

MINUTES OF THE 65TH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE OHIO STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

The 65th annual session of the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists met June 27-28, 2003 at the Gahanna Free Will Baptist Church, 3868 Stygler Road, Gahanna, Ohio. The theme for the convention was, "Tying Up Loose Ends." Mitch Salyers served as song leader and Sister Julie Kirk at the piano.

FRIDAY MORNING

At 9:30 AM Clerk Mike Stokes welcomed the congregation and called the meeting into official session by introducing the moderator, Rev. Robert Prichard.

The moderator then introduced Rev. Curtis Booth, pastor of Gahanna Free Will Baptist Church, who welcomed the convention to Columbus, and to the Gahanna Free Will Baptist Church.

The moderator's message to the convention was taken from John 3:22-36. His theme was "The Friend of the Bridegroom." Brother Prichard then offered prayer.

After seating delegates, the moderator then called for the General Board Report. The General Board met June 26, 2003 at the Gahanna Free Will Baptist Church, Gahanna, Ohio. Items of business: **Item #1** Board members present 16, absent 3. The board approved Mike Nabors as proxy for Steve Sykes of the Little Miami Conference. The board also approved Jon Mountjoy as proxy for Harold Coleman from Central Ohio Conference, and Ronald Parker in place of Danny Laney of Pine Creek. **Item #2** The clerk gave the Executive Committee Report, which was received. **Item #3** Because of the high cost of funding the annual National Association Meeting, delegates at the 2002 National Association of Free Will Baptist meeting voted to raise the representation fee from \$50 per church in the state association to \$100 per church in the state association. Therefore, the General Board recommends that the state association change section 10 of our By-Laws to \$125 per church in a conference in order to comply with the national association changes in financing. **Item #4** The Board of Directors Report was given by Bill Hayes, which was received. Brother Hayes reported that the Board of Directors had found some discrepancies in accounting at the literature center and that the Board of Directors was investigating as to the extent of the discrepancies. The Board of Directors assured the General Board that they were taking steps to ensure accurate accounting procedures of all funds, and that at the end of the investigation a letter would be sent to all of our churches detailing the steps taken to safeguard financial procedures in the future. **Item #5** Promotional Secretary Edwin Hayes gave a Report and presented the budget for the State Office and the Literature Center. Brother Hayes reported a record year of giving to the state office. Paul Keener has been named as manager of the literature center and church supplies department. Edwin expressed sincere appreciation to temporary employees and volunteers who came to help fill orders this last quarter. The General Board recommends this report and projected budget be adopted. **Item #6** The State Home Mission's Board Report was given by, Roy Hutchinson and Paul Etterling, Sr. The General Board recommends that this report and projected budget be adopted. **Item #7** The Ohio Youth Committee Report was given by Mark Price. The General Board recommends that this report and projected budget be adopted. **Item #8** The Moderator then appointed the chairmen of committees: *Resolution Committee*, Freddy Dutton; *Appreciation Committee*, Tim Crank; *Obituary Committee*, Jon Mountjoy. A motion carried to receive this report and to return to Item # 3 later in the meeting.

At this time, the moderator then completed the appointment of committee members to serve during the convention. Those appointed to the Resolution Committee were Mitch Salyers and Brad Duncan. Serving on the Obituary Committee were Mark Leonard, and Mike Nabors. The Appreciation Committee was completed by the appointment of Donald Shuck and Aaron Reed.

The moderator then called for a time of fellowship while the convention welcomed Richard Green, Ron Hunter, Ralph Dingus, Keith Burden, Bill Evans, Kenneth Akers, Steve Lytle, Josh Baer, and Matt Pinson. The moderator then recognized Roy Hutchinson and Paul Etterling, Sr. who gave a report of **the State Home Mission Board**. Brother Hutchinson reported that we have four missionaries on the field: Roger Daniel's, Neville Mission; Charles (Randy) Hall, Hamilton Mission; Timothy Byers, Ashtabula Mission; Tim McKnight, London Mission. The Hamilton mission became self-supporting at the end of 2002. A motion carried to receive this report and to adopt the projected budget.

The moderator then entertained a motion to adjourn from business until after lunch, which carried.

The Dailyville Quartet from Dailyville Free Will Baptist Church ministered to us in song.

In worship and giving, an offering of \$216 was received.

Ron Hunter General Director of Randall House Publications and Sunday School, Nashville, Tennessee, was introduced to bring the message. His subject was, "Respecting Our Relationships." Following the message the convention recessed for lunch.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

At 1:15 PM, Mitch Salyers led the congregation in worship with a song.

Missionary Tim Byers gave devotional thoughts, and Robert Prichard offered prayer.

Mark Price gave the OYC Report. Mark reported that Ohio has forty-two entries in national competition this year. A motion carried to receive this report and to adopt the projected budget.

Bill Hayes gave the Board of Director's Report, which was received.

Edwin Hayes gave the State Office and Literature Center Report. Paul Keener, manager of the Literature Center offered more details about the Literature Center report. A motion was sustained which ask for a standing vote of appreciation to Edwin Hayes, Paul Keener, the Board of Directors, volunteers, and temporary employees whose dedication and commitment to Ohio Free Will Baptist was so critical during this past year.

Frances Etterling gave a report of the (OWAC) Ohio Women Active For Christ. Their theme for this year was "Lift Our Eyes." Special speaker this year was Judy Lytle. Officers elected to serve two year terms were, President, Geri Baker; Vice President, Frances Etterling; Secretary, Rae Ann Mahaney; Treasurer, Ruby Martin; Field Worker, Lisa Hickle, and five Members at Large, Pam Luthy, Shirley Sharpston, Tonya Nostheide, Lisa Kincaid, and Ellen Sargent.

Geraldine Beal gave a report of the 2002 National Association Meeting, which was received.

The moderator then returned to the General Board Report to consider item #3. After discussion this was approved.

Keith Burden gave a report of the National Executive Office, which was received.

The moderator then appointed delegates to the National Association Meeting in Tampa, Florida: A.J.

Dooley, Geraldine Beal, Amanda Keener, Mark McCarty, and Angela Dooley.

Matt Pinson gave a report of the Free Will Baptist Bible College, which was received.

Steve Lytle gave a report of the National Foreign Mission Department, which was received.

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

Ron Hunter gave a report of the National Sunday School and Randall House Publications, which was received.

Ralph Dingus gave a report of the Family Ministries, which was received.

Josh Baer gave a report of the Southeastern Bible College, which was received.

The convention then adjourned from business until Saturday morning.

FRIDAY EVENING

Mitch Salyers led the congregation in singing.

Paul Finney welcomed the congregation and invited Brian Phillips to offer a prayer.

Mark Price explained the program for the youth service, which was held in the annex building. CTS competitive awards will be presented at the end of their service.

In worship and giving, an offering of \$7,230.08 was received.

The Gahanna Free Will Baptist Church Choir provided the special singing.

Rev. Keith Burden was then introduced to bring the message. His subject was, "Reconciling Our Relationships." Following the message, CTS awards were presented in the annex.

SATURDAY MORNING

At 9:30 AM, Mitch Salyers led the congregation in singing.

Tim Keener gave devotional thoughts and offered prayer.

Moderator Robert Prichard then called the meeting to order for further business.

Mike Mounts gave a report of the National Master's Men Department, which was received.

Richard Greene gave a report of the Harvest Home for Children, located in Virginia, which was received.

Cathy Crawford gave a report of her mission work in France, which was received.

Tim Keener gave a report of his preparation to go to the mission field in France.

Committee reports were then called for:

Appreciation Committee: A special thanks to the Gahanna Free Will Baptist Church, and Pastor Curtis Booth, for the warm welcome and the use of their beautiful facilities. Thanks to our Moderator Robert Prichard, Assistant Moderator Mike Mounts, Clerk Mike Stokes, Assistant Clerk Mark Bailey, Song Leader Mitch Salyers, Pianist Julie Kirk, and James Leonard. Thanks to all special singers, speakers, boards, committees, the sound man, all ushers, all prayer partners, all corresponding messengers. We also thank the Lord for what He did in making this a great convention. The committee asks for a standing vote of appreciation, which was granted.

Obituary Committee: Since we last met in June of 2002, the following fellow believers have gone to be with the Lord: Orval Turner, Loraine Trixie McCarty, Fred Crank, Sr., Richard Tillis, Alice Josephine Markin, Cecil Gilliam, William Jones, Ethel Miller, James Evans, Donna Dixon, Rev. Bill Pitts, Rev. Clovis Vanover, George Chaffin, Blain Moore, Betty Heaberlin, Rev. Homer Brooks, Rev. Delmar Sparks, Ruby Gennings, Peggy Ramsey, Raymon Durham, Charlly Pennington, Peg Lundy, Karen Koon, Willa Tanny, Brother Gene Adkins, Robert Napier, Sister Olive Baker, Lilly Stover, Ed Kuntz, Jim Varney, Clydia Wing, Sonny Williams, Luella Rapp, John Pallidino, Veryl Crosby, Wayne Spillman, Zerina Shopbell, Junior Clayton Edwards, Norman Swaney, Daniel Lemaster, Dorothy Griffis, Chris McKibben. The committee asks for a standing vote and a moment of silence to remember these who have gone, granted.

Nominating Committee: For officers term ending 2004: *Moderator*, Robert Prichard, elected; *Assistant Moderator*, Mike Mounts, elected; *Clerk*, Mike Stokes, elected; *Assistant Clerk*, Mark Bailey, elected. For officers term ending 2005: *General Board*, *Capital City*, Freddy Dutton, elected; *Central Ohio*, Jon Mountjoy, elected; *Cuyahoga-Lorain*, Paul Finney, elected; *Franklin*, Alan Barnes, elected; *Great Lakes*, Tom Dooley, elected; *Jackson*, Dave Reese, elected; *Lawrence*, Tim Crank, elected; *Little Miami*, Steve Sykes, elected; *Northeastern*, Earl Coleman, elected; *Tri-State*, David Phillips, elected; *Pine Creek*, Aaron Reed, elected. *Executive Committee* term ending 2004: Mitch Salyers, Dan King, Steve Sykes, Freddy Dutton, elected. *Board Of Directors* term ending 2010, Wayne Keith, elected. *CTS Board* term ending 2010, Sandy Mounts, elected. *State Mission Board* term ending 2010, Garland Roberts, elected. *State Mission Board* term ending 2005, Tim Stout, elected. *Nominating Committee* term ending 2006, Dave Williams elected. *National General Board Member* term ending 2006, Mike Stokes, elected.

Registration Committee: Teresa Endicott reported that 113 had registered for the convention.

The moderator then appointed Mike Mounts as prayer committee chairman, and Teresa Endicott as registration committee chairman.

The clerk then read the report, which will be sent to the National Association Meeting in Tampa, Florida. This report was approved.

A motion carried to adjourn from business.

Assistant Moderator Mike Mounts led the worship service.

In worship in giving, an offering of \$184.30 was received. Total offerings for the convention was \$7,630.38.

The Ohio Ministers Quartet provided the special singing.

Rev. Matt Pinson, President of Free Will Baptist Bible College was introduced to bring the message. His subject was, "Running the Risk of Ruined Relationships."

Adjournment.

Mike Stokes, Clerk