

MINUTES

PROCEEDING

Twenty-Seventh Annual Session

OF THE

United Free Will Baptists

WHICH CONVENE WITH

Spring Hill Church

MITCHELL COUNTY

OCTOBER 23-24, 1952

OFFICERS

Elder K. V. Shutes, Mod. Camilla, Ga.
Mrs J. B. Rice, Clerk and Treas. Moultrie, Ga., R. 4

Executive Committee

J. H. K. Jones, Chairman Tifton, Ga.
S. L. Holden Thomasville, Ga.
Artie Cone Pavo, Ga.
M. H. Hinson Omega, Ga.
Walter Sloan Moultrie, Ga., R. 4

The next session of this Association will convene with St. Paul Church, Tift County, east of Omega, Ga., Wednesday and Thursday, after 3rd Sunday in October, 1953. Elder J. E. Wilkes, Hazelhurst, Ga., will preach the Introductory Sermon, with Elder W. G. Boyd, Thomasville, Ga., as alternate.



OUR DEAD

A. S. Faison Bay
Mrs. Alice Gibbs St. Paul
Mrs. Annie Sherrod Kennedy Chapel
Jimmie Murphy Midway

PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings of the Twenty-Seventh Annual Session of the Union Association Freewill Baptist Association, convening with Spring Hill Church, Sale City, Ga., Mitchell County, October 22, 23, 1952.

Open service with Asst. Mod. Elder K. V. Shutes in charge.

Song—"Talk It Over With Jesus".

Prayer—Elder W. L. Harrell.

Song—"Sitting At The Feet of Jesus".

Prayer—Lamar Parish.

Introductory Sermon by Elder E. C. Morris, Scripture reading 1st Samuel 10:9, 26.

Theme—"Touched Hearts". Stating that every man who serves the Lord must be saved, you may run it back to the church, that where there's trouble you'll find there's some one who isn't saved. We even have pulpits being filled today who have pastors in them who haven't been regenerated (saved), who haven't had their hearts touched by God. Many churches are failing because of this fact today. Changes have to be made, but let the Lord make them. We need men who have been made into new creatures, men whose hearts have been touched by God. Our churches need preachers who have been touched, then we need "pews" which have been touched. Who should have charge in the church? Neither preacher or deacons, but the "Holy Spirit" should be full control. We need a "Touch of Cleaness, Power, Purified Passion for Jesus." When we come under the power we are clean and have the touch of God in our hearts.

Let's clean our hearts out!

Fellowship of appreciation given Bro. Morris.

Song—"All Alone".

Welcome Address by Pastor of Church.

Dismissed for lunch by Elder J. B. Lumpkin.

Noon hour.

Reassemble.

Open with song—"When Our Lord Shall Come Again".

Prayer—Elder W. R. Lawhorn.

Open for business.

Call for church letters and seating of the delegates.

Letters were read by Elder E. C. Morris and C. E. Kernick. Delegates as following:

Bay—Wayne Faison, Sisters Julia Faison, Verda Bozeman.

Bethlehem—Sisters Eliza Croft, John Page Green, Gladys Harrelson.

Clements Bridge—Gene Bundy, Sisters Willine Bundy, D. B. Morey.

Cairo—W. A. Albritton, Rufus Ward, R. H. Hinson.

Greenwood—Bro. and Sister Baby Poitivent.

Kennedy Chapel—Mark Brooks, Ernest Voiner.

Midway—Bro. and Sister Gorden Sloan, B. A. Faison.

New Hope—Bro. and Sister M. B. Laner, Rena Nicktas.

Spring Hill—Henry Marey, Bob Marey, Bro. Johnson.

Salem: M. G. Boykin, H. M. Brouch, Sister T. N. Howell.

St. Paul—Monroe Justice, Sisters Mary Hinson, Grover Touchton.

Thomasville—Billie Lane, Sisters Earline Lane, Lilly Byrant.

Tallahasee—Bro. and Sister Howard Johnson, Sister G. L. Jones.

Proctor Chapel—C. C. Glover, J. C. Newsome, Willie Turner.

Invited Sister Association to seat with us.

Ga. Union—Bro. and Sister C. E. Kernick.

South Ga.—Elder and Sister E. C. Morris.

Chattahoochee—Elders W. R. Lawhorn, J. B. Lumpkin, Bro. G. C. King, and Bro. J. J. Fowler.

Salem West Fla.—L. L. Lowe.

Assembly of God—Mrs. C. C. Anglin.

Pelham East Side Baptist—Mrs. W. D. Rackly.

Liberty Hill Church—Mrs. Winston Argo.

Moved and carried we elect officers by ballot.

Officers elected were:

Moderator—Elder K. V. Shutes, Camilla, Ga.

Asst. Mod.—Elder W. L. Harrell, Omega, Ga.

Clerk and Treas.—Mrs. J. B. Rice, R. 4, Moultrie, Ga.

Asst. Clerk—Mrs. J. F. Harmon, Camilla, Ga.

Elder E. C. Morris, State Promotional Secretary of the State Association gave a talk on the Unified Program. It is the Freewill Baptist way of carrying on God's work. It is the duty of every one of us to support this work. How are we going to do so? By every church getting together in one accord with prayer and worship and strive to support the work. Bro. Morris said if there was any church who needed help in any way toward getting on the Unified Program to let him know and he would be glad to help them. Mailing address, E. C. Morris, Box 553, Tifton, Ga.

A Freewill offering was taken for this cause. Amount \$57.25.

Appointing of committees.

Devotional—B. A. Faison, Howard Johnson, Mary Hinson.

Denominational Literature—C. C. Glover, Mark Brooks, Henry Marey.

State of Churches—Monroe Justice, Rufus Ward, Gene Bundy, M. H. Hinson.

Temperance—Julia Faison, Gladys Harrelson, W. A. Albritton.

Auxiliaries—Ethlene Sloan, Willie Turner, Mrs. Grover Touchton.

Resolutions—W. A. Sellars, A. L. Sellars, Ernest Voiner, Sister Bobby Portivent.

Finance—J. C. Newsome, Royce Johnson, Sister John Green Page.

Educational—Wayne Faison, R. H. Hinson, Bob Marey.

Nominations—Curtis Gay, Lamar Parrish, J. A. Brady.

Motion and carried that Elder W. A. Sellars be placed on ordaining council of this body with Elder K. V. Shutes and Elder W. L. Harrell.

Lamar Parrish of Midway Church was ordained as a Freewill Baptist Minister.

J. C. Johnson of St. Paul Church and Ernest Voiner of Kennedy Chapel were ordained as Deacons.

Motion and carried that we adjourn for evening services.

Dismissed by B. R. Bodiford.

EVENING SERVICES

Open with song, "Let Him In".

Prayer by J. J. Fowler.

Song—"Camping In Canaan".

Sermon by Elder Lamar Parrish. Scripture reading, Luke 5: 1, 13. Text 4 v. A very inspiring message was given.

Dismissed by Elder W. R. Lawhorn.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23

Open with song—"Watching You".

Prayer in a group—Elder A. L. Sellars, W. R. Lawhorn, Mrs. Herbert Long.

Motion and carried that since L. A. Morris had moved his membership to another denomination his name be taken out of minutes. Also Elder L. S. Anthony be granted a letter of dismissal and for Clerk to write same.

Bro. Morris reported he was now eligible to hold training schools for purpose of educating Sunday School and League Workers.

Bro. Shutes gave a challenge to the group to have this done in their churches.

THE UNITED FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Since Bro. Anthony was moving to another Association Elder K. V. Shutes was elected as moderator of Union Meeting for 1952-53. Other officers of same are Elder H. E. Rogers, Asst. Mod.; Clerk and Treat., Mrs. J. B. Rice; Asst. Clerk, Mrs. Margaret Voiner.

The moderator urged that we do something toward the supporting of our college fund. He also gave a report of the Bible College progress, stating that the month of November is designated for raising funds for the college.

Business was adjourned for the preaching hour.

A quartet composed of Mrs. K. V. Shutes, E. C. Morris, M. H. Hinson, K. V. Shutes, sang "Savior Lead Me".

Sermon by Elder W. L. Harrell. Scripture, Romans 2: 1, 3; Rom. 1:16. Theme, "A Prayer Journey".

A message of great deliverance was given.

A fellowship meeting was held afterwards.

Dismissed for lunch by J. A. Brady.

Noon hour.

Reassemble.

Open with song—"Glory to His Name".

Open for business session.

Delegates to Sister Association appointed as following:

Martin Association at Corinth Church, Iron City, Ga., Bro. and Sister Royce Johnson.

Midway—At Donaldsonville, Ga., Mrs. K. V. Shutes.

Ga. Union—At Liberty Chapel, Macon, Ga., Elder K. V. Shutes.

South Ga.—Elder W. L. Harrell.

Chattahoochee—St. James, Pheonix City, Ala., B. A. Faison.

National—At Benton, Ill., July 13, 14, 15, 1953, C. C. Anglin, Pelham, Ga.

State—Selected delegates from each church.

Bay—Curtis Gay, Hartsfield, Ga.

Bethlehem—Gladys Harrelson, Moultrie, Ga.

Cairo—R. H. Hinson, 4th St. N. W., Cairo, Ga.

Clements Bridge—T. E. Bundy, Baconton, Ga.

Midway—B. A. Faison, Moultrie, Ga., R. 4.

Greenwood—Mrs. J. F. Harmon, Camilla, Ga.

St. Paul—Mary Hinson, Omega, Ga.

Spring Hill—Lamar Rayburn, Baconton, Ga.

New Hope—M. B. Lanier, Cooleage, Ga.

Kennedy Chapel—Artie Cone, Pavo, Ga.

Tallahassee—Howard Johnson, Tallahassee, Fla.

Thomasville—Mrs. Earline Lane, Thomasville, Ga.

Proctor Chapel—Willie Turner, Sale City, Ga.

Motion and carried that we send \$10.00 to State Association.

Clerk was given permission to write each church for funds to have minutes printed if needed.

Motion and carried that Moderator be paid \$5.00 and Clerk \$25.00.

Motion and carried that Article 13 of the Association decorum be removed from minutes.

The Moderator recommended that union meeting fees be given to the Unified Program.

A vote of thanks was given to the church and community for the fine way they entertained the body.

Motion that we adjourn.

Song—"Bless Be The Tie".

Dismissed by Elder W. A. Sellars.

Camp Leaders of Association are:

Wayne Faison, Hartsfield, Ga., Chairman.

The following people from local churches as co-workers are: Bay: W. R. Tucker, Moultrie, Ga., R. 1; Bethlehem: Jim Croft, Moultrie, Ga.; Cairo: Mrs. Rufus Ward, Cairo Ga.; Midway: B. A. Faison, Moultrie, Ga., R. 4; Spring Hill: Mrs. T. N. Marey, Doerun, Ga.; Salem: Mrs. S. P. Fulford, Monticello, Fla.; Greenwood: Mrs. G. W. Worsham, Camilla, Ga., R. 2; St. Paul: Mary Hinson, Omega, Ga.; Kennedy Chapel: Mrs. Margaret Voiner, Pavo, Ga., R. 3; New Hope: M. B. Lanier, Cooleage, Ga.; Tallahassee: Mrs. R. L. Hunter, Tallahassee, Fla.; Thomasville: Mrs. Mary Jargingan, Thomasville, Ga.; Proctor Chapel: John Pullen, Pelham, Ga. For full information write C. J. Harvey, Camilla, Ga.

Address of Freewill Baptist Missionary of Cuba, Elder T. H. Whiley, Apartado 27, Piner, Del Rio, Cuba.

NAMES AND ADDRESS OF ORDAINED MINSTERS

Elder W. L. Barrow	Drifton, Fla.
Elder W. L. Harrell	Omega, Ga., R. 1
Elder A. L. Sellars	Quitman, Ga.
Elder W. A. Sellars	Camilla, Ga.
Elder H. E. Rogers	Pelham, Ga.
Elder Obie Cone	112 Susaway St., Thomasville, Ga.
Elder J. J. Byrant	Pavo, Ga.
Elder L. O. Lovett	Lenox, Ga.
Elder Lamar Parrish	Moultrie, Ga., R. 4
Elder G. D. Roberts	Pavo, Ga., R. 3
Elder W. G. Boyd	Thomasville, Ga., R. 4
Elder K. V. Shutes	Camilla, Ga.
Elder C. L. Croft	Pavo, Ga.
Elder Ralph Lightsey	Nashville, Tenn.
Elder Harvey Giddens	Moultrie, Ga., R. 6

LICENTIATIES

N. L. Lamb	Meigs, Ga.
J. L. Russell	Thomasville, Ga.
John Rhodes	Moultrie, Ga.

ASSOCIATIONAL TREASURER REPORT

Received from Finance Committee	\$103.25
Balance in Treasurer at Session	13.00
Total	\$116.25
Paid out to State Association	\$ 10.50
Paid Moderator	5.00
Paid Clerk	25.00
Total Paid Out	\$ 40.50
Balance in Treasure	75.75
Received from Churches later for printing of Minutes	22.00
Making a Total	\$ 97.75
Printing of Minutes, cost	93.50
Cost of Mailing Minutes	4.65

QUARTERLY MEETING

Report of funds and how they were disbursed for the Associational year 1951-52.

Unified Program	\$137.25
Proctor Chapel, Pelham	124.47
Cairo Church	51.27
Bible College	19.00
Mrs. Maxie Patten	10.00
Paid Moderator	20.00
Paid Clerk	20.00
Other Expenses	10.00
	\$391.99

REPORTING OF COMMITTEES

NOMINATIONS

We, the Nominating Committee recommend that this Association meet with St. Paul Church next session, with Rev. J. E. Wilkes, Hazlehurst, Ga., to preach Introductory Sermon, Elder W. G. Boyd as alternate.

Places for Union Meetings: Nov. 30, 1952, Tallahassee Church, Elder I. J. Blackwelder to preach sermon. March 29, 1953, Bethlehem Church: Elder W. A. Sellars to preach sermon. May 31, 1953, Clements Bridge: Elder Ralph Lightsey to preach sermon. August 30, 1953, New Hope, Elder Lamar Parrish to preach sermon.

CURTIS GAY, Chairman.

EDUCATIONAL

We, the Committee on Education, submit the following: 1st, seeing the great need of Christian education, we urge that each church and its pastors strive to have an active Sunday School and League. 2nd, that each church send their pastors to the Ministerial Institution at Mt. Bethel. 3rd, Send your young people to the Youth Camp. 4th, That each church in our Association help to raise the \$65,000 now needed for the purchase of a building for the Bible College. This address is 3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.

WAYNE FAISON, Chairman.

DENOMINATIONAL LITERATURE

We, the Committee, urge that all our churches use Freewill Baptist Literature published by the Freewill Baptist Press, Ayden, N. C., for our Sunday Schools, Leagues, etc. We also urge that our people take the Freewill Baptist paper for we, the Committee feel that through doing this we will be able to gain more faith and make our churches much stronger than they are at the present time.

C. C. GLOVER, Chairman.

STATES OF CHURCHES AND MINSTERS

We, your Committee, find all churches with ministers, and beg to report the following: That all Ministers, Deacons and Churches in good standing as far as we know.

MONROE JUSTICE, Chairman.

TEMPERANCE

We, your Committee on Temperance, offer the following report: That we consider the liquor traffic as enemy No. 1, and as such that it be discouraged and fight it on every hand. That we further refuse to tolerate it in any form. 2nd, That we urge and demand a clean ministry to preach and practice temperance to the fullest extent among the layman of our churches. 3rd, That we endeavor to live temperate lives before the world that no reproach can be made upon our profession and that we may have

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a good report from within and without. 4th, That we endeavor to live peaceable with all men and especially with the household of truth.

MRS. JULIA FAISON, Chairman.

AUXILIARIES

We, the Committee, find 9 churches having Sunday Schools, 9 with weekly prayer meeting, 3 with Leagues, 2 with Ladies Auxiliaries. We urge that every church organize these Auxiliaries in their churches, for in doing so we will grow stronger in faith and can lead others to Christ. Let us all continue in prayer. As prayer is the key to everlasting life.

WILLIE TURNER, Chairman.

REPORT OF SUNDAY SCHOOL WORKER

I am happy to report there are 9 churches in our Association having Sunday Schools at present.

There's still 5 churches that doesn't have Sunday Schools, which I would like very much to see organize one in their churches.

The 5th Sunday, which was set aside for a Sunday School Rally Day, we feel was a great success. We had representatives from all churches but one present. Five Sunday Schools took part on program.

We feel though it will be a much better success if this day is placed on another Sunday other than a quarterly meeting day—because of the business session the spirit of the program is removed.

I would like to suggest this be done at this session.

Submitted by

CURTIS GAY,

Association Sunday School Worker.

RESOLUTIONS

We, your Committee, recommend the re-adoption of the last year's budget to stand as written.

We recommend that Article 13 of Decorum be removed from Minutes.

We, also recommend that our officers be elected by ballot.

We urge the paying of tithing to where it will be the most benefit.

Last year's budget as follows:

Bay: \$10.00; Bethlehem: \$8.00; Cairo: \$5.00; Clements Bridge: \$5.00; Midway: \$15.00; Kennedy Chapel: \$8.00; Greenwood: \$10.00; Salem: \$10.00; Spring Hill: \$10.00; Tallahassee, \$10.00; New Hope: \$5.00; Thom- asville: \$10.00; St. Paul: \$10.00; Proctor Chapel, \$5.00.

W. A. SELLARS, Chairman.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

We, the Finance Committee, find budget fees amounting to \$121.00, brought forward.

J. C. NEWSOME, Chairman.

The Clerk later received church letters and fees as following: Salem: \$10.00; New Hope: \$5.00, making a total of \$136.00.

GOVERNMENT AND ORDINANCES

1. We believe that 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 ordinances of the first Christian churches and to be composed of baptised beilevers 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 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, repungent to the Word of God, subservient to the churches and dangerous to the liberty of man.
5. That gospel churches are the only ecclesiastical bodies or tribunals authorized by the Scriptures; and 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 delegates or otherwise, the assembly ceases to be a Gospel church.
6. That 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 compromised 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 equal authority given by an 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 that does not extend to persons, property or the conscience of men in any manner whatsoever.
8. That the only requirement 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, rebuke, helping with Lords supper, marriage, baptize, 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 the 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 according to Matt. 18: 15, 17. 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 washing of the Saint's feet are ordinances to be observed in the church until the Lord comes. John 13; I Tim. 5, 9, 10.

13. That Elders and Deacons must be set apart to their office or ordination, by laying on 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 licentiate shall be ordained until called in care of one or more churches.

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 the administration of the Lord's Supper and to baptize if necessary.

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 and a appointed committee 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 day's monthly meeting if desired, 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. Conferences 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 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. An orderly member of the fundamentally protesant 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 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 not 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 until the question has been put to the church. Will you hear the testimony of the witness?

18. The evidence in every case or dealing and knowledgement shall be recorded in the church book.

19. Members dismissed from the church by letter who become disorderly or continue to hold their letter 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. Unless to amend, to rescind or to hold.

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 receipt, 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 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 the point in the debate.

26. No one shall speak more than two 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 can be 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 Saint's feet at least quarterly 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. No Licentiate shall be ordained until called in care of one or more churches.

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

CHURCH COVENANT

1. Having been brought, as we humbly trust, by Divine Grace into the knowledge of our Divine Lord and Savior 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 a 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 more that in the mouth of two or three witnesses that 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 the co-mingling with drunkards are sins which should be condemned by the church.

8. It shall be the duty of all pastors to read or have read this Covenant and to explain every part and clause thereof to the church quarterly.

DECORUM

1. That the officers of this Association shall be elected at the close of session. The election shall come on even years and they shall hold office 2 years.

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 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 the order in which they are stated.

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

8. After a 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. The 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 Ordained 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, belonging thereto: (2) Legal delegates from the churches composing the same and deacons.

3. Requirement 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 postoffice of the Church Clerk, give the number baptised, received by letter, dismissed by letter, restored, excluded, and died, the number of members, and the amount paid for Associational purposes and all other purposes.

4. Each church in the Association shall be considered an advisory body and shall control its own internal affairs having the unrestricted right to administer 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 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 institution such as education, Sunday Schools, missionary work, etc.

6. The officers of this Association shall be Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, Executive Committee to be chosen by ballots.

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 3 delegates.

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

ARTICLES OF FAITH

First, We believe that there is but one living, true and eternal God, the Father, of whom are all things from everlasting, glorious and immutable in all 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, 6; Heb. 2:9; St. John 8; Acts 2:4; Eph. 3:1; Eph. 6.

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. 3:1; Eph. 4:4, 6. And that he comes into our hearts. John 1: 1; 12; Gal. 4:4; 16; 2nd. Cor. 5:12; Titus 3: 5; 1, John 5: 1; 10: 13.

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 knowledge of truth, that they might be saved; for which in 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 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 5:10.

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 in the Gospel.—Luke 14:16, 20; Matt. 28:19, 20; Luke 13:3, 5; Luke 24:47; 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 willfully 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 brought 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; II Peter 2:1; II 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 person, 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. 18:25; Mark 9:36, 37; Matt. 18:25; Matt. 19:13.

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 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 death or 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 saint's feet, anointing the sick with oil in the name of the Lord, fasting, prayer, singing praise to God, and the public ministry of the Word, 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 the believers are the only subjects for baptism.—Matt. 3:16; Mark 1:9, 10; Acts 3:19, 21; 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; II 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 Corresponding Messengers.
7. Appoint Committees: (a) Preaching; (b) Denominational Literature; (c) Temperance; (d) Church and Destitution; (e) Education; (f) Ministers; (g) Auxiliaries; (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 AND POST OFFICE	Value of Church	Time of Meeting	Received by Baptism	Received by Letter	Lost by Death	Lost by Other Ways	Total Members	Associational Purposes	Paid Pastor	Building and Repairs	Paid Home Missions	Paid Foreign Missions	Christain Education	Paid Evangelist	Publication	Youth Camp	Unifed Program	All Other Purposes
Bay Colquitt.....	Curtis Gay Hartsfield, Ga.....	I. J. Blackwelder Alma, Ga.....	10,000	1-3	3	.....	1	.....	24	10.00	412.24	.....	.....	.....	208.15	87.15	.....	.....	20.00	.....
Bethlehem Colquitt.....	Lillie Croft, Rt. 5, Moultrie, Ga.....	L. O. Lovett Lenox, Ga.....	2,000	2	2	.....	.....	.....	52	8.00	115.83	34.25	13.59	.....	.....	45.50	.....	.....	.....	.....
Clements Bridge Mitchell.....	Corene Morey Box 416, Rt. 3 Albany, Ga.....	W. A. Sellars Camilla, Ga.....	500	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	16	5.00	146.38	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.60	.....	5.00	.....
Cairo Grady.....	Clara Ward, Box 208, Rt. 1, Cairo, Ga.....	K. V. Shutes Camilla, Ga.....	800	1-2	12	6	.....	2	44	5.00	209.18	854.34	5.00	.....	.....	110.10	.....	.....	.....	.....
Greenwood Mitchell.....	A. L. Morse Camilla, Ga.....	K. V. Shutes Camilla, Ga.....	2,000	2-4	7	6	.....	4	95	10.00	614.04	.....	.....	.....	5.00	82.39	.....	.....	165.23	36.00
Kennedy Chapel Thomas.....	Mamie Brooks Rt. 1, Pavo, Ga.....	W. G. Boyd Thomasville, Ga.....	1,500	2-4	1	2	1	4	37	8.00	134.19	52.34	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Midway Colquitt.....	Mattie Gay Moultrie, Ga.....	J. E. Wilkes Hazlehurst, Ga.....	20,000	1-3	10	.....	1	1	115	18.00	853.39	840.60	14.55	29.60	362.35	183.55	120.40	140.72	.....	164.36
New Hope Colquitt.....	Mrs. C. T. Bobo Rt. 6, Moultrie, Ga.....	W. G. Boyd Thomasville, Ga.....	2,500	1-3	1	1	1	.....	46	5.00	315.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
St. Paul Tift.....	M. H. Hinson Omega, Ga.....	Lamar Parish Moultrie, Ga.....	2,000	1-3	19	15	1	5	74	12.00	250.00	225.00	.....	.....	27.40	252.85	45.00	.....	.....	.....
Salem Jefferson, Fla.....	Mrs. E. M. Brouch Loyd, Fla., R.....	W. L. Barow Drifton, Fla.....	1,000	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	18	10.00	150.00	18.00	.....	.....	.....	49.00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Spring Hill Mitchell.....	Christine Hathcock Doerun, Ga.....	J. B. Lumpkin Howard, Ga.....	2,500	4	5	8	.....	.....	148	10.00	300.00	200.00	16.00	.....	.....	81.14	25.00	.....	.....	.....
Thomasville Thomas.....	G. E. Cox 1005 Smith Ave. Thomasville, Ga.....	Obie Cone 112 Susway St. Thomasville, Ga.....	4,000	1-3	35	10	1	1	9	15.00	200.00	.....	35.85	10.00	.....	30.00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tallahassee Leon, Fla.....	B. E. Coxwell 134 N. Mascomb Tallahassee, Fla.....	H. Grubbs Perry, Fla.....	4,500	2-4	2	.....	.....	2	32	10.00	750.00	.....	18.00	.....	.....	.....	21.00	.....	.....	.....
Proctor Chapel Mitchell.....	Mrs. W. L. Glover Pelham, Ga.....	H. E. Rogers Pelham, Ga.....	4,000	1,2,3,4	47	.....	.....	4	83	6.50	805.00	.....	2.50	2.50	24.00	.....	.....	3.60	.....	1.00