

MINUTES OF THE 67th ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
OHIO STATE ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

The 67th annual session of the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists met June 24-25, 2005 at the Gahanna Free Will Baptist Church, 3868 Stygler Road, Gahanna, Ohio. The theme for the convention was "Love: The Mark of New Testament Christianity." Ron Gardner served as song leader with 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 the Gahanna Free Will Baptist Church, who welcomed the convention to Gahanna, and to the Gahanna Free Will Baptist Church.

The moderator's message to the convention was taken from Psalms 139:21-24. His theme was "Understanding Perfect Love." Brother Prichard then offered prayer for the convention.

After seating delegates, the moderator then called for the General Board Report. The General Board met June 23, 2005, at the Gahanna Free Will Baptist Church, Gahanna, Ohio. Items of business: **Item #1** Board members present 10, absent 9. The board approved George Grice as proxy for Aaron Reed of the Pine Creek Conference. The board also approved Frank Barnhart as proxy for Tim Crank of the Lawrence Conference. **Item #2** The clerk gave the Executive Committee Report, which was received. **Item #3** The Board of Directors Report was given by Bill Hayes, which was received. **Item #4** Promotional Secretary Edwin Hayes gave a detailed report of the State Office, which was received. The General Board recommends that this report and projected budget be adopted. **Item #5** Paul Keener gave a detailed report of the Ambassador Church Supply, which was received. The General Board recommends that this report and projected budget be adopted. **Item #6** The State Home Mission Board Report was given by Roy Hutchinson and Paul Etterling Sr. which was received. The General Board recommends that this report and projected budget be adopted. **Item #7** The OYC Report was given by Mark Leonard, which was received. The General Board recommends that this report and projected budget be adopted. **Item #8** The moderator appointed Tom Dooley to serve on the Nominating Committee in the absence of Dave Williams. **Item #9** The moderator then appointed the chairmen of committees: *Resolution Committee*, James Webb; *Obituary Committee*, Jon Mountjoy; *Appreciation Committee*, Tom Jones. A motion carried to receive this report.

At this time, the moderator completed the appointment of committee members to serve during the convention. Those appointed to the *Appreciation Committee* were George Beal, and Paul Finney. Serving on the *Resolution Committee* was Forest Dyer, and Roger Daniel. The *Obituary Committee* was completed by the appointment of Mitch Salyers, and Mark Price.

The moderator then called for a time of fellowship while the convention welcomed visitors and messengers from other bodies.

The moderator then recognized Roy Hutchinson and Paul Etterling Sr. who gave a report of the State Home Mission Board. Home Missionaries Keith Burt, *Hamilton Mission*; Timothy Byers, *Ashtabula Mission*; Timothy McKnight, *London Mission*; and Bill Pitts, *Lancaster Mission*, all gave a report of their work. A motion carried to receive these reports and to adopt their budgets.

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

The Creech Family from First Dayton Free Will Baptist Church ministered in song.

In worship in giving, an offering of \$259.00 was received.

Rev. Tom Dooley, Pastor of First Austintown Free Will Baptist Church was introduced to bring the message. His subject was "The Priority of Love."

Following the message the convention recessed for lunch.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

At 1:15 PM, Ron Gardner led the congregation in singing.

Mark Price gave devotional thoughts from John 10:1-14 and offered prayer.

Mark Leonard gave the OYC Report. A motion carried to receive this report and to adopt the budget.

The Board of Directors Report was given by Bill Hayes. A motion carried to receive this report.

Edwin Hayes gave a report of the State Office. Brother Hayes reported that 2004 was a very good year for the State Office. A motion carried to receive this report and to adopt the budget.

The Ambassador Church Supply Center Report was given by Paul Keener. Brother Keener reported that our net income was the largest in several years. A motion carried to receive this report and to adopt the budget.

Sister Geri Baker gave the OWAC (Ohio Women Active for Christ) Report. Their theme this year was "Pursuit of Excellence." Total giving for 2004-2005 was \$18,817.20. A motion carried to receive this report.

A.J. Dooley gave a report of the *National Association Meeting* in Kansas City, Missouri, last year. A motion carried to receive this report.

The moderator then appointed delegates to the National Association Meeting in Louisville, Kentucky, this year: A.J. Dooley, Geri Beal, Jim Baker, Geri Baker, and Delma Hamblin.

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

David Williford gave a report of Free Will Baptist Bible College, which was received.

Neal Gilliland gave a report of International Missions Department, which was received.

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

Bill Evans gave a report of the National Foundation, which was received.

Ray Lewis gave a report of the National Board of Retirement, which was received.

Larry Powell gave a report of the National Home Missions Department, which was received.

Mike Mounts gave a report of the National Masters Men Department, which was received.

Richard Green gave a report of the Harvest Child Care Ministries, which was received.

FRIDAY EVENING

Ron Gardner led the congregation in singing.

Freddy Dutton welcomed the congregation and Bill Pitts offered prayer.

In worship in giving, an offering of \$5,743.90 was received.

Jody Justice from Southwest Free Will Baptist Church, Columbus, Ohio, ministered in songs.

Rev. David Williford, Director of Institutional Advancement at Free Will Baptist Bible College was introduced to bring the message. His theme was "The Picture of Love." Following the worship service awards for youth competition were presented.

SATURDAY MORNING

At 9:30 AM, Paul Finney gave devotional thoughts.

Moderator Robert Prichard welcomed the congregation and offered prayer.

James Kilgore, Director of FWB Family Ministries, Greenville, Tennessee, gave a report, which was received.

Jonathan Blankenship, from Southeastern Bible College, gave a report, which was received.

Woody White gave a report of Berean Ministries, which was received.

Moderator Robert Prichard then called for committee reports:

Appreciation Committee: A sincere 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 and Oziel Jeffries. Thanks to Ron Gardner for leading our singing and Julie Kirk who was our pianist. Thanks to our sound engineer, John Hull. Thanks to all speakers, singers, ushers, boards, committees, and prayer partners. We are truly grateful to the Lord for meeting with us throughout the convention. The committee asks for a standing vote of appreciation, granted.

Obituary Committee: Since we last met in June of 2004, the following fellow believers have gone to be with the Lord: Mary Wood, Martha Ellison, Juan Munoz, Judy Brooks, Frances Bates, Sister Reed, Magie Farmer, Burl Sellers, Wythena Galford, Ducey Perry, Venia Adkins, Rev. James Lavender, John Hill, Rosie Damron, Herman Hinkle, Opal Black, Opal Burgone, Ivan Meade Jr., Mattie Hayes, Ivory Castle, Gladys Bayes, Robert Beatty, Ruth V. Dowdy, Adrian Watson, Jim Smith, Sidney V. Cordle, Kilby Davis, Dani Woodcox, Kristy Woodcox, Carl Crawford, Dorothy E. Mounts, Liddi Pitman, Charles Gary Carter, Ruth Mootz, Elsie Rideout, Grace Stapleton, Barbara Shepherd, Charles Conley, John Etterling, Viola McKnight, Rev. Paul E. Taylor, Dewey T. Perry, Ken Marshal, Don Thompson, Rev. Ray Osborne, Shannon Murphy, Frances D. Bates, Rev. Ted Newsome, Charlotte Audrey Mays, Raymond Kenneth Comer, Sam Dummitt, Dorothy Dummitt, Leonard Wheeler, Bill Donahoe, Marty Shuter, Tom Lybrook, Barbara Bennett, Alice Chamerlin, Wendell King, Everett Meade, Barbara Smith, Patty L. Foley, Flora V. "Hayes" Stump, Emma F. Oman, Luther Williams, Charles McClung and Danielle Woodcox. 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 2006: Moderator, Robert Prichard, elected; Assistant Moderator, Mike Mounts, elected; Clerk, Mike Stokes, elected; Assistant Clerk, Mark Bailey, elected. For officers term ending 2008: General Board, Capital City Conference, Freddy Dutton, elected; Central Ohio Conference, Kenny Cordell, elected; Cuyahoga-Lorain Conference, Paul Finney, elected; Franklin Conference, Alan Barnes, elected; Great Lakes Conference, Ken Frisbee, elected; Jackson County Conference, David Reese, elected; Lawrence County Conference, Frank Barnhart, elected; Little Miami Conference, Forest Dyer, elected; Northeastern Conference, Earl Coleman, elected; Tri-State Conference, Jeremy Luthy, elected. For officers term ending 2006: Executive Committee, Tom Dooley, Dan King, James Webb and Jamie Fortner, elected. Board of Directors, term ending 2012, Don Hix, elected. CTS Board, term ending 2012, Jason Luthy, elected. State Home Mission Board, term ending 2012, Jon Mountjoy, elected. Nominating Committee, term ending 2008, Paul Keener, elected. Board of Directors, to complete the term of Billy Sharpston which ends in 2006, Mark Price, elected. CTS Board, to complete the term of Dave Bates, which ends in 2008, Kevin Diamond, elected. Nominating Committee, to complete the term of David Williams, which ends in 2006, Bill Pitts, elected.

Registration Committee: Teresa Endicott reported that 288 have registered for the convention.

The moderator then appointed Mike Mounts as Prayer Committee Chairman, and Stephanie Wolfe as Registration Committee Chairperson.

The clerk then read the report, which will be sent to the National Association Meeting in Louisville, Kentucky, in July, which was approved.

A motion carried to adjourn from business.

Assistant Moderator, Mike Mounts led the congregation in worship.

In worship in giving, an offering of \$118.00 was received. Total offering for the entire convention was \$6,120.90.

Mike Blanton and Evidence, a singing group from the Canaan Land Free Will Baptist Church, Grove City, Ohio, provided special singing.

Rev. James Kilgore, Director of Free Will Baptist Family Ministries, Greenville, Tennessee, was introduced to bring the message. His theme was "The Permanence of Love." Adjournment.

Mike Stokes, Clerk