

## MINUTES OF THE 62<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL SESSION OF THE OHIO STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

The 62<sup>nd</sup> annual session of the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists met June 23-24, 2000, at Heritage Free Will Baptist Church, Columbus, Ohio. The theme for the convention was "The Unchanging Christ in an Ever Changing World." 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 Hebrews 5:7. His theme was "LEARNING OBEDIENCE." Brother Prichard then offered a prayer for the convention.

The moderator then introduced Rev. Billy Sharpston, pastor of Heritage Free Will Baptist Church, who welcomed the convention to Columbus and to Heritage Temple.

After seating the delegates in the center aisles the moderator then called for the reading of the General Board Report. The General Board met in special session on April 1, 2000, for the purpose of addressing the financial crisis of Ambassador Bible Bookstore. In this meeting the Board of Directors recommended that the bookstore be closed, its inventory liquidated and sold and that the State Office operate a literature center. The General Board approved this recommendation. Further the Board of Directors recommended that the property and building at 2777 High Street be sold to the Christopher Columbus Foundation for \$400,000.00 and find a rental facility to house the State Office and Literature Center. The General Board postponed the vote on this recommendation until the regular General Board meeting in June.

General Board Report of June 22, 2000. **Item #1** Board members present 17, absent 2. The board approved Roland Luthy as proxy for David Phillips. **Item #2** The Executive Committee Report was given by the clerk. **Item #3** The Board of Directors Report was given by Roger Childers. **Item #4** The Executive Secretary's Report was given by Edwin Hayes. Brother Hayes report included the State Office, closing of Ambassador Bible Bookstore and the liquidation and sale of its inventory. **Item #5** The General Board recommends that more money be appropriated to cover expenses of the state meetings from \$1,500.00 to \$2,000.00, retroactive to cover this year's meeting. **Item #6** Because of the National Association change in representation fee, the General Board recommends that Section 10 of our Constitution and By-laws be changed from \$40.00 per church in a conference to \$65.00 per church in a conference. **Item #7** The General Board recommends that the property and building at 2777 High Street be sold. That the State Office find suitable office space to rent temporarily, invest the prophet from the sale (after all bills are paid) to be used exclusively for relocation cost and future purchase of land and construction of a new building which would house the State Office and Literature Center. **Item #8** The General Board recommends that the report and projected budget of the State Office and Literature Center be adopted. **Item #9** The State Home Mission Board Report was given by Roy Hutchinson. The General Board recommends that this report and projected budget be adopted. **Item #10** The CTS Report was given by Mark Price. The General Board recommends that this report and projected budget be adopted. **Item #11** The moderator then appointed the chairmen of committees as follows: *Appreciation* - Roland Luthy; *Resolution* - Mike Nabors; *Obituary* - Roger Daniels. 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 Mark Leonard and Paul Etterling. The Obituary Committee consisted of Tim Crank and Bruce Martin. Serving on the Resolution Committee were Jim McComas and Mark Bailey. Harold Coleman was chosen to serve on the Nominating Committee in the absence of Ozel Jeffries. The moderator then called for state and national reports.

Marjorie Workman gave a report of Women Nationally Active For Christ.

Melvin Worthington gave a report of the National Executive Office.

Fred Warner gave a report of the National Foreign Mission Department.

The State Home Mission Report was given by Roy Hutchinson. A motion carried to receive this report and to adopt the budget.

Assistant Moderator Mike Mounts was then introduced to lead the morning worship service. Special music was presented by the Antioch Quartet.

An offering of \$379.00 was received from the congregation.

Rev. Henry Litteral, pastor of Summit Station Free Will Baptist Church, Summit Station, Ohio was introduced to bring the message. His subject was, "Christ is Unchanging in the Past: His Purpose."

Following the message the convention recessed for lunch.

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON

At 1:15 PM Dan King gave devotional thoughts and Robert Prichard offered prayer.

Sandy Mounts gave the State CTS Report. A motion carried to receive this report and to adopt the projected budget.

Roger Childers gave a report of the Board of Directors.

Edwin Hayes gave a report of the State Office and Ambassador Bookstore.

The moderator then called for reading of the General Board Report items 5, 6, 7 and 8. All four items were approved.

Shirley Sharpston gave a report of the Ohio Woman's Active For Christ. Sister Sharpston reported that there were 245 Auxiliary members in the state. Their goal for this year is \$10,500.00.

Jim Cox gave a report of Free Will Baptist Bible College.

Missionary Jeff Crabtree gave a report of his work in Fredericton, NB, Canada.

Delegates to the National Association meeting in Anaheim, California were then appointed: Pamela Luthy, Sue Keener, Carol Childers, Mark McCarty and Marsha McCarty.

Missionary Cathy Crawford gave a report of her work.

Ralph Dingus gave a report of the Children's Home in Greenville, Tennessee, a project of the Tennessee State Association.

The convention agreed to cooperate with James McCarty in His efforts to publish a book on the history of Free Will Baptists in Ohio.

A motion then carried to adjourn from business until Saturday Morning.

## FRIDAY EVENING

Blaine Etterling led the worship service. Jack Born served as song leader. Mike Mounts offered prayer.

Mark Price presented awards to division winners who will represent Ohio in national competition.

An offering of \$8,086.80 was received from the congregation.

Special music was presented by Sarah McCarty, First Springfield Free Will Baptist

Church, Springfield, Ohio. Porter choir, Porter Free Will Baptist Church, Portsmouth, Ohio. Emily Cook, Union Free Will Baptist Church, Wheelersburg, Ohio.

Evangelist Willard Wilcox was then introduced to bring the message. His subject was, "Christ is Unchanging in the Present: His Person." Benediction.

## SATURDAY MORNING

At 9:30 AM Jack Born led the congregation in a medley of songs.

Roland Luthy gave a devotional and offered prayer.

Moderator Robert Prichard called the meeting to order and ask for the remaining reports.

Ray Lewis gave a report of the National Board of Retirement.

Billy Brown gave a report of Randall House.

Richard Atwood gave a report of the National Home Mission Department.

Tom Dooley gave a report of the National Masters Men Department.

The moderator then appointed Mike Mounts as *Prayer Committee Chairman* for 2000-2001. Fred Dutton was appointed *Chairman of the Registration Committee*.

Committee Reports were then called for.

**Obituary:** Since our last meeting in June of 1999, the following fellow believers have gone to be with the Lord:

Billy Williams, Windle Williams, Vannie Curtis, Lavon Lintz, Vernon O'Dell, Dorothy Ockerman, Rev. Major Eldon Ross, Arnold Ray Corner, Rev. Lucian Mounts, Rev. David Maynard, Rachel Litteral, Woodrow Hayes, Rev. Quinten England, Rev. Marvin Booth, Rev Orvel Roberts, Kenny Horsley, Vitgil Callicoat, Robert Daniels, Jimmy Daniels, Ida Evilsizor, Alice Roof, Kenneth Coppock, Clara Bailey, Willie Wellman, Marge Vanhooose, Ruth Moore, Paul Hayes and Helen Waldron. A motion carried which ask for a moment of silence to remember these who have gone, followed by prayer. Granted.

**Appreciation Committee:** Special thanks to Heritage Temple 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. Granted.

**Nominating Committee:** *Moderator*, Robert Prichard - Elected; *Assistant Moderator*, Mike Mounts - Elected;

Clerk, Mike Stokes - Elected; Assistant Clerk, Bruce Beal - Elected; General Board, Trinity, Densil Wright - Elected; South Central, Mark Bailey - Elected; Porter, Dan King - Elected; Pine Creek, Redford Meadows - Elected; Meigs, Charles Hively - Elected; Gallia, Eugene Bare - Elected; Cornerstone, Blaine Etterling - Elected; North and Western, David Trusty - Elected; Southern Ohio, Danny Boggs - Elected. Executive Committee, Densil Wright, Harold Coleman, David Trusty, Danny Boggs - Elected; Board of Directors, Jim McComas - Elected; CTS Board, Joshua Young - Elected; State Mission Board, Paul Etterling, Sr. - Elected; Nominating Committee, Oziel Jeffries - Elected; National General Board Member, Delmar Sparks - Elected.

The Registration Committee reported that there were 222 who registered for the convention.

The Clerk then read the report which will be sent to the National Association meeting in Anaheim, California. This report was approved.

A motion carried to adjourn from business.

Assistant Moderator Mike Mounts led the worship service.

An offering of \$271.00 was received from the congregation. Total offerings and gifts from various churches to the convention were \$8,736.80.

Special music by, Agape Singers, Westerville Free Will Baptist Church, Westerville, Ohio.

Rev. Bruce Beal, pastor of the First Austintown Free Will Baptist Church, Austintown, Ohio, was introduced to bring the message. His subject was, "Christ is Unchanging in the Future: His Preeminence." Benediction.

Mike Stokes, Clerk