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MINUTES

OF THE

Forty-Fourth Annual Session

OF THE

ROCKFISH CONFERENCE

OF THE

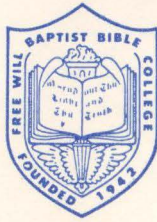
Original Free Will Baptists

HELD WITH

MOUNT MORIAH CHURCH

HAMLET, RICHMOND COUNTY, N. C.

OCTOBER 10th, 11th, 1952



FREE WILL BAPTIST
BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

Mr. Merritt Floyd

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ORDAINED MINISTERS

C. B. Hopkins, Mills Rural Sta., Rockingham, N. C.
Agnus Prevatte, Raeford, N. C.
Steve English, Route 2, Hamlet, N. C.
J. H. Galloway, R. F. D., Lumberton, N. C.
C. W. Bennett, Route 2, St. Paul, N. C.
R. L. Clark, Hamlet, N. C.
A. J. Pearson, St. Paul, N. C.
J. H. Tyson, Raeford, N. C.
Frank Sanford, Route 2, Hamlet, N. C.
J. W. Sanford, East Rockingham, N. C.
H. S. Clark, East Laurinburg, N. C.
J. C. Rogers, Box 22, Rockingham, N. C.
R. R. Sheppard, Route 2, Hamlet, N. C.

LICENTIATES

W. F. McQuage, Route 2, Hamlet, N. C.
J. A. Atkinson, 403 S. King St., Fayetteville, N. C.

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Revs. J. W. Sanford, Chairman; Angus Prevatte; and R. L. Clark.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

REV. C. B. HOPKINS.....	Chairman and Moderator
REV. ANGUS PREVATTE.....	Clerk
REV. J. W. SANFORD.....	Assistant Moderator
G. H. CARVER.....	Sandy Grove Church
J. P. HUFFMAN.....	Highland Pines Church
W. F. McQUAGE.....	Highland Pines Church

CHURCHES — CHURCH CLERK & ADDRESS

SANDY GROVE—Mrs. Ellen Thames, Rt. 1, Parkton, N. C.
HICKORY GROVE—Mrs. Ed Bryant, Rt. 3, Fayetteville, N. C.
MOUNT MORIAH—Mrs. H. L. Norton, Hamlet, N. C.
HIGHLAND PINES—Mrs. E. R. Covington, Rt. 2, Hamlet, N. C.
MOUNT CALVARY—Doris Hearne (Write to Rev. J. W. Sanford, East Rockingham, N. C.)
PINE GROVE—(Correspondence should be sent to Rev. Clyde Cox, M. R. S., Rockingham, N. C.)
EASTSIDE—Mrs. M. L. Baxley, Red Springs, N. C.
BETHEL—Rev. J. H. Galloway, R. F. D., Lumberton, N. C.
BETHLEHEM—(Write Rev. H. S. Clark, East Rockingham, N. C.)
PINEY PLAINS—(Write Rev. R. R. Sheppard, Rt. 2, Hamlet, N. C.)
ST. JOHN—(Write Rev. Steve English, Rt. 2, Hamlet, N. C.)

PROCEEDINGS

The Forty-Fourth Annual session of the Rockfish Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists of the State of North Carolina, met in session with the Mount Moriah Church at Hamlet, N. C., on October 10 through 11, 1952.

FRIDAY MORNING

Song by congregation—"Are You Washed In the Blood."

Devotions by Rev. Winford Floyd, reading the second chapter of Hebrews.

The Welcome Address was given by Rev. Angus Prevatte, pastor of host church.

The delegates to the conference were recognized as follows: Margaret Mathis, Jerry Budd, Lee Carpenter, W. F. Peele, Ava Jane Lee, and Will Jacobs. Also recognized were the ordained and licensed ministers, members of standing committees, and the officers of the conference.

A roll call of ministers was made with the following being present: Revs. M. L. Baxley, C. B. Hopkins, Angus Prevatte, Steve English, R. L. Clark, H. S. Clark, J. W. Sanford, J. C. Rogers, Clyde Cox, W. F. McQuage, and J. A. Atkinson. Rev. M. L. Johnson of the Western Conference, was a most welcome visitor with us the first day.

The first order of business was a motion to appoint a committee to draw up a constitution to fit the needs of the conference, but not to read contrary to our State Treatise. This motion was carried that the committee be composed of the Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, and two others to be elected from the delegates present. They were, Rev. Winford Floyd and Brother W. F. Peele.

At this time the Devotional Committee was appointed consisting of: Brothers Jesse Lee, Chairman; Pat Hodge; and W. L. Peele.

Rev. M. L. Johnson, Promotional Secretary for the State of North Carolina, made his report at this time. From his report, we learned that we, as Free Will Baptists, did fairly well, state-wide, only in Superannuation are we short of the needs. Superannuation is a very deserving part of our program.

A motion was moved and carried that we adjourn for recess.

Eleven o'clock Worship Hour.

Rev. J. A. Atkinson was requested by the Devotional Committee to preach for us.

Song by congregation—"Saviour, More Than Life To Me."

Song by Congregation—"Amazing Grace."

Prayer by Rev. M. L. Johnson.

Sermon by Rev. J. A. Atkinson, using as his text Romans 5:1.

Rev. Angus Prevatte, host pastor, welcomed everyone to lunch served by the host church.

Rev. Winford Floyd dismissed the congregation with prayer.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Song by congregation—"Help Somebody Today."

Prayer by Rev. Angus Prevatte.

Devotions were conducted by Rev. M. L. Johnson, reading from the Book of Revelations.

At this time the report of the Executive Board was read as follows:

We, the Executive Committee of the Rockfish Conference, met with Brother J. W. Sanford on August 30, 1952, concerning his status with the conference. Rev. Stanford requested that he be re-instated. The Executive Board elected to re-instate Rev. Sanford in good fellowship with the Rockfish Conference with all rights belonging to an ordained minister.

We also discussed the situation that prevailed at the Pine Grove Free Will Baptist Church at Rockingham, N. C. We did there, declare that the pastor, Rev. George Langley, be no longer a minister of good standing in the Rockfish Conference and no longer the pastor of Pine Grove Church.

A motion was made and carried to accept the Executive Board's report.

Rev. H. S. Clark brought a letter from the Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church asking to be recognized by the Rockfish Conference. A lengthy discussion followed the reading of this letter which was later accepted.

A motion was made and carried to adjourn after being dismissed by prayer.

The Friday evening worship services were omitted.

SATURDAY MORNING

The conference opened at ten o'clock by the congregation singing, "Camping in Canaan's Land."

Prayer was offered by Rev. Walter Carter.

The following visiting ministers were recognized for the second day: Revs. Walter Carter, Noah Brown, and John Newton, all of the Piedmont Association.

Devotions were conducted by Rev. John Newton, reading for his Scripture, John 14:1-10.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Sabbath Schools: Revs. Steve English, Chairman; H. S. Clark; and C. B. Hopkins.

Education: Mrs. Nellie Edwards, Chairman; Rev. Winford Floyd; and Mrs. Ava Jane Lee.

Orphanage: W. F. Peele, Chairman, and Jerry Budd.

Missions: Rev. J. A. Atkinson, Chairman; Rev. J. W. Sanford; and J. P. Huffman.

Superannuation: Rev. Angus Prevatte, Chairman; Mrs. Margaret Mathis; and Lee Carpenter.

A motion was made and carried to adjourn for recess after being dismissed by prayer.

Eleven o'clock Worship Hour.

Song by congregation—"I'll Live in Glory."

Song by congregation—"It Won't Be Very Long." Led by Rev. W. F. McQuage.

Prayer was offered by Rev. W. F. McQuage.

Sermon by Rev. J. C. Rogers using as his text, II Chronicles 15:1.

Dismissed for lunch by prayer offered by Rev. Noah Brown.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Song by congregation—"When We All Get to Heaven."

Prayer by Brother Thomas Owens.

Devotions were conducted by Rev. W. F. McQuage, reading for his Scripture, Acts 22.

The following churches reported by letter:

Mount Calvary—Delegate, W. F. Peele. State of religion, fair; members received past 3 months, 11; baptized, 2; dismissed, 5; total membership 53. Condition of prayer meeting, fair; condition of Sunday School, fair; average number of pupils, 55; number of officers, 5; number of teachers, 5. Paid pastor \$280.00; paid evangelist \$95.00; buildings and repairs \$25.00; enclosed for minutes \$5.00. Ministers belonging to our church, Rev. J. W. Sanford and Rev. J. C. Rogers of Rockingham, N. C. Pastor's name, Rev. J. W. Sanford, East Rockingham, N. C.

REV. J. W. SANFORD, Moderator

DORIS HEARNE, Clerk

Highland Pines—Delegate, Brother Lee Carpenter. State of religion, good; members received past 3 months, 12; baptized, 9; total membership, 95. Condition of prayer meeting, good; condition of Sunday School, good; average number of pupils, 90; number of teachers, 6. Paid pastor \$2,384.22; paid evangelist, \$457.23; Home Missions \$64.72; Foreign Mission \$28.45; building and repairs \$931.83; orphan home \$72.57; for publications \$994.60; paid on parsonage \$970.45; enclosed for minutes \$5.00; total paid out \$5,909.07. Ministers belong to our church are Revs. Frank McQuage (Licensed) and Frank Sanford, both of Hamlet, N. C., Route 2. Pastor's name, Rev. Winfred Floyd, Hamlet, N. C., Route 2.

REV. WINFRED FLOYD, Moderator

MRS. E. R. COVINGTON, Clerk

Hickory Grove—Delegate, Jesse Lee. State of religion, good; members received past 3 months, 2; baptized, 1; dismissed, 3 by letter; total membership, 34. Condition of prayer meeting, good; condition of Sunday School, good; average number of pupils, 40; number of officers, 2; number of teachers, 3. Paid pastor \$125.00; paid evangelist \$26.00; building and repairs \$53.75; enclosed for minutes \$5.00. Ministers belonging to our church are Rev. C. B. Hopkins, Rockingham, N. C., and Rev. J. A. Atkinson, 403 S. King Street, Fayetteville, N. C. Pastor's name, Rev. J. A. Atkinson.

REV. J. A. ATKINSON, Moderator

ED BRYANT, Clerk

Remarks: We have called Rev. J. A. Atkinson for our pastor for the coming year, and recommend him to the association for ordination. We have preaching services each Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7:45 p. m. We have F. W. B. League each Sunday at 6:45 p. m.

Sandy Grove—Delegates, Jerry Budd; Thomas Owens; and Sister Nellie Edwards. State of religion, good; members received past 3 months, 7; baptized, 5; total membership, 58. Condition of prayer meeting, good; condition of Sunday School, good; average number of pupils, 50; number of officers, 5; number of teachers, 3. Paid pastor \$206.06; paid evangelist \$61.72; building and repairs \$500.00; for publications \$16.00; orphanage \$60.00; enclosed for minutes \$5.00. Ministers belong to our church are, Revs. Angus Prevatte and J. H. Tyson, both of Raeford, N. C.; and Rev. A. J. Pearson of St. Paul, N. C. Pastor's name, Rev. Angus Prevatte.

REV. ANGUS PREVATTE, Moderator

MRS. ELLEN THAMES, Clerk

Mount Moriah—Delegates, Sisters Margaret Mathis and Ada Watts. State of religion, good; members died, 1; total membership, 23. Condition of Sunday School, fair; average number of pupils, 28; number of officers, 3; number of teachers, 3. Paid pastor \$389.00; paid evangelist \$75.00; orphanage \$55.00; Foreign Mission \$25.00; superannuation \$10.00; Cragmont \$10.00; enclosed for minutes \$10.00; miscellaneous \$139.87; cash on hand \$64.63. Minister belonging to our church, Rev. R. L. Clark, Hamlet, N. C. Pastor's name, Rev. Angus Prevatte.

REV. ANGUS PREVATTE, Moderator

MRS. H. L. NORTON, Clerk

Bethlehem—Delegates, Brothers Frank Hunt and James Smith and Sister Esther Smith. We, the members of Bethlehem Church, are at peace one with another. We have preaching once a month by our pastor, Rev. H. S. Clark, having called him to serve us for the year 1953. We have received one member by baptism this year. We have paid our pastor \$162.30 for the year. We enclose \$5.00 for minute fund. We ask the prayers of the conference.

REV. H. S. CLARK, Moderator

ESTHER SMITH, Clerk

Eastside—No written report.

Bethel—No written report.

Pine Grove—No written report.

Piney Plains—No written report.

St. John—Delegates could not come, report sent in. State of religion, good; members received for year, 12; baptized, 6; dismissed, 2; total membership, 87. Condition of Sunday School, good; average number of pupils, 70; number of teachers, 4. Paid pastor \$312.05; paid evangelist \$50.00; missions \$35.10; visiting pastors, Brother H. S. Clark, \$70.06; Reverend Rogers, \$6.26; Bible for church \$20.00; loose offerings \$20.00; enclosed for minutes \$5.00; total money spent \$657.21. Pastor's name, Rev. Steve English.

REV. STEVE ENGLISH, Moderator

MRS. W. M. MYERS, Clerk

A motion was made and carried to accept the church letters.

Prayer was rendered by Rev. Walter Carter.

Report of the Ordaining Council is as follows:

March 29, 1952—We recommended Brother R. R. Sheppard to be licensed to preach by Mount Calvary Free Will Baptist Church. We could not agree on Brother W. E. Chavis of Piney Plains Church.

June 28, 1952—We ordained one licensed minister and recommended two others for licenses to their church.

Rev. Lynwood Bryant gave up his credentials because of change of denominations. Rev. George Langley was relieved of his credentials because of denial of our faith.

This is the report of your Ordaining Council's work for 1952. Some is good and some is disappointing. We are praying that you accept it as written.

Yours in Christ,

REV. STEVE ENGLISH, Chairman

REV. H. S. CLARK

REV. C. B. HOPKINS

A motion was made and carried that the Ordaining Council's report be accepted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Missions—We, the Mission Committee, recommend that we first take care of our home missions in all of its benevolent needs, such as to support our home Bible schools and promoting a higher Christian standard for our churches and communities.

J. W. SANFORD

J. P. HUFFMAN

Orphanage—We, your Committee for Orphanage, recommend that all our churches realize that the orphan children at our home are looking to us for their support. Let each one of us do their best for this cause.

JERRY BUDD

W. F. PEELE

Superannuation—We, the Committee on Superannuation, do recommend that each church take in consideration the great need of our retired Brothers and do our best for them.

MRS. MARGARET MATHIS

LEE CARPENTER

ANGUS PREVATTE

Education—We, your Committee on Education, urgently request you to see that our Free Will Baptist schools and colleges of the past and future are supported sufficiently to train our people to enable them to teach God's Word better.

NELLIE EDWARDS
AVA JANE LEE

Sabbath Schools—We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, urge you to support your Sabbath School with your money and presence each Sabbath Day. Encourage your children to attend Sabbath School regularly.

STEVE ENGLISH
H. S. CLARK
C. B. HOPKINS

A motion was made and carried to adopt the committee's report.

A motion was made and carried to elect the officers of the Rockfish Conference for the next two years as follows:

Rev. C. B. Hopkins	Moderator
J. W. Sanford	Assistant Moderator
Angus Prevatte	Secretary
Mrs. H. L. Norton	Treasurer

STANDING COMMITTEES

Ordaining Council: Revs. J. W. Sanford, Chairman; Angus Prevatte; and R. L. Clark.

Executive Board: To include the officers of the conference with the exception of the Treasurer, plus three other persons as follows: Brothers G. H. Carver, J. P. Huffman, and Rev. W. F. McQuage.

No Finance Committee was named at this session.

At this time, Rev. M. L. Baxley requested his letter be given him from the Rockfish Conference. A motion was made and carried that such a letter be granted.

The Treasurer gave the following report:

Money received for 1951 & 52	\$64.33
Money disbursed	59.95
Balance	\$ 4.38

WM. H. EDWARDS, Sec. & Treas.

A motion was made and carried to accept the Treasurer's report.

At this time the retiring Secretary and Treasurer took the privilege to thank the Rockfish Conference and its people for the honor of serving them for the past six years, and will in the future serve again if it becomes necessary.

The Firty-Fifth Session of the Rockfish Conference will, by the Grace of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, be held with Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church on Friday and Saturday before the second Sunday in October, 1953.

A rising vote of thanks was given to the people of Mount Moriah Church for the hospitality shown to the members and delegates of the Rockfish Conference and their visitors.

A motion was made and carried to adjourn after being dismissed by prayer.

REV. C. B. HOPKINS, Moderator
REV. ANGUS PREVATTE, Secretary

