

MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

OF

THE UNITED FREEWILL BAPTISTS

WHICH CONVENED WITH

GREENWOOD CHURCH

Mineral Springs, Georgia

October 22-23, 1947

OFFICERS

W. C. J. Roney, Moderator Council, Ga.

W. C. J. Roney, Clerk and Treasurer Minutes, Ga.

Executive Committee

W. C. J. Roney Minutes, Ga.

J. A. Roney Council, Ga.

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The next session of the annual conference will be held at the Greenwood Church, Mineral Springs, Georgia, on November 1-2, 1948, and the subject of the conference will be "The Church and the World".

PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings of the Twenty-Second Annual Session of the Union Association of the United Freewill Baptist Association, convening with Greenwood Church, Mitchell County, Georgia, October 22-23, 1947.

The body was called to order by singing song, "There Shall Be showers of Blessing." The devotional was by Rev. C. J. Harvey, using scripture reading found in Psalms 126.

Called for Church letters and seating delegates. Elder Neal H. Parrish and Mrs. J. B. Rice were appointed to read the letters as follows:

Name of Delegates:

Bethlehem: Bro. and Sister J. W. Croft and A. C. Norman.
Clemmens Bridge: Bro. Eugene Bundy.
Greenwood: Sisters C. J. Harvey and J. F. Harmon.
Midway: Sisters W. C. Faison, W. R. Dunlap and J. B. Rice.
Kenedy Chapel: Bro. and Sister Mark Brooks and Bro. Jim Cannon.
Spring Hill: Sisters H. E. Marey and D. B. Marey.
St. Paul: Sister Alma Woody, Bro. W. R. Crosby, and Bro. Monroe Justice.
Thomasville: Sisters C. T. Surrency, W. B. Dunlap, and D. C. King.
Tallahassee: Bro. L. R. Byran.

Inviting visiting brothers to set in our body.

Adjourn for preaching.

Reopening by singing song No. 63, from Calvary Song Book. Prayer by Bro. King.

In introducing sermon was preached by Elder Obie Cone. Text Scripture: "Follow Me as I follow Christ," which was a wonderful message.

Dismissed for lunch by Rev. L. S. Anthony.

After having been served bountifully with refreshments, the body was called to order by singing Hymn 210, "He Is Able to Deliver Thee," led by Rev. Lightsey.

Devotional by Rev. C. J. Harvey.

Scripture text 12 verses of Gen. 3.

Prayer by Rev. E. C. Morris.

The Moderator then declared in order for business.

Election of officers:

Elder C. J. Harvey, Moderator.
Elder J. O. Brumby, Assistant Moderator.
Mrs. J. B. Rice, Clerk and Treasurer.
Elder A. L. Sellars, Assistant Clerk.

Election was held by Rev. Lightsey and Bro. G. C. King.

Call for petition letters.

Tallahassee Freewill Baptist Church presented a letter asking permission to join our body and was accepted.

Called for corresponding delegates and visitors from Sister Associations.

Little River: M. M. Franks and Ross Speer.

Chattahoochee: Eld. L. S. Anthony and G. C. King.

Midway: Eld. E. C. Williams, and Eld. T. B. Molett.

Georgia Union: Eld. Neal H. Parrish, J. T. Barlett, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Smith and B. J. Tucker.

South Georgia: Eld. Ralph Lightsey.

Georgia State: Eld. E. C. Morris.

North Florida: H. C. Cruce.

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

Next the appointment of committees.

Devotional: Sisters J. F. Harmon, W. R. Dunlap and Alma Woody.

Denominational Literature: Sisters C. J. Harvey, W. C. Faison and D. B. Marey.

Temperance: Sisters Bob Marey and C. L. Surrency, Bro. W. R. Crosby.

Destitutions: Jim Cannon, D. C. King, and J. W. Croft.

Education: Elders E. B. Norman, W. L. Harrell, and A. L. Sellars.

Minsters: Monroe Justice, A. C. Norman, and J. W. Croft.

Sunday School: Mrs. Mark Brooks, Rev. C. T. Rentz, and Rev. W. A. Sellars.

Resolutions: Eld. W. L. Harrell, Obie Cone, and C. L. Croft.

Finance: Sisters J. F. Harmon, W. C. Faison, and C. J. Harvey.

Rev. E. C. Morris, State Promotional Worker spoke on the various phases of the cause in general, which the State Association sponsors. He urged that we support with our means and prayers, The Bible School, Home and Foreign Missions, and Superannuation. He also stated the necessity of subscribing to our denominational paper the "Freewill Baptist," in order to keep ourselves well informed on the activities of our State and National Associations. He also stated that the service of the promotional worker is available to all churches in the state desiring it. A collection was taken for Bro. Morris, which amounted to \$18.25.

Eld. Vester Burkett, Moderator of the Jasper Alabama Association, representing the Freewill Baptist Orphanage, Eldridge, Ala., gave a short talk on the phases of the work being done there.

Motion to adjourn.

Dismissed by Eld. J. O. Brumby.

EVENING SERVICE

Open by song services, led by Rev. E. C. Morris.

Prayer by Eld. E. C. Williams.

Sermon by Eld. Neal H. Parrish. Scripture II Tim. 3:3. A very inspiring message was given. Prayer by Eld. A. L. Sellars.

Dismissed by Eld. W. A. Sellars.

THURSDAY MORNING—10 O'CLOCK

The body was called to order by the Moderator. Song, "Footsteps of Jesus", was sung. The Devotional was led by Eld. W. L. Harrell. Scripture Ps. 133. Prayer by Eld. W. L. Harrell.

Song, "The Fight Is On", was sung.

Open for business.

Roll called of Ministers and Delegates.

Motion and carried that the body recess 15 minutes to complete committees.

Dismissed by Eld. A. L. Sellars.

Reassemble. Prayer by Eld. T. B. Molett.

Moved and Carried that we dispense of regular business and take up miscellaneous business.

Bro. G. C. King gave report from Chattahoochee Association. This session held being 112th year of Association.

Next session to be held at Bethel Church, near Ideal, Ga., on Thursday and Friday, after the first Sunday in October, 1948.

Georgia Union: J. C. Smith giving report. Next session to be held at Liberty Church, Macon, Ga., Thursday and Friday, after the first Sunday in October, 1948.

Midway: Eld. T. B. Molett reporting. Next session to be held at Zion Church, Blakley, Ga., Wednesday and Thursday, before the first Sunday in October, 1948.

South Georgia: No report.

North Florida: No report.

Reports of our delegates to Sister Associations. Each one reporting in a spiritual and going forward way.

Georgia Union: Sister C. J. Harvey.

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

Martin: Eld. C. J. Harvey.

Midway: Eld. C. J. Harvey.

Motion and carried to elect delegates to Sister Association.

Chattahoochee: Elds. C. J. Harvey, and A. L. Sellars.

Midway: Elds. A. L. Sellars, and C. J. Harvey.
 Georgia Union: Sister C. J. Harvey.
 Martin: Eld. A. L. Sellars.
 South Georgia: Eld. A. L. Sellars.
 North Florida: Elds. C. J. Harvey, and A. L. Sellars.
 State Association: Bros. Artie Cone, and Mark Brooks.

Adjourn for preaching.

Dismissed by Rev. P. E. Lester, Pastor of Hopeful Baptist Church.

Reassemble. Opening song, "Send the Light." Sermon by Rev. E. C. Morris. Scripture reading, Matt. 28-19. A well delivered missionary sermon was given.

Dismissed for lunch by Rev. Abie Cone.

Open for afternoon session by singing song, "Jesus Paid It All."

Reports of committees were read and received. Moved and carried that the body pay the Clerk \$25.00; the Moderator \$10.00, and send \$10.00 the State Association.

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.

Eld. C. J. Harvey was elected Field Worker of the Association.

Special committees appointed.

On Scripture in Minutes: Elds. W. L. Harrell, W. A. Sellars, Abie Cone, and C. L. Croft.

Investigating Committee: J. H. K. Jones, Abie Cone, and J. A. Brady.

Minster to Preach Doctornal.

Sermon in Each Church of Association: Eld. W. L. Harrell. Each church to pay his expenses.

Motion and carried that Ordaining Council be retain as following: Elds. W. L. Harrell, C. L. Croft, and Abie Cone.

Motion and carried that the Moderator appoint two members on Executive Board. Composed of J. H. K. Jones, Chairman; J. B. Kearns, Artie Cone, J. A. Brady, and C. J. Faison.

Motion and carried that 400 Minutes be printed.

No other business. Moved and carried to adjourn, to convene with St. Paul Church, near Omega, Ga., on Wednesday and Thursday, after the 3rd Sunday in October, 1948.

Rev. J. O. Brumby to preach the introductory sermon. Rev. W. L. Harrell alternate. Song, "God Be With You." Dismissed by Mrs. E. C. Morris.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES

We, your Committee on Devotional, recommend that Eld. Neal H. Parrish, preach tonight and Rev. E. C. Morris Thursday at 11 o'clock.
 Mrs. J. F. Harmon, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

We, your Committee on Education, see that there are many branches of education, this being true, advise parents that they be careful as to what branch of education their children pursue.

First, that their training in the home be Christly, as we believe that Solomon was right in saying, train up the child in the way it should go and when it is old will not depart from it.

Also, we recommend that the Union Association cooperate with the educational program of the National Association, in preparing a place for our children to go when they leave home for higher educational training, that we can be sure that they will be under Christian influences and will be taught the doctrine of salvation as we believe it.

A. L. Sellars, Chairman.

DENOMINATIONAL LITERATURE COMMITTEE

We believe most of our churches use our denominational literature. We would like to see our own literature in all our auxiliaries of the church. Also, would like to see our F. W. B. paper in all our homes, for by same we can see what other F. W. B. are doing.

Mrs. C. J. Harvey, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON MINSTERS

We find all ministers in order as far as can learn from the churches represented. We suggest a committee to go to Salem Church to investigate and differinging.

Monroe Justice, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS

We find our Sunday Schools use Freewill Baptist literature, published by the Freewill Baptist Publishing Co., Aden, N. C. We insist that each church endeavor to organize and carry on Sunday School work. We recommend that they also organize Young People League Work.

We find only four Sunday Schools reported.

Mrs. Mark Brooks, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON DESTITUTIONS

We find all churches supplied with pastors.

Jim Cannon, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE

We feel like we have some in temperance in our people. We believe if our people were more temperent we would not have as many wrecks on highways. Let's all pray that we may walk more Christly and raise our children so that we may be a temperate people in all things.

Mrs. C. T. Surrency, Chaiman.

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

We, your Committee on Resolutions, find the great need of going forward first, for the Association to out a field worker. Second, to have our Union meeting records put in the Association Minutes. Third, that no brother serve as Moderator more than 2 years. Fourth, that this body appoint a committee to search scripture of minutes for reference correction. Fifth, that each church have a home mission board and use a budget plan. Sixth, that this body appoint a man to visit each church and preach a doctornal sermon, with each church paying his expenses.

W. L. Harrell, Chairman.

No report from Executive Board.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE FIND

Sent in by Local Churches	\$64.70
Balance in Treasury	2.70

Mrs. J. F. Harmon, Chairman.

Report of all committees received and committees relieved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Received from Finance Committee	\$67.40
Freewill Offering	12.69
Total	\$80.09
Paid Moderator	\$ 10.00
Paid Clerk and Treasurer	25.00
Paid State Association	10.00
Paid Out Total	\$45.00
Balance in Treasury	\$35.09
Received Later Check from J. H. K. Jones, St. Paul, Nov. 7, 1947	\$20.00
From A. L. Sellars, Greenwood, Nov. 12, 1947	3.00
From Artie Cone, Kennedy Chapel, Nov. 25, 1947	5.00
	\$63.09

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF MINISTERS
ORDAINED

Elder Edward Norman	Thomasville, Ga.
Elder Obie Cone	Moultrie, 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 John M. Newton	Moultrie, Ga.
Elder C. L. Croft	Barney, Ga.
Elder C. T. Rentz	Moultrie, Ga.
Elder J. O. Brumby	Tallahassee, Fla.

LICENTIATES

Elder H. Wooten	Berlin, Ga.
Elder N. L. Lamb	Meigs, Ga.
Elder J. H. Russell	Thomasville, Ga.
Elder Rop McMurphy	Thomasville, Ga.
Elder Willie J. Glover	Monticello, Fla.

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 intercourse, 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 con-

victed 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. 4:4-6.

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 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. 13:22; 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 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 torments of the wicked are endless.—Matt. 25:46.

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.

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 Superannation	Evangelist Paid	Paid for All Other Purposes
Bethlehem, Colquitt	L. B. Croft, Barney, Ga.	A. L. Sellars ..	\$2,000	3	2	1	160	\$ 5.00	\$ 67.58									
Midway, Colquitt	Mrs. Mattie Gay, Moultrie, Ga.	Ralph Lightsey..	1,250	1-3	11	3	2	93	10.00	1,085.62	\$	\$40.14	\$43.13	\$45.02	\$72.35	\$	\$11	
Kenedy Chapel, Thomas..	Artie Cone, Rt. 3, Pavo, Ga.	Obie Cone	1,500	1-3		1	1	47	6.57	72.66	16.50	25.00					1	
St. Paul, Tift	M. H. Hinson, Omega, Ga.	L. S. Anthony..	1,000	1	4	2		60	12.75	296.03		67.76			21.55		5	
Clemmens Bridge, Mitchell	Norris Davis	W. L. Barrow ..	500	1	4				4.00	76.85							6.00	
Thomasville, Thomas	Mrs. S. L. Holton, Thomasville, Ga.	E. B. Norman ..	4,000	All	18	14	8	56	9.35	335.00							166.00	
Tallahassee, Leon	B. E. Coxwell, Woodville, Fla.	J. O. Brumby ..							5.00									
Spring Hill, Mitchell	Mrs. H. E. Morey, Rt. 1, Doerun, Ga.	W. A. Sellers....	1,500	4	1	2			5.00	56.30							7	
Greenwood, Mitchell	Louise Lamb, Camilla, Ga.		3,865	2-4				48	60.00	225.00	29.05		76.00	67.00	3.00	40.00	15	

Thomasville Free Will Baptist Church
of Christ.

This the 16th day of February
1947

To the Georgia and Florida
Free Will Baptist Association.

We pledge our pleasure to come
in as a charter member of the
Association.

We constitute a Free Will Baptist
Church on Cherokee St Thomasville Ga
By Rev. W. F. Clark, Cecil St. Thomasville Ga
with 48 members
with 34 new members

We value our church property at \$5,000
Amount paid on church building last
year. \$2,162.70

Amount paid pastor last year. \$142.23
Amount paid for mission \$42.21
Amount sent to Association for
minutes and other purposes \$25.00

our pastor for last year was
Rev. W. F. Clark,
Cecil St
Thomasville Ga.