



MINUTES

OF THE

Eighteenth Annual Session

OF THE

Union Association

OF

UNITED FREE WILL BAPTIST

WHICH CONVENED WITH

CANADY CHAPEL CHURCH

Thomas County, Georgia

October 21-22, 1943

OFFICERS

Rev. W. L. Harrell, Moderator.....Omega, Ga.
 Rev. W. F. Clark, Assistant Moderator.....Thomasville, Ga.
 J. J. Fowler, Clerk and Treasurer.....Route 1, Warwick, Ga.

Executive Committee

A. S. FaisonMoultrie, Ga.
 J. B. KearnsCamilla, Ga.
 Claude GoebelMoultrie, Ga.
 J. A. BradyOmega, Ga.
 Walter MurphyMoultrie, Ga.

Ordaining Council

A. L. SellersCamilla, Ga.
 C. J. HarveyCamilla, Ga.
 J. C. WeathersCordale, Ga.

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The Rev. W. L. Harrell of Omega, Georgia will preach the introductory sermon.

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PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings of the Eighteenth Annual Session of The Union Association of United Free Will Baptist convening with Canady Chapel Church, Thomas County, Ga., October 21-22, 1943.

The members and delegates of The Union Association was called to order at 10:30 A. M., Oct. 21, 1943 by the moderator, W. L. Harrell. The devotional service was led by Rev. John L. Sloan.

The introductory Sermon was by the Rev. W. L. Barrow. The text used, Genesis 13-8. He brought a great lesson from the above text in an impressive way and manner.

Preaching over, the body was dismissed for dinner by Rev. C. J. Harvey.

A plentiful dinner was served at the church.

Moderator W. L. Harrell called the association to order at 2 P. M. Prayer was offered by Bro. G. D. Roberts. At this time the body organized and was declared ready to transact any business that might come before the association.

The Moderator read for a scripture lesson Psalms 33. Next to call for church letters. Brothers C. J. Harvey and W. F. Clark were appointed to read the letters as follows:

SALEM CHURCH—Jefferson County, Fla. Delegates, Nancy Wyrick, Marietta Wyrick, Tom Howell.

THOMASVILLE CHURCH—Thomas County, Ga. Delegates, R. A. Yates, A. J. Watson.

PELHAM CHURCH—Mitchell County, Ga. Delegates, L. L. Shinhoster, Ben Bodiford.

LIBERTY CHURCH—Colquitt County, Ga. Delegates, A. C. Norman, E. B. Norman.

NEW HOPE CHURCH—Colquitt County, Ga. Delegates, M. B. Lanier, Callie Holton, Lizzie Wade.

MIDWAY CHURCH—Colquitt County, Ga. Delegates, Walter Murphy, Homer Gay, A. S. Faison.

ST. PAUL CHURCH—Tift County Ga. Delegates, J. A. Brady, Mitchell Henson, Monroe Justice.

NEW JERUSALEM CHURCH—Colquitt, County, Ga. Delegates, Howard Smith, T. C. Goebel, Reanor Browning.

CANADY CHAPPELL—Thomas County, Ga. Delegates, Dillie Brown, Vessey Bradley, Tom Cone.

SPRING HILL CHURCH—Mitchell County, Ga. Delegate, Mrs. H. E. Morrey.

NEW BETHEL—Worth County, Ga. Delegate, L. L. Baines.

GREENWOOD—Mitchell County, Ga. Delegates, Mrs. Clyde Harmon, Mrs. C. J. Harvey, J. B. Kearns.

CLEMENTS BRIDGE—Mitchell County, Ga. Delegates, Mrs. J. T. Jones, Mrs. D. B. Morrey;

BETHLEHEM—Colquitt County, Ga. Delegates, J. W. Croft, Mrs. Aquila Croft.

PROSPERITY—Turner County, Ga. Delegates, Alfred Goff, Mrs. Alfred Goff.

After reading letters the delegates were seated in body. Next to invite visiting Brothers to seats in our body.

At this time we heard a statement from Rev. J. L. Sloan. In regard to Union Hill Church, Bro. Sloan represented Union Hill by proxy. Next. To call for petitionary letters. None called for correspondence from Sister Associations. Rev. W. R. Lawhorn from The Chattahoochee Association. The Moderator gave the right-hand of fellowship. Moved and carried repeal Article 9 of order of business and elect Moderator and Clerk at the beginning of each session. Mrs. J. F. Harmon, Mrs. W. G. Boyd, and Bro. W. R. Lawhorn to hold ballot for the election of Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer. Rev. W. L. Harrell was elected Moderator. Rev. W. F. Clark, Assistant Moderator, J. J. Fowler, Clerk and Treasurer. Next. Appoint a committee on preaching. Mrs. D. B. Morrey, Tom Cone, and Monroe Justice were appointed.

Denominational Literature—C. T. Rentz, W. G. Boyd, and J. H. Russell.

Temperance—Mrs. Clyde Harmon, Mrs. C. J. Harvey, and Mrs. D. B. Morrey.

State of Churches—J. A. Brady, A. C. Norman, and R. A. Yates.

Education—Walter Murphy, E. B. Norman, and D. B. Morrey.

Minister and Deacons—J. B. Kearns, T. C. Goebel, and A. S. Faison.

Sunday Schools—J. E. Wyrick, Mrs. W. G. Boyd, and Mrs. E. B. Norman.

Resolutions—J. B. Kearns, J. A. Brady, and C. J. Harvey.

Finance—B. J. Browning, Homer Gay, and Mrs. Dillie Brown.

League Work—Mrs. C. J. Harvey, W. L. Barrow, and J. C. Weathers.

Card of Thanks—Mrs. Clyde Harmon, Mitchell Henson, and L. L. Baines.

At this time New Jerusalem Church called for a letter of dismissal thru T. J. Touchton and J. F. Smith. After some discussion the Moderator over ruled and denied the church a letter of dismissal. Moved to adjourn until Friday 9 A. M. Dismissed by W. L. Harrell.

A delicious supper, a fish fry, was served at church Thursday night.

The body reassembled at 8 P. M., for preaching by Rev. W. R.

Lawhorn of Butler, Ga. He used for a text, Judges 7-21. Subject, "Trust God". Every one enjoyed the sermon very much.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1943

At 9 A. M., we again assembled for the day's business with song service led by W. L. Barrow. Prayer was offered by Bro. G. D. Roberts. A scripture lesson, Psalms 15 by moderator. Moved and carried that Bro. J. C. Weathers act as assistant moderator. Moved and seconded to receive reports of committees. Moved that each speaker have two minutes to discuss his or her report. Moved and carried to suspend the regular order and take up miscellaneous business.

First to appoint correspondence to Sister Associations. J. C. Weathers and J. J. Fowler to the Chattahoochee Association; J. C. Weathers and W. L. Harrell to The Little River Association; C. J. Harvey and Roy McMurphy to The Midway Association; C. J. Harvey and B. W. Cleney to the Martin Association; W. L. Barrow to The North Florida Conference.

To The South Georgia, Minutes To The State Association, A. S. Faison. To The National Convention, C. J. Harvey. Moved and carried to pay expenses of corresponding messengers to our association. Moved to go back to regular order of business. Reports of committees:

Resolution—We your committee offer the following:

First, That the oldest member of the ordaining council, that is in point of service, retire and a new member be appointed at each session of this body. Second, that this body elect two new members of the executive committee to replace J. H. McAlister and G. I. Whittington. Walter Murphy and J. A. Brady were appointed new members of the board.

Third, that this body elect a committee of three to work out some plan to finance at least one student to attend our Bible School beginning with the last quarter of this term. Fourth, We also recommend that each church assist in the education of our young people and to help finance our training camp.

Fifth, That we change our time of meeting to meet on Wednesday instead of Thursday. Sixth, We also recommend that we do that which we resolve to do, more work and less talk.

STATE OF CHURCHES

We your committee find all churches of our association in good standing so far as we find.

J. A. BRADY, Chairman.

LITERATURE

We your committee find that people are using our literature and we teach our children the Bible more.

C. T. RENTZ, Chairman.

EDUCATION

We your committee recommend that each one co-operate with our educational program in trying to give our children a better Bible training that they might be able to understand our doctrine and church government better. That our pastors teach our decorum, articles of faith and church government more. That our members might be better informed as to what our church stands for.

WALTER MURPHY, Chairman.

LEAGUE WORK

It grieves us very much that we can't report a good league in each church. If we would train our young people better they, of course would be more able to withstand the snares and temptations of evil better. Seeing the need so great why don't we give them the best training possible. When could we train them better than through our church work?

MRS. C. J. HARVEY, Chairman.

SABBATH SCHOOL

We your committee find only six Sunday Schools in our churches. We ask each church to try to have a Sunday School. It certainly helps to build up your church.

J. E. WYRICK, Chairman.

MINISTER AND DEACONS

No Report

TEMPERANCE

We your committee would like to urge all of our people to practice temperance in all things. Intemperance causes lots of hearts aches. Let's be careful not to indulge in strong drink. God's people must be temperate in all things.

MRS. J. F. HARMON, Chairman.

CARD OF THANKS

We your committee desire to take a rising vote of thanks to this church and community for kindness shown this body while in session.

MRS. J. F. HARMON, Chairman.

FINANCE

We your committee find sent in by churches to this session \$56.40. Also find with treasurer \$7.00 balance from last session.

HOMER GAY, Chairman.

Reports received and recorded and committees released. We adjourned for preaching service by Bro. G. D. Roberts. The speaker used for a scripture lesson St. Mark 7:3-9. Subject "The Tradition of Men." After preaching we were dismissed for dinner by W. R. Lawhorn.

FRIDAY, P. M., OCTOBER 22, 1943

The ordaining council received a request from the church at Thomaston to ordain Bro. E. B. Norman whom the church had called as pastor for the ensuing year. The ordaining council ordained Bro. Norman in perfect order. At this time we went back to regular orders. First to elect a member of the ordaining council. Rev. C. J. Harvey was elected as a member of the council relieving Bro. W. L. Harrell. Moved to have 400 hundred minutes printed. Moved to pay the moderator \$5.00 for his service. Moved to pay clerk \$10.00 for his service. Moved that a committee be appointed to raise funds to help at least one student to our Bible School. Mrs. J. F. Harmon, Mrs. D. B. Morrey, and Bro. C. J. Harvey were appointed. Moved that Bro. C. J. Harvey read circular letter which he had prepared for the association. The same being ordered printed in minutes. Moved and seconded to adjourn and to meet with Greenwood church about eight miles south west of Camilla, Mitchell County, Georgia, on Wednesday and Thursday before the fourth Sunday in Oct. 1944.

W. L. HARRELL, Moderator.

W. F. CLARK, Assistant Moderator.

J. J. FOWLER, Clerk and Treasurer.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Received from Finance Committee	\$56.40
Balance from last session	7.00
Paid Moderator	\$ 5.00
Paid Clerk	10.00
Paid Correspondence	3.00
Balance in Treasury	\$45.40

OUR DEAD

NEW BETHEL CHURCH—Elbert P. Wisham, Born Dec. 20, 1869, died April 2, 1943.

MIDWAY CHURCH—W. L. Lee, Born August 10, 1896, died June 28, 1943.

BETHLEHEM CHURCH—L. E. Croft, Born May 5, 1858, died January 26, 1943.

MINISTERIAL ROLL

G. T. Dell	Rt. 2, Moultrie, Ga.
J. C. Weathers	Cordele, Ga.
W. L. Harrell	Omega, Ga.
J. L. Sloan	Moultrie, Ga.
T. J. Touchton	Moultrie, Ga.
J. F. Smith	Moultrie, Ga.
T. A. Pannell	Moultrie, Ga.
C. T. Rentz	Moultrie, Ga.
W. F. Clark	Thomasville, Ga.
R. M. Massey	Tifton, Ga.
W. L. Barrow	Monticello, Fla.
C. J. Harvey	Camilla, Ga.
A. L. Sellars	Camilla, Ga.
W. A. Sellars	Camilla, Ga.
S. S. Miller	Thomasville, Ga.
W. G. Boyd	Moultrie, Ga.
E. B. Norman	Moultrie, Ga.
Joe Williams	Fairmont, Ga.
J. F. Ashmore	Sumner, Ga.

LICENTIATES

J. H. Russell	Thomasville, Ga.
G. D. Roberts	Pavo, Ga.
Roy McMurphy	Thomasville, Ga.
B. W. Cleney	Climax, Ga.
N. L. Lamb	Climax, Ga.
E. J. Spillers	Oakfield, Ga.
J. H. Lavender	Sylvester, Ga.

PENALTY FOR DISOBEDIENCE

CIRCULAR LETTER

Dear Brethern and Sisters:—

Having been elected at last session of this association to write a circular letter to this body, I herewith offer the following as a warning to our brethern and sisters and to who so ever may read. Is it not a fact that you and I see for ourselves the wrath and judgment of God meted out to the human race day after day as a penalty for disobedience.

I shall not attempt to tell you a whole lot about what I think about these things, but will give you God's word from several writers as witnesses to prove to you that God's wrath overtakes us and many times before we leave this world.

Moses told the tribes of Reuben and Gad that if they would cross the Jordan and help to defeat the enemy for those other tribes, that they could have their inheritance on the east side of Jordan, but if they did not do this He said ye have sinned against the Lord and be sure that your sins will find you out—Numbers 32.

I will point you to the story of the spies sent out by the Lord thru Moses. How the disloyal and disobedient perish with all those that were 20 years old and upwards except Caleb and Joshua.—Numbers 14. This was the penalty they suffered for sin. I would ask do you think that God will be more merciful to us than He was to the children of Isreal? I say no.

Remember Adam and Eve how they were driven out of the garden of Eden. Out or from the presence of the Lord. This the penalty they received. We notice Israelites were defeated in battle against their enemy because one of their number, Achan by name, was disobedient in taking a part of the accursed things. Joshua 7—The penalty for his sin was stoning of himself and all his household. And all of his property was destroyed. What an awful penalty, First, losing the battle for the Lord—then the life of loved ones. After seeing this picture of the penalty of God on disobedience will we too be disobedient—and thereby bring the Lord's wrath on our children and loved ones.

Prayerfully submitted,

C. J. HARVEY.

GOVERNMENT AND ORDINANCES

1. We believe that a gospel church, or Church of Christ, is a congregation of Christians constituted and governed according to the rules laid down in the New Testament.

2. That these rules require churches to preserve the form of government and the ordinances of the first Christian churches and to be composed of baptized believers in Christ.

3. That the visible church is the aggregate or whole number of Gospel churches, and that the invisible church is composed of the redeemed now in Heaven and such Christians on earth as are not attached to the visible church according to the gospel rules.

4. That the establishment of a central catholic government over the visible church, or any part thereof, is a device of earthly ambition repugnant to the Word of God, subservient to the churches and dangerous to the liberty of man.

5. The Gospel churches are the only ecclesiastical bodies or tribunals authorized by the Scriptures; that each has the unrestricted right to administer its own government without supervision or interference, being under Christ essentially independent and absolute, and that if this right be surrendered to superintending jurisdiction by delegation or otherwise, the assembly ceases to be a Gospel church.

6. The churches may, nevertheless, we suppose, meet by delegates, form an association and declare the terms upon which they will keep up the correspondence; but that the right and authority of churches being inalienable, or in no way comprised or hindered by entering into an association and therefore an association has no authority over churches or individuals, their only power being to transact business which does not pertain to churches in their ecclesiastical capacity; to promote natural intercourses, and a concentration of voluntary effort; and to give that advice to churches which might with equal authority be given by any individual.

7. That the authority of the churches is designated for the perpetuation of the true religion of the Gospel, and for the preservation of true and orderly body of Christians on earth; that is fully sufficient for the purpose intended, but it does not extend to persons, property or the conscience of men in any manner whatsoever.

8. That the only requisites to church membership are faith in Christ and obedience to the Gospel; that faith in Christ necessarily exists in connection with the belief in the fundamental truths of Christianity, and that to prescribe and other requisite of such membership is an assumption of authority on the part of the church and a departure from the Gospel plan.

9. That the Officers of a church are elders and deacons; that the elders are called bishops or pastors, and all of the elders are equal in rank though they may perform different functions—since some may be bishops or pastors of particular churches, while others may be simple elders, having no pastoral charge.

10. That the authority of a minister of the Gospel extends to teaching, exhortation and rebuke, but not further; that he cannot perform any act that belongs to the authority of the church—such as the reception of members in to the church compact, or the expulsion of offenders; that as a member of the church, he is not more than any other member, and if he is guilty of transgression he is to be brought to trial before his brethren and convicted or acquitted in the same manner as if were a private person; yet we think it prudent to call in advisory help especially if the minister is to be tried upon a charge of heresy.

11. That Christian baptism is the immersion of the believer in water in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

12. That the Lord's Supper and the washing of the Saint's feet are ordinances to be observed in the church until the Lord comes.

13. That elders and deacons must be set apart to their office of ordination, by the imposition of the hands of the presbytery and prayer, without which they are not authorized to administer the ordinances pertaining to their respective offices.

14. No preacher shall be ordained until he has been recommended by his church, and the church where he has been called and shall not pastor any church until ordained.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe that there is but one living, true and eternal God, the Father of whom are all things from everlasting to everlasting, glorious and immutable in His attributes.—I Cor. 8:6; Isa. 40:28.

2. We believe that there is one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, the only begotten Son of God, born of Virgin Mary, whom God freely sent into this world, because of the great love wherewith He loved the world; and Christ as freely gave Himself a ransom for all, tasting death for every man; who was buried and rose again the third day, and ascended into Heaven, from whence we look for Him the second time in the clouds of Heaven at the last day to judge both quick and dead.—I Tim. 2:5; Heb. 2:9; St. John 3:16; Rev. 1:7; Acts 24:15; I John 2:2.

3. We believe that there is one Holy Ghost, the precious gift of the Father through His dear Son, unto the world, who quickened and draweth sinners home to God.—St. John 16: 7-8; Acts 2:4; Eph. in Christ, for the benefit of all mankind, who repent and believe the Gospel.—Luke 14:16-20; Matt. 28:19-20; Luke 13:3-5; Acts 3:19, 2:11; Eph. 4:4-6.

4. We believe in the beginning God made man upright, and placed him in a state of glory without the least mixture of misery, from which he voluntarily by transgression, fell, and by that means brought on himself a miserable and mortal subject to death.—Gen. 2:17; 3:19.

5. We believe that God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance and the knowledge of truth, that they might be saved; for which end Christ hath commanded the Gos-

pel to be preached among all nations and to every creature.—Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47; John 3:15-17; I Tim. 2:4.

6. We believe that no man shall suffer in hell for want of a Christ who died for him, but as the Scripture has said, for denying the Lord that brought them; because they believed not in the name of the only begotten Son of God. Unbelief, therefore being the cause why the just and righteous God of Heaven will condemn the children of men; it follows against all argument that all men at one time or other, are found in such capacity as that through the grace of God they may be eternally saved.—Acts 17:30; Mark 6:6; Heb. 3:10; I John 5:1-10.

7. We believe the whole Scriptures are infallibly true, and that they are the only rules of faith and practice.—II Tim. 3:16-17.

8. We believe in the doctrine of General Provision made of God—Mark 1:15.

9. We believe that sinners are drawn to God, the Father, by the Holy Ghost, through Christ His Son, and that the Holy Ghost offers His divine aid to all the human family; so as they all might be happy, would they give place to His divine teachings; whereas, such who do not receive the divine impressions of His Holy Spirit, shall at a future day, own their condemnation just, and charge themselves with their own damnation for wilfully rejecting the offers of sovereign grace.—Matt. 11:27; St. John 6:45-65; Ps. 1:1; Tit. 2:11-12; Jer. 22:29.

10. We believe that men, not considered simply as men, but ungodly men, were of old ordained to condemnation, considered such who turn the grace of God into lasciviousness, denying the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ who bought them, and therefore, shall bring upon themselves swift destruction; but we observe that they, and such the Apostle saith because they receive not the love of the truth, that they might be saved therefore the indignation and wrath of God is upon every soul of man that doeth evil, living and dying therein; for there is no respect of persons with God.—Jude 1:4; 2 Peter 2:1; 2 Thes. 2:11-12; Rom. 2:9-11.

11. We believe that all children dying in infancy, having not actually transgressed against the law of God, in their own persons, are only subject to the first death, which was brought on them by the fall of the first Adam, and not that any of them dying in that state, shall suffer punishment in hell by the guilt of Adam's sin, for "of such is the Kingdom of God".—1 Cor. 15:22; Matt. 18:2-5; Mark 9:36-37; Matt. 19:14.

12. We believe that good works are the fruits of a saving faith,

and that in the use of the means of grace, and not out of the use of those means, eternal life is promised to men.—Rev. 22:14-15; Isa. 1:19-20; Matt. 7-8; Jer. 6:16; Luke 13:34-35.

13. We believe that no man has any warrant in the Holy Scripture for justification before God through his own works, power or ability, which he has in and of himself, only as he by grace is made able to come to God through Jesus Christ; believing the righteousness of Jesus Christ to be imputed to all believers for their eternal acceptance with God.—Rom. 4:24; Acts 8:20-21.

14. We believe that all things are foreseen in the wisdom of God, so that God knoweth whatsoever can or cannot come to pass upon all supposed conditions; yet not as having decreed any person to everlasting life, out of respect or mere choice further than He hath appointed the godly unto life, and the ungodly, who die in sin, unto death.—Heb. 4:13; Prov. 8:22-31; Matt. 25:31-46.

15. We believe, as touching Gospel ordinances, in believers' baptism, laying on of hands, receiving of the sacrament in bread and wine, washing the saints' feet, anointing the sick with oil in the name of the Lord, fasting, prayer, singing praise to God, and the public ministry of the World, with every institution of the Lord we shall find in the New Testament.—Mark 16:15-16; Acts 8:17; Acts 19:6; Luke 22:19-20; John 13:5-17; Jas. 5:14.

16. We believe the Gospel mode of baptism is by immersion, and that believers are the only subjects for baptism.—Matt. 3:16; Mark 1:9-10; Acts 2:38-39; Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12.

17. We believe in a general resurrection of the dead and a final judgment at the last day.—John 5:28-29; 2 Cor. 5:10.

18. We believe the happiness of the righteous is eternal and the torment of the wicked are endless.—Matt. 25:46.

CHURCH DECORUM

1. The Church may choose a pastor annually at the last regular conference in Association year, or if they prefer it, may choose a pastor for an indefinite length of time to continue from year to year, as long as he may deem it proper to keep up the connection.

2. When it becomes necessary, a pastor may be chosen at any other time, but if the choice be made at a special conference the time must be appointed at a monthly meeting of the church.

3. The pastor shall be moderator of the church, but when he is

absent or does not sit as moderator, being present, some suitable brother shall be appointed to sit in his place.

4. There shall be two more deacons in the church, whose duty it shall be to superintend the collection and disbursement of all contributions made by the church for the pastor, etc., and to distribute the bread and wine in administration of the Lord's Supper.

5. The deacons shall take notice of such members as refuse or neglect to partake of the Lord's Supper and endeavor to ascertain the cause that the same may be laid before the church in conference if necessary.

6. Some suitable member shall be appointed Clerk and it shall be his duty to do all the recording and writing pertaining to the business of the church, and to preserve a file of the minutes of the Association.

7. When a Clerk is appointed, all the books, minutes, etc., belonging to the Clerk, shall be immediately delivered to him by his predecessor. Also, it shall be the duty of the church clerk to revise the church roll at least once a year. It shall be the duty of the pastors to instruct the deacons and clerks of their churches in regard to money for minutes.

8. The church shall hold a two-days' monthly meeting embracing Saturday and the Lord's Day following, the first of which shall be the regular time of the conference.

9. It shall be the duty of every member, male or female, to attend each conference meeting, if they can, for on that day the pastor is expected to instruct the church in a certain manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on doctrine, discipline and the rules of holy living.

10. Any male member who shall fail to attend three successive conferences, and any member whatever of the church according to the Covenant (Article 5) shall be cited to appear in conference and answer for his neglect; but the church may exempt members from this rule if necessary.

11. Conference shall be opened and conducted as follows: (1) Prayer, unless divine service has just been concluded, and generally then. (2) Invite visiting brethren to seats. (3) Open the door for the reception of members. (4) Call for absentees. (5) For acknowledgments. (6) For reference of deferred business. (7) For matters of dealing which are in order to come before the church. (8) For miscellaneous business.

12. Visiting brethren, as helpers called in from sister churches, shall speak and make motions or seconds, but not allowed to vote.

13. Any orderly member of the Baptist church who does not hold this church in fellowship may be received into the church without a letter when it is made apparent that his Christian character is unimpeachable and that he has applied for a letter and could not obtain it because he desired to join this or some sister church. All other persons must join by letter or baptism.

14. No member shall be received without the unanimous consent of the members present, but unreasonable objections shall be valid, unless withdrawn, the members who make them shall be liable to be taken under dealing with the church.

15. When the moderator calls for absentees the Clerk shall inform the church what male members have been absent from three successive conferences and the Moderator shall appoint some brother or brethren to cite each of them to the next conference.

16. No member shall be expelled unless he has been cited verbally or in writing, to attend the trial, provided his residence be known to the church.

17. When a witness, not a member of the church, is introduced, he shall not be examined 'til the question has been put to the church, Will you hear the testimony of the witness?

18. The evidence in every case of dealing and acknowledgement shall be recorded in the church book.

19. Members dismissed from the church by letter who become disorderly or continue to hold their letters without good reason shall be cited to conference to answer for their misconduct.

20. Expelled members shall be restored to fellowship on their petition if their walk since expulsion has convinced the church that they have sincerely repented for their former evil.

21. A vote shall not be taken upon questions without a move and a second, and on all important questions the vote shall be taken by rising to the feet.

22. No motion shall be made while a move and second is before the conference.

23. It shall be considered disorderly for any member to absent himself from conference when an important question is to be decided, but a member, upon request, may be exempted by the church from voting on either side in peculiar cases.

24. No member shall leave the house during conference without a sufficient cause, nor engage in conversation or whispering without being subject to be called to order by the moderator.

25. All discussions in conference must be conducted with calmness and good feeling those who speak must rise to their feet and address the Moderator, and keep to the point in the debate.

26. No one shall speak more than three times on the same question without permission from the Moderator, nor shall the remarks of any one be unreasonably long.

27. When the Moderator speaks he must designate some brother to act in his stead.

28. No one shall be interrupted while speaking unless it is to call the speaker to order.

29. It shall be the duty of each church to attend to the administration of the Lord's Supper and washing of the Saints' feet at least once a year.

30. Members not in good standing should not commune, but the administration should not be deferred on account of any ordinary matter of dealing.

31. Public fasting, humiliation and prayer shall be observed on proper occasions.

32. That each minister preach and practice the same doctrine, and principles. And each church do the same as set up by Christ and follow the apostolic doctrine and follow it closely.

33. This Decorum may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at any two successive monthly conferences.

CHURCH COVENANT

1. Having been brought, as we humbly trust, by divine grace into the knowledge of our divine Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and to devote our time and talents to the interest of pure and undefiled religion, we do solemnly covenant with each other to walk together in love and brotherly kindness and to glorify God through life as the only hope in death.

2. We agree to exercise Christian love and affection for each other as members of the household of faith, that the knowledge of truth may be glorified in us and by us, to the end that we may be perfect in the will of God through Christ Jesus concerning us.

3. We endeavor to uphold the public worship of Almighty God and ordinances of His church, not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together; that we will cheerfully contribute of the means with which we are blessed for the ministry among us and other necessary expenses of the church.

4. We will not neglect the devotional exercises of secret prayer and the duties of family worship, and the training up of our children and those under our care with a view to the service of Christ and the enjoyment of Heaven.

5. We agree to neglect our secular or worldly avocation to attend the stated meetings of the Church and to labor for its prosperity in the most holy faith believing that if we do this we let our light shine; if we fail to attend to the sacred duties we prove to be a stumbling block to the world and reproach to the church.

6. We believe that all Christians are endowed with certain talents and influences, for the improvement of which they will be accountable to the Great Head of the church; that if there are unruly members in the church, it is our duty to approach such in the spirit of love and to admonish them to forsake their evil doings, if they will not hear thee, take one or two or more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established; then if they will not hear the church, then let them be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

7. We believe the Wordly dance and drinking ardent spirits with and commingling with drunkards are sins which should be condemned by the church.

DECORUM OF THE ASSOCIATION

1. At the meeting of each session of the Association the officers of the preceding session shall preside until their successors shall be known.

2. At each session and previous to proceeding to business the names of the ministers and delegates shall be called.

3. Any person wishing to speak shall rise and address the Moderator. He shall confine himself to the question under consideration and avoid personalities.

4. No person shall speak more than twice on any subject without permission from the body.

5. No motion shall be withdrawn after its discussion.

6. When a question is under discussion on motion or proposition

shall be received except to adjourn, to lay on the table, to amend or postpone indefinitely, which several motions shall be preferred in order in which they are stated.

7. Nominations shall be made by the Moderator of the Association or whoever he may appoint.

8. After motion has been decided any member having voted in the affirmative may move a reconsideration.

9. No member shall absent himself during the session without permission from the presiding officer, and none shall take final leave of absence without permission from the body.

10. This Association has a right to decide what matter shall be admitted to its consideration.

11. This Decorum may be amended at any session of the Association by a majority vote.

12. No church shall liberate any minister coming from any other denomination until he has been examined by the Ordaining Council and received credentials bearing their approval.

CONSTITUTION

1. This Association shall hereafter be known as the Union Free Will Baptist Association.

2. It shall be composed of: (1) The ministers, both ordained and licensed, and Ordained Deacons, belonging thereto; (2) Legal delegates from the churches composing the same.

3. Requirements of churches: Each church shall be required to send up an annual report to the Association in which they shall make a brief statement of the pastor, report the character and usefulness of the minister whose membership is with them, give name and post office of the Church Clerk, give the number baptised, received by letter, dismisses by letter, restored, excluded, and died, the number of members, and the amount paid for Associational purposes.

4. Each church in the Association shall be considered an advisory body and shall control its own government without suspension or interference, being under Christ essentially independent and absolute.

5. This body shall be considered an advisory council whose duty it is to meet annually at such places as may be agreed upon at the previous session and not to adjourn formally until all business is settled, and while there it shall be its duty to examine all questions of general interest to the Association and to use their best influence

to promote a moral and benevolent means and institutions such as education, Sabbath Schools, missionary work, etc.

6. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, to be chosen by ballot.

7. Churches wishing to become members of this Association must adopt our articles of faith and conform to its usages.

8. That all churches sending to this Association shall be allowed not more than three delegates.

9. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any session of this Association by a majority of votes.

Signed Moderator.

.....
Ordaining Council.

CHURCH LETTER

..... Free Will Baptist Church of Christ
This day of, A. D., 19.....

This is to certify that
is a member of the above named church in good standing and is hereby at his or her request dismissed from us. Done by order of the church in conference. This letter will be void after six months.

....., Moderator
....., Church Clerk

HOW TO ORGANIZE A CHURCH

When any number of converts, not less than five, desire to constitute a church, the following order should be observed: (A) The officiating minister shall inquire into the Christian character and ability of the members to sustain the church. This being satisfactory, (B) The minister shall then read the Articles of Faith, and finding they have obeyed and adopted the same. (C) He shall then read the Church Covenant, while the congregation joins in singing a suitable hymn. (D) He shall have the members to extend to each other the right hand of fellowship. (E) He shall then offer a prayer of consecration. (F) He shall then declare the body organized.

10. This Association
admitted to its consideration.

11. This Decorum may be amended at any session of the Association by a majority vote.

12. No church shall liberate any minister coming from any other denomination until he has been examined by the Ordaining Council and received credentials bearing their approval.

CONSTITUTION

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7. Unfinished business.

8. Report of Committees.

9. Miscellaneous business.

10. Adjournment.

FORMS**FORMS FOR LICENSE**

This is to certify that the bearer, Brother
..... of the County of.....
State of is a regular member of the Free Will
Baptist church, in the said county of

State of is hereby licensed to preach the
gospel for one year. Done by order of the church in conference.

This day of A. D., 19.....

Signed Moderator.

.....
Ordaining Council.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCH and COUNTY	CLERK and POST OFFICE	PASTOR	Value of Property	Time of Meeting	Rec'd. for Baptism	Rec'd. by Con. Faith	Rec'd. by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	No. Expelled	No. of Members	Paid for Associa- tional Purposes	Paid for Pastor's Service	Paid for Improvements	Missions
Bethlehem, Colquitt	Lillie B. Croft, Pavo, Ga., Rt. 2	G. T. Dell	\$1,000.00	3	1					57	\$3.00	\$ 34.09	\$107.00	\$
Pelham, Grady	Margaret Shimholter, Pelham, Ga.	J. L. Sloan	1,000.00	2	3					18	3.25	30.00	5.00	
New Bethel, Worth	J. J. Fowler, Warwick, Ga., Rt. 1	G. T. Dell	1,000.00	4	2	2	1	1		123	5.65	120.00		
Spring Hill, Mitchell	Mrs. H. E. Morrey, Albany, Ga. Rt. 4 Box 106	W. A. Sellars	1,000.00	4	3					65	4.00	26.00	5.00	2.50
Salem, Jefferson Co. Fla.	Marrietta Wirick, Lloyd, Fla.	W. L. Barrow	500.00	2-4			1			60	5.00	240.60	5.50	5.00
Clements Bridge, Mitchel	T. E. Bundy, Albany, Ga.	W. A. Sellars	500.00	1						15	4.00	31.00		
Midway, Colquitt	Mrs. Mattie Gay, Moultrie, Ga. Rt. 4	W. L. Barrow	1,250.00	1-3	2		2	3		70	5.00	270.17		5.26
Canady Chapel, Thomas	Thaxton McKenney, Pavo, Ga.	J. C. Weathers	300.00	1						40	5.25	87.00		13.25
New Hope, Colquitt	M. B. Lanier, Coolidge, Ga., Rt. 2	J. C. Weathers	1,000.00	3			2	1		54	3.50	27.00	257.00	3.00
Prosperity, Turner	W. R. Lawson, Ashburn, Ga.	R. M. Massey	1,000.00	1	4					37	4.25	89.40	200.00	12.00
St. Paul, Tift	W. O. Sumner, Sparks, Ga.	W. L. Harrell	1,000.00	1-3	1		1			47	5.00	121.48	26.00	48.85
New Jerusalem, Colquitt	G. G. Law, Moultrie, Ga., Rt. 5	T. A. Pannell	1,000.00	2-4	3	3	2			78	3.66	65.00	125.00	
Greenwood, Mitchel	J. B. Kearns, Camilla, Ga., Rt. 3	C. J. Harvey	1,865.00	2-4						32	5.00	200.00	900.00	100.00
Thomasville, Thomas	R. A. Yates, Thomasville, Ga.	E. B. Norman	500.00	ea.S	6	6	11	8	1	32	3.00	118.79		8.00
Liberty, Colquitt	E. B. Norman, Moultrie, Ga. Gen. D.	W. G. Bovd	500.00	1-3			1	2		25	1.50	64.10	75.00	13.53

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17	18	
	22	140
	22	5
79	23	
85	18	900
64	29	
199	5	
640		
107.2		
	19.9	140
	79	4
		560
	278	
	315	
	320	
	913	
85		
64		
180		536
460		180
640		716

Ben Rodiford
R-2
Cairo, Ga.

