

1976 MINUTES

OF THE

51ST SESSION

UNION ASSOCIATION

ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST

CONVENED WITH

POULAN-SPRING HILL-BAY-BETHLEHEM

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES

ORDER OF ASSOCIATIONAL BUSINESS

1. The body at each session shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. Call for church letters and the clerk shall read the names of Delegates to determine if they are present.
3. Call for Petitionary Letters.
4. Invite visiting brethren to seat with us.
5. Call for Corresponding Messengers.
6. Appointment Committee: (a) Digest Committee (b) Finance; (c) Nominations.
7. Miscellaneous business.
8. Unfinished business.
9. Report of committees.
10. Elect a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk-Treasurer and Assistant every two years.
11. Adjournment.

1976 MINUTES

51ST SESSION

UNION ASSOCIATION
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST

convened with

CAIRO, FELLOWSHIP, GREENWOOD, MIDWAY

OFFICERS

C. J. Faison.....	Moderator
Rev. W. J. Barksdale.....	Assistant-Moderator
Mrs. Helen Lewis.....	Clerk-Treasurer
Mrs. Opal Hatcher.....	Assistant Clerk-Treasurer

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

R. B. Harrison.....	1977
Curtis Gay.....	1978
Warner Wisham.....	1979
Norman Nelms.....	1980
Farrell Tucker.....	1981

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Murray Giddens.....	1977
M. C. Powell.....	1978
Ronald Wallace.....	1979

ASSOCIATIONAL CALENDAR

Poulan.....	February 5, 1977
Proctor Chapel.....	May 7, 1977
Spring Hill.....	August 6, 1977
Sylvester.....	October 29, 1977

UNION ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES TO GEORGIA STATE BOARDS

Mission Board.....Billy Hatcher
Route 1, Baconton, Ga.
Trustee Board.....C. K. Murphy
Route 4, Moultrie, Ga.
Board of Retirement & Insurance.....W. S. Lewis
528 North Main, Moultrie, Ga.
Camp Board.....Guyton Adams
P.O. Box 282, Berlin, Ga.
Budgeting Board.....Curtis Alligood
Route 1, Hartsfield, Ga.

MISSION BOARD OF UNION ASSOCIATION

Curtis Gay.....Bay FWB 1978
Route 1, Hartsfield, Ga.
A. K. Lowe.....Cairo FWB 1978
Route 3, Cairo, Ga.
Price Ervin.....Greenwood FWB 1978
Route 3, Camilla, Ga.
Robert Simpson.....Proctor Chapel FWB 1978
Branch Street, Pelham, Ga.
William S. Lewis.....Midway FWB 1979
528 N. Main St., Moultrie, Ga.
James Silvers.....Spring Hill FWB 1979
Route 4, Box 539, Albany, Ga.

ROLL OF ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. Curtis Alligood.....Bay FWB Church
Route 1, Hartsfield, Ga.
Rev. W. J. Barksdale.....Poulan FWB Church
Poulan, Ga.
Rev. Elzie Franks.....Sylvester FWB Church
Route 1, Sylvester, Ga.
Rev. Murray Giddens.....Adel Mission
Route 1, Moultrie, Ga.
Rev. Charles Lasseter.....Bay FWB Church
Route 1, Moultrie, Ga.
Rev. Leroy Lightfoot.....Greenwood FWB Church
Route 1, Doerun, Ga.

- Rev. Jerome McNeese.....Bethlehem FWB Church
2010 N. Ridge Avenue, Tifton, Georgia
- Rev. B. H. Parrish.....Cairo FWB Church
701 6th St., N.E. Cairo, Georgia
- Rev. Lamar Parrish.....Fellowship Church
P.O. Box 69, Funston, Georgia
- Rev. M. C. Powell.....Sylvester FWB Church
Route 4, Box 161, Sylvester, Georgia
- Rev. W. G. Turner.....Proctor Chapel FWB Church
Rural Route, Cairo, Georgia
- Rev. Ronald Wallace.....Midway FWB Church
Route 4, Moultrie, Georgia

ROLL OF LICENSED MINISTERS

- Rev. Charles Harris.....Greenwood FWB
Route 3, Box 277, Camilla, Ga.
- Rev. Holmes.....Proctor Chapel FWB
Pelham, Ga.
- Rev. Kenneth Murphy (Age 17).....Midway FWB
Youth Minister.. Route 6, Moultrie, Georgia 31768
- Rev. Lonnie Register.....Midway FWB
208 30th Ave. N. W. Moultrie, Ga.

ROLL OF DEACONS

Bay FWB Church

- C. J. Faison.....Route 1, Hartsfield, Ga.
- Curtis Gay.....Route 1, Hartsfield, Ga.
- Robert W. Tucker.....Route 1, Hartsfield, Ga.

Bethlehem FWB Church

- Don W. Croft.....Berlin, Ga.
- Earnest Croft.....Berlin, Ga.
- Elzie Boyd.....P.O. Box 42, Berlin, Ga.
- George W. McCoy.....Route 5, Berlin, Ga.
- Jimmy Croft.....Route 5, Berlin, Ga.
- Earl Truett..... 2120 E. Central Ave. Moultrie, Ga.

ROLL OF DEACONS (Con't)

Cairo FWB Church

Melton Harrell.....611 7th Ave. N.E., Cairo, Ga.
A. K. Lowe.....Route 3, Cairo, Ga.
John A. Thomas.....1335 8th Ave. N.E., Cairo, Ga.
J. W. Watson.....483 10th Ave. N.E., Cairo, Ga.
Larry Watson.....3rd Ave. N.E., Cairo, Ga.
Warner Wisham.....706 8th Ave. N.E., Cairo, Ga.

Fellowship FWB Church

Leonard Bundy.....Baconton, Ga.

Greenwood FWB Church

R. B. Harrison.....Route 3, Camilla, Ga.
A. L. Morse.....Route 1, Camilla, Ga.
Price Ervin.....Route 3, Camilla, Ga.

Midway FWB Church

Leonard Dunlap...1111 10th Ave. S.E., Moultrie, Ga.
Roscoe Gay.....Route 4, Moultrie, Ga.
Marion Green.....Route 4, Moultrie, Ga.
Eugene Lacey.....Route 2, Moultrie, Ga.
Wayne Lacey.....Route 4, Moultrie, Ga.
W. S. Lewis, Sr....528 N. Main Street, Moultrie, Ga.
Douglas Murphy.....Route 6, Moultrie, Ga.
C. K. Murphy.....Route 4, Moultrie, Ga.
Enoch Parrish.....Route 4, Moultrie, Ga.
Walter Sloan.....Route 4, Moultrie, Ga.
Farrell Tucker.....Route 4, Moultrie, Ga.

Poulan FWB Church

Sonny Powell...608 N. Livingston St., Sylvester, Ga.
D. L. Harris.....Route 1, Ty Ty, Ga.
Wayne Carlton.....Poulan, Ga.

Proctor Chapel FWB Church

Frank Cain.....Pelham, Ga.
George Shirah.....Pelham, Ga.
Robert Simpson.....Pelham, Ga.
Bobby Stanaland.....Meigs, Ga.
Charlie Walker.....Pelham, Ga.

Spring Hill FWB Church

Glenn Etheridge.....6027 Jenkins Road, Albany, Ga.
Billy Hatcher.....Route 1, Baconton, Ga.
P. M. Hatcher.....Route 4, Albany, Ga.
T. N. Morey.....Route 1, Doerun, Ga.
James Silvers.....Route 4, Box 539, Albany, Ga.

Sylvester FWB Church

James Jennings 1106 N. Washington St., Sylvester, Ga.

First Quarterly Session Union Association
February 7, 1976

The Union Association met February 7, 1976, at the Cairo FWB Church with Rev. James Ursrey presiding. The theme was "And ye are Witnesses of these things." Luke 24:48. The meeting was opened with Congregational singing "Standing On The Promises" led by Brother C. J. Faison and music by Rev. Bobby Whittaker. Opening prayer by Rev. James Ursrey.

A special "One Day At A Time" was sung by the Rev. B. H. Parrish and Family and was followed by Devotional with speaker Rev. Bobby Whittaker using Scripture Text: Luke 24:46-48 and I John 1: 1-4.

Church letters were called for with Fellowship and Moultrie church not representing. Fellowship did represent later by mail including the representation dues. M/S/C to seat the delegates.

Visitors were recognized from Proctor Chapel FWB Church and New Home No. 2 FWB Church.

M/S/C to adopt the Printed Program with any necessary changes to be made by the Moderator.

Petitionary letters were called for and Proctor Chapel FWB Church came forward with a letter of Request for membership in Union Association. Rev. M. C. Powell moved that we accept the Proctor Chapel Church into full fellowship. Motion was seconded and carried.

Committees were appointed: Digest Committee with C. J. Faison, Chairman, Guyton Adams, and Connie Harrell. Finance Committee with Mrs. Helen Lewis, Chairwoman, Mrs. Charles Harris and Norman Nelms. A letter from Midway FWB Church requested that the Ordaining Council meet with Brother Bobby Whittaker.

A letter from Rev. Gerald Brown requested that a letter of recommendation be written to Chattahoochee Association. M/S/C to fulfill the request..

INTERMISSION:

Reconvened with congregational singing: "At The Cross", "Glory To His Name", and "Old Time Power". An offering was taken, followed by Special Music by Mr. & Mrs. Harrell and Mrs. Watson of the Cairo Church. Rev. Murray Giddens brought the Morning Message using our theme "And Ye Are Witnesses of Me".

Following the message the Cairo Church Pastor, Rev. B. H. Parrish, welcomed everyone to lunch. Prayer by Rev. Bobby Whittaker asked God's blessings on the food and dismissed the meeting for lunch.

LUNCH

Reconvened at 1:15 with congregational singing "Leaning On the Everlasting Arms". Prayer by Rev. Jerome McNeese. A special song request was honored by Rev. Bobby Whittaker singing "Take Up Thy Cross and Follow Me". Mrs. Linda Watson sang "Tear Stains In The Sand".

The afternoon devotion was by Rev. Charlie Harris using scripture from Matthew, Galatians and II Timothy.

Rev. W. G. Turner requested that his dismissal from our association on Page 17 of our 1975 Minutes dated August 2, 1975 be set aside, because he did not request that such action be taken. M/S/C that the Paragraph be struck from the records.

Henceforth all request for letters must be made in person or in writing.

The Digest Committee reported: 9 Churches represented, 22 Delegates, 11 Ministers, 15 Deacons, M/S/C to accept report.

The Finance Committee reported a Balance brought forward of \$217.21. Dues from the Churches today totaled \$127.77, and a Freewill Offering of \$34.64. The total of this is \$379.62. The Committee moved that we pay \$245.14 for the 1975 Minutes and send a \$50 Donation to the Union Mission Board. The motion was seconded and carried.

M/S/C to accept the Ordaining Council Report.

M/S/C to accept recommendation of Ordaining Council.
*** SEE REPORT OF Ordaining Council.

Brother Guyton Adams spoke concerning Camp Mount Bethel and the coming camping season. Clean-up day at the Camp is May 15, 1976.

Announcements were: Bethlehem Revival, February 16-20
Midway Revival, February 4,

Prayer request for Rev. James Ursrey to enter Hospital on Feb. 15.

M/S/C to give Host Church a rising vote of thanks.

M/S/C to adjourn.

Dismissed by prayer by Rev. James Ursrey.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. James Ursrey, Moderator
Helen Lewis, Clerk

Ordaining Council Report, Feb. 7, 1976

Upon request from Midway Church that Rev. Bobby Whittaker be accepted into the Union Association, we recommend that he be accepted in Full Fellowship pending a letter of good standing from the Chattahoochee Association.

Rev. Ronald Wallace

Rev. Murray Giddens

Rev. M. C. Powell

Second Quarterly Session Union Association
May 1, 1976

The Union Association was called to order by the Moderator at 10:00 a.m. on May 1, 1976, at the Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church at Acree, Georgia. The theme for the May meeting was "God's Judgment" using the scripture Luke 19:22 as text. The meeting was opened with congregational singing led by Brother C. J. Faison and pianist Mrs. Aline Gay. Songs were "When I See The Blood," and "I Love To Tell The Story."

Prayer led by Rev. Ronald Wallace.

Rev. Curtis Alligood gave our morning Devotion using as his text John 3:1-7 and Romans 8:5-8.

Associational roll was called with all eleven churches having representatives present. M/S/C to seat delegates.

M/S/C to accept Program with Moderator to make necessary changes.

Committees were appointed naming C. J. Faison, Enoch Parrish, and Rev. Jerome McNeese to serve on the Credentials Committee and Mrs. Helen Lewis, Mrs. Ollie Lewis, & James Jennings to serve on the Finance Committee.

The Moderator spoke briefly on the need to clarify the Item 32 of the Church Decorum and Item 14 of the Associational Governments and Ordinances pertaining to the licensing and ordaining of Ministers to preach the Gospel. Guyton Adams moved that we appoint a committee to work on this during the lunch hour. The move was seconded and carried, The Moderator appointed the Ordaining Council.

Rev. Bobby Whittaker's letter from Chattahoochee Association was received in good order and he has requested that he be given a letter to the Martin Association since he has been called to that Association as Pastor. M/S/C to grant Brother Bobby's letter.

Due to the admitted carelessness of the clerk, Churches were not notified in time to participate in the various Youth Contest for competing in the State meets, so the participants from Spring Hill Church were declared the

winners from our Districts and will represent Union Association at the State Meet at Camp Mount Bethel Youth Camp, on May 14 and 15. Bible Memorization contest, Toni Wallace; Sword Drill contest, Tammy Wallace; Bible Tic Tac Toe, Paula Hatcher; and Bible Bowl, Pam Glass and Jackie Ethridge.

INTERMISSION:

Reconvened at 11:00 a.m. with Prayer by Rev. W. G. Turner and congregational singing, "Are You Washed In The Blood", "Scattering Precious Seeds", and "To The Regions Beyond". The morning message was brought by Rev. W. G. Turner, substituting for Rev. Barksdale who was called home due to a death. Rev. Turner used Luke 19: 12-7 for text on God's Judgment".

Dismissed for lunch by Rev. Lamar Parrish, Pastor of the Host Church with Prayer and Blessings on the food.

Reconvened at 1:15 p.m. with Rev. C. B. Dowdney leading the singing. Songs were "Praise Him, Praise Him". Prayer by Rev. Bobby Whittaker. Mrs. Aline Gay sang a special "Something Beautiful", Rev. Charles Harris gave the afternoon Devotional.

Rev. C. B. Dowdney gave a brief report on the Promotional Office

Camp Work Day to be May 22: Camp needs all types of canned goods; May 16 is starting date for a revival at the mission in Adel. Expenses of the mission must be underwritten. Please encourage churches to support our newest mission. M/S/C to accept report as information.

The Digest Committee submitted the following report: 11 Churches represented, 30 Delegates, 11 Ministers. M/S/C to accept report.

The Finance Committee reported \$124.00 cash receipts and recommended that we give \$50.00 to Camp Mount Bethel and retain the balance in the treasury. M/S/C to accept report.

Brother James Silver, Mission Board Chairman, reported that support for the Board is improving.

Brother Curtis Gay gave a brief encouraging report on the Children's Home in Alabama.

The Ordaining Council reported.

M/S/C to accept Recommendation No. 1.

No action on No. 2.

M/S/C to lay No. 3 on the table until next Quarterly Meeting since it involves a By Law Change.

*****SEE REPORT OF ORDAINING COUNCIL

M/S/C to accept Council report.

M/S/C to give rising vote of thanks to Fellowship for Hospitality extended to the Association.

M/S/C to adjourn.

Dismissed by Prayer by Rev. James Ursrey.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. James Ursrey, Moderator
Helen Lewis, Clerk

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT: May 1, 1976

1. Rev. Curtis Alligood came before the Ordaining Council by virtue of an official request from Bay FWB Church, where he is pastoring, that he be examined for ordination to the Ministry. The Council recommended that he be ordained to the Ministry at Bay Church on May 16, 1976, at 3:30 p.m..

2. Brother Leroy Lightfoot and Brother Charlie Harris met with the Council for discussion.

3. Recommendations concerning licensing and Ordination of Ministers are: Item 14:

- A. That no licentiate shall be ordained until he has been a licensed minister for the period of one year and called to the pastorate of one or more churches, or one who becomes engaged in Christian service the nature of which required the authority of an ordained Minister of the Gospel. (That each Church exercise due caution in the licensing, commending ordination, and calling of a minister to fill the Pastoral office.)

B. That any Ordained Minister coming to Union Association from any other Denomination be placed on a six month waiting period under the watchcare of this Association before being accepted into the Union Association.

(This was ammended before acceptance)

C. A Minister coming to any church of Union Association must come before the Ordaining Council for questioning.

Third Quarter Union Association Meeting
August 7, 1976

The Union Association met at Greenwood Church on August 7, 1976. The Meeting was opened with Congregational Singing "In The Old Time Way". The singing was led by Brother C. J. Faison with Brother Mark Parrish at the Piano. Rev. Cecil Mock prayed and the congregation sang, "I Love To Tell The Story". The theme of the Program was "God's Law of Supply and Demand". Scripture: Titus 2: 11-13. M/S/C to accept Program with Moderator to make necessary changes and substitutions.

The Morning Devotion was led by Rev. Charles Harris using the text John 1:14 on "Full Supply of Grace".

Roll Call of Churches was made with the Moultrie FWB Church being the only absentee church. It was noted that the Moultrie Church had represented at the May 1, 1976, meeting at the Fellowship FWB Church at Acree, Georgia. Letters were received from the other ten churches.

Visitors were made welcome and recognized. They were Rev. & Mrs. Combs and Mrs. Jewel Cunningham from Corinth FWB Church.

Committees were named: Finance Committee members were Mrs. Helen Lewis, Rev. Curtis Alligood and Mrs. Ronald Wallace. The Digest Committee members were James Jennings, Norman Nelms, and Robert Simpson.

A thank you note was read from Mrs. Abron Harrell and a poem was also read in memory of Brother Harrell of the Cairo FWB Church who recently passed away. Brother Abron Harrell was ordained a Deacon of Cairo FWB Church on July 29, 1956, at Greenwood FWB Church. He has been faithful in service and attendance, and Practice to Cairo FWB Church and to the Union Association ever since. A moment of Silent Prayer was observed with Rev. James Ursrey leading the prayer. **SEE POEM

Guyton Adams gave a report on Camp Mt. Bethel. M/S/C to receive as information.

After a brief intermission the Association reopened with a song "Leaning On The Everlasting Arm". Prayer by Rev. Lamar Parrish followed by Congregational Hymn "Victory In Jesus". The Morning Message "The Demands of Grace" using the text Titus 2: 11-14 was preached by Rev. W. G. Turner.

Rev. Cecil Mock, Pastor of Greenwood welcomed visitors to lunch and Rev. W. C. Combs asked God's blessing on the meeting and the food.

The Afternoon session opened after lunch with Mrs. Harrison at the piano. Song was "At Calvary". Rev. Ronald Wallace led in prayer.

The afternoon devotion entitled "Dividends Realized", was presented by Rev. M. C. Powell as speaker.

Rev. Murray Giddens spoke a few minutes on the Mission at Adel. He stated that it is progressing, but slowly. They need a piano. Brother Curtis Gay appealed to Individuals and churches to see if we can locate and obtain a piano. The estimated cost of a good used piano was \$350. An offering was taken and the Association received \$100.99 to go to the Union Mission Board to help purchase the piano.

The Digest Committee reported 10 churches represented by 20 Delegates, 9 Deacons, 8 Ministers, and 1 Visiting Minister. M/S/C to accept the report and relieve the committee.

The Finance Committee reported dues received from the churches of \$123.06. The Committee felt it was necessary to hold this money until the Annual Meeting to offset expenses of the Associational Minutes, Moderator's Honorarium, and the Representation fees to the State Association. M/S/C to accept the report and recommendations of the Committee.

Brother Curtis Gay spoke briefly on the Children's Home at Eldridge, Alabama. The Harvest Drive will be in October and will be carried on basically as it has been in the past. M/S/C to accept as information.

The Ordaining Council reported on their meeting with Rev. Floyd Dalton. M/S/C to accept report.
*****SEE REPORT.

Further information was that the Moultrie Church has voted to withdraw from the Association. We have had no official letter from the Church concerning this.

There was a move to remove the By Law changes concerning Ordination of Ministers from the table. The move was seconded and carried. M/S/C to vote on it Item by Item.

Item A--M/S/C to accept this item. There was only one dissenting vote.

Item B--A move to accept this item after amending it to read one year instead of six months. The move was seconded and carried.

Item C--M/S/C to accept this item.

*****SEE THIS BY LAW CHANGE AS AMENDED.

The matter concerning Rev. Floyd Dalton and the Moultrie FWB Church was brought up again. After much discussion about whether to obtain an attorney to keep the church a part of the Union Association, since the Moultrie Church was started as a Mission under the auspices of a group from the Union Association and the Union Association Mission Board contributed to the church financially in its beginning, the Moderator conceded that due to our form of Church Government, we could not.

There was a move and a second that the Association write a letter requesting Rev. Floyd Dalton to surrender his FWB Credentials as a FWB Minister and that a Public Notice be run stating that the Association had approved this action. This action taken as a result of the Ordaining Councils report concerning the doctrine of "speaking in tongues."

After a discussion the yea vote called for with an overwhelming Yea. There was not voiced any "No" votes; thereby making the vote a unanimous vote.

*****SEE COPY OF LETTER AND NOTICE:

M/S/C to give the Host Church a rising vote of thanks.

Rev. Lamar Parrish announced that Fellowship Church has purchased two acres of land to build their church.

Rev. Combs spoke briefly as a member of the National Association Layman's Work.

M/S/C to adjourn.

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT, June 29, 1976

On June 29, 1976, the Ordaining Council met (due to reports of members from Moultrie Free Will Baptist Church of Moultrie, Georgia) with Brother Floyd Dalton concerning the matter of "tongue" speaking.

Brother Dalton and his Deacon Board plus three licensed ministers from various groups met with the Union Association Ordaining Council. Rev. Ronald Wallace and Rev. Murray Giddens were present.

The charge was made that Brother Dalton was preaching a doctrine of "tongues" speaking and encouraging his people to seek the "gift of tongues".

Brother Dalton did not deny that he believed in speaking in "tongues", saying that he had spoken in "tongues" preached it and encouraged his people to do so. For the past 20 years he had believed it, he stated.

He said he taught his people to seek the "gift of tongues" as one of the nine gifts of the Spirit as mentioned in I Corinthians 12. He said he did not teach "tongues" as the evidence of having the Holy Spirit.

He further said he did not want to be any part of a group that did not believe in speaking in "tongues".

The Ordaining Council advised the men present of the seriousness of the charge; that it was contrary to the teaching of Free Will Baptist interpretation of the Bible; that by abstaining from the practice of Free Will Baptists (while bearing the Free Will Baptists name) they were doing an injustice to Free Will Baptist.

The Council then gave the Free Will Baptist Doctrinal position on "tongues" speaking according to the Word of God (By Rev. Ronald Wallace and Rev. Murray Giddens). After much discussion and debate, the group and Brother Dalton still contended that "tongues" were for today and they had the gift of a "heavenly language".

Personal Observations as to the Danger of this teaching
By Rev. Ronald Wallace.

Biblical tongues in the Book of Acts was the gift of foreign languages. In I Corinthians 12-14, Paul dealt with "tongues" as a false teaching. The teaching of "tongues" today in my opinion is based on that "tongues" movement in the Corinthian Church and should be considered a false doctrine on "tongues".

Even though Brother Dalton says that he did not preach it as the evidence of having the Holy Spirit, in my opinion it leads in that direction and will be basically the same.

If tolerated, it places our Association in danger of becoming saturated with the Charismatic or Pentecostal "tongues" speaking groups.

It goes against Free Will Baptist Biblical interpretation and practice and if tolerated will destroy or split our Association and do damage to our denomination.

Prayerfully submitted,

Rev. Ronald Wallace
Rev. Murray Giddens

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT, Con't., AUGUST 7, 1976

August 7, 1976, meeting: Brother Charles Harris met with the Ordaining Council to request that he be ordained.

The Council advised Brother Harris that the conditions for Ordination as stated in the By Laws of the Association had not been met: Quote, "No licentiate shall be ordained until called in care of one or more churches."

Prayerfully submitted,

Rev. Ronald Wallace
Rev. M. C. Powell
Rev. Murray Giddens

BY LAWS CHANGES, AS AMENDED: August 7, 1976

Item 14 A. That no licentiate shall be ordained until he has been a licensed Minister for the period of one year and called to the pastorate of one or more churches, or

one who becomes engaged in Christian Service the nature of which requires the authority of an ordained Minister of the Gospel. (That each Church exercise due caution in the licensing, commending Ordination, and calling of a minister to fill the Pastoral Office.)

B. That any Ordained Minister coming to Union Association from another Denomination be placed on One Year Waiting Period under the watchcare of this Association before being accepted into the Union Association.

C. A Minister coming to any church of Union Association from another Association must come before the Ordaining Council for questioning.

IN MEMORY OF BROTHER ABRON HARRELL

Note of Thanks

The family of Abron Harrell thanks each one for their prayer and concern in our sorrow. This poem seems to say what Abron would like to say to us. May it comfort your hearts. Also read I Thessalonians 4:13-18.

SAFELY HOME

I am home in Heaven, dear ones;
Oh, so happy and so bright!
There is perfect joy and beauty
In this everlasting light.

All the pain and grief is over,
Every restless tossing passed;
I am now at peace forever,
Safely home in Heaven at last.

Did you wonder I so calmly
Trode the valley of the shade?
Oh! but Jesus' love illumined
Every dark and fearful glade.

And He came Himself to meet me
In that way so hard to tread;
And with Jesus' arm to lean on,
Could I have one doubt or dread?

UNION ASSOCIATION MISCELLANEOUS REPORT SHEET

C. J. Faison, Moderator Route 1 Hartsfield, Ga. 31756 Helen Lewis, Clerk 528 N. Main St. Moultrie, Georgia 31768			Total Membership	Total Members Added	Rec'd by Baptism	Rec'd other ways	Lost by Letter exc. or roll Revision	Sunday School Av. Attendance	Cls. Av. Attendance	Prayer Meeting Av. Attendance	Vacation Bible School Av. Attend.	Women's Aux. Av. Attendance	Masters Men Av. Attendance	Youth Activities	Values of Church	Value of Parsonage	Year's Building & Remodeling Expense	Total Church Receipts	Pastor's Salary	Co-Operative Plan	Local Expenses & Ministries	State Ministries	National Ministries
Church & County	Clerk & Address	Pastor & Address																					
Bay [Colquitt]	Mrs. W. D. Parker Route 1 Moultrie, Ga. 31768	Rev. Curtis Alligood P. O. Box 746 Moultrie, Ga. 31768	47	8	3	5	6	45	no	no	no	no	no	yes	30,000	35,000	28,500	13,304	3,285	838	1,810	252	0
Bethlehem [Colquitt]	Guyton Adams P. O. Box 282 Berlin, Ga. 31722	Rev. Jerome McNeese 2010 N. Ridge Ave. Tifton, Ga. 31794	92	5	1	4	0	65	no	8	no	no	no	no	25,000	0	2,306	9,282	5,082	0	1,759	300	0
Cairo [Grady]	Pearl Watson 483 10th St. S. E. Cairo, Ga. 31728	Rev. B. H. Parrish 701 6th St. N. E. Cairo, Ga. 31728	52	38	20	11	29	30	25	35	no	6	no	no	20,000	15,000	2,970	13,323	5,071	298	11,677	234	15
Fellowship [Dougherty]	Kate Harvey Rt. 4 Box 327 C Albany, Ga. 31705	Rev. Lamar Parrish P. O. Box 69 Funston, Ga. 31753	30	11	4	7	5	25	0	10	no	no	no	no	5,500	0		5,990	2,235	230	9,427	390	0
Greenwood [Mitchell]	Jake Singleton 82 Williford Dr. Camilla, Ga. 31730	Rev. Leroy Lightfoot Route 1 Doerun, Ga. 31744	25	0	0	0	0	25	15	10	no	no	no	no	32,000	0	1760	5,431	2,325	272	581	0	0
Midway [Colquitt]	Farrell Tucker Route 4 Moultrie, Ga.	Rev. Ronald E. Wallace Route 4 Moultrie, Ga. 31768	128	17	5	12	6	129	90	80	90	17	16	yes	120,000	24,000	2,897	31,093	9,499	2,802	10,066	164	321
Poulan [Worth]	Darlene Powell 7004 N. Henderson Sylvester, Ga.	Rev. W. J. Barksdale Poulan, Ga. 31781	120	1	0	1	8	47	47		90	8	no	no	30,000	0	0	11,220	2,750	0	11,384	300	515
Proctor Chapel [Mitchell]	James W. Cain P. O. Box 444 Pelham, Ga. 31879	Rev. W. G. Turner Rt. 2 Cairo, Ga. 31728	55	16	7	9	0	30	0	25	no	no	no	no	10,000	0	2,300	4,821	3,691	0	50	0	0
Spring Hill [Mitchell]	Mrs. James Silvers Rt. 4 Box 539 Albany, Ga. 31705		127	4	0	4	4	36	29	yes	yes	7	no	yes	47,000	28,000	18,000	34,700	7,680	1,630	6,000	0	0
Sylvester [Worth]	Brenda Jennings 105 Lynn Circle Sylvester, Ga.	Rev. M. C. Powell Rt. 4 Box 161 Sylvester, Ga. 31791	35	13	0	13	1	27	no	27	no	no	no	no	30,000	0	4,756	7,772	1,000	0	7,682	0	0

DOLLAR AMOUNTS TO NEAREST DOLLAR

Then you must not grieve so sorely,
For I love you dearly still:
Try to look beyond earth's shadows,
Pray to trust our Father's Will.

There is work still waiting for you,
So you must not idly stand;
Do it now, while life remaineth
You shall rest in Jesus' land.

When that work is all completed,
He will gently call you Home;
Oh, the rapture of that meeting,
Oh, the joy to see you come!

Author Unknown

Annual Session Union Association

October 30, 1977

The annual session of the Union Association of Free Will Baptist met October 30, 1976, at the Midway Free Will Baptist Church. The theme for the convention was "The Body of Christ", using the text Romans 12:5. The meeting opened with Congregational Singing led by Rev. C. B. Dowdney. The song was "Sowing Precious Seeds" and prayer was offered by Rev. Murray Giddens. The Morning Devotion was brought by Rev. B. H. Parrish, using text I Corinthians 12:18 and 22:27.

The roll call of churches was made with all 10 churches being represented. M/S/C to seat delegates. The Moderator welcomed everyone and extended a special welcome to visitors. M/S/C to adopt the Program with necessary changes to be made as the day progresses by the Moderator. There were no Petitionary letters.

Committees named were:

Digest Committee: Guyton Adams, Rev. Charles Harris, and Charles Powell.

Finance Committee: Sonny Powell, Curtis Gay, and Jeannine Silvers.

Nominating Committee: William S. Lewis, Norman Nelms, Rev. Jerome McNeese, Floyd Grier, Laverne Alligood, John Thomas, Donald Harris, and Rev. Lamar Parrish.

Brother Curtis Gay gave a brief report on the Children Home Harvest Drive. Georgia's cash commodity donations will total approximately \$12,000.00.

INTERMISSION

Reconvened with congregational singing "Praise Him, Praise Him" and Rev. Melvin Worthington, State Moderator, praying. Another song "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" was sung. Rev. Dowdney acted as Song Leader with Mrs. Connie Lacey at the piano. Special Singing was enjoyed by all as Deborah Murphy and Rev. James Ursrey sang "I'll See You In the Rapture". Rev. Lamar Parrish brought the Morning Message using the theme text, Romans 12:5.

Rev. Ursrey extended a lunch invitation to all attending and the meeting dismissed with prayer and grace.

The afternoon session reconvened with Congregational singing "At Calvary". Prayer was led by Brother James Jennings. Rev. Ronald Wallace gave the afternoon devotion using as text Ephesians 4: 1-16.

Rev. C. B. Dowdney, State Promotional Secretary, reported that the book "Marching Through Georgia" by Damon Dodd should be on sale by Christmas at a cost of \$3.00.

The Dalton Mission is doing well and is having about 80 in attendance. The Dublin Mission is in trouble and needs our prayers and support. The Executive Committee will recommend that the State Office be moved to Dublin, temporarily, so that Brother Dowdney can become Pastor to the Mission. He will take this on in addition to the Promotional Secretary.

Committee Reports were given:

Digest Committee: Reported 10 Churches, 25 Delegates, 13 Standing Delegates at the meeting.

Reported 9 Prayer Meetings, 5 CTS, 10 Sunday Schools, 4 Woman's Auxiliaries, 2 Master's Men, 12 Ordained Ministers 3 Licensed Ministers in our Association.

1976 Combined Incomes -- \$120,497

1976 Combined Church Property Values -- \$406,000

M/S/C to accept report as information.

Finance Committee: We the finance committee recommend that the Moderator and the Clerk be paid their designated Honorarium for services rendered, that representation fees be paid to the Georgia State Association; and that the balance be retained in the treasury for printing the 1975-76 Minutes. M/S/C to accept the report and recommendations of the finance committee.

***SEE COMPLETE UNION ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 1976 in reports section.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: We the nominating committee submit the following names for the following positions:

Moderator -- C. J. Faison (To fill unexpired term of James Ursrey)

Ass't Moderator -- Rev. W. J. Barksdale (To fill unexpired term of C. J. Faison)

Executive Committee: Farrell Tucker (To succeed himself)

Warner Wisham (To fill the unexpired term of Abron Harrell)

Norman Nelms (To fill the unexpired term of Ollie Lewis).

Ordaining Council: Rev. Ronald Wallace (To succeed himself)

State Association Budgeting Board -- Rev. Curtis Alligood (To fill the space vacated by Rev. James Ursrey who is moving to a new association)

Union Association Mission Board --

A. K. Lowe (To fill unexpired term of Abron Harrell)

Robert Simpson (Proctor Chapel Representative)

James Silvers (To succeed himself)

William S. Lewis (To succeed himself)

No nominations were made from the floor. M/S/C to accept the report and elect the slate of nominees by acclamation.

A letter from the Moultrie Free Will Baptist Church was received September 17, 1976, stating that they had withdrawn from the Association. M/S/C to accept withdrawal.

The Ordaining Council met October 30, 1976, at Midway Free Will Baptist Church and made two recommendations. M/S/C to accept report and act upon it item by item. M/S/C to accept Item 1. M/S/C to accept Item 2.

***See copy of report for items.

Guyton Adams gave reports for three Associational Boards. Union Association Mission Board Financial Report. M/S/C to accept the report.

***See report in reports section.

Reported that the Mission in Adel needs more support. M/S/C to accept report as information. **See letter in reports section.

Reported that 36 souls were saved at Camp Mt. Bethel and that there is two more sessions--Thanksgiving Retreat and the End of the Year Retreat.

Rev. Ursrey stated that a conflict between the Camp Board and the Trustee Board would be an item of business at the State Association.

State Association Delegates: Laverne Alligood, Janice Wallace, and Janice Ursrey. M/S/C to accept these delegates and for the Moderator to name alternates if needed.

Rev. James Ursrey requested letter of dismissal since he is leaving Union Association. M/S/C to write a letter of recommendation.

M/S/C to give Rev. Ursrey a standing vote of Appreciation for his years of service to Union Association.

M/S/C to give the Host Church a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality.

Nominated Linda Gay and Jeannine Silvers as Youth Directors to take charge of the Youth Competition in the Union District. M/S/C to elect them.

M/S/C to adjourn.

Dismissed with prayer by Rev. W. J. Barksdale..

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. James Ursrey, Moderator
Helen L. Lewis, Clerk

UNION ASSOCIATION TREASURER'S REPORT -- 1975-76

Balance Brought Forward -- November 14, 1975-----\$217.21

Dues from churches 2/7/76-----\$162.41
5/1/76----- 130.56
8/7/76----- 123.06

Special offering
Mission Piano----- 100.99
10/30/76----- 108.50

Total Monies Received -----\$625.52

Total Monies to account for-----\$842.73

Expense or Disbursements:

1975 Minutes-----\$245.14
Union Mission Board----- 50.00
Union Mission Board (Piano)---- 100.99
Camp Mount Bethel----- 50.00
State Youth Conference (Competi-
tion Fees)----- 35.00
Christian Supply Store (Alligood
Ordination Bible)----- 39.95
Napier Flower Shop (Abron Harrel
Funeral)----- 17.45
Moderator Honorarium----- 20.00
Georgia State Association
(Representation Fees)----- 30.00

Total expenses and disbursements-----\$588.53

Balance on Hand-----12-3-76-----\$254.20

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT -- OCTOBER 30, 1976

The Ordaining Council met October 30, 1976, at Midway Church and made the following recommendations:

1. That Rev. W. J. Barksdale, Pastor of the Poulan FWB Church met with the Ordaining Council to apply for membership with the Union Association. Having presented the Ordaining Council with a letter of good standing from the Ogeechee Association of FWB, we recommend that we accept Brother Barksdale into

full fellowship with the Union Association.
 2. Rev. Leroy Lightfoot met with the Union Association Ordaining Council with a letter of membership and good standing from the Poulan Church. He has since started pastoring Greenwood FWB Church and moved to that church. He came with a request from membership in the Union Association. We recommend that Brother Lightfoot be accepted into the full fellowship of the Union Association pending a letter of request from the Greenwood Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Ronald Wallace
 Rev. Murray Giddens

UNION MISSION BOARD FINANCIAL REPORT,
 October 30, 1976

Balance Brought Forward-----	\$ 41.89
Receipts for the year-----	<u>\$1167.99</u>
Total-----	\$1209.88
Moved from savings account to checking acct.	<u>300.00</u>
Total to account for-----	\$1509.88
<u>Disbursements:</u>	
Housing allowance-----	\$550.-0
Rent-----	280.00
Sign-----	22.66
Moving expenses for pews-----	11.78
Piano-----	384.75
Light bills-----	<u>138.38</u>
Total Disbursements-----	<u>\$1387.57</u>
Balance in checking account-----	\$ 122.31
Balance in savings account-----	\$ 310.83
The Mission needs \$200.00 per month support.	

LETTER FROM REV. MURRAY GIDDENS, ADEL MISSION

The Adel Mission is making progress--Sunday School attendance averages 15-20 and the evening service averages 10-15. We are having prayer meetings on Wednesday with an attendance of about 6-8.

We are receiving offerings to help out with expenses and are paying for our fuel and Sunday School Material. The piano has been a real blessing and we are grateful to the Mission Board and the Union Association.

We have six faithful attenders, but we need the support of the Union Association. Please pray for the mission that we will grow and some day we will have a good strong church in Adel.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Murray Giddens

UNION DISTRICT WOMEN'S AUXILIARY REPORTS

Annual Session Union District Woman's Auxiliary
October 5, 1976

The Annual Session of the Union District Woman's Auxiliary Convention met October 5, 1976, at the Springhill Church. The theme for the convention was "Free Indeed". The scripture text was John 8:36. The meeting opened with congregational singing "Stand Up, Stand Up" led by Mrs. Latrelle Barksdale with Mrs. Evelyn Widner at the piano. Prayer was given by Mrs. Lavern Glass. Mrs. Glass also gave the "Welcome" with Mrs. Nell Parrish of Midway FWB Church giving the "Response". The Morning Devotion was brought by Mrs. Laverne Glass using the theme text.

Local Presidents were called on to give a brief report on the various activities and projects that their auxiliaries had carried on during the past year. The District President, Mrs. Janice Ursrey, gave a brief report on the year's work and urged each of us to "examine ourselves" to see if we're truly working for the Lord.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. Ursrey, and the acting secretary, Mrs. Helen Lewis, read the 1975 minutes. The minutes were approved as read. The roll call of Auxiliaries and reports were mailed in from the fourth auxiliary. Auxiliaries present and number of delegates from each were: Midway, 5; Springhill, 4; Poulan, 2.. Total delegates present were eleven. M/S/C to seat delegates.

The Registration Committee (Mrs. Mary Etheredge and Mrs. Opal Hatcher) reported 5 District Officers, 11 Delegates, 5 Visitors, 1 State Officer and 1 Minister present. The total registration was 23. M/S/C to accept report.

The following committees were appointed:

Resolution Committee: Mrs. Elizabeth Tucker, Mrs. Janice Wallace, and Mrs. Jean Carlton.

Finance Committee: Mrs. Margie Harris, Mrs. Loretta Tucker, and Mrs. Doe Glass.

Credentials Committee: Mrs. Melba Washington, Mrs. Nell Parrish.

Nominating Committee for 1977: Mrs. Jeannine Silvers, Mrs. Deloyce Gay, Mrs. Latrelle Barksdale and Mrs. Linda Watson.

A report on the National Convention was then given by Mrs. Helen Lewis. The convention theme was "Free Indeed" using the text John 8:36. The 41st Annual Session was held in Tulsa, Oklahoma, July 13, 1976. New growth was experienced during the year with all areas of the work showing greater support and a refreshing new enthusiasm.

This was followed by Congregational singing "Joy Unspeakable". Prayer was given by Mrs. Ida Tabb, State Treasurer, Special singing was enjoyed as Mrs. Latrelle Barksdale and Mrs. Evelyn Widner sang "Love Is Why".

Mrs. Janice Wallace, of Springhill Church was the speaker and used our theme text for her message. The meeting was then dismissed for lunch with prayer and grace by Rev. Ronald Wallace, Pastor of the Host Church.

P. M. Session:

The afternoon session began with congregational singing "At Calvary". Mrs. Loretta Tucker led the afternoon prayer.

Committees then gave their reports:

Finance Committee: Mrs. Margie Harris, Chairman

District Minutes-----	\$ 10.00
State projects-----	206.00
Camp Improvement-----	120.00
Co-laborer-----	24.00
Dot Harvey-----	24.00
Indian Mission-----	24.00
Pre-Easter-----	9.30
Pre-Christmas-----	5.00
Pre-Thanksgiving-----	55.31
WNAC EMPHASIS-----	12.00
Membership fees-----	<u>69.00</u>

Total-----\$558.61

Reported Local Expenses

Literature-----	\$190.01
Missionary Provision Closet-----	34.28
State Mission, Direct-----	25.00
Children's Home-----	25.00
Youth Camp-----	50.00
Local Projects-----	<u>699.90</u>
Total-----	\$1034.19

Resolutions Committee: Mrs. Elizabeth Tucker, Chairman

1. Be it resolved that we have our next annual meeting at Midway.
2. That we have a workshop the first Saturday in April at Poulan.
3. The Host Church be responsible for planning programs for the workshop and the annual meeting.
4. That the mission study chairman be responsible for planning the Union Association a study course once a year.
5. That the new district project be to the new state mission work.
6. That we give the host church a rising vote of thanks.

M/S/C to accept report and vote on the resolutions item by item. Each item received a M/S/C.

Credentials Committee: Mrs. Melba Washington, Chairman

Four Auxiliaries represented by letter or delegates.

Total membership-----	46
Enrollment at 1st of year-----	51
Enrollment at end of year-----	46

All committee reports were moved, seconded and carried.

Delegates appointed for the State Convention in Athens, November 18, were Mrs. Latrelle Barksdale, Mrs. Margie Harris, Mrs. Janice Wallace, Mrs. Jeannine Silvers and Mrs. Ann Lewis. A move to accept these five delegates and authorize the President to fill in with other members from our district who might attend. The move was seconded and carried.

A letter requesting a love offering to help pay expenses of the State Speaker, Mrs. Barbara Haas, was read. M/S/C to send \$10 for the State Speaker Love Offering.

M/S/C to adjourn.

Dismissed in Prayer by Mrs. Opal Hatcher..

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Janice Ursrey, President
Mrs. Helen Lewis, Acting
Secretary

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 ordinances of the first Christian churches and to be composed of baptised 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 gospel rules.

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

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 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 of 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 heresay.

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; 1 Tim. 5:9, 10.

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

14. That no licentiate shall be ordained until he has been a licensed Minister for the period of one year and called to the pastorate of one or more churches, or one who becomes engaged in Christian Service the nature of which requires the authority of an ordained Minister of the Gospel. (That each Church exercise due caution in the licensing, commending Ordination, and calling of a minister to fill the Pastoral Office).

B. That any Ordained Minister coming to Union Association from another Denomination be placed on a One Year Waiting Period under the watchcare of this Association before being accepted into the Union Association.

C. A Minister coming to any church of Union Association from another Association must come before the Ordaining Council for questioning.

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 an 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 monthly meeting if desired, which shall be the regular time for 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 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 protestant 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 other 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 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 knowledge shall be recorded in the church book.

19. Members dismissed from the church by letter who becomes 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, or to hold.

23. It shall be considered disorderly for any member to absent himself from conference when any 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 being 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.

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. This decorum may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership present after laying on the table from one continued to next.

Association Constitution

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

2. This body shall meet alphabetically the first Saturday in Feb., May, Aug., and the last Saturday in October.

(A) It shall not adjourn formally until all business is settled.

(B) It shall use its influence to promote a moral, spiritual and benevolent program utilizing all its institutions and auxiliaries.

3. This body shall be composed of member churches in good standing and all ordained ministers, deacons, and missionaries shall be standing delegates.

(A) All churches representing at this Association shall be entitled to a minimum of 3 appointed delegates plus 1 additional delegates per 1000 members or fraction there of.

(B) 75 cents per member per year is suggested as the church representation fees. This may be broken down by paying one-fourth ($\frac{1}{4}$) of the total amount per member per quarter.

(C) When member churches and ministers, whether serving a church or not, shall absent themselves from the support of the association, e. g., prayers, presence, etc., for three (3) consecutive quarterly meetings:

1. The Association shall appoint a committee to investigate said church or churches and minister or ministers.

2. This committee is to report at the next regular quarterly meeting regarding their findings.

3. If a satisfactory report is not given, the church or churches and minister or ministers shall be apprised of their standing, namely:

a. Placed on probation until the next regular quarterly meeting;

b. No voting privileges until such church or churches and minister or ministers attend two (2) successive quarterly meetings, at which time they would be reinstated as members in good standing.

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. 1 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. - 1 Tim. 2:3, 6; Heb. 2:9; St. John 8; Acts 2:4; 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, 5. 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; 1 Tim. 2:4.

6. We believe that no man shall suffer in hell for want of Christ who does 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; 1 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 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. Röm. 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 works, 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; As. 5:14.

16. We believe the Gospel mode of baptism is by immersion, and that the believers are the only subject 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.

Covenant OF THE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant.

We promise, by His grace, to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel; nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace. To be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society, constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.