

**Minutes of the 72nd Annual Session
Of the
Ohio State Association
Of
Free Will Baptists**

The 72nd session of the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptist met June 25-26, 2010 at Heritage Free Will Baptist Church, Columbus, Ohio. The theme for the convention was "Proclaiming Our Priorities". Ron Gardner served as song leader with Tobianne Stout at the piano.

Friday Morning

At 9:30 AM, Assistant Clerk Bryon Justice welcomed the congregation and called the meeting to order by introducing the moderator, Rev. Mark Price. The moderator then introduced Rev. Tim Stout, pastor of Heritage Free Will Baptist Church, who welcomed the convention to Columbus and to Heritage FWB Church.

The moderator's message to the convention came from Colossians 3:23-24.

After seating delegates, the moderator called for the General Board Report. The General Board met June 24, 2010, at Heritage Free Will Baptist Church. Items of business: **Item #1** The assistant clerk called the roll of board members: present 15, absent 5. A motion carried to seat Eugene Crouch as proxy for Billy Joe White of the Cuyahoga-Lorain Conference, Densil Wright as proxy for Warren Simpkins of the Trinity Conference, and Bert Alsept as proxy for Jim Henderson of the South Central Conference. **Item #2** Bob Prichard was elected Asst. Moderator and Jason Luthy was elected Asst. Clerk for the 2010 session. **Item #3** The clerk gave the Executive Committee Report, which was received. **Item #4** The disposition of the Unity Conference was discussed. Edwin Hayes recommended that this matter is to be sent to the Executive Committee for resolution. **Item #5** The General Board report for the special session called September 19, 2009 was given as information. **Item #6** The Board of Directors Report given by Bill Hayes, which was received. **Item #7** The Report of the State Office given by Executive Secretary Edwin Hayes, and was received. The General Board recommends the receipt of this report and adoption of the projected budget. **Item #8** The Ambassador Bookstore Report given by Edwin Hayes for Paul Keener, which was received. **Item #9** The State Home Missions Report was given by Roland Luthy and Paul Etterling, Sr.; which was received. The General Board recommends this report and projected budget be adopted. **Item #10** The OYC Report given by Jason Luthy was received. The General Board recommends this report and projected budget be adopted. **Item #11** For informational purposes, it was pointed out that a necessary change to the State Constitution and By-Laws was made to reflect the new address of the State Offices. **Item #12** The moderator then appointed the chairs of committees who will serve during the convention: Resolution Committee, Blaine Etterling; Obituary Committee, Jerry Sargent; Appreciation Committee, Mitch Salyers.

To complete the appointment of committee members to serve during the convention Tim Crank and Don Hix were chosen to serve on the Resolution Committee with Blaine Etterling; those serving on the Appreciation Committee with Mitch Salyers were Eugene Crouch and Bert Alsept; those appointed to the Obituary Committee with Jerry Sargent were Bill Hayes and Paul Etterling.

Roland Luthy and Paul Etterling, Sr. gave the State Home Missions Report. Missionaries Tim Byers and Don Hix each gave a report of their respective works. A motion carried to receive this report and to adopt the budget.

Jason Luthy gave the OYC Report. A motion and second carried receive this report and to adopt this budget.

Frances Etterling gave the Ohio Women Active for Christ (OWAC) Report. This report was received.

Executive Director Ron Hunter gave a report of Randall House Publications. A motion carried to accept this report.

David Williford gave the Free Will Baptist Bible College Report, which was received.

Keith Burden gave the National Executive Office Report, which was received.

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

In worship, Eric Mowell from First Springfield Free Will Baptist Church provided special singing. An offering of \$263.00 was received. Attendance was 130.

Rev. Eugene Crouch, Pastor of Unity Free Will Baptist Church, Middleburg Hts., Ohio, was introduced to bring the message. His subject was "The Priority of Our Work." Following the message, the convention recessed for lunch.

Friday Afternoon

At 1:30 PM, Del Wallace gave devotional thoughts and offered prayer.

Bill Hayes gave the Board of Directors Report. A motion carried to accept this report.

Edwin Hayes gave the State Office Report. The floor was given to Mitch Salyers who introduced John Hanna as the new agent of Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Agency. Jim McComas then offered an endorsement of Mr. Hanna due to their long-term business relationship. A motion carried to accept the State Report and to adopt the budget.

Edwin Hayes gave the Ambassador Bookstore Report for Paul Keener. A motion carried to accept this report.

Mark McCarty gave a Report of the 2009 National Convention in Cincinnati, OH., which was received.

The moderator then asked for volunteers to go as delegates to the National Association Meeting this year in Oklahoma City, OK July 18-21. Those volunteering were A.J. Dooley, Manuel Lopes, Geri Baker, Mark McCarty, and Geri Beal.

General Director James Forlines gave a report of International Missions. Recently appointed European Coordinator and missionary to France Tim Keener, gave an update. A motion carried to accept this report.

Director Larry Powell gave a report of National Home Missions. A motion carried to accept this report.

General Director David Brown gave a report of the Free Will Baptist Foundation. A motion carried to accept this report.

General Director Ray Lewis gave a report of Free Will Baptist Board of Retirement. A motion carried to accept this report.

Tom Jones gave a report on the work in Pennsylvania and introduced the new pastor of the Three Rivers church, Cody Freeman. A motion carried to accept this report.

Tim York, Jr. gave a report on his future mission work in Buffalo, NY. A motion carried to accept this report.

Danny Baer gave a report on Southeastern Free Will Baptist College. A motion carried to accept this report.

Frank Woods gave a report of Family Ministries, ministry located in Greenville, Tennessee, owned and operated by the Tennessee State Association.

Greg McCarty gave a report of the New Durham Ridge Church Endowment Fund. This is a fund created to help preserve and maintain the church started and erected by Benjamin Randall in 1818-19.

The convention then adjourned from business until Saturday morning.

Friday Evening

Ron Gardner led the congregation in singing.

Mark Price welcomed the congregation and presided over the service.

An offering of \$7,385.00 was received. Attendance was 162.

Special singing provided by REJOICE! Ministry Team from Free Will Baptist Bible College, and the Heritage Choir of the host church.

Dr. Freddy Dutton, Ohio State Evangelist, was introduced to bring the message. His theme was "The Priority of Our Witness." Benediction.

Saturday Morning

At 9:30 AM Russell Street gave devotional thoughts from Psalm 126:5-6, and offered prayer.

Bill Hayes gave a report on Impulse Missions, which was received.

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

Chris Russell gave a report on his ministry, which was received.

The moderator then called for committee reports.

Appreciation Committee: The Appreciation Committee first and foremost wants to thank God for blessing our services with His presence at the State Association this year. We also want to thank Pastor Tim Stout and the Heritage Free Will Baptist Church for their hospitality shown to the attendees of this meeting. We want to thank the leadership of our state, Edwin Hayes, and Mark Price for moderating the business sessions. We thank Robert Prichard, Bryon Justice and Jason Luthy who stepped in to fill in for those who were ill and those who could not attend. Thanks to Ron Gardner who led us in music, and Tobianne Stout who accompanied him at the piano. We thank the different speakers who challenged us from the Word of God and last, but not least, the sound technicians, special singers, ushers, board committees, and prayer partners. The committee asks for a standing vote of appreciation, granted.

Registration Committee: 270 registered for the convention: 67 ministers, 18 deacons, 23 delegates, 102 visitors, and 60 young people.

Obituary Committee: Since we last met in June of 2009, the following fellow believers have gone to be with the Lord: Rev. Gerald Moore, Rev. Marvin Markin, Rev. Billy Joe White, Rev. Paul Calvert, Rev. Marvin Swayne, Rev. Warren Simpkins, Rev. Ken and Anna Rose, Deacon Leo Carter, Deacon John Helton, Catherine Ferrell Blackburn, Margaret Bluhm, Larry Burt, Loriane Carruth, Mary Boyd, Ken Chapman, Millie Crabtree, Junior Dempsey, Mary Dooley, Rose Elliott, Trisha (Miller) Everhart, Ed Fultz, Chet Edmonds, Don Fields, Betty Justice, Cora Gannon, Harry Graff, D. Hale, Mary Hamblen, Yvonne (Wolfenbarger) Hampton, David Hamerick, Thelma Hessler, Bob Hoover, Grace Lahm, Ralph Lyons, Wanda Martin, Kay Mayenshine, Clyde Miller, Doug Miller, Geneva Moore (First Clyde FWB), Geneva Moore (Eastside FWB), Joyce Orender, Jack Newhouse, Ruth Rittenhouse, Anna Salyers, Joe "William" Sparks, Bernice Slusher, Marge Tomlin, Glen Wetherbee, Christy White, Estill Williams, Maxine Williams, Verna Workman, Walter Yates, Donald Followell, Bill Adkins, and Jack Clevenger. The board asked for a moment of silence to remember these who have gone, and it was granted.

Nominating Committee: For officers term ending in 2011: *Moderator*, Mark Price, elected; *Assistant Moderator*, Tom Dooley, elected; *Clerk*, Mike Stokes, elected; *Assistant Clerk*, Bryon Justice, elected. *Executive Committee*, Russell Street, Freddy Dutton, Dan King, and James Webb, elected. For officers term ending 2012: *General Board, Northern Ohio*, Chris Russell, elected; *Trinity*, Densil Wright, elected; *South Central*, Burt Alsept, elected; *Porter*, Dan King, elected; *Pine Creek*, Aaron Reed, elected; *Unity*, Andrew Parsons, elected; *State Line*, Tom Jones, elected; *Cornerstone*, Blaine Etterling, elected; *North and Western*, James Webb, elected; *Southern Ohio*, Robert Fulton, elected. *Board of Directors*, term ending 2017, Eugene Crouch, elected. *CTS Board*, term ending 2017, Deanna Price, elected.; *State Missions Board*, term ending 2017, Bruce Copley, elected. *Nominating Committee*, term ending 2013, Bill Chadwick, elected; *State Mission Board* (for unexpired term ending 2012), Jerry Sargent, elected; *Board of Directors*, (for unexpired term ending 2013), Chris Oiler, elected; *General Board* (for unexpired term ending for *Cuyahoga-Lorain* 2011), Robert Prichard, elected; *General Board* (for unexpired term ending 2011 for *Franklin*), Del Wallace, elected; *National General Board*, term ending 2010, Bill Hayes, elected (Proxy for Mike Stokes). The moderator then appointed Roland Luthy as Prayer Committee Chairman and Sue Moore as Registration Committee Chairperson.

The Assistant Clerk then read the 504 report, which will be sent to the National Association Meeting in Oklahoma City, OK in July, which was approved.

Edwin Hayes recognized Clerk Mike Stokes' 25 years of faithful service as State Clerk. A plaque was presented to Mike's son-in-law, Ron Hunter in absence of Bro. Mike. Prior to the moderator asking for a standing vote of appreciation, the congregation stood en masse in a rousing ovation for such an outstanding accomplishment.

A motion carried to adjourn from business.

Mark Price led the congregation in worship. An offering of \$124.00 was received. Attendance was 130. The total offering for the State Meeting totaled \$7,772.00.

Chris Oiler from Union FWB Church, Wheelersburg, Ohio, provided the special singing.

Rev. F. Leroy Forlines, Professor at Free Will Baptist Bible College was introduced to bring the message. His subject was "**The Priority of Our Worship.**" Benediction.

Bryon Justice, Assistant Clerk