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40th ANNUAL SESSION

of the

ROCKFISH CONFERENCE

of the

Original Free Will Baptists

convening with

Mount Moriah Free Will Baptist Church

AT HAMLET, N. C.

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### List of Ministers and Their Addresses

M. L. Baxley	-----	Red Springs, N. C.
J. H. Galloway	-----	Lumberton, N. C.
Steve English	-----	Mill Rural Station, Rockingham, N. C.
C. W. Bennett	-----	St. Pauls, N. C.
R. L. Clark	-----	Hamlet, N. C.
H. S. Clark	-----	Laurinburg, N. C.
G. W. Huestas	-----	Patrick, S. C.
L. C. Coates	-----	Cheraw, S. C.
A. J. Pearson	-----	St. Pauls, N. C.

# PROCEEDINGS

Opened session with song by congregation, "I Am Thine O Lord." Prayer by Bro. Jesse Lee. Devotional was conducted by Rev. O. M. Hilburn, read from 133rd Psalm.

A hearty welcome was given to the following visiting ministers: Rev. R. G. Woodard, Western Association; Rev. Paul Jenkins, Western Association; Rev. Allen Bryant, Western Association; Rev. R. W. Allman, Western Association; Rev. Walter Carter, Piedmont, Association; Rev. O. M. Hilburn, Piedmont Association.

## Appointment of Committees

Devotional Committee—Bro. Pat Hodge, Chairman; Bro. Clarence Lee, Sister Ovella Grimsley.

Sabbath School—Bro. Jesse Lee, Chairman; Bro. Pat Hodge, Bro. Henry Edwards.

Orphanage—Bro. John Patterson, Chairman; Rev. C. W. Bennett, Bro. Clarence Lee.

Education—Rev. J. H. Galloway, Chairman; Bro. Jerry Budd, Sister Margaret Mathis.

Missions—Sister Catherine Quick, Sister Ovella Grimsley, Mrs. Clarence W. Lee.

## Roll Call of Ministers

Rev. M. L. Baxley, present; Rev. C. W. Bennett, present; Rev. J. H. Galloway, present; Rev. R. L. Clark, present; Rev. H. S. Clark, present; Rev. Steve English, absent; Rev. G. W. Huestas, absent; Rev. L. C. Coats, absent; Rev. A. J. Pearson, absent.

Songs by congregation, "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms," and "Where We'll Never Grow Old."

Dismissed for recess by Rev. R. G. Woodard.

## Eleven O'Clock Service

Report from Devotional Committees requests Rev. Paul Jenkins to preach the morning sermon.

Song by congregation, "At the Cross."

Rev. Paul Jenkins read from Acts 27th chapter, verses 21 through 25. Prayer by Rev. Allen Bryant. Rev. Jenkins scripture text was taken from Acts 27th chapter, verse 25, Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me. Subject: Faith in God.

Song by congregation, "My Faith Looks Up to Thee."

12:00, dismissed for lunch by Rev. O. M. Hilburn.

The clerk really enjoyed his dinner, and the rest of the people did, ap-

parently, because the good food disappeared really fast, too fast to suit the clerk.

## 1 P. M.

1:00, Opened by song, "Blessed Assurance." Prayer by Rev. C. W. Bennett. Bible reading by Rev. Allen Bryant, 1st Peter, chapter 5. Prayer by Rev. O. M. Hilburn. Song, "Won't It Be Wonderful There."

Appointed delegates to other Associations:

Delegate to Western Association—Rev. C. W. Bennett.

Delegate to Pee Dee Association—Rev. J. H. Galloway.

Delegate to Piedmont Association which convenes Friday and Saturday, before the 1st Sunday in August, 1949—Bro. Wm. H. Edwards.

In absence of various delegates, all important business was postponed until the second day of this Conference.

Note to all churches: Please try to have the delegates that are appointed, to attend both days of our conference. It is the duty of all ministers and deacons and officers of the churches which belong to this conference to attend both days and devote that time to God's business, His business is very important to us through this life of ours. The Rockfish Conference would be stronger if more of the members of the churches that make up the Conference would attend and devote their time and money to it. That is the only way they can voice their opinions and vote as they are led to vote.

The Devotional Committee requested Rev. R. G. Woodard to preach for us at 2:00 o'clock.

Sermon by Rev. Woodard. Text taken from Ephesians, chapter 2.

Moved and carried to adjourn.

## Evening of First Day

Services held by Rev. O. M. Hilburn. Text: Matthew, chapter 16, 13th through 20th verses.

## Second Day

9:30, opened by song, "When I See the Blood." Prayer by Bro. John Patterson. Devotional by Rev. C. W. Bennett. Read from 23rd chapter St. Luke.

10:00—Open for business. Events of first day's session read by Clerk.

Moved and carried to appoint a committee to visit Rev. Steve English as to the reason for being absent, and for the committee to report same to the Executive Board at it's next meeting. Committee named as follows: Bro. Pat Hodge, Rev. R. L. Clark.

Motioned and so ordered, to appoint a committee to visit Rev. L. C. Coats and Rev. G. W. Huestas as to their welfare. These two ministers have and still are loyal to the Conference and what it stands for.

Committee named are as follows: Rev. M. L. Baxley, Rev. H. S. Clark.

Devotional Committee asked to report who will preach at eleven o'clock. The minister named was Rev. Angus Prevatte.

Business period closed by Moderator. Song by congregation, "I Guess I Am a Little Old Fashioned."

10:50—Dismissed for recess.

11:00—Song by congregation, "Just Over in the Glory Land." Prayer by Bro. Roy Johnson. Song, "Wor't It Be Wonderful There."

Sermon by Rev. Angus Prevatte. Text, Acts, chapter 2, verses 41 through 47. Subject: What Makes a Good Church? The points brought out by Rev. Prevatte was Unity, Faith, Charity and downright Friendliness toward their fellowmen by all the members. He pointed out that we must show a brotherly love for our fellowmen and dispense with pride, selfishness and the old ("I am better than you are") attitude.

Song by congregation, "An Old Account was Settled Long Ago."

Offering made for our Orphanage Home, the amount came to \$10.00.

12:00—Dismissed for dinner by Rev. R. L. Clark.

Served dinner on the yard, which was enjoyed by all.

## Afternoon Session

1:00—Song, "I'll Be a Friend to Jesus." Prayer by Bro. Elbert Tatum. Song by congregation, "In the Sweet Bye and Bye."

Business period. Election of officers for the next two years.

For Moderator, Rev. M. L. Baxley; For Clerk, Bro. W. H. Edwards; For Treasurer, Bro. Pat Hodge.

Appointed to the Ordaining Council were: Rev. M. L. Baxley, Rev. H. S. Clark, Deacon John Patterson, Deacon Jesse Lee, and Deacon W. H. Edwards.

Appointed to the Executive Board were: Deacon Roy Johnson, Bro. Jerry Budd, Bro. Rudolph Baxley, Bro. Elbert Tatum, Bro. J. T. Watts, Bro. Clarence Lee.

The above appointments were approved by the body of Rockfish Conference on October 8th, 1948, and were charged as to their duties and to perform them with God's guidance, the Holy Bible.

## Committee Reports

SABBATH SCHOOL—We, your Committee, do earnestly beg all of you who are present to try to make your attendance at Sunday School 100% and support it spiritually and financially. God's business requires our money also, for only by Him, you earn it.

Bro. Jesse Lee, Chairman,  
Bro. Pat Hodge,  
Bro. W. H. Edwards.

ORPHANAGE—We, your Committee, urge our members not to forget our children at Middlesex, and our churches to designate certain weeks of the next year for collections for our Orphanage.

Bro. J. A. Patterson,  
Bro. C. W. Bennett,  
Bro. Clarence Lee.

EDUCATION—We, your Committee, do recommend more education in Bible learning for our teachers and ministers, and urge you to support the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tenn.

Bro. J. H. Galloway,  
Bro. Jerry Budd,  
Sister Margaret Mathis.

MISSIONS—We, your Committee, earnestly pray that we all will see the need of mission work, both at home and abroad, and support it with their prayers and money.

Mrs. Ovella Grimsley,  
Mrs. Clarence Lee,  
Mrs. Catherine Quick.

Moved and carried that we receive the Committee Reports.

## Call for Church Letters

SANDY GROVE—To the Rockfish Association of Free Will Baptist, when convened with the Mount Moriah Church at Hamlet, N. C., October 7th and 8th, 1948. We send as delegates our beloved brethren Jerry Budd, Aldon Johnson and George Carver, whom we pray you to receive to sit with you in your godly deliberations.

State of Religion, Good; Members received past 3 months 8; Baptized 7; Total membership 66; Condition of Prayer Meeting Fair; Condition of Sunday School Good; Average No. of pupils 50; No. of Officers 4; No. of Teachers 4.

Paid Pastor, \$82.17; Paid Evangelist, \$150.00; For Education, \$18.76; Enclosed for Minutes, \$5.00.

Ministers belonging to our church—Rev. C. W. Bennett, St. Pauls, N. C., Route 2; Rev. A. J. Pearson, St. Pauls, N. C.; Rev. A. D. Granger, St. Pauls, N. C. Pastor's name, Rev. Walter Jernigan, Bladenboro, N. C.

Rev. M. L. Baxley, Moderator.  
Mrs. Ellen Thames, Clerk.

HICKORY GROVE—To the Rockfish Conference of Free Will Baptist, when convened with the Mount Moriah Church at Hamlet, N. C., October 7, 1948. We send as delegates our beloved brethren Jesse W. Lee, Clarence W. Lee, Mrs. Clarence W. Lee, whom we pray you to receive to sit with you in your godly deliberations.

State of religion good; Members received past 3 months 0; Baptized 0; Dismissed 0; Died 0; Total membership 30; Condition of Prayer Meeting 0;

Condition of Sunday School good; Average No. of pupils 20; No. of Officers 2; No. of Teachers 2.

Paid Pastor, \$75.00; Paid Evangelist, \$35.00; Building and Repairs, \$40.00; Enclosed for Minutes, \$7.00.

Ministers belonging to our church: M. L. Baxley, Red Springs, N. C.; Robert Atkinson, Fayetteville, N. C. Pastor's name, M. L. Baxley, Red Springs, N. C.

M. L. Baxley, Moderator.  
Clarence W. Lee, Clerk.

Remarks: We wish for this Body to pray for us to be more grateful for the Lord's work in the future than the past.

**MOUNT MORIAH**—To the Rockfish Conference of Free Will Baptist, when convened with the Mt. Moriah Church at Hamlet, N. C., October 7th and 8th, 1948. We send as delegates our beloved sisters, Mrs. Margaret Mathis, Mrs. Catherine Quick and Billie Peele, whom we pray you to receive to sit with you in your godly deliberations.

State of religion good; Members received past 3 months 0; Baptized 2; Dismissed 4; Died 0; Total membership 35; Condition of Prayer Meeting good; Condition of Sunday School fair; Average No. of pupils 21; No. of Officers 1; No. of Teachers 3.

Paid Pastor, \$286.62; Paid Evangelist, \$92.00; Building and Repairs, \$130.00; For Education, \$5.00; For Publication, \$20.00; Enclosed for Minutes \$5.00.

Pastor's name: Rev. R. W. Allman, Kannapolis, N. C.

H. P. Hodges, Moderator.  
Mrs. Mattie Norton, Clerk.

**BETHEL**—To the Rockfish Conference of Free Will Baptist, when convened with the Mt. Moriah Church at Hamlet, N. C., October, 1948. We send as delegates our beloved sisters, Ovela Grimsley, Janie and Ruby Long, and Florine Galloway, whom we pray you to receive to sit with you in your godly deliberations.

State of religion good; Members received past 3 months 9; Baptized 7; Total membership 19; Condition of Prayer Meeting good; Condition of Sunday School good; Average No. of pupils about 20; No. of Officers 7; No. of Teachers 3.

Paid Evangelist, \$77.31; Enclosed for Minutes, \$5.00.

Ministers belonging to our church: Rev. J. H. Galloway, Lumberton, N. C., Route 1. Pastor's name: Rev. J. H. Galloway, Lumberton, N. C., Route 1.

Rev. J. H. Galloway, Moderator.  
Mrs. Ovela Grimsley, Clerk.

Remarks: The reason for no pastor salary, the service was free. The reason for no finances, we are trying to get organized and were not able to contribute to other causes.

**BETHLEHEM**—To the Rockfish Conference of Free Will Baptist, when

convened with the Mt. Moriah Free Will Baptist Church at Hamlet, N. C., October 7th and 8th, 1948. We send as delegates our beloved brethren, R. L. Clark, Frant Hunt, Sisters Esther Polson, Lillie Hunt, whom we pray you to receive to sit with you in your godly deliberations.

State of religion good; Members received past 3 months 0; Baptized 0; Dismissed 0; Died 0; Total membership 21; Condition of Sunday School good; Average No. of pupils 10; No. of Officers 2; No. of Teachers 1.

Paid Pastor \$400.00; Enclosed for Minutes, \$5.00.

Ministers belong to our church: Rev. H. S. Clark, Laurinburg, N. C., Rev. R. L. Clark, Hamlet, N. C. Pastor's name: Rev. H. S. Clark, Laurinburg, N. C.

Rev. H. S. Clark, Moderator.  
Esther Polson, Clerk.

EASTSIDE F. W. B. CHURCH—To the Rockfish Conference of Free Will Baptists when convened with the Mount Moriah Church at Hamlet, N. C., October 7th and 8th, 1948. We pray you to receive this report.

State of religion good; Total membership 11; Sunday School good; No. of Officers 2; No. of Teachers 3.

Building and repairs, \$500.00.

Pastor's name, Rev. M. L. Baxley, Red Springs, N. C.

It was moved and carried to extend an invitation to new ministers to join our body.

Rev. Angus Prevatte of Raeford, N. C., asked for admission.

Rev. Angus Prevatte presented his credentials, and the Conference upon learning he was of another denomination, requested him to join one of our churches and accept the Free Will Baptist discipline and present himself before the Ordaining Council and Executive Board during the next year or the next session and if he filled the requirements he would be granted Minister's License under the Original Free Will Baptist Doctrine.

It was moved and carried that each member of the Conference assess himself or herself to pay \$1.20 per year or 10c per month to the Rockfish Conference Treasurer.

It was moved and carried that each candidate for the ministry file his application through his respective church, for a trial period of one year, and the Ordaining Council would not recognize the candidate unless his application was approved by his church after that one year period.

It was moved and carried the 41st Annual Session of the Rockfish Conference would convene with Hickory Grove Church on Thursday and Friday before the second Sunday in October, 1949.

It was moved and carried to adjourn. Dismissed by Bro. John Patterson.

M. L. Baxley, Moderator.  
W. H. Edwards, Clerk.

## Officers and Standing Committees

Moderator ----- M. L. Baxley  
Clerk ----- W. H. Edwards  
Treasurer ----- H. P. Hodge

## Ordaining Council

Rev. M. L. Baxley, Rev. H. S. Clark, Deacon John Patterson,  
Deacon Jesse Lee, Deacon W. H. Edwards.

## Executive Board

Deacon Roy Johnson, Bros. Jerry Budd, Rudolph Baxley, Elbert Tatum,  
J. T. Watts, Clarence Lee.

## Church Clerks and Addresses

Sandy Grove—Mrs. D. B. Thames, St. Pauls, N. C.  
Hickory Grove—Mr. Clarence Lee, Fayetteville, N. C.  
Mt. Moriah—Mrs. Mattie Norton, Hamlet, N. C.  
Bethel—Mrs. Ovella Grimsley, Lumberton, N. C.  
Bethlehem—Miss Esther Polson, Patrick, S. C.  
Eastside—Mr. Rudolph Baxley, Red Springs, N. C.  
St. John—Miss Dorothy McLain, Patrick, S. C.

## Church Valuations

Sandy Grove	- - - - -	\$2,000.00
Hickory Grove	- - - - -	\$1,500.00
Mt. Moriah	- - - - -	\$2,500.00
Bethel	- - - - -	\$1,000.00
Bethlehem	- - - - -	\$1,200.00
St. John	- - - - -	\$2,000.00
Eastside	- - - - -	\$1,200.00

