

MINUTES OF THE 70TH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
OHIO STATE ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

The 70th annual session of the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists met June 27-28, 2008 at the Heritage Free Will Baptist Church, 575 Obetz Road, Columbus, Ohio. The theme for the convention was "Pointing People to The Cross." 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. Mark Price. The moderator then introduced Tim Stout, pastor of Heritage FWB Church, who welcomed the convention to Columbus and to Heritage Free Will Baptist Church.

The moderator's message to the convention was taken from Exodus 15:22-27.

After seating delegates, the moderator then called for the General Board Report. The General Board met June 26, 2008, at Heritage Free Will Baptist Church. Items of business: **Item #1** Board members present 12, absent eight. **Item #2** The clerk gave the Executive Committee Report, which was received. **Item #3** The Board of Directors Report was given by Jim McComas, which was received. Don Hix resigned from the board in order to serve as missionary to London. The General Board recommends that this report and projected budget be adopted. **Item #4** The General Board recommends that section ten of our By-Laws be changed to reflect a \$25.00 increase in annual fees. **Item #5** Executive Secretary Edwin Hayes gave a Report of the State Office, which was received. The General Board recommends that this report and projected budget be adopted. **Item #6** Paul Keener gave a Report of the Ambassador Bookstore, which was received. The General Board recommends that this report and projected budget be adopted. **Item #7** The State Home Mission Board Report was given by Oziel Jeffries and Paul Etterling, Sr., which was received. The General Board recommends that this report and projected budget be adopted. **Item #8** Jason Luthy gave the OYC Report, which was received. The General Board recommends that this report and projected budget be adopted. **Item #9** Freddy Dutton gave a Report of "Together We Can," a program to assist our churches with growth. A motion carried to receive this report. **Item #10** The moderator then appointed the chairpersons of committees who will serve during the convention: Obituary Committee, Paul Etterling, Jr.; Resolution Committee, Robert Prichard; Appreciation Committee, Jim McComas.

The moderator then called for a vote on **Item #4**, which was approved.

Moderator Price then completed the appointment of committee members to serve during the convention: Completing the Resolution Committee were Tom Dooley and Roland Luthy, those serving on the Obituary Committee were Daryl Grimes and Mitch Salyers, Appointed to the Appreciation Committee were Grant Cordell and Bert Alsept.

The moderator then called for a time of fellowship to welcome visitors from other bodies.

The moderator then recognized Oziel Jeffries, who gave the State Home Mission Board Report. Missionaries Tim Byers and Keith Burt each gave a report of their work. Don Hix who was recently appointed to the work in London, Ohio, also reported. A motion carried to receive these reports and to adopt the projected budget.

A report of the National Home Mission Department was given by Richard Atwood, which was received.

Director James Forlines gave a report of International Missions Department. Rev. Forlines reported that International Missions was restructuring the system of funding all missionaries. A motion carried to receive this report.

The chair then entertained a motion that carried, to adjourn from business until the afternoon.

The Ohio Ministers Quartet, ministered in song.

An offering of \$255.00 was received.

The attendance was 150.

Rev. Richard Atwood, Director of Missionary Assistance, National Home Mission Department was introduced to deliver the message. His subject was "The Preaching of the Cross is Effective."

Following the message, the convention recessed for lunch.

Friday Afternoon

At 1:15 PM, Bruce Copley gave devotional thoughts from (Luke 13:7-9), and offered prayer. Jason Luthy gave the OYC Report. A motion carried to receive this report and to adopt the budget.

Bill Hayes gave the Board of Directors Report, which was received.

Executive Secretary Edwin Hayes gave the State Office Report. A motion carried to receive this report and to adopt the budget.

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

Paul Keener gave the Ambassador Bookstore Report. Brother Keener reported that the Bookstore had a good year with a net income of \$29,527.37. A motion carried to receive this report and adopt the projected budget.

General Director Ron Hunter gave a report of Randall House Publications, which was received.

Marjorie Workman, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of Women Nationally Active For Christ, gave a report of her department. Sister Workman announced she would be retiring at the end of the national association meeting this year. A motion carried to receive this report.

Frances Etterling gave the OWAC (Ohio Women Active For Christ) Report. Their theme for this year was "Vessels of Service." A motion carried to receive this report.

Freddy Dutton gave a report on "Together We Can" a program to assist our churches with growth. This report was received.

Manuel Lopes gave a report of the National Association Meeting in 2007. This report was received.

The moderator then asked for delegates to the National Association Meeting in Charleston, West Virginia this year: Geri Beal, Jim Baker, Rebecca Phillips, Manuel Lopes and Tobiane Stout.

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

David Brown gave a report of the National Foundation, which was received.

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

Cathy Crawford Missionary to France gave a report of her work, which was received.

Jonathan Blankenship gave a report of Southeastern Free Will Baptist College, which was received.

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

Tom Jones gave a report of his work, which was received.

The convention then adjourned from business until Saturday morning.

Friday Evening

David Chamberlin led the congregation in singing.

Brian Phillips welcomed the congregation and presided over the meeting.

In worship and giving an offering of \$6,540.01 was received.

Special music provided by Southeastern Free Will Baptist College, and JB and Barbara Spencer.

Attendance was 340.

Rev. Mike Blanton, Pastor of Canaan Land Free Will Baptist Church, Grove City, Ohio, was introduced to bring the message. His theme was "The Power of the Cross is Explosive." Adjourn.

Saturday Morning

At 9:30 AM, Jerry Sargent gave devotional thoughts from Matthew 5:14 and Robert Prichard offered prayer.

The moderator then recognized Dana Booth who gave a report of his work in New York, which was received.

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

Chris Russell gave a report of his work, which was received.

Mike Parrott gave a report of the Children's Home in Virginia, which was received.

The moderator then called for committee reports:

Appreciation Committee: We express our sincere appreciation to Pastor Tim Stout and the Heritage Free Will Baptist Church for the use of their beautiful facilities. Thanks to Moderator Mark Price; Assistant Moderator, Brian Phillips; Clerk, Mike Stokes; Assistant Clerk, Bryon 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 asks for a standing vote of appreciation, granted.

Obituary Committee: Since we last met in June of 2007, the following fellow believers have gone to be with the Lord: Carolyn Adams, Judy Adkins, Wilma Adkins, Orville Allen, Robert Allen, Wayne V. Aliff, Lela Anderson, Jim Barbee, Rev. Jack Blackburn, Rev. Charles Bowman, Clifford C. Bradley, Randy Brown, Larry Bryson, Ruth Burton, Dorothy Caskey, Rosa Castle, Dorothy Chaney, Irlene Clay, Goldie Combs, Thelma Coriell, Georgie Crawford, Norine Cryder, George Dean, Roy Deemer, Wilma DeWise, Woodrow Dyer, Palma Dysinger, Laura Evans, Minnie Farley, Dr. Malcom Fry, Vernon Frye, Ellis Hale, Georgie Hale, Palmer Harvey, Frances Hawkins, Mack Hayes, Nora Hayes, Cliff Henson, Rev. Herman Hersey, Harry Hilgenberg, Dan Huddleston, Obie Hughes, Leonard Humphres, Charles Jenkins, Otis Johnson, Eugene Justice, Rita King, George Kiser, Robert Lahm, Joe Liming, Betty L. Locke, Darrell May, Rev. Billy McCarty, Ed McNeely, Mary Molinets, David Paul Noel, Steve Parker, George Patterson, Rev. Ronnie Perkins, Lois Phillips, Cathy Powell, Thelma Reed, Lucy Richmond, Esther Roach, Billy Robinson, Kenny Robinson, Leslie J. Romans, Cary Kay Rose, Rev Bob Shockey, Jerry Speakman, Charles Stableton, Kenneth F. Stepp, Elwood Stone, Glenn Streeter, Rev. Eugene Waddell, Gladys Wadkins, Rev. Harrison Webb, Barbara Wiley, Garnett Wright, Helen Wright, and Lyda Huey. The committee asks for a moment of silence to remember these who have gone, granted.

Nominating Committee: For officers term ending in 2009: *Moderator*, Mark Price, elected; *Assistant Moderator*, Brian Phillips, elected; *Clerk*, Mike Stokes, elected; *Assistant Clerk*, Bryon Justice, elected. For officers term ending in 2010: *General Board, Cornerstone*, Blaine Etterling, elected; *North and Western*, James Webb, elected; *Northern Ohio*, Chris Russell, elected; *Pine Creek*, Aaron Reed, elected; *Porter*, Dan King, elected; *South Central*, Jim Henderson, elected; *Southern Ohio*, Robert Fulton, elected; *State Line*, Tim Byers, elected; *Trinity*, Warren Simpkins, elected; *Unity*, Ed Barney, elected. For officers term ending in 2009: *Executive Committee*, Kenny Cordell, Dan King, James Webb, and Freddy Dutton. *Board of Directors*, term ending 2015, Alan Barnes, elected. Term ending 2012, Peter Dunn, elected. *CTS Board*, term ending 2015, Mark Bailey, elected. *State Mission Board*, term ending 2015, Roger Daniel, elected. *Nominating Committee*, term ending 2011, Paul Keener, elected. *National General Board*, term ending 2012, Mike Stokes, elected.

Resolution Committee: There was a motion and second in regards to a resolution from Cuyahoga-Lorain, seeking to include designated giving in a new International Missions Department plan to restructure funding for missionary accounts, after discussion the motion was defeated.

Registration Committee: 280 registered for the convention: 74 ministers, 12 deacons, 33 delegates, 81 visitors, and 80 young people registered.

The moderator then appointed Teresa Endicott as Registration Committee Chairperson, and Aaron Reed as Prayer Committee Chairman.

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

A motion carried to adjourn from business.

Brian Phillips led the congregation in worship.

An offering of \$168.28 was received. Total offerings for the entire convention were \$7,227.29.

Number of attendance 179.

Deena Armstrong performed at the piano for an offertory. The singing group Undivided, from the Canaan Land Free Will Baptist Church, Grove City, Ohio, provided special singing.

Rev. Chris Oiler, Union Free Will Baptist Church, Wheelersburg, Ohio, was introduced to bring the message. His subject was "**The Priority of the Cross is Essential.**"

Adjourn.

Mike Stokes, Clerk