

MINUTES OF THE 69th ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
OHIO STATE ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

The 69th annual session of the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptist met June 22-23, 2007 at the Gahanna Free Will Baptist Church 3868 Stygler Road, Gahanna, Ohio. The theme for the convention was "Revive us Again." David Chamberlin served as song leader with Deena Armstrong at the piano.

Friday Morning

At 9:30 AM, Clerk Mike Stokes welcomed the congregation and delegates and called the meeting into session by introducing the moderator, Rev. Mike Mounts. The moderator then introduced Curtis Booth, pastor of Gahanna Free Will Baptist Church, who welcomed the convention to Gahanna and to the Gahanna Free Will Baptist Church.

The moderators message to the convention was taken from Revelation chapter one. His theme was "**The Three R'S of Revival.**" Mark Price then offered prayer for the convention.

After seating delegates, the moderator then called for the General Board Report. The General Board met June 21, 2007, at Gahanna Free Will Baptist Church. Items of business: **Item #1** Board members present 12, absent 7. **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** The General Board recommends that the Board of Directors be authorized to purchase property for a state office building, contingent upon unanimous approval of all board members. **Item #5** Executive Secretary Edwin Hayes gave a Report of the State Office and Bookstore, which was received. The General Board recommends that this report and projected budgets be adopted. **Item #6** The General Board recommends that the annual reporting process be changed as follows: Full reports given in the Thursday General Board meeting and summary reports on Friday. The recommendation is that this change be implemented in 2008. **Item #7** The State Home Mission Board Report was given by Oziel Jeffries, which was received. The General Board recommends that this report and projected budget be adopted. **Item # 8** The OYC Report was given by Paul Etterling Jr, which was received. The General Board recommends that this report and projected budget be adopted. **Item #9** The General Board recommends the addition of by-law Section 15, "That no conference or the churches, pastors, ministers or delegates associated therewith shall act to affirm, approve or endorse in any way homosexual behavior." **Item #10** The Northern Ohio Conference a member of the Kentucky State Association has requested membership in the Ohio State Association. Upon receipt of a letter of recommendation from the Kentucky State Association and the Executive Committee examination of their organizational structure, The General Board recommends that the Northern Ohio Conference be received into the Ohio State Association. **Item #11** The moderator then appointed committees to serve during the convention; Resolution Committee, Alan Barns, Don Hix, and Roland Luthy; Obituary Committee, Aaron Reed, Charlie Crider, and Mark Bailey; Appreciation Committee, Tim Byers, Jon Mountjoy, and Mike Sammons.

Item 10 of the General Board Report was then voted on and approved. The moderator proceeded to seat all delegates in the center sections.

The moderator called for a time of fellowship to welcome the Northern Ohio Conference and messengers from other bodies.

The moderator then recognized Oziel Jeffries and Paul Etterling Sr. who gave the State Home Mission Board Report, Missionaries Tim Byers, Lighthouse Free Will Baptist Mission, Conneaut, Ohio; and Keith Burt, New Life Free Will Baptist Mission, Hamilton, Ohio, each gave a report of their work. A motion carried to receive these reports and to adopt their budget.

A report of the **National Home Mission Department** was given by Tom Jones, which was received.
A report of the **International Mission Department** was given by Barry Simpson, which was received.
International missionary Cathy Crawford gave a report of her work in France, which was received.
The chair then entertained a motion which carried, to adjourn from business until the afternoon.
Scott and Debbie Coffey from Hillview Free Will Baptist Church, ministered in song.
An offering of \$299.68 was received from the congregation.
The attendance was 163.

Rev. Jonathan Blankenship, Southeastern Free Will Baptist College, was introduced to bring the message.
His subject was "**The Resource of Revival.**"

Following the message the convention recessed for lunch.

Friday Afternoon

At 1:15 PM, Mitch Salyers gave devotional thoughts from 1 Corinthians 10:12.

Paul Etterling Jr. 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, which was received.

Item 4 of the General Board Report was voted on and approved.

The **State Office Report** was given by Executive Secretary Edwin Hayes. A motion carried to receive this report and to adopt the budget.

The **Ambassador Bible Bookstore Report** was given by Paul Keener. Brother Keener reported that his present facility is at maximum capacity. A motion carried to receive this report and to adopt the budget.

Ron Hunter gave a report of **Randall House Publications** which was received.

Sister Geri Baker gave the **OWAC (Ohio Women Active for Christ) Report**. Their theme for this year was "**Prayer and Praise.**" Total giving for 2006-2007 was \$17,854.85. Officers for 2007-2009 were elected as follows: President Frances Etterling, Vice President Geri Baker, Secretary Rae Anne Mahaney, Treasurer Ruby Martin, Field Worker Lisa Hickle, Members at Large Pam Luthy, Jeannie Sargent, Joanne Vaughn, Sara Sargent, and Beth King. The OWAC retreat will be held at the Heartland Conference Retreat Center in Marengo, Ohio on September 28-29th 2007. Their speakers were Debra White Smith and her husband Daniel.

Special recognition was given to Sandy Mounts for her fifteen years of service to OWAC. A motion carried to receive this report.

Items 6 and 9 of the General Board Report was voted on and approved.

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

The moderator then asked for delegates to the National Association Meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas this year: Mark McCarty, Geri Beal, Manuel Lopes, Leonard Cordell, and Pat Cordell were appointed.

David Williford gave a report of **Free Will Baptist Bible College**, 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.

Attendance for this session was 126.

The convention then adjourned from business until Saturday Morning.

Friday Evening

David Chamberlin led the congregational singing.

Mark Price welcomed the congregation and Henry Litteral offered prayer.

In worship and giving an offering of \$6,551.20 was received.

The choir from Cross Point Free Will Baptist Church, Lancaster, Ohio, provided special singing.

Attendance was over 200.

Rev. Robert Prichard, Pastor of Cleveland Free Will Baptist Church, Cleveland, Ohio was introduced to bring the message. His subject was "**The Recipients of Revival.**" Adjourn.

Saturday Morning

At 9:30 AM, Pete Dunn gave devotional thoughts and offered prayer.

The moderator then recognized missionary Tom Jones, who gave a report of his work in Pennsylvania, which was received.

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

Dana Booth gave a presentation of his work in New York, which was received.

Freddy Dutton gave a report of his ministry, which was received.

Frank Woods gave a report of Family Ministries, in Greenville, Tennessee, which was received.

Brian Phillips gave a report of Southeastern Free Will Baptist College, which was received.

Martha Stone gave a report of the Harvest Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Eldridge, Alabama which was received.

David Outlaw gave a report of his preparation for the mission field in Asia, which was received.

The moderator then called for committee reports:

Appreciation Committee: We express our sincere appreciation to Pastor Booth and the Gahanna Free Will Baptist Church for the use of their facilities. Thanks to Moderator Mike Mounts; Assistant Moderator, Mark Price; Clerk, Mike Stokes; Assistant Clerk, Byron Justice; Thanks to David Chamberlin for leading our singing, and Deena Armstrong for accompanying at the piano. Thanks to the sound technicians, ushers, speakers, boards, committees, and prayer partners. The committee asked for a standing vote of appreciation, granted.

Obituary Committee: Since we last met in June of 2006 the following fellow believers have gone to be with the Lord: Rev. William Gannon, Rev. Redford Meadows, Rev. Elmer Queen, Rev. Clifford Ball, Rev. Leslie Wireman, Rev. Vernie Bare, Rev. Bill Phillips, Rev. John Elswick, Carol Combs, Jerry Fain, Zach Yoho, Dorothy Harness, Doris Evans, Robert Holstein, Pearl Handley, Myrtle Groh, Cora Drummond, Opal Collins, Ruth Dawson, Keith Moore, James Wiles, Robert Moore, Eliza Stamper, Bob Napier, John Graham, Alice Graham, Gene Markel, Clayton "Jiggs" King, Rosamond Hurst, Ethel Dempsey, Irene Dutton, Irene Mullins, Janell Hensley, Glen Webb, Chester Crank, Hester Castele, James Hctor, Allison Williams, Evelyn Holbrook, Ruby Pigza, Lucy Williams, Bonnie Merrill, Rachel Channell, Marie Malone, Beulah Frowine, Audry Hoagland, Lela Anderson, Hiram Spears, Shirley Spencer, Ernest Maynard, Francis Birkhead, Evelyn Moore, Herbert Harris Jr., George Trusty, Violet Burns, Russell Taylor, Jeanette Smith, Opal Moore, Virginia Reynolds, Ethel Faye Collins, Gladys Porter, Gary Thompson, Gene Carter, Malana Messer, Ed Letts, Paul Turner, Pete Jeffries, and Rethal Clevenger. The committee asks for a moment of silence to remember those who have gone, granted.

Nominating Committee: For officers term ending in 2008: *Moderator*, Mark Price, elected; *Assistant Moderator*, Brian Phillips, elected; *Clerk*, Mike Stokes, elected; *Assistant Clerk*, Bryon Justice, elected. For officers term ending in 2009: *General Board, Capital City*, Freddy Dutton, elected; *Central Ohio*, Kenny Cordell, elected; *Cuyahoga-Lorain*, Billy Joe White, elected; *Franklin*, Jerry Sargent, elected; *Great Lakes*, Ken Frisbee, elected; *Jackson*, David Reese, elected; *Lawrence*, Tim Crank, elected; *Little Miami*, Forest Dyer, elected; *Northeastern*, Randy Rose, elected; *Tri-State*, Jeremy Luthy, elected. For officers term ending in 2008: *Executive Committee*, Kenny Cordell, Freddy Dutton, Dan King, and James Webb. *Board of Directors*, term ending 2014, Jim McComas, elected. *OYC Board*, term ending 2014, Joshua Young, elected. *State Mission Board*, term ending 2014, Paul Etterling Sr., elected. *Nominating Committee*, term ending 2009, Bill Chadwick, elected. *OYC Board*, term ending 2010, Deanna Price, elected. *Board of Directors*, term ending 2008, Alan Barnes, elected. *General Board*, term ending 2008, *Northern Ohio*, Chris Russell, elected. Outgoing Moderator Mike Mounts received special appreciation from all Ohio Free Will Baptists for his many years of service to the state association.

Registration Committee: There were 332 who registered for the convention: 97 ministers, 37 deacons, 23 delegates, 126 visitors, and 50 young people registered.

The moderator then appointed Stephanie Wolfe as Registration Committee Chairperson, and Carl Dunn as Prayer Committee Chairman.

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

A motion carried to adjourn from business.

Mark Price led the convention in worship.

An offering of \$341.00 was received. Total offerings for the entire convention were \$7,191.88.

The attendance was over 200.

Brian Baer of Evangelistic Outreach, Pedro, Ohio provided special singing.

Dr. Calvin Ray Evans, Director of Evangelistic Outreach, Pedro, Ohio was introduced to bring the message. His subject was "**The Results of Revival.**" Adjournment.

Clerk, Mike Stokes