

**Minutes of the 74th Annual Session  
of the  
Ohio State Association  
of  
Free Will Baptists**

The 74th session of the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists met June 22-23, 2012, at Heritage Free Will Baptist Church, Columbus, Ohio. The theme for the convention was "**Credible Christianity**." Bro. Greg Harrell served as song leader. Sis. Tobianne Stout played the piano and Sis. Beth Bass played keyboards.

**Friday Morning**

At 9:30 AM, Acting Clerk Bryon Justice welcomed the congregation and called the meeting to order by introducing the moderator, Rev. Mark Price. Pastor Tim Stout welcomed the convention to Heritage Free Will Baptist Church. The moderator's message to the convention was taken from **Matthew 23:24-40**, his theme was "**Authentic Love**."

After seating delegates, the moderator called for the **General Board Report**. The **General Board** met June 22, 2012, at Heritage Free Will Baptist Church. Items of business from the report were brought to the floor as follows:

- **Item #1** The **Trinity** conference was short on their reporting fees and they are going to address the issue at their next meeting. Motion was made and carried to recommend that they be allowed to seat their delegates on good faith that the fee shortage will be rectified. It was pointed out that the fees for **Jackson** and **Cornerstone** conferences also had not been received and they were added to the recommendation. Motion was made and carried.
- **Item #2** A recommendation was made to amend the Constitution and By-Laws as follows:  
**Article X Item 2: This constitution and by-laws shall not be changed or altered except by two-thirds majority of all members present at a regular session. All proposed amendments shall be in writing and shall be read, then tabled until the next session. The amendment can then be removed from the table, read again and acted upon.**  
Motion was made and carried.
- **Item #3** A recommendation was made to amend the Constitution and By-Laws as follows:  
**Section VII: The voting sign shall be at the discretion of the moderator.**  
Motion was made and carried to lay this item on the table until the next session.
- **Item #4** A recommendation was made that the membership of the **Unity Conference** be revoked from the Ohio State Association due to their not meeting the necessary requirements to be considered an active conference.



- **Item #5** A recommendation was made to amend the Constitution and By-Laws as follows:  
**The Nominating Committee will be appointed by the State Moderator at each year's Association meeting to serve the following year. This is to take effect in the 2012 State Association meeting.**  
 Motion was made and carried to lay this item on the table until the next session.
- **Item #6** A recommendation was made to amend the Constitution and By-Laws as follows:  
 The recommendation was made to make a constitutional change that would appoint the Ohio State Promotional Director (Executive Secretary) to serve as the permanent National General Board Member as follows:  
**Seeing that many states have their State Promotional Director as their National General Board member; and seeing that a man in such a position is most capable to appreciate how to best represent the state constituency, we propose that we include in our constitution, a statement that would insure that our State Promotional Director (Executive Secretary) serves as our National General Board member and that he would be empowered to name his proxy should circumstances not allow his attending the National Association.**  
 Motion was made and carried to lay this item on the table until the next session.

To complete the appointment of committee members to serve during the convention, Bill Pitts and Roland Luthy were appointed to serve on the **Resolution Committee** alongside Chairman Tim Byers; Roy Hutchinson and Davey Castle were appointed to serve on the **Obituary Committee** alongside Chairman Mitch Salyers; Tim Crank and Paul Etterling were appointed to serve on the **Appreciation Committee** alongside Chairman Jerry Sargent.

The Moderator recognized the visiting representatives of various National Departments and ministries.

The moderator then recognized Roland Luthy and Paul Etterling, Sr, who gave a report of the **Ohio Home Missions Board**. Don Hix gave a report of his work at Redeemer Mission Church; Tim Byers gave the report of his work in Ashtabula. A motion carried to approve these reports and to adopt the budget. Gifts of appreciation were awarded to the following churches for placing in the top three of churches giving: Redeemer - \$13,000.00, Porter - \$6,942.86, Samantha - \$5,232.90.

Bro. George Grice gave a report for Bro. Darrell Grimes at the Flagship FWB Church in Erie, PA.

Bro. Jason Luthy gave the **OYC Report**, which was approved and the budget adopted.

**Ohio Women Active for Christ (OWAC) Report** was given by Sis. Sarah Sargent, and was approved. The theme for OWAC this year was, "Giving Unto the Lord." OWAC current membership is 126. The project for 2012-2013 is, \$7,000.00, divided between six different ministries. Sis. Shirley Frye was elected to serve as the National Nominating Committee delegate in Memphis, TN and Sis. Geri Baker was elected as alternate.

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

In the worship service, The Ohio FWB Minister Trio provided special singing. An offering of \$160.41 was received. Attendance was 145. Rev. Bill Pitts, Pastor of **Cross Point Free Will Baptist Church**, Lancaster, Ohio, was introduced to bring the message. The sermon topic was, "**Authentic Worship.**" Following the message the convention recessed for lunch.

### **Friday Afternoon**

At 1:35 PM, Rev. Mike Daniels, gave devotional thoughts on "**Authentic Creation**".

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

Executive Secretary Edwin Hayes gave a report of the **State Office** and its ministries. A motion carried to approve this report and to adopt the budget with the highlighted budget notes.

Manuel Lopes gave a report of the **2011 National Association Meeting**, which was approved. The moderator then appointed delegates to the National Association meeting this year in Memphis, TN, July 17-20, 2012. Those appointed were; A.J. Dooley, Mark McCarty, Gerry Beal, Tobianne Stout and Sandy Mounts.

Bro. David Womack gave a report of **Randall House Publications**, which was received.

**Free Will Baptist Bible College Report** was given by Bro. Mike Oliver, which was received.

**National Home Mission Report** (Now going by "Mission: North America.") was given by Bro. Tim Stout, which was received which included a report by Tom Jones of his **Home Mission** work in Greensburg, PA.

Bro. Richard Davis gave a report of the **FWB Foundation**, which was received.



A report of the **National Master's Men** was given by Bro. Clay Burgett, which was received.

Miscellaneous reports:

A report for **Impulse Missions** was given by Bro. Bill Hayes.

A report for **Southeastern Free Will Baptist Bible College** was given by Bro. Lorenzo Stox.

A report for **Gateway Bible College** was given by Bro. Chip Henley

A report was given for the **Free Will Baptist Family Ministries** by Bro. Frank Woods.

A motion was made and carried to receive the miscellaneous reports.

A motion was made and carried to adjourn the afternoon business session.

## Friday Evening

Assistant Moderator Tom Dooley welcomed the congregation and led worship. Pastor Tim Stout led the congregation in singing. An offering of \$5,956.00 was received. Attendance was 237. Special singing was provided by The Hunter Family from the Liberty FWB Church. Rev. Clint Morgan, **General Director of International Missions**, was introduced to bring the message. The sermon topic was "**Authentic Witness.**" Benediction.

## Saturday Morning

At 9:30 AM, Rev. Bobby Courtney gave devotional thoughts from **John 21:15-17**. The moderator then called for committee reports.

The business items that were laid on the table in the previous session (see **Items #3, #5 & #6 above**) were brought to the floor. **Item #3** was taken off the table. Motion was made and carried to pass the amendment. **Item #5** was taken off the table and amended as follows: **The Nominating Committee will be appointed by the State Moderator during the General Board Meeting at each year's Association meeting to serve the following year. This is to take place during the 2012 State Association meeting.** Motion was made and carried to pass the amendment as amended. **Item #6** was taken off the table. Motion was made and carried to pass the amendment.

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

**International Missions Department Report** was given by General Director Clint Morgan, preceded by Bro. Tim Keener who spoke of his mission work in France. The report was received.

The Moderator appointed the **Nominating Committee** for the 2013 Association Meeting as follows: Bro. Paul Keener (Chairman), Bro. Bill Chadwick and Bro. Paul Etterling.

**The Resolution Committee** report was given which contained two resolutions to bring to the floor. The first resolution concerned the Ohio State Association's stand against gay marriage. Motion was made and carried to pass the resolution. The second resolution concerned the Ohio State Association's stand on inter-racial marriage. After discussion, it was deemed that this resolution contained language which made it an item of business and motion was made and carried to send the resolution to the **Executive Committee** for further review. Motion was made and carried to receive the report.

**The Obituary Committee** report was given: Since we last met in June 2011, the fellow believers, listed on the attached list, have gone to be with the Lord. Motion was made and carried to approve the report. A moment of silence was held to remember these.

**The Appreciation Committee** report was given and a motion was made and carried to approve the report.

**The Registration Committee** report was read. Total registration was **243**; **61** Ministers, **15** Deacons, **23** Delegates, **75** Visitors, and **69** Youth.

The Acting Clerk then read the **504 report** which will be sent to the National Association Meeting in Memphis, TN, in July, which was approved. The report does not contain figures from the Jackson conference which are to be added by the Executive Secretary.

**The Nominating Committee** report was given and acted upon. For offices with term ending in 2013: **Moderator**, Mark Price, elected; **Assistant Moderator**, Tom Dooley, elected; **Clerk**, Bryon Justice, elected; **Assistant Clerk**, Manuel Lopes, elected. **Executive Committee**: Russell Street, Freddy Dutton, Dan King, and Matt Pond, elected.

For offices with term ending in 2014, **General Board**: Northern Ohio, Matt Pond, elected; Trinity, Densil Wright, elected; South Central, Bert Alsept, elected; Porter, Dan King, elected; Pine Creek, Aaron Reed, elected; State Line, Bill Pitts, elected;

Cornerstone, Blaine Etterling, elected; North & Western, James Webb, elected; Southern Ohio, Robert Fulton, elected.

For office with term ending in 2015, **OYC Board Member:** Kevin Bass, elected.

For offices with term ending in 2019, **Board of Directors:** Pete Dunn, elected; **Ohio Youth Conference:** Jason Luthy, elected; **State Missions Board:** Jerry Sargent, elected.

The Moderator then appointed Bro. Mike Mounts as Prayer Committee Chairman. Sis. Sue Moore was appointed as Registration Committee chairperson. Both will serve for the 2013 State Association meeting.

A motion made and carried to adjourn from business for the 2012 session.

Chad Cordell from the Woodstock FWB Church, provided special singing. An offering of \$ 122.25 was received. Attendance was 120. Rev. Paul Etterling, Jr., Senior Pastor of the Westerville FWB Church was introduced to bring the message. The sermon topic was, "**Authentic Walk**". Benediction.

Bryon J. Justice, Clerk Elect

Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists  
Obituaries-2012

Ercel Bair  
Fannie Baldwin  
Helen Barrett  
Stanley Bland  
Virginia Booth  
Margaret Browning  
Janet Burton  
Wanda Carmon  
Oleta Casteel  
Allen Creach  
Jim Clark  
Bob Clevenger  
Dorothy Combs  
Patsy Cornwell  
Ethel Crider  
Marcella Daniels  
Linda Eller  
Linnie Estep  
Kathleen Fain  
Betty Fraley  
Ella Griffith  
Georgie Graham  
Gary Hammond  
Mary Haney  
Catherine Hilliard  
Irene Hamrick  
Louise Haven  
Joyce Hill  
Loretta Keaton  
Claude Jennings  
Emma Markle  
Opal McKenzie  
James McPeek  
Beecher Music  
Elenore Para  
Stephen Payne  
Dearl Porter  
May Porter  
Jack Roberts  
Ray Robinson  
Oretha Rose  
Della Rowe  
Rose Sansom  
Gladys Shelton  
Helen Schoolcraft  
Jim Shipley  
Gertrude Thompson  
Minnie Thompson  
John Thornton  
Paul Sammons  
Carl Scott  
Ernest Sexton

Jesse Sexton

Mary Staggs  
Phyllis Street  
Everett Williams  
Joyce Wolford  
Mabel Woods  
Imogene Young

**Ministers**

Rev. Forrest Chamberlin  
Rev. James A. Hayes  
Rev. Vernal Fairchild  
Rev. James Roby  
Rev. Crate Sparks  
Rev. Frederick Taylor  
Rev. Clyde Thompson  
Rev. Charles Thrush  
Rev. Clyde VanHoose

**Deacons**

Don Long  
Damon Crabtree  
Stanley Gaa  
Robert Parish  
Truman Rowe  
Hughie M. Scurlock  
Ora Thompson  
Mitchell VanHoose  
John Wagoner

**Additions by Mitch Salyers, Roy Hutchinson,  
Davey Castle**

Shirlee Picklesimer from Beatty FWB Church  
Roger Vonderheide from Beatty FWB Church  
Richard Harner from Garden City FWB Church  
Roy Toney from First Austintown FWB Church  
James Thomas from First Austintown FWB  
Church