstore staff. The General Board recommends that the report and projected budget of Ambassador Bookstore be adopted. **Item #8** The State CTS Report was given by Mark Price. Voted on and received. The General Board recommends that the report and projected budget of the CTS Department be adopted. **Item #9** The State Home Mission Board Report was given by Roy Hutchinson. Voted on and received. The General Board recommends that the report and projected budget of the Home Mission Board be adopted. **Item #10** Jim McComas has assessed the needed repairs of the gravesite of David Marks and has reported that \$300.00 will make the needed repairs. The General Board recommends that the repairs be made and that a memorial service be held at the sight on completion of the repairs. **Item #11** The moderator then appointed the chairman of committees as follows: Resolution-Grant Cordell; Obituary-David Trustee; Appreciation-John Wallace. The General Board Report was then voted on and received. Items 3, 4, 10 of the General Board Report to be presented to the delegates later in the meeting.

After welcoming visitors from other bodies the moderator then completed the appointment of committee members to serve during the convention. Those appointed to the **Appreciation Committee** were Alan Barnes and Mark Bailey. The Obituary Committee consisted of Eugene Webb and Mark Leonard. Serving on the Resolution Committee were Herb Davis and John Jeffries.

The moderator then recognized Roy Hutchinson, who gave a report of the **State Home Mission Board**. Three churches, Open Door Free Will Baptist Church, Westerville Free Will Baptist Church, and Good Shepherd Free Will Baptist Church, were recognized for their generous giving to mission work. A motion carried to receive this report and to adopt the projected budget.

The moderator then entertained a motion to adjourn from business. Carried.

Assistant Moderator Mike Mounts led the congregation in worship. The singing group, God's Ambassadors, from Rittman Community Church, Rittman, Ohio, presented music and songs.

An offering of \$246.35 was received from the congregation.

Rev. James Forlines, Director of the National Foreign Mission Department, Antioch, Tennessee, was introduced to bring the message. His subject was, "The Truth of God's Person." The convention then recessed for lunch.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

AT 1:10 PM Jack Born led the congregation in singing. Fred Crank gave devotional thoughts and Robert Prichard offered prayer

The **OYC Report** was given by Mark Price. A motion carried to receive this report and to adopt the budget.

The **Board of Directors Report** was given by Roger Childers. A motion carried to receive this report. Edwin Hayes gave a report of the **State Office**. A motion carried to receive this report and to adopt the projected budget.

The Ambassador Bible Bookstore Report was given by Edwin Hayes which was received and the projected budget adopted.

Sandy Mounts gave a report of the Ohio Women's Auxiliary. The theme for this year was, "PASSING THE TORCH." The Auxiliary exceeded their 1998-99 goal of \$10,500.00. The goal for 1999-2000 is \$11,500.00. New officers elected were: President-Shirley Sharpston; Vice-President-Sandy Mounts; Secretary-Leita Cook; Treasurer-Geri Baker; Field Worker-Shirley Frye; Members-at-large-Rhonda Mounts, Frances Etterling and Debbie Teo. A motion carried to receive this report.

The moderator then returned to Items 3, 4, and 10 of the General Board Report. All three items were adopted.

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

Delegates to the National Association meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, were then appointed: Geraldine Beal, A.J. Dooley, Mary Miller, Carol Childers, and Beatrice Hout.

Melvin Worthington gave a report of the National Executive Office which was received.

Tim Campbell gave a report of the Free Will Baptist Bible College which was received.

James Forlines gave a report of the National Foreign Missions Department which was received.

Tom Dooley gave a report of the National Masters Men which was received.

David Crowe gave a report of the National Home Missions Department which was received.

Ralph Dingus gave a report of the Children's Home which was received.

The convention then adjourned from business until Saturday morning.

FRIDAY EVENING

Jack Born led the congregation in singing, "It Is Well With My Soul." Bruce Beal welcomed the people and Mike Mounts offered prayer.

Mark Price was then introduced to present CTS awards to division winners who will represent Ohio in national competition.

An offering of \$8,074.17 was received.

Special music was provided by Sara McCarty, Bloom Choir, and Misty Van Meter. Rev. Jim McComas, pastor of the Canaan Church, Creston, Ohio, was then introduced to bring the message. His subject was, "The Truth About Man's Accountability." Benediction.

SATURDAY MORNING

At 9:30 AM Jack Born led the congregation in singing. Roy Bennett gave devotional thoughts and offered prayer.

Moderator Robert Prichard called the meeting to order.

Alton Loveless gave a report of the National Sunday School and Randall House which was received.

Bill Evans gave a report of the Free Will Baptist Foundation and the National Board of Retirement which was received.

The moderator then appointed Mike Mounts as Prayer Committee Chairman for 1999-2000. Fred Dutton was appointed chairman of the Registration Committee.

Committee reports were then called for.

Obituary: Since we last met in June of 1998, the following fellow believers have gone to be with the Lord: Forest Cartee, Ray Conley, Delmar Ward, Ed Collinsworth, Jerry Bellomy, John Roby, Mildred Fulton, Ray Fannin, Violet Dotson, Hazel Montgomery, Eva O'Connor, Geneva Durham, Goldie Downey, Lovella Comer, Ralph Sloan, Chelsea Shoemaker, Estelene Sparks, Liney Hale, Rev. Bill Whitaker, Victor Dixon, Ida Honaker, Rev. Howard Kimble, Jarvis McCoy, Floyd Casto, Lillian Biggs, Ina Gould Pence, Hazel Maynard, Hershel Maynard, Dorothy Moore, Corbia Yeley, Nancy Chamberlin, Newell Cantrell, Sam Castle, John Hugli, Hertis Stone. A motion carried which asked for a moment of silence to remember those who have gone to be with the Lord followed by prayer. Granted.

Appreciation Committee: Special thanks to Heritage Temple Free Will Baptist Church and Pastor Sharpston for the warm welcome and the use of their facilities, Moderator Robert Prichard, Assistant Moderator Mike Mounts, Clerk Mike Stokes, Assistant Clerk Bruce Beal, Song Leader Jack Born, 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, Franklin, Delmar

Sparks-elected; *Lawrence*, Tim Crank-elected; *Jackson*, Dave Reese-elected; *Little Miami*, Mike Nabors-elected; *Cuyahoga-Lorain*, John Jeffries-elected; *Tri-State*, David Phillips-elected; *Northeastern*, Ollie Collins-elected; *Central Ohio*, Harold Coleman-elected; *Capital City*, Róger Dempsey-elected; *Great Lakes*, Jim McComas-elected; *Executive Committee*, Delmar Sparks, Dan King, David Trusty, Blaine Etterling-elected; *Board of Directors*, Forest Chamberlin-elected; *CTS Board*, Don Buhro-elected; Josh Young to complete the term of Manuel Lopes who resigned-elected; *State Home Mission Board*, Roy Hutchinson-elected; *Nominating Committee*, Paul Keener-elected.

The clerk then read the report which will be sent to the National Association which meets in Atlanta, Georgia, in July. Voted on and approved.

A motion carried to adjourn from business.

Assistant Moderator Mike Mounts led the worship service.

An offering of \$260.07 was received from the congregation. Total offerings and gifts from various churches to the convention was \$9,030.59.

Special singing was by the singing group, Undivided from Canaan Land Church. Rev. Kenny Klaiber, pastor of the Pine Grove Church in Ironton, Ohio, was introduced to bring the message. His subject was, "The Truth of God's Redemption." Benediction

Mike Stokes, Clerk

