

Clerk's Copy for File

MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

OF

THE UNITED FREEWILL BAPTISTS

WHICH CONVENED WITH

BETHLEHEM CHURCH

At Burlin, Colquit County, Georgia

October 23-24, 1946

OFFICERS

Rev. C. J. Harvey, Moderator Camilla, Ga.
Rev. A. L. Sellers, Clerk and Treasurer Camilla, Ga.

Executive Committee

A. S. Faison Moultrie, Ga.
J. B. Kearns Camilla, Ga.
J. H. K. Jones Tifton, Ga.
Claude Goebel Moultrie, Ga.
J. A. Brady Omega, Ga.
Artie Cone Pavo, Ga.

The next session of this association will convene with Greenwood Church, Mitchell County, Georgia, Wednesday before the Fourth Sunday in October, 1947. The Rev. Obie Cone to preach the Introductory sermon.

PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings of the Twenty-First Annual Session of the Union Association of the United Freewill Baptist, convening with Bethlehem Church, Colquit County, Georgia, October 23-24, 1946.

The body was called together by the Assistant Moderator, Rev. J. L. Sloan, October 23, 1946. Song, "Hold to Gods Unchanging Hand", was sung and prayer by Bro. E. B. Norman.

Called for Church letters and had them read, and enrolled the names of the delegates; then a motion was carried declaring the house in order for business.

Election of Officers—Rev. C. J. Harvey was elected Moderator; Rev. J. C. Weathers, Assistant Moderator; Rev. W. G. Boyd, Cler and Treasurer; but later it was decided that Bro. Boyd was not eligible and A. L. Sellers was elected to serve in his place.

Names of the Delegates:

Midway: Sisters J. B. Rice, R. C. Ferguson, and E. B. Norman.

Kenedy Chapel: Bro. B. H. Bradley and Sister Brock.

Clements Bridge: Bro. David Morey.

Liberty: Bro. and Sister Ewer, and Sisters Lorene Summer, Hazel Vinson, and Willie Norman.

New Hope: Bros. Joe McKeney, Bob Tucker, and David Sloan.

Greenwood: Sisters C. J. Harvey and Clyde Harmon.

Bethlehem: Bros. Frank Davis, J. L. Bell and Sister Bell.

St. Paul: Bros. W. O. Sumner, Mitchell Hinson, and Sisters Mitchell Hinson and Roy Wood.

Thomasville: Bro. and Sister Holton and Bro. Duggan.

Called for corresponding delegates from Sister Associations.

Martin: Eld. C. R. Houston.

Midway: Eld. H. L. Catrett.

Chattahoochee: G. C. King.

Little River: Bro. B. Baker.

South Georgia: Eld. Ralph Lightly.

Moved and carried that the Moderator extend the right hand of fellowship to the delegates.

Next the appointment of committees.

I failed to get the names of the committees as I was appointed Clerk later, and did not get this part of the manuscript.

Motion carried to adjourn until Thursday morning. Dismissed by prayer to return at seven-thirty for services, Rev. H. L. Catrett to preach.

I was not present but was told that Bro. Catrett delivered a wonderful message which was very much enjoyed by all.

THURSDAY MORNING

The body was called to order by the Moderator. Song, "I Want to Live On", was sung. Prayer by Sister Harmon. The Moderator read 1 Cor. 14 chapter and 40 verse and the Clerk read the Decorum and the Constitution.

A motion then to go into miscellaneous business. A motion carried that the body elect an Ordaining Council. Rev. C. L. Croft, Rev. W. L. Harrell and Rev. Obie Cone was elected by the body as our Ordaining Council.

Motion carried to elect delegates to Sister Associations.

Georgia Union Association: Elder J. L. Sloan,

South Georgia Association: Elder E. B. Norman.

Georgia Union: Elder and Sister C. J. Harvey.

Martin Association: Elder and Sister Harvey.

Midway Association: Elder C. J. Harvey.

North Florida Conference: Bros. Obie and Artie Cone.

State Association: Bro. J. H. K. Jones, and Sister J. B. Rice.

Moved and carried that the body pay the Clerk \$25.00, also the Moderator \$10.00 for their services.

Motion carried that we adjourn until one o'clock.

Sermon by Bro. Ralph Lightly. Lesson, Joshua, 7 chapter, 11-13 verses, and he brought us a wonderful message.

Dismissed for lunch and a very enjoyable dinner was served.

ONE O'CLOCK THURSDAY P. M.

The Moderator called the body together by singing song No. 37, "This World Is Not My Home". Prayer by Sister Rice.

Report of the Executive and Finance Committee was read and received. A vote of thanks was rendered to the community and church for the great way in which they had entertained the body while in their midst.

No other business. Moved and carried to adjourn, to convene with Thomasville Church, but as Thomasville Church reports that they can't entertain it, it will convene with Greenwood Church in Mitchell County Wednesday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1947. Rev. Obie Cone to preach the introductory.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES

We, your Committee on Preaching, recommend that Elder H. L. Catrett preach tonight and Elder Ralph Lightly tomorrow at eleven o'clock.

J. L. Bell, Chairman.

COMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

We, your Committee on Nominations, find that three churches have invited the Association for the next session. We agree that it convene with Thomasville Church. Elder Obie Cone to preach the introductory.

Sister Willie Norman, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

We, your Committee on Resolutions, resolve that the preachers should live clean upright lives, leading others in the way of peace and righteousness. Resolved also, that laymen when called on to do some work for the Lord, should not say I can't, but say I will, by the help of the Lord. We recommend that every Church have the right to send one delegate to every ten members. Also that all Freewill Baptist Ministers using the sacred stand preach the Bible, be governed by our discipline as we believe it to be of the word of God.

Rev. J. L. Sloan, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS

We, your Committee on Sabbath School, find only eight Sabbath Schools in the Association. We urge that every church have a Sabbath School. It will help to build your church and community. In Deut. 4:10 we read, "Specially the day that thou stoodest before the Lord Thy God in Horeb, when the Lord said unto me, Gather the people together, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and that they may teach their children." Also in Matt. 28, 19-20, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations—teaching them to observe all things, whatsoever I command you." This includes the children.

Sister E. B. Norman, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE

We, your Committee on Temperance, urge this body and all of our people to study temperance and put it into practice. We insist that you study the second chapter of Titus, Teaching us, that denying ungodliness and worldly lust we should live soberly, rightously, and Godly in this present world: Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ."

Rev. E. B. Norman, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON STATE OF CHURCHES

We, your Committee on State of Churches, find all churches in good condition so far as we know except Prosperity, and Liberty Churches.

J. A. Brady, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON DESTITUTIONS

We, your Committee on Destitutions, find only one church without a Pastor, and it is the Pelham Church, which has ceased to exist.

Rev. A. L. Sellers, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTERS AND DEACONS

We, your Committee on Ministers and Deacons, find all Ministers and Deacons in good standing so far as we know except Bro. Massey and Bro. Weathers.

Name of Chairman Not Given.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

We, the Executive Committee, report as follows: In the summer before our 1945 session of this Association, we met at the home of Roy Patton on 7th Street, Tifton, and found that Bro. R. M. Massey had been put in jail, charged with seducing Bro. Patton's 13 year old daughter. Also, he had been released from jail with a promise to leave Tift County and not return, which promise Bro. Massey has kept as far as we know. He was notified to meet with us but did not do so.

We declared Bro. Massey out of order and asked his church to deal with him, and call for his credentials. We also notified all the churches in this Association not to use him as pastor.

We were not given an opportunity to make report at the 1945 session, so we declare Bro. J. C. Weathers out of order for not calling for this report, as he was Moderator at that time.

We have tried to discharge our duty. If we have failed, or if we have gone beyond this duty, then we ask to be instructed as to the scope of our jurisdiction.

We offer this as our report at this time, also tender with the report a statement from Bro. Patton and the Deputy Sheriff an order from the Judge releasing Bro. Massey from jail.

J. H. K. Jones, Chairman, in the Absence of Bro. Kearns.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

We, your Finance Committee, find, sent in by churches \$58.86; balance in Treasury \$43.26. Reports of all the committees received and committees relieved.

Obie Cone, Chairman.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Received from Finance Committee	\$ 58.86
Balance in Treasury	43.26
Total	\$102.12
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Paid Moderator	\$ 10.00
Paid Clerk and Treasurer	25.00
Paid State Association	5.00

OUR DEAD

We, the Church New Hope at Murphy, regret very much the loss of our dear Sister Lizzie Murphy. She was a very faithful member to her church, family, and community. We feel sure the sister has filled a vacancy in Heavly. May God bless and help New Hope Church.

Our dead is Sister Vercey Bradley. She is gone from us in body, but not in spirit, and we feel that her loss with us is Heavens gain. She was born April 15, 1891, died March 14, 1946.

From Kenedy Chapel Church.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF MINISTERS
ORDAINED

Elder J. L. Sloan	Moultrie, Ga.
Elder Edward Norman	Moultrie, Ga.
Elder Obie Cone	Moultrie, Ga.
Elder W. F. Clark	Thomasville, Ga.
Elder C. J. Harvey	Camilla, Ga.
Elder W. A. Sellers	Camilla, Ga.
Elder A. L. Sellers	Camilla, Ga.
Elder W. L. Harrell	Omega, Ga.
Elder W. G. Boyd	Moultrie, Ga.
Elder R. M. Massey	Moultrie, Ga.
Elder John M. Newton	Moultrie, Ga.
Elder C. L. Croft	Pavo, Ga.
Elder C. T. Rentz	Moultrie, Ga.

LICENTIATES

Elder H. Wooten	Berlin, Ga.
Elder J. M. Ewer	Moultrie, Ga.
Elder N. L. Lamb	Meigs, Ga.
Elder J. H. Russell	Thomasville, Ga.
Elder Joe Barfield	Pavo, Ga.
Elder Rop McMurphy	Thomasville, Ga.

NAMES OF THE COMMITTEES AS APPOINTED

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board of the Union Association met at Midway Freewill Baptist Church, Colquit County, January 30, 1947.

Bro. J. B. Kearns, Chairman,
Mrs. J. B. Rice, Clerk Pro-Tem.

Motion that Executive Board consider themselves in session.

Discussion:—

First—That Board take up matters of dealings with said parties: Rev. R. M. Massey and Rev. J. C. Weathers. Moved and carried that the Union Association withdraw fellowship from Liberty and Prosperity Churches and silence Rev. R. M. Massey and Rev. J. C. Weathers; both churches and ministers having been found out of order by the board.

Motion carried that next session of the Union Association convene with Greenwood Church.

Bro. J. B. Kearns asked to be released as chairman of the Executive Board. Bro. J. H. K. Jones was elected to serve in his place.

Motion carried that this board appoint a man on each Associational Board, as follows: Mission, Rev. C. J. Harvey, Camilla, Ga.; Education, Bro. C. J. Faison, Hartfield, Ga.; Supernatuation, Bro. J. B. Kearns, Camilla, Ga.

Moved and carried that the Clerk notify each church of change of place of the Association for the next session.

Moved and carried that this body extend to Midway Church a vote of thanks for their hospitality.

Dismissed by Rev. H. L. Catrett.

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 Jesus, 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 church 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 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 it 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 any 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 no further; that he cannot perform any acts that belong to the authority of the church—such as the reception of members into 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 he 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 saints' 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.

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 or 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 acknowledgements. (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 is known to the church.

17. When a witness, not a member of the church, is introduced, he shall not be examined till 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 Worldly dance and drinking ardent spirits with and commingling with drunkards are sins which should be condemned by the church.

8. It shall be the duty of all pastors to read this Covenant and to explain every part and clause thereof to the church on the opening of all church meetings.

DECORUM OF THE ASSOCIATION

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

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

3. At the close of each session the entire proceeding shall be read for correction and approval.

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

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

6. No motion shall be withdrawn after its discussion.

7. When a question is under discussion no 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.

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

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

10. 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.

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

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

13. 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 Freewill Baptist Association.

2. It shall be composed of: (1). The ministers, both ordained and licensed, 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 baptized, received by letter, dismissed 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.

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 the 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 quickeneth and draweth sinners home to God.—St. John 16:7-8; Acts 2:4; Eph. 2:1; Eph. 4:46.

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 state 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 Gospel 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 bought 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 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; 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."—I. 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 Scriptures for justification before God through his own words, 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.

5. 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, 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 1:9-19; Acts 2:38-39; Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12.

17. We believe in a general resurrection of the death 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 torments of the wicked are endless.—Matt. 25:46.

PETITIONARY LETTER FROM A CHURCH TO AN ASSOCIATION

..... Freewill Baptist Church of Christ
This the day of A. D., 19.....

To the Freewill Baptist Association
sendeth greetings: We constitute a Freewill Baptist Church by Elder
..... with members.

We have adopted the Articles of Faith, Covenant and Decorum of the Freewill Baptist Church. We are at peace. We have called as pastor, Elder We send as our delegates, Brethren

We do humbly petition Freewill Baptist Association for membership in the same. We send for minutes \$..... Hoping our humble petition will be granted, we are,
Your brethren in Christ.

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

CHURCH LETTER

..... Freewill 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.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business shall be as follows: (1) The election of a Clerk. (2) The election of deacons. (3) The election of a treasurer. (4) The election of a pastor. (5) The selection of a name. (6) The selection of a day of worship. (7) Adjournment.

FORMS

FORM FOR LICENSE

This is to certify that the bearer, Brother
..... of the County of
State of is a regular member of the Freewill Baptist Church, in the said county of
State of is hereby licensed to preach the

Gospel for one year. One by order of the church in conference.

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

.....
Ordaining Council.

ORDER OF ASSOCIATIONAL BUSINESS

1. The body at each session shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. Call for church letters and have them read, and names of ministers and delegates enrolled.
3. Elect a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer by ballot.
4. Call for Petitionary Letters.
5. Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.
6. Call for Corresponding Messengers.
7. Appoint Committees: (a) Preaching; (b) Denominational Literature; (c) Temperance; (d) Church and Destitution; (e) Education; (f) Ministers; (g) Sunday Schools and Literature; (h) Resolutions; (i) Finance; (j) Card of Thanks.
8. Unfinished business.
9. Report of committees.
10. Miscellaneous business.
11. Adjournment.

Cost of each soul gained
 during year #42.95 ^{ea.}
 (not including Bldg. & repairs)

Statistical Table

CHURCH AND COUNTY	CLERK AND POST OFFICE	PASTOR	Value of Property	Time of Meeting	Rec. for Baptism	Rec. by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	No. Expelled	No. of Members	Paid for Associational Purposes	Paid Pastor	Paid for Improvements	Paid for Home Mission	Paid for Foreign Mission	Paid for Education	Paid for Supranation	Evangelist Paid	Paid for All
Bethlehem, Colquitt	L. E. Croft, Moultrie, Ga.	C. L. Croft	\$2,000	3	54	1	1	154	\$10.00	\$ 95.41	\$200.00	\$48.20						
Midway, Colquitt	Mrs. Mattie Gay Moultrie, Ga.	Ralph Lightsey..	1,250	1-3	10	4		80	7.00	433.67	67.08	60.00	61.34					
Kenedy Chapel, Thomas..	Artie L. Cone, Pavo, Ga., Rt. 1	Obie Cone	1,420	2-4	15	2	25	52	10.00	119.35	25.00	25.00			10	10	72.75	1
St. Paul, Tift	W. O. Sumner, Sparks, Ga.	L. S. Anthony..	1,000	1	1			49	8.86	121.27		48.75	48.75					
Clements Bridge, Mitchell	Harris Davis, Doerun, Ga.	W. A. Sellers....	500	1				23	4.00	64.00								
New Hope, Colquitt	Murphey Lanier, Cooleage, Ga.	W. G. Boyd	1,000	1		2		55	4.00	124.94	20.00	7.50						
Liberty, Colquitt	Mrs. J. N. Sumner, Moultrie, Ga.	R. M. Massey....	1,000	3-4	6	2	1	56		441.47	15.00	66.76					21.46	
Thomasville, Thomas	Mrs. S. L. Holton, Thomasville, Ga.	W. F. Clark	4,000	1-2	4	8	2	24	10.00	135.43		21.11	21.10					
Greenwood, Mitchell	J. B. Kearns, Camilla, Ga.	J. N. Barns	4,000	2-4	1				5.00	200.00	5.00	11.90	82.76	110	6	5.00	3	
Spring Hill, Mitchell	Mrs. H. E. Morey, Doerun, Ga.	W. A. Sellers....	1,000	4				75	5.00	72.00								
Salem Church								3		33.3								
Not Represented																		

1 - churches
 - not reported

17,570 | 91 16 | 7 26 | 568
 107
 net gain 74

Total Expenditures
 \$ 3092.73

giving per capita