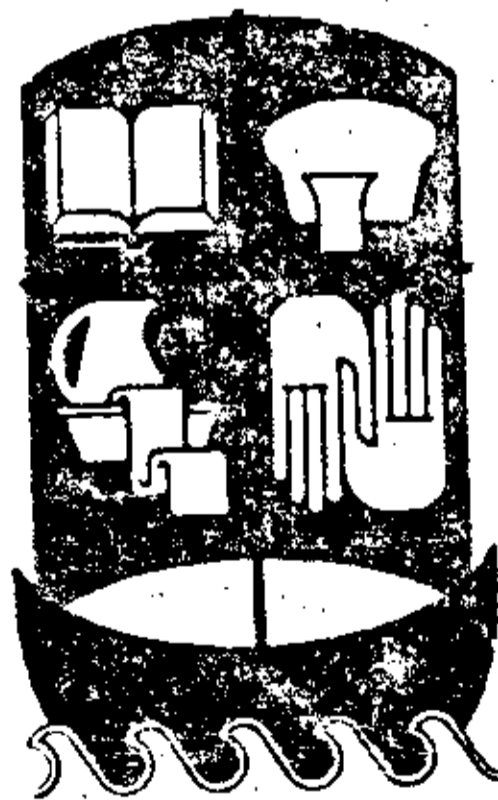


1977 MINUTES
of the
52nd SESSION
UNION ASSOCIATION
of
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
Free Will Baptists

Order of Business

1. Session Shall Be Opened With Prayer.
2. Church Letters Are To Be Called For
And The Names Of The Delegates Read
To Determine Their Presence.
3. There Is To Be A Call For Petitionary
Letters.
4. Visiting Brethren Are To Be Welcomed.
5. There Is To Be A Call For Corresponding
Messengers.
6. Committee Appointments:
 - (a) Digest Committee
 - (b) Finance Committee
 - (c) Nominations Committee
7. Miscellaneous Business.
8. Unfinished Business.
9. Reports of Committees.
10. Session Shall Be Opened For Announcements.
Session Shall Be Adjourned With Prayer.

NOTE: Every two years there is to be the election of: Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk-Treasurer and Assistant Clerk-Treasurer.

Church Calendar

Bay	-----	February 4, 1978
Bethlehem	-----	May 6, 1978
Cairo	-----	August 5, 1978
Fellowship	-----	October 28, 1978

1977 MINUTES

52nd SESSION

UNION ASSOCIATION

of

ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST

convened with

POULAN, PROCTOR CHAPEL, SPRING HILL, SYLVESTER
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES

OFFICERS

1978-79

Rev. W. J. Barksdale	*****	Moderator
Rev. Lamar Parrish	*****	Assistant-Moderator
Mrs. Helen Lewis	*****	Clerk-Treasurer
Mrs. Inez Harrell	*****	Assistant Clerk-Treasurer

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. Curtis Gay	*****	1978
Mr. Warner Wisham	*****	1979
Mr. Norman Nelms	*****	1980
Mr. Farrell Tucker	*****	1981
Mr. James Silvers	*****	1982

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. M. C. Powell	*****	1978
Rev. Ronald Wallace	*****	1979
Rev. Larry Williams	*****	1980

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
Camp Board ----- Guyton Adams
P. O. Box 282 Berlin, Ga.
Budgeting Board ----- Rev. Leroy Lightfoot
Route 1, Doerun, 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, Sr. ----- Midway FWB, 1979
528 N. Main Street Moultrie, Ga.
James Silvers ----- Spring Hill FWB 1979
Route 4 Box 539 Albany, Ga.

UNION ASSOCIATION CTS COMPETITION LEADERS

Mrs. Linda Gay ----- Midway Church
Route 4, Moultrie, Ga.
Mrs. Jeannine Silvers ----- Spring Hill Church
Route 4, Box 539, Albany, Ga.

ROLL OF ORDAINED MINISTERS

<u>MINISTER & ADDRESS</u>	<u>CHURCH</u>
Rev. W. J. Barksdale ***** Poulan, Georgia	Poulan FWB Church
Rev. Elzie Franks ***** 406 W. Price Street, Sylvester, Georgia	Sylvester FWB Church
Rev. Murray Giddens ***** Route 1, Moultrie, Georgia	Adel Mission
Rev. Charles Harris ***** Route 3, Box 277, Camilla, Georgia	Proctor Chapel FWB Church
Rev. William S. Lewis, Jr. ** 528 North Main St., Moultrie, Georgia	Midway FWB Church
Rev. Charles Lasseter ***** Route 1, Moultrie, Georgia	Bay FWB Church
Rev. Leroy Lightfoot ***** Route 1, Doerun, Georgia	Greenwood FWB Church
Rev. Jerome McNeese ***** 2010 N. Ridge Ave., Tifton, Georgia	Bethlehem FWB Church
Rev. B. H. Parrish ***** 701 6th Street, Cairo, Georgia	Cairo FWB Church
Rev. Lamar Parrish ***** P. O. Box 69, Funston, Georgia	Fellowship FWB Church
Rev. M. C. Powell ***** Route 4, Box 161, Sylvester, Georgia	Sylvester FWB Church
Rev. Ronald Wallace ***** Route 4, Moultrie, Georgia	Midway FWB Church
Rev. Larry Williams ***** Route 1, Box 56P, Bacconton, Georgia	Spring Hill FWB Church

ROLL OF LICENSED MINISTERS

MINISTER & ADDRESS

CHURCH

Rev. Joseph Corbitt ***** Midway FWB Church
Route 5, Moultrie, Georgia

Rev. Holmes ***** Proctor Chapel FWB Church
Pelham, Georgia

Rev. Charles Irvin Murphy ** Midway FWB Church
Route 1, Hartsfield, Georgia

Rev. Kenneth Murphy ***** Midway FWB Church
Route 1, Hartsfield, Georgia

Rev. W. C. Ruff ***** Cairo FWB Church
711 2nd Ave., N. E., Cairo, Georgia

UNION ASSOCIATION FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Ronald Wallace ***** Midway FWB Church
Route 4, Moultrie, Georgia

Larry Williams ***** Spring Hill FWB Church
Route 1, Box 56P, Baconton, Georgia

Curtis Gay ***** Bay FWB Church
Route 1, Hartsfield, Georgia

W. S. Lewis ***** Midway FWB Church
528 N. Main St., Moultrie, Georgia

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, Moultrie, Ga.
Jimmy Croft ***** Route 5, Moultrie, Ga.
Earl Truett**2120 E Central Ave, Moultrie, Ga.

CAIRO FWB CHURCH

Melton Harrell**611 7th Ave. N.E. Cairo, Ga.
A. K. Lowe ***** Route 3, 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.
Earl Dawson ***** Doerun, 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

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 **528 N. Main St., 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.

ROLL OF DEACONS

POULAN FWB CHURCH

Sonny Powell**608 N Livingston,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.

SPRING HILL FWB CHURCH

Glenn Ethridge *6027 Jenkins Rd., 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, Syl.,Ga.
Chuck Scarborough **Rte. 1, Box 8,Sylvester,Ga.
Jim Jennings *** 105 Lynn Circle,Sylvester,Ga.

1st Quarter

February 5, 1977

The Union Association met February 5, 1977 with the Poulan FWB Church in Poulan, Georgia. The meeting opened with congregational singing and Rev. Leroy Lightfoot led in prayer. The theme was "A Mind To Work" using Nehemiah 4:6 as the Scripture text.

Rev. M. C. Powell presented the Morning Devotion. The Moderator, C. J. Faison, called the meeting to order. The roll was called with all 10 churches and our Adel Mission having representatives present. There was a move and a second to seat the delegates. The move was carried.

Committees were named:

Finance Committee: Mrs. Laverne Alligood, Wesley Reynolds, and W. S. Lewis.

Digest Committee: Rev. Bill Barksdale, Rev. Jerome McNeese, and Rev. Leroy Lightfoot.

The meeting was reconvened after a brief intermission with congregation singing "We'll Work". Prayer was led by Brother James Jennings. Another hymn "Near The Cross" was sung followed by prayer by Rev. Bill Barksdale.

An offering was taken, followed by Special music by Mrs. Aileen Gay singing "He Washed My Eyes With Tears". Rev. W. G. Turner brought the Morning Message using the Program Theme and text, Nehemiah 4: 1-6. An invitational hymn was sung: "Jesus Is Calling". This was followed by prayer by Rev. Jerome McNeese. The meeting was dismissed for lunch with prayer by Daniel Helms asking God to bless the food.

LUNCH

The afternoon session reconvened with congregational singing "Work For The Night Is Coming". Brother C. J. Faison and Mrs. Aileen Gay sang "When I've Gone The Last Mile".

Rev. Jerome McNeese led in prayer and preached the afternoon devotion continuing with the theme of the day.

A letter from Georgia Union Association requesting a letter for Rev. C. B. Dowdney. M/S/C to grant the letter.

The Ordaining Council recommended that Rev. Leroy Lightfoot be accepted into full Fellowship and that the Moderator extend to him the right hand of Christian Fellowship. M/S/C to accept recommendation.

The Finance Committee reported that the dues and offering totaled \$136.18 and recommended that the funds be held until the 1976 minutes were completed and paid for. M/S/C to accept the report and recommendations of the committee.

The Digest Committee reported that we had 10 Churches, 1 Mission, 5 Ministers, 8 Deacons, and 23 Delegates present. M/S/C to accept the report.

Guyton Adams reported on the Camp Board. He also gave a report on the status of the Adel Mission.

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

M/S/C to encourage churches to support the State Mission Board with at least a \$25.00 Donation.

No further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
C. J. Faison, Moderator
Helen L. Lewis, Clerk

2nd Quarter

May 7, 1977

The Union Association met May 7, 1977 at the Proctor Chapel FMB Church in Pelham, Georgia. The session was opened with congregational singing "The Glory Land Way". Brother Frank Cain led the singing with Mrs. Avery at the piano. Rev. Lamar Parrish led in prayer followed by another song, "Amazing Grace".

Rev. Leroy Lightfoot led the morning devotion using as his text Revelation 2:10. The theme of this meeting is "Faithful".

The meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Brother C. J. Faison.

The roll call of churches was made with delegates or representatives from all 10 churches.

M/S/C to seat Delegates.

M/S/C that the chair appoint Committees.

Finance Committee: Rev. W. G. Turner, Rev. Curtis Alligood, and Brother W. S. Lewis.

Digest Committee: Connie Harrell, Brother C. J. Powell and Mrs. Hutto.

A congregational hymn "Victory In Jesus" was sung and Rev. Charlie Harris led in prayer followed by another hymn "Heaven Will Sure Be Worth It All".

Guyton Adams gave a brief report on Camp Mt. Beth-el and asked that everyone be much in prayer for the various Camp Sessions.

Sister Janice Wallace reported on the Ladies Prayer Retreat in April. There were approximately 90 ladies present.

Intermission

The session reopened after a brief intermission with Special Music "I've Been To Calvary" and "I Want To Stroll Over Heaven". The congregation sang "Standing On The Promises".

Mrs. Janice Wallace sang "Follow Me" with Mrs. Linda Gay playing the piano. Rev. Ronald Wallace preached the morning message in the absence of Rev. Bill Barksdale. The theme scripture was used: Revelation 2:10 "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life".

Rev. W. G. Turner, Pastor, gave the welcome to visitors and the invitation to lunch. Prayer of Dismissal and Blessing of the food was prayed by Rev. Charlie Harris.

Lunch

The afternoon session reconvened with congregational singing "Won't It Be Wonderful There". Prayer was offered by Rev. M. C. Powell, followed by a song "All Alone".

Rev. Jerome McNeese gave the afternoon devotion.

The Ordaining Council announced a fellowship meeting of Ministers and Deacons of Union Association. The time will be announced later.

The Finance Committee reported \$108.56 dues sent from the churches and an offering of \$36.40. The committee moved to retain the money in the treasury to pay for the 1976 Minutes and the representation fee to the State CTS Sword Drill Competition. The move was seconded and carried.

The Digest Committee reported 19 Delegates, 10 Churches, 6 Deacons, and 8 Ministers present. M/S/C to accept the report.

M/S/C that the State Executive Board be asked to set their Quarterly Meetings at a time that would not conflict with Union Assoc. regular meeting days.

M/S/C that the congregation give Proctor Chapel a rising vote of appreciation for their Hospitality.

It was brought to the Association that the Constitution and Bylaws needed to be rewritten. M/S/C that the Executive Officers and Ordaining Council work on the constitution and be ready to report at the August 6 session at Spring Hill.

Rev. Murray Giddens reported that the Adel Mission was doing well.

M/S/C to name Tammy Wallace as our representative in the Sword Drill Competition at the State Youth Rally.

M/S/C to adjourn.

Prayer of dismissal by Brother Curtis Gay.

Respectfully submitted,
C. J. Faison, Moderator
Helen L. Lewis, Clerk

3rd Quarter

August 6, 1977

The Union Association met at Spring Hill Church on August 6, 1977. The meeting was opened with congregational singing "Standing on The Promises". Prayer by Brother Murray Giddens. Another congregational song was sung, "Sunlight".

Morning Devotion by Paschall Glass using Matt. 7: 7-14.

M/S/C to seat delegates.

Visitors present were: Rev. C. B. Dowdney, Rev. Melvin Worthington, and Rev. Vernon Whaley.

Prayer by Rev. Ronald Wallace.

After a brief intermission, the meeting reopened. Committees were appointed:

Finance Committee: Curtis Gay, James Silvers, and Inez Harrell.

Digest Committee: Charles Powell, Barbara Glenn, and Louvenia Kleedehn.

Congregational song "Revive Us Again"

Prayer by Brother M. C. Powell.

Congregational song "Ready"

Special music by Janice Wallace & Debra Murphy

"The Longer I Serve Him".

Morning offering received.

Morning message by Brother Worthington using Daniel 1. He brought out some keys to successful living.

Dismissed with prayer by Brother Lamar Parrish.

Lunch

The meeting reconvened at 1:30 P. M. after the lunch hour.

Song "Joy Unspeakable"

Prayer by Brother Sonny Powell

Special Song by Rev. Vernon Whaley singing "The Wonder of It All".

Devotion: Brother M. C. Powell

Brother C. B. Dowdney gave a report on the State work. M/S/C to receive report.

Rev. Ronald Wallace gave the Ordaining Council report. M/S/C to accept recommendation. (See Report) *

Rev. Ronald Wallace stated the Constitution and Bylaws had not been rewritten because of not being able to get enough of the committees together.

M/S/C for the chair to appoint a committee to handle this business and report at the Annual Convention.

Constitution and Bylaws Committee:

Rev. Ronald Wallace

Rev. Lamar Parrish

Rev. M. C. Powell

The Finance Committee reported dues from the churches of \$114.00 and an offering of \$38.46, which is a total of \$152.46. M/S/C to accept the report.

The Digest Committee reported 8 Churches, 10 Ministers, 9 Deacons and 21 Delegates present. M/S/C to accept this report.

Brother Curtis Gay gave a report on the Children's Home.

Brother Guyton Adams gave a report on Camp Mt. Bethel.

M/S/C to send \$100.00 to the Sammy Wilkerson account.

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

M/S/C to adjourn. Dismissed with prayer by Rev. Bill Barksdale.

Respectfully submitted,

C. J. Faison, Moderator

Opal Hatcher, Assistant Clerk

Ordaining Council Report

Report: Third Quarter

I. . . By request from the Proctor Chapel FWB Church at Pelham, Georgia, the Ordaining Council met with Brother Charlie Harris to question him concerning ordination to the Gospel Ministry.

After satisfactory questioning, we the Ordaining Council recommend that Brother Charlie Harris be ordained on Sunday, Sept. 4 at 3:00 P.M. at Proctor Chapel FWB Church in Pelham, Georgia. Rev. M. C. Powell is to be the speaker.

4th Quarter

October 29, 1977

The Annual Meeting of the Union Association of FWB met October 29, 1977 at Sylvester Free Will Baptist Church with Rev. W. J. Barksdale presiding in the absence of the Moderator. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A. M. with Congregational Singing followed with prayer by Brother Curtis Gay.

Brother James Jennings brought the Morning Devotion from Acts 5: 19. Rev. Lamar Parrish led in prayer.

The minutes were read. M/S/C to accept. The roll call of churches was made with all churches being represented. M/S/C to seat the Delegates.

Committees were appointed:

Digest Committee: Norman Nelms, Leroy Lightfoot, and Earl Dawson.

Finance Committee: James Jennings, Charles Harris, and Guyton Adams.

Nominating Committee: Sonny Powell, Lamar Parrish, Pauline Gay, Jerome McNeese, Donald Harris, Larry Williams, Wayne Jennings, Donia Ruff, and W. S. Lewis.

The Constitution and By Laws Committee reported on recommended changes to the Association Printed Minutes and Association Government. Rev. Wallace moved that we accept the Committee report and due to Constitutional changes that it be placed on the table. The move received a second and was carried.

The congregation sang "Old Rugged Cross" and the song was followed by prayer by Rev. C. B. Dowdney.

Another song was sung, "Amazing Grace" and then an offering was taken. Rev. Leroy Lightfoot prayed the offertory prayer. This was followed by a special in music by Brenda Powell singing "Learning To Lean"

Rev. Lamar Parrish brought the morning Message using as text Matthew 20: 1-16 and titled "Why Stand Ye Here All The Day Idle". Following the message an invitation was given and the congregation sang "Pass Me Not".

Rev. M. C. Powell, Host Church Pastor gave the morning welcome and extended an invitation for lunch. Rev. Elzie Franks prayed for God's Blessings on the food and the day.

LUNCH

The body reconvened at 1:30 P. M. with Congregation singing "Heaven Came Down and Glory Filled My Soul". Rev. Jerome McNeese prayed.

Special Music was enjoyed by all. "God Put His Hand On My Shoulder".

Rev. Larry Williams brought the afternoon devotion using the text James 1: 2-8

Rev. C. B. Dowdney, State Promotional Secretary gave the state reports. Georgia Churches went over the quota in all phases except Foreign Missions. State Works had a total of over \$55,000. Overall total of Georgia Churches giving exceeded \$150,000.00. M/S/C to accept report.

Brother Curtis Gay requested that he and Mrs. Gay be excused. The Moderator granted the request.

Brother Guyton Adams, Camp Board Representative, reported on Camp Mt. Bethel. The Camp has many problems that must be resolved. M/S/C to accept the report as information.

The Digest Committee reported 12 Delegates, 8 Ministers, 8 Deacons, 10 Churches, and 1 Mission. M/S/C to receive report.

The Finance Committee reported an offering of \$24.47 and dues of \$126.06. The Committee recommended that the Moderators honorarium be paid and the other money be retained in the treasury until the 1977 Minutes are paid for.

The Ordaining Council reported:

1. At the request of Spring Hill FWB Church, Brother Larry Williams was questioned concerning membership in the Union Association as an Ordained Minister coming from the South Georgia Association.

We therefore recommend that we accept Brother Williams in full fellowship pending a letter of good standing from the South Georgia Association.

M/S/C to accept Council recommendation.

2. We recommend that we grant Brother Curtis Alligood a letter of good standing and recommendation to the Midway Association.

M/S/C to accept Council recommendation.

The Union Mission Board gave their Annual Report. M/S/C to accept the Financial Report. ***See Report

The Nominating Committee recommended the following to fill Association Offices for the coming periods:

Moderator: Rev. W. J. Barksdale

Assistant Moderator: Rev. Lamar Parrish

Clerk-Treasurer: Mrs. Helen L. Lewis

Assistant Clerk-Treasurer: Mrs. Inez Harrell

Executive Officer: James Silvers

(To replace expired term of Brother
R. B. Harrison)

Ordaining Council: Rev. Larry Williams

(To replace expired term of Rev. Murray
Giddens)

Budgeting Board of State Association:

Rev. Leroy Lightfoot

(To fill unexpired term of Rev. Curtus Alligood)

With each nomination offered there was a move and a second to close nominations after a pause to give the opportunity to nominate from the floor. In each instance the move carried.

A move and a second to accept all nominations by acclamation was made. The motion carried.

After discussing errors and omissions in the Printed Minutes the past few years, there was a move that the minutes be returned for corrections if omissions and errors are in them this year. A second was obtained and the move was carried.

A motion to continue the Adel Mission for the present time and give the Mission Board time to determine the best moves to be taken. The move was seconded and carried.

A move to send a copy of proposals on Constitution and Bylaws to each church in the Association before the next Association was made. The motion was seconded and carried. ***See Copy of proposal). *

A move to give the Host Church a Rising Vote of thanks for their Hospitality was seconded and carried.

M/S/C to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. W. J. Barksdale, Assistant Moderator
Helen L. Lewis, Clerk

ANNUAL REPORTS

UNION ASSOCIATION MISCELLANEOUS REPORT SHEET

Dollar Amounts to Nearest Dollar

Moderator:
W. J. Barksdale
Poulan, Ga. 31781

Clerk:
Helen L. Lewis
528 N. Main Street
Moultrie, Ga. 31768

Church & County	Clerk & Address	Pastor & Address	Total Membership	Total Members Added	Rec'd by Baptism	Rec'd other ways	Lost by letter etc. or roll Revision	Sunday School At. Attendance	Cts. Av. Attendance	Prayer Meeting Av. Attendance	Vacation Bible School Av. Attend.	Women's 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	State Ministries	National Ministries	Local Ministries	
Bay (Colquitt)	Mrs. Janice Parker Rt. 1 Moultrie, Ga.	Rev. Charles I. Murphy Rt. 1 Hartsfield, Ga.	46	1	1	0	2	48	0	16	0	0	0	0	Yes	\$30000	\$35000	\$1007	\$12094	\$4512	\$910	\$1032	\$256	\$78	\$1192
Bethlehem (Colquitt)	Guyton Adams P. O. Box 282 Berlin, Ga. 31722	Rev. Jerome McNeese 2010 N. Ridge Ave. Tifton, Ga. 31794	93	4	3	1	4	55	0	38	0	0	0	0		\$42000	0	\$2758	\$9540	\$4326	0	\$1050	\$390	0	\$614
Cain (Grady)	Gloria Batchelor 545 10th Av. N.E. Cairo, Ga.	Rev. B. H. Parrish 701 6th St. N. E. Cairo, Ga. 31728	69	40	19	21	33	35	25	32	0	5	0	Yes	\$30000	\$20000	\$5770	\$19500	\$7310	\$360	\$4344	\$421	\$50	\$1720	
Fellowship (Dougherty)	Jean McDowell Rt. 1, Birch Rd. Albany, Ga.	Rev. Lamar Parrish P. O. Box 69 Funston, Ga. 31753	30	2	0	2	2	0	0	4	0	0	0	0		\$15000	0	\$5119	\$6609	\$2080	\$564	\$1759	\$30	\$40	0
Greenwood (Mitchell)	Jake Singleton 82 Willford Dr. Camilla, Ga. 31730	Rev. Leroy Lightfoot Route 1 Doerun, Ga. 31744	22	1	1	0	3	22	15	6	0	0	0	0		\$32000	0	\$1500	\$4323	\$2600	0	\$635	0	0	0
Midway (Colquitt)	Johnny O. Gay Route 4 Moultrie, Ga.	Rev. Ronald E. Wallace Route 4 Moultrie, Ga. 31768	131	9	1	8	6	101	69	45	88	15	5	Yes	\$120000	\$24000	\$1596	\$30129	\$8389	\$2728	\$17159	0	\$301	\$1552	
Poulan (Worth)	Darlene Powell 7004 N. Henderson Sylvester, Ga.	Rev. W. J. Barksdale Poulan, Ga. 31781	120	NO REPORT																					
Proctor Chapel (Mitchell)	Robert Simpson 32 Branch St. Pelham, Ga.	Rev. Charles Harris Baggs Ferry Rd. Camilla, Ga.	45	0	0	0	13	0	0	22	0	0	0	0		\$15000	0	\$983	\$3120	\$1249	\$844	0	0	0	0
Spring Hill (Mitchell)	Mrs. James Silvers Rt. 4 Box 539 Albany, Ga. 31705	Rev. Larry Williams Route 1, Box 56P Baconton, Ga.	127	NO REPORT																					
Sylvester (Worth)	Brenda Jennings 105 Lynn Circle Sylvester, Ga.	Rev. M. C. Powell Rt. 4 Box 161 Sylvester, Ga. 31791	36	0	0	0	4	28	0	20	24	0	0	0		\$30000	0	\$1239	\$7932	\$1800	\$138	\$2277	0	0	\$302

DOLLAR AMOUNTS TO NEAREST DOLLAR

UNION MISSION BOARD FINANCIAL REPORT

October 30, 1977

Balance Brought Forward, 1976 \$ 122.31

Receipts for the year 811.00

Total \$ 933.31

Moved from Savings Account 200.00

Total to Account For \$1133.31

Disbursements:

Housing Allowance \$300.00

Rent 480.00

Literature 17.60

Light Bills 180.60

Total Disbursements 978.20

Balance in checking Account \$ 155.11

Balance in Savings Account 128.03

Total Cash on Hand, October 30, 1977 \$ 283.14

UNION ASSOCIATION TREASURER'S REPORT--1976-77

Balance Brought Forward, December 3, 1976 \$ 254.20

Dues Received from Churches:

2/5/77.....	\$ 122.00	
5/7/77.....	108.56	
8/6/77.....	114.00	
10/29/77.....	<u>126.06</u>	
Total Dues Received.....		470.62

Special Offering Received:

2/5/77.....	90.00
-------------	-------

Regular Offering Received:

2/5/77.....	\$ 39.18	
5/7/77.....	36.40	
8/6/77.....	38.46	
10/29/77.....	<u>24.47</u>	
Total Offering Rec.....		138.51

Total Cash to Account For.....\$ 953.33

Disbursements:

Georgia State Mission Board.....	\$ 90.00
(Special Church Donations)	
CTS Competition Registration.....	8.00
Sam & June Wilkinson.....	100.00
1976 Union Association Minutes... ..	245.00
Christian Supply Store.....	38.95
(Ordination Bible, (Charles Harris)	
Georgia State Association.....	30.00
(Representation Fee)	

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS..... 511.95

BALANCE ON HAND, November 22, 1977.....\$ 441.38

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO REVISE THE MATERIAL IN
THE ANNUAL MINUTES OF THE UNION ASSOCIATION

The committee met on October 18, 1977 and made the following report to the body in session at Sylvester Church on October 29, 1977. At this meeting it was suggested that the recommendations be made available to each church in written form so they could be considered at length before being voted on by the Association. So, please ask you Pastor and Church Delegates to study over these proposals and be ready to vote on them at the next Associational Meeting in February.

Recommendation I: We recommend the minutes be printed in a standard form from year to year. And that the front inside cover of the minutes contain the following: The Order of the Associational Business and The Calendar of the Associational Meetings for the coming year. And that the back inside cover contain the Free Will Baptist Church Covenant.

Recommendation II: We recommend that the following Items be printed in the minutes in the following order: The Associational Decorum, the Associational Constitution, then the Articles of Faith. And that the sections headed, Governments and Ordinances, and Church Decorum be dropped from the printing hereafter.

(The Committee feels that the sections suggested to be dropped do not meet any present need in our local Churches at this point because much of this same material is found in other books published by The National Association and made available to the local Church such as The Treatise of the Faith and Practices of the Original Free Will Baptist. Also much of this material is made of none effect by the local Churches own Constitution and By-Laws. If your own Church does not have a Constitution you may want to use the Church Decorum section to work one up.)

Recommendation III: We recommend that the section headed ASSOCIATION DECORUM be amended in the following areas: (You will find this in the 1974 Minutes)

I. That Article one be changed to read odd year not even year. (This concerns the year to elect officers. Somewhere by oversight they were elected in the wrong year and now the election falls in the odd year. So, it would be simpler to amend the article and continue the elections in the odd year.)

II. That Article 9 & 10 be dropped as they are now and that Article 9 read as follows:

"When a person is called to the Gospel Ministry and desires to be licensed to preach, he should approach his local Church and request to be licensed. The Church should then examine him thoroughly as to the nature of the call, and request that the Ordaining Council examine the person before being licensed. At the recommendation of the Ordaining Council and after a vote in a regular Conference, he then should be granted a License to Preach for the period of one year. At the end of the one year his license may be renewed or revoked." (The method mentioned above is the normal practice of most Churches and Associations).

III. That Article 11 & 12 of the Association Decorum be replaced by Article 14: a, b, c, of the section Government and Ordinances. This Article would then be Number 10 in the Amended Association Decorum. (If you remember Article 14: a, b, c, was passed a little over a year ago to help clarify our policy on ordaining Ministers, etc. In our opinion this Article best deals with the problem and should replace the material in Article 11 & 12 as suggested.)

IV. That Article 13 remain unchanged in wording but that it be numbered as Number 11 thus completing the Association Decorum.

Committee to Revise:

Rev. Ronald Wallace

Rev. Lamar Parrish

Rev. M. C. Powell

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE UNION DISTRICT

FREE WILL BAPTIST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

The Annual Meeting of the Union District Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary Convention was held on October 4, 1977 at Midway Free Will Baptist Church in Moultrie, Georgia. The theme for the convention was "Fall In Step With Jesus". The meeting was opened with the congregation singing "Footsteps of Jesus" led by Mrs. Janice Wallace with Mrs. Evelyn Widner at the piano. Prayer was then offered by Mrs. Linda Gay. Mrs. Janice Wallace of Midway Free Will Baptist Church gave the "Welcome" with Mrs. Jeannine Silvers of Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church giving the "Response". Morning devotion was then brought by Mrs. Brenda Williams using the theme text.

Each local auxiliary president was asked to give a brief report of their projects and activities during the past year. Reports were given by Mrs. Inez Harrell, President of the Cairo Auxiliary; Mrs. Nell Parrish, Vice-President of the Midway Auxiliary; Mrs. Latrelle Barksdale, President of the Poulan Auxiliary; and Mrs. Jeannine Silvers, President of the Spring Hill Auxiliary.

The ministers present were welcomed and asked to give a few comments on what the auxiliaries meant to their church and communities.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Jeannine Silvers, acting President in the absence of the President, Mrs. Opal Hatcher. Mrs. Linda Gay, Secretary read the minutes of the 1976 meeting. The minutes were approved as read. The roll call of Auxiliaries was then taken. Delegates were present from four Auxiliaries. Auxiliaries represented and number of delegates from each were: Midway - 5; Poulan - 2; Spring Hill - 2; Cairo - 3. The total delegates present was 12. Motion, Second, and Carried to seat delegates.

The Registration Committee reported 12 delegates, 13 visitors and 3 ministers present. The total registration was 28. Motion, second, and carried to accept report.

The following committees were appointed:

Resolution Committee: Janice Wallace, Evelyn Widner, and Connie Lacey.

Finance Committee: Margie Harris, Jean Carlton, and Loretta Tucker.

Credentials Committee: Linda Gay, Vennie Laseter, and Gail Sloan.

Special music was presented by members of the Poulan Auxiliary singing "There's Just Something About That Name". Prayer was given by Mrs. Margie Harris.

Rev. Larry Williams, pastor of the Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church was the speaker, and used the convention theme, "Fall In Step With Jesus", for his message. The meeting was then adjourned for lunch with prayer and grace by Rev. Ronald Wallace, Pastor of the Host Church.

AFTERNOON SESSION:

The afternoon session was opened with the congregation singing "All The Way My Saviour Leads Me". Mrs. Janice Wallace led the afternoon prayer.

The following committee reports were then given:

Finance Committee: Mrs. Margie Harris, Chairman

District Project.....	\$120.00
State Project.....	224.47
Pre-Easter.....	25.00
Pre-Thanksgiving.....	27.50
WNAC Offering.....	10.00
Dot Harvey Loan Fund.....	24.00
Co-Laborer.....	24.00
Indian Mission.....	24.00
Wilkinson Fund.....	60.03

State Speaker.....	5.00
Retreat Speaker.....	5.00
Pre-Christmas.....	5.00
Members's Fees.....	<u>56.25</u>
TOTAL.....	\$610.25

Reported Local Expenses:

Local Church Activities.....	\$303.58
Literature.....	129.37
Special Projects.....	209.89
Provision Closet.....	<u>15.00</u>
TOTAL.....	\$657.84

Resolutions Committee: - Mrs. Janice Wallace, Chairman

1. Be it resolved that we have our next annual meeting at Cairo Free Will Baptist Church.
2. Be it resolved that we have a workshop to be held the first Saturday in April at Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church.
3. Be it resolved that the host church be responsible for planning programs for the workshop and the annual meeting.
4. Be it resolved that the Mission Study Chairman be responsible for planning the Union District Association a study course once a year.
5. Be it resolved that our district project go to the State Mission work.
6. Be it resolved that we give the host church a rising vote of thanks.

Motion, second, and carried to accept report of committee and to vote on the resolutions item by item. Each item received a motion, second and carried.

Credentials Committee: Mrs. Linda Gay, Chairman

Four Auxiliaries were represented by delegates.

Total membership.....	45
Enrollment at first of year....	46
Present enrollment.....	45

All committee reports were moved, seconded, and carried.

Mrs. Jeannine Silvers, acting President, brought a suggestion to the meeting of changing the meeting date for the annual meeting to Saturday instead of Tuesday. After much discussion it was motion, second, and carried to change the annual meeting date to the First Saturday in October.

The Nominating Committee, appointed at the 1976 Annual Meeting, was then asked to give their report:

President.....Opal Hatcher
Vice-President.....Jeannine Silvers
Secretary..... Linda Gay
Treasurer..... Margie Harris
Mission Action Chairman..... Inez Harrell
Mission Study Chairman.....Elizabeth Tucker
Mission Prayer Chairman.....Brenda Williams
Field Worker..... Janice Wallace

Motion was made, seconded and carried to elect the slate of nominees by acclamation.

Delegates appointed for the State Convention in Statesboro to be held in November were Mrs. Jeannine Silvers, Mrs. Janice Wallace, Mrs. Helen Lewis, Mrs. Margie Harris and Mrs. Latrelle Barksdale. It was motioned, seconded and carried to accept these five delegates and to authorize the President to fill in with other members from our district who might attend.

Mrs. Elizabeth Tucker was then in charge of the Installation Service held for the new officers. Each new officer was presented a cross with the title of her office on the front and was given the challenge to do her best in carrying out the duties of the office.

Motion, Second and carried to adjourn.

Dismissed in prayer by Mrs. Linda Gay.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Jeannine Silvers, V. Pres.

Mrs. Linda Gay, 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 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 the Lord's 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 Matthew 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: 1 and Timothy 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 their 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.

a. That each Church exercise due caution in the licensing, commending to 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 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 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, 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 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. 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 after laying on the table from one continued to the 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 with the churches on the first Saturday in February, May, and August 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 delegate per 100 members or fraction thereof.
 - (b) 75 cents per member per year is suggested as the church representation fees. This may be broken down by paying one-fourth ($1/4$) 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.
4. Requirement of delegate. Each standing delegate shall attend each and every session of this Association.
5. Requirement of Churches: Each church shall send a report to each session using the form adopted by the Association.
6. Each church in the Association shall be considered an independent body and shall control its own internal affairs having the unrestricted right to administer its own government without supervision or interference, being under Christ essentially independent and absolute.
7. The officers of this Association shall be: Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk-Treasurer, and Assistant Clerk-Treasurer and shall be elected every two years.
8. Churches wishing to become members of this association must present petitionary letters, adopt our National Treatise, and conform to its usage.
9. There shall be an executive committee composed of the officers of this association plus 5 laymen elected by the body. The elected members serve 5 year terms on a rotational basis. It shall be the duty of the executive committee to transact business for the association when the association is not in session. Decisions made by the executive committee shall be subject to final approval by the association and must be recorded in the minutes. The executive committee may be called into session by the moderator or assistant moderators if the need arises.
10. There shall be a mission board consisting of one member from each church in the Association to serve four year terms on a rotational basis. It shall be

the duty of this board to supervise the missionary program of the association, to solicit the cooperation of member churches and individuals in promoting missions interest, to receive and disperse funds in the interest of missions support. A detailed report of this boards work shall be submitted to the last regular session of the association each year and shall be included in the minutes.

11. This constitution may be altered or amended at any regular session of this association by a majority vote.

12. There shall be an ordaining council composed of three ordained ministers belonging to this association. Members of this council shall be elected by the association for a 3 year term on a rotation basis. The duty of this council shall be to examine candidates for the ministry according to rules set forth in the association decorum. An annual report shall be submitted to the clerk of the association for inclusion in the minutes.

ASSOCIATION DECORUM

1. The officers of this Association shall be elected at the close of last session of the even calendar year.

2. Any person wishing to speak shall rise and address the Moderator and be recognized before speaking. He shall confine himself to the question under consideration and avoid personalities.

3. No person shall speak more than twice on any subject without permission from the moderator.

4. No motion shall be withdrawn after its discussion and must receive a majority vote for passage.

5. When a question is under discussion no motion or proposition shall be received except to lay on the table, to amend or postpone indefinitely, which several motions shall be preferred in the order in which they were stated.

6. Appointments shall be made by the moderator unless requested otherwise by the body itself.

7. Members wishing to be excused from the session shall request permission from the moderator.

8. The Association has a right to decide what matters shall be admitted to its consideration.

9. When a church desires that one of its members should be licensed to preach the gospel, the Church should request that the ordaining council examine such member. Examination to be in accordance with that of Treatise of the Faith and Practices of the Original Free Will Baptists and other regulations as set forth in the Constitution of this body.

10. After examination the council submits its recommendation to the Church which requested the examination and the Church has the final approval of licensing the candidate and issuing his credentials.

11. No licentiate shall be ordained until having served at least six months as a licentiate. Ordination shall be done by the Associations Ordaining Council upon request of his home church or church to which he is called to serve or by virtue of a call to some specific Christian labors which would require ordination.

12. Ministers from other denominations who join a Free Will Baptist Church and desires to continue in the ministry must follow the same procedures for licensing and ordination as those for a licentiate.

13. This Decorum may be amended at any session of the association by a majority vote.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. 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. 2:3, 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, 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; I 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; 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 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; 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.

CHURCH COVENANT

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.