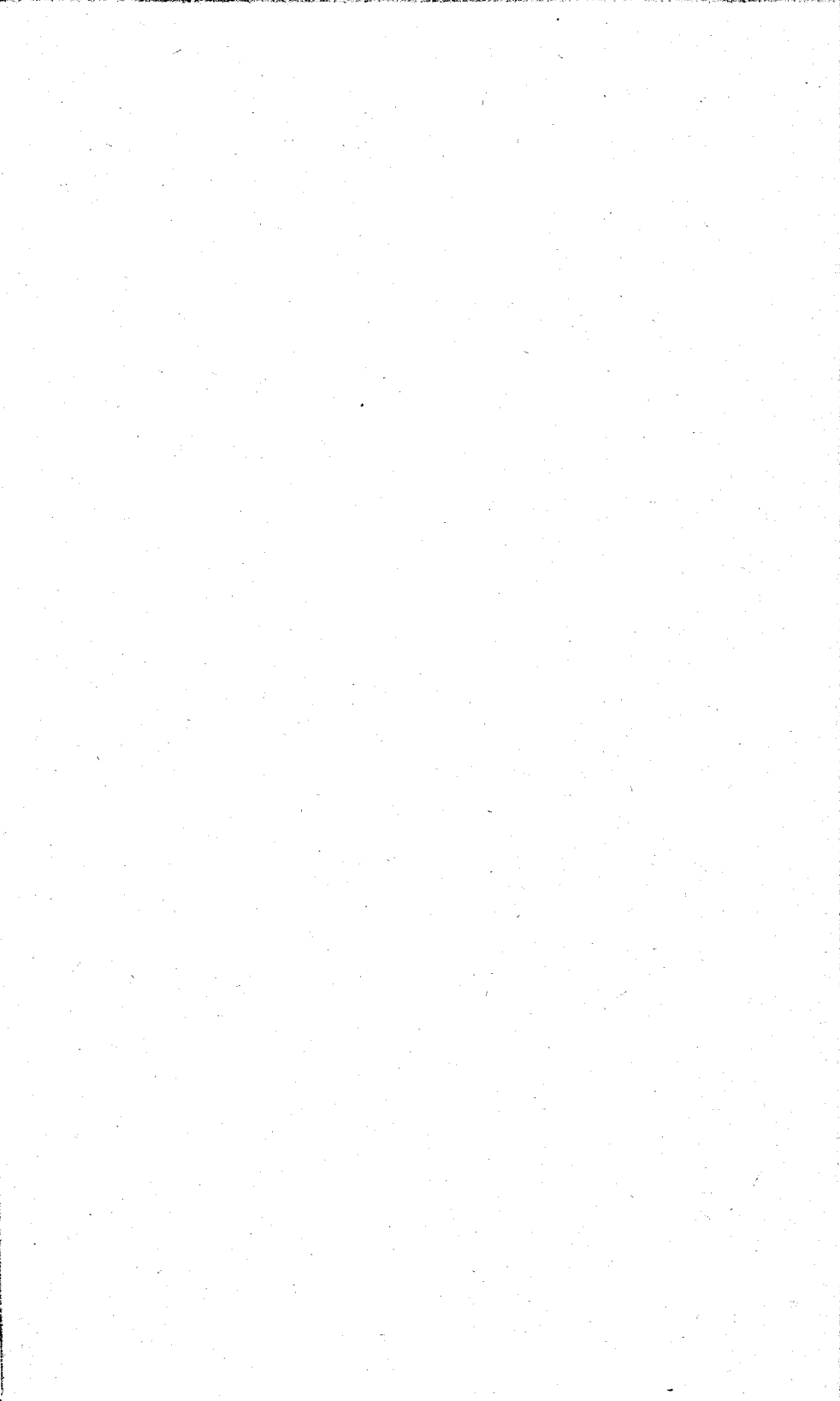


**UNION
ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL
BAPTIST
MINUTES
2018**



2018
ANNUAL MINUTES

of the
93rd SESSION

of the

UNION ASSOCIATION
of
GEORGIA
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Quarterly Sessions met at:

Spring Hill Church, February 10, 2018

Sylvester Church May 12, 2018

Bay Church, August 11, 2018

Bethlehem Church, November 10, 2018

YOUTH BOARD

| | |
|------------------------------------|------|
| Mrs. Kirsten Saunders, Chairperson | 2019 |
| Mrs. Dorothy Hardin | 2020 |
| Rev. Stuart Bundy | 2021 |
| Mr. Adam Lavender | 2022 |
| Rev. Kirk Lavender | 2023 |

PARLIAMENTARIAN

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| Mr. Virgil Holloway | 2019 |
|---------------------|------|

SONG LEADERS

| | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Rev. S.E. Newberry | 2019 |
| Rev. Wilbur Harris, Assistant | 2019 |

PIANIST

| | |
|------------------------------------|------|
| Mrs. Sherrill Barge | 2019 |
| Mrs. Louvenia Kleedeahn, Assistant | 2019 |

REPRESENTATIVES TO GEORGIA STATE BOARDS

| | |
|---|------|
| Board of Camping – Rev. Wilbur Harris | 2020 |
| Board of Christian Education-Rev. Randy Jackson | 2020 |
| Board of Missions – Rev. S.E. Newberry | 2020 |
| Board of trustees – Rev. Chuck Scarborough | 2020 |

DIRECTORY OF PASTORS AND CLERKS

BAY CHURCH, Colquitt County

Rev. S.E. Newberry
776 Lewis Lane
Quincy, FL 32352
850-856-5669

Mrs. Robin Shivers
444 Walter Norman Rd.
Hartsfield, GA 31756
229-941-2630

BETHLEHEM CHURCH, Colquitt County

Rev. Stuart Bundy
496 Old Doerun Rd.
Sale City, GA 31784
229-336-8021 (cell 347-9203)

Mrs. Vicki Bunn
P.O. Box 405
Berlin, GA 31722
229-589-5171

CAIRO, FIRST CHURCH, Grady County

Rev. Eric Mitchell
283 Woodland Rd.
Cairo, GA 39827
229-327-4385

Mrs. Glenda Bell
357 Rawls Rd.
Cairo, GA 39828
229-377-8820

FELLOWSHIP CHURCH, Worth County

Rev. Herbert Waid
P.O. Box 1844
Moultrie, GA 31776
229-985-5479 (cell 873-0620)
e-mail: blessed@moultriega.net

Mrs. Geraldine Waid
P.O. Box 1844
Moultrie, GA 31776
229-985-5479

GRACE CHURCH, Colquitt County

Rev. James Sellers
315 Shade Murphy Rd.
Moultrie, GA 31768
229-985-8570

Ms. Bonnie Sisk
P.O. Box 535
Leesburg, GA 31763
229-349-3214

GREENWOOD CHURCH, Mitchell County

Rev. S.E. Newberry
776 Lewis Lane
Quincy, FL 32352
850-661-0065

Mr. Jake Singleton
82 Williford Dr.
Camilla, GA 31730
229-336-5582

MIDWAY CHURCH, Colquitt County

Rev. Randy Jackson
2561 Lower Meigs Rd.
Moultrie, GA 31768
229-941-4063 (cell 873-1249)
E-mail: randyjackson1220@windstream.net

Mrs. Cindy S. Harvin
175 Ragin Rd.
Moultrie, GA 31768
229-985-0117

NEW HOPE CHURCH, Colquitt County

Rev. Chuck Scarborough
1317 Erve Williams Rd.
Moultrie, GA 31768
229-941-2155 (cell 456-2306)

Mrs. Betty Barnes
2628 US Hwy 319 S
Coolidge, GA 31738
229-891-5075

NEW PROSPECT CHURCH, Turner County

Rev. Kirk Lavender
1508 Maude Williams Rd.
Ashburn, GA 31714
229-567-3743 (cell 947-2118)
E-mail: kirklav@windstream.net

Mrs. Ann Lavender
157 Cutoff Rd.
Ashburn, GA 31714
229-567-0123

POULAN CHURCH, Worth County

Rev. Charles McCardle
727 Morey Rd.
Albany, GA 31705
229-349-0739

Mr. Larry S. Waltman
1072 PT Salter Rd.
Poulan, GA 31781
229-881-3204

SPRING HILL CHURCH, Mitchell County

Rev. Charles Blanton
12143 GA Hwy 93
Baconton, GA 31716
22-449-5138

Mrs. Denna Jones
9810 Morey Hill Rd.
Albany, GA 31705
229-787-5137

SYLVESTER CHURCH, Worth County

Rev. Wilbur Harris
103 Water Ln.
Sylvester, GA 31791
229-776-1900

Mrs. Glenda Gibbs
155 Oakland Heights Rd.
Sylvester, GA 31791
229-777-9739

Email: gibbs99739@bellsouth.net

ROLL OF ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. Charles Blanton
Rev. Stuart Bundy
Rev. Wilbur Harris
Rev. Randy Jackson
Rev. Kirk Lavender
Rev. Charles McCardle
Rev. Eric Mitchell
Rev. S.E. Newberry
Rev. Chuck Scarborough
Rev. James Sellers
Rev. Herbert Waid
Rev. R.C. Wiggins

Spring Hill Church
Bethlehem Church
Sylvester Church
Midway Church
New Prospect Church
Poulan Church
Cairo, First Church
Bay and Greenwood Churches
New Hope Church
Grace Church
Fellowship Church

ROLL OF DEACONS

BAY CHURCH

Alex Shivers 444 Walter Norman Rd., Hartsfield, GA 31756

CAIRO, FIRST CHURCH

Kelvin Harrell 1338 Woodland Rd., Cairo, GA 39827
Ronnie Bell 357 Rawls Rd., Cairo, GA 39828

FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Clint Hardin 6023 James Dr, Albany, GA 31705
Virgil Holloway 251 Park Place Rd, Albany, GA 31705

GRACE CHURCH

Ernie Dukes PO Box 425, Coolidge, GA 31738

GREENWOOD CHURCH

Jake Singleton 82 Williford Dr, Camilla, GA 31730

MIDWAY CHURCH

Darrell Gay 207 Walter Murphy Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768
Roscoe Gay 2560 Lower Meigs Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768
Art Harvin 175 Ragin Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768
Wayne R. Lacey 235 Walter Murphy Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768
Brady Mercer 594 McElroy Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768
Matt Sauls 785 Sauls Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768
Sean Sauls 29 Ridge Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768
Mark Scheuring 490-A Tree Farm Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768
Richard Spears 443 Sauls Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768

NEW PROSPECT CHURCH

Bruce Burgess 2352 Coverdale Hwy, Ashburn, GA 31714
Adam Lavender 1174 Maude Williams Rd, Ashburn, GA
31714

POULAN CHURCH

Hal Ivey 891 S Sumner Rd, Sumner, GA 31789
Jack D. Powell 335 Old Mail Rd, Sylvester, GA 31791
Wayne Carlton 468 Northwood Dr, Poulan, GA 31781
Larry S. Waltman 1072 P.T. Salter Rd, Poulan GA 31781

SPRING HILL CHURCH

Leonard Bundy 495 Old Doerun Rd, Sales City, GA 31784
Glenn Etheredge 6027 Jenkins Rd, Albany, GA 31705
Frank Hall 6210 Hummingbird Rd, Camilla, GA 31730

SYLVESTER CHURCH

J.W. Gibbs 155 Oakland Heights Rd., Sylvester, GA 31791

ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS
NOT LISTED ELSEWHERE

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Mrs. Dorothy Hardin | 6023 James Dr, Albany, GA 31705 229-435-5016 |
| Rev. Thomas Holloway | 901-493-5446 |
| Mrs. Kirsten Saunders | 309 Faison Rd, Hartsfield, GA 31756 229-941-2117 |
| Rev. R.C. Wiggins | 156 Walter Murphy Rd, Moultrie, GA 31768 229-529-4185 |

UNION ASSOCIATION STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 2017

| Church | Active Members | Sunday School | CTS | WAC | Master's Men | Property Value |
|-----------------------|----------------|---------------|-----|-----|--------------|----------------|
| Bay | 17 | | | | | 432,000 |
| Bethlehem | 54 | 32 | | | | 148,322 |
| Cairo 1 st | 42 | 42 | | | | 220,000 |
| Fellowship | 21 | 8 | | 4 | 3 | 196,000 |
| Grace | 16 | | | | | 400,000 |
| Greenwood | | | | | | |
| Midway | 129 | 65 | 60 | 13 | | 1,000,000 |
| New Hope | 9 | | | | | |
| New Prospect | 36 | 35 | 25 | | | |
| Poulan | 30 | 30 | | | | |
| Spring Hill | 92 | 30 | 20 | 5 | 4 | 145,000 |
| Sylvester | | | | 5 | 3 | |
| Totals | 446 | 242 | 105 | 27 | 10 | 2,657,322 |
| 2017 Totals | 440 | 228 | 105 | 28 | 10 | 2,657,322 |
| 2016 compared to 2017 | +6 | +14 | 0 | -1 | 0 | 0 |

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

2018 1st, Quarter Meeting

February 10, 2018 at the Spring Hill Church

Our meeting opened with singing, "Love Lifted Me", led by our song leader, Brother S.E. Newberry. Rev. Charles McCardle then led us in prayer. The Clerk welcomed everyone to the meeting, followed by the host pastor greeting everyone and giving directions and instructions for the church. Since our moderator was absent because of sickness and our assistant moderator had a preplanned absence there was a need to appoint a fill in moderator for the meeting. Rev. Wilbur Harris was nominated and appointed to fill the position as our moderator for the day. Our moderator then turned the service over to our guest speaker for the morning devotion, which was Brother Josh Bennett, missionary to Tifton, GA. His main text was from Ephesians 5:14. He told us that there needs to be an awaking. The saved and the unsaved alike need to wake up and rise and shine. There are two types of awakenings that need to take place. There is the spiritual awakening of the unsaved that needs to happen. There is also the awakening of the saved, those who have gone to sleep. It is time to arise and live as obedient children and be the lights in a dark world.

The Digest Report was given by Mrs. Kirsten Saunders

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Churches Reporting | 12 |
| Delegates | 19 |
| Deacons | 5 |
| Ministers | 8 |
| Visitors | <u>11</u> |
| Total | 43 |

There was a motion and second made to receive the report and it carried.

The moderator then recognized the ministers and deacons. There was a motion and second made to seat the delegates and it carried.

The clerk then read the Executive Committee Report. There was a motion made and a second to receive the report and it carried.

The Moderator appointed a Finance Committee for the day. They were: Mrs. Dorothy Hardin; chairperson, Mr. Leonard Bundy, and Mr. Tim Whitman.

The morning offering was then taken up; Rev. S.E. Newberry and Rev. Charles Blanton volunteered as ushers and Brother S.E. Newberry led in prayer.

STATE BOARD REPORTS: Mission Board: Rev. S.E. Newberry said we were seeing the results at mission's conference today. There is still a lot of excitement about the Tifton mission work and briefly mentioned that the other North Georgia work was doing good as well. We received it as information.

DISTRICT BOARD REPORTS: Mission Board: Rev. Stuart Bundy reported on the funds raised for the Tifton mission work. There was a total of \$5,575.00 reported to date for our missionaries for the Tifton work. \$4,475.00 for miles for missions and \$1,100.00 from churches. He also thanked everyone for the prayers during his time of sickness. Youth Board Report: Mrs. Kirsten Saunders reported: She reported on the upcoming camps coming for this year. She encouraged everyone to send their children to camp and also to go ahead and register before the deadline. She also reported about the miles for missions this year. There were 8 of 12 churches that turned out at the walk-a-thon and supported the event. There was a motion and a second made to receive the report and it carried.

The Finance Committee Report was given by Mr. Leonard Bundy as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| General Fund Balance | \$1,010.08 |
| Quarterly Dues Collected | \$1,125.00 |
| Offering | \$ 193.00 |
| Youth Fund Balance | \$5,317.72 |
| Minister's retirement Balance | \$8,181.95 |

The offering was designated to go to Josh Bennett's account. There was a motion and second made and it carried to receive the report.

The moderator then called for any miscellaneous business. We then proceeded to elect delegates for the state meeting. There being no nominations or volunteers, a motion was made for the moderator or clerk to appoint delegates at the state meeting. After a second was made on the motion it carried. Announcements were then called for. Spring Hill would be watching an AFR video on abortion on February 11, 2018. Midway would have Josh Bennett and Shane Suggs with them on Sunday morning and then they will be over at the Bay church Sunday afternoon at 4:00pm. The Poulan church will be having revival April 23-25, 2018. After all business was completed, we gave a rising vote of thanks to the host church; we then took a short recess for refreshments provided by the host church.

Morning Worship Service

We began our morning worship service with our song leader leading us in the hymn, "Send the Light." Rev. Charles Blanton, Mrs. Sue Hall, Mr. Leonard Bundy and Rev Stuart Bundy sang the special music for the day, which was titled, "A Walking Miracle." Our morning message was brought to us by Brother Josh Bennett and Brother Shane Suggs. They were our special guest for our mission conference this year. They shared with us their God given vision for the Tifton mission work and the vision for a future church there. We were reminded of the scripture from Acts 1:8 and how that we are to be witnesses for Jesus Christ. Josh and Shane each told us about their families and where they came from and how they got to

Tifton. They explained how they were faithful to preach the scripture, are dependent upon prayer and the Holy Spirit's guidance, and compassionately concerned for the lost. They said a Christian and church needs to not forget to be servant oriented and they were going to make much of Jesus. After the message and a prayer, we were dismissed for the day.

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

January 30, 2018

The Executive Committee met January 30, 2018 at J Harvey's Restaurant in Moultrie at 6:30 p.m. Those present were: Moderator, Rev. Randy Jackson; Assistant Moderator, Chuck Scarborough; Clerk, Rev. Kirk Lavender; Assistant Clerk and Ordaining Board Chairman, Rev. Wilbur Harris; Parliamentarian, Mr. Virgil Holloway; and Youth Board Chairman, Mrs. Kirsten Saunders. Also attending was Mrs. Louvenia Kleedehn, Mrs. Judy Harris, Mrs. Kim Lavender, Ms. Mary Grace Lavender and Ms Anna Lavender.

Rev. Wilbur Harris opened the meeting with a prayer of thanks for the meal, after which we enjoyed good food and fellowship.

After the meal the clerk read the minutes from the last executive meeting.

The moderator then asked for any reports from the board chairmen. Mrs. Kirsten Saunders gave a good report on the Miles for Missions Walk a Thon. She said over 40 people turned out for the walk a thon. As of right now the funds raised are at \$3300.00. Rev. Randy Jackson gave us some updates on the Christian Education board. The state youth competition is scheduled for the first weekend in May, Jr camp is scheduled for July 1st though the 5th, and the C.E. Board has been given some money to be used for scholarship funds for Welch College.

It was also noted that Brother Josh Bennett would be our guest speaker for our mission's conference.

There being no other business, we adjourned and Rev. Randy Jackson dismissed us in prayer.

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS 2nd Quarter Meeting

May 12, 2018 at the Sylvester Church

Our meeting opened with singing, "Do You Know My Jesus", led by our song leader, Brother S.E. Newberry. Rev. Chuck Scarborough then led us in prayer. The Clerk welcomed everyone to the meeting, followed by the host pastor greeting everyone and giving directions and instructions for the church. The clerk then introduced our speaker for the morning devotion, which was Rev. Randy Jackson. He is the pastor for the Midway Church and our Moderator for the Association. The text he used was from 1 Corinthians 9:24-27. He asked the question, "What is your goal as a Christian?" Our goal as Christians is not to come to church with the idea that the church owes us something. The church is not there to serve us. We need to take heed to 1 Corinthians 9 and be like Paul, who was confident and had a purpose. His purpose, just as it is our purpose, is to pick people up and drop them off at the feet of Jesus. The church is there to train us so that we will know our orders and reach our objectives. We are to train and use that training outside of the church so that people can come to know our Lord Jesus. If we do not use it, then our training is useless. We must recapture that idea of serving, ministering, and sharing the gospel to those that need it.

The Digest Report was given by Mrs. Kirsten Saunders

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Churches Reporting | 12 |
| Delegates | 23 |
| Deacons | 7 |
| Ministers | 11 |
| Visitors | <u>5</u> |
| Total | 46 |

There was a motion and second made to receive the report and it carried.

The moderator then recognized the ministers and deacons. There was a motion and second made to seat the delegates and it carried.

The clerk then read the Executive Committee Report. There was a motion made and a second to receive the report and it carried.

The Moderator appointed a Finance Committee for the day. They were: Mr. Ike Davis; chairperson, Mrs. Judy Peacock, and Mrs. Kyra Himioben.

The morning offering was then taken up; Rev. S.E. Newberry and Rev. Stuart Bundy volunteered as ushers and Brother Stuart Bundy led in prayer.

Today was Rev. James Sellers birthday. He was recognized by the congregation with a song.

STATE BOARD REPORTS: Camping Board: Rev. Wilbur Harris encouraged everyone to send their children to youth camp, we received it as information. Christian Education: Youth competition was the first Saturday in May, there were two that competed this year. He also said the retreats were still going well. He also informed us that the board has established a scholarship that will be available for a young person that chooses to attend Welch College. We received this as information.

We then proceeded to choose our speaker for the association meeting. We picked Rev. Randy Jackson for our devotion and Rev. R.C. Wiggins for the main message. They both accepted the invitation to speak.

There being no other business, we adjourned and Rev. Wilbur Harris dismissed us in prayer.

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

3rd Quarter Meeting

August 11, 2018 at the Bay Church

Our meeting opened with singing, "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus", led by our song leader, Brother S.E. Newberry. Rev. Kirk Lavender then led us in prayer. The Moderator welcomed everyone to the meeting, followed by the host pastor greeting everyone and giving directions and instructions for the church. The moderator then introduced our speaker for the morning devotion, which was Rev. Stuart Bundy. The text he used was from 1 Corinthians 1: 10 -31. In his devotion, he explained how the churches of today are not much different than the Corinthian church. There are many divisions in the churches today. Rather than following Jesus, the people are following the preachers or someone else. People are also looking for feelings, signs and wisdom. It is not these things that changes people, but Jesus Christ. To the world, the preaching of Jesus is a stumbling block and foolishness, but the preaching of Jesus should not be a stumbling block to us the church.

The Digest Report was given by Mrs. Louvenia Kleedeht

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Churches Reporting | 12 |
| Delegates | 21 |
| Deacons | 4 |
| Ministers | 11 |
| Visitors | <u>12</u> |
| Total | 48 |

There was a motion and second made to receive the report and it carried.

The moderator then recognized the ministers and deacons. There was a motion and second made to seat the delegates and it carried.

The clerk then read the Executive Committee Report. There was a motion made and a second to receive the report and it carried.

The Moderator appointed a Finance Committee for the day. They were: Mr. Charles Lasseter; Chairperson, Mrs. Judy Peacock, and Mrs. Katrina Young.

The Moderator appointed a Nominating Committee. They were: Rev. Wilbur Harris; Chairperson, Rev. Charles McCardle, and Rev. S.E. Newberry.

The morning offering was then taken up; Rev. S.E. Newberry and Rev. Charles Blanton volunteered as ushers and Rev. Charles Blanton led in prayer.

There were several prayer request this morning, so the moderator asked Rev. Chuck Scarborough to lead us in intercessory prayer for those requests.

STATE BOARD REPORTS: Christian Education: The senior citizens retreat will be in November. We received this as information. Mission Board: Rev. S.E. Newberry informed us that Rev. Shane Suggs is now living in Tifton, Georgia. Both Gainesville and Tifton are both in the working stages. We received this as information.

DISTRICT BOARD REPORTS: Mission Board Report: Rev. Stuart Bundy informed us that Brother Donnie Burke from Gainesville has accepted the invitation to come speak at our next missions conference. He also encouraged each church to try to give 1000.00 for the missionary. There was a move and a second to accept the report, and it carried. Youth Board Report: Rev. Randy Jackson reported that there were 7 associations taking part in Jr. Camp. He told us of the good news of the 5 salvation decisions and the 3 rededications. He also spoke of his thankfulness for the \$500.00 that the Union Associations gave to Jr. Camp. There was a move and a second to accept the report, and it carried.

The Finance Committee Report was given by Mr. Charles Lasseter as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| General Fund Balance | \$2,264.37 |
| Quarterly Dues Collected | \$1,152.00 |
| Offering | \$ 238.00 |
| Youth Fund Balance | \$1,707.72 |
| Minister's retirement Balance | \$8,798.36 |

The offering was designated to go to the general fund. There was a motion and second made and it carried to receive the report.

The moderator then called for any miscellaneous business. There were several prayer requests. Ms. Bonnie Sisk asked for prayer for her hands, prayer was asked for Rev. Eric Mitchell and also for Rev. William Smith. Mrs. Geraldine Waid asked everyone to read the next state bulletin, which will feature one of our churches in the "Time Machine." After all business was completed, we gave a rising vote of thanks to the host church; Rev S.E. Newberry dismissed us in prayer. We then took a short recess for refreshments provided by the host church.

Morning Worship Service

We began our morning worship service with our song leader leading us in the hymn, "Loved Lifted Me." Our moderator then introduced our speaker, which was Rev. Charles McCardle. Mrs. Robin Shivers sang the

special music, which was titled, "It Is Well with My Soul." After the music, Rev. Charles McCardle began his sermon. The text he used was from Acts 4:31-33. His title was, "When God Shakes the House." Nothing will ever happen until the people of God get serious and pray to God. Our church is under attack by the world. If people get right in the house of God and pray, then things will change. That is what happened to the church in Acts, when the people prayed and God moved even the house was shaken and things began to happen. The people of God today need to desire the power of God to come into our house and shake things up. There is a great need for our churches to be stirred up today. God's people need to make prayer a priority. After the sermon, Rev. Charles McCardle turned the service back over to the moderator. Our moderator then asked Rev. James Sellers to dismiss us in prayer.

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

August 2, 2018

The Executive Committee met August 2, 2018 at J Harvey's Restaurant in Moultrie at 6:30 p.m. Those present were: Moderator, Rev. Randy Jackson; Assistant Moderator, Rev. Chuck Scarborough; Clerk, Rev. Kirk Lavender; Assistant Clerk and Ordaining Board Chairman, Rev. Wilbur Harris. Also attending were Mrs. Kim Lavender, and Ms. Mary Grace Lavender

Rev. Wilbur opened the meeting with a prayer of thanks for the meal.

After the meal the clerk read the minutes from the last executive meeting.

The moderator then asked for any reports from the board chairmen. Rev. Randy Jackson gave us some updates on the Christian Education board. The totals for Jr. Camp this year were 49 campers, 21 Adult workers, and 6 Jr. Counselors, which was a total of 76 people. There were 5 salvation decisions and 3 rededications. He also reported our Georgia kids did well in competition at the national level. The senior citizens

retreat will be in November at Fort Gaines. The executive committee also recommended that the offering from the Union Association meeting for August 11 to be designated to the general fund.

We then proceeded to choose our speaker for the association meeting. We picked Rev. Stuart Bundy for our devotion and Rev. Charles McCardle for the main message. They both accepted the invitation to speak.

There being no other business, we adjourned and Rev. Chuck Scarborough dismissed us in prayer.

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

4th Quarter Meeting

November 10, 2018 at the Bethlehem Church

Our meeting opened with singing, "Nothing Between", led by our song leader, Brother S.E. Newberry. Rev. Stuart Bundy then led us in prayer. The Moderator welcomed everyone to the meeting, followed by the host pastor greeting everyone and giving directions and instructions for the church. The moderator then introduced our speaker for the morning devotion, which was Rev. S. E. Newberry. The text he used was from 1 Samuel 17:3-4. In his devotion, he spoke about "The Giant that Stands in The Way." It was the Giant that stood between the people and God, and many times it is the giant that stands between us and victory. Sometimes we use giants as excuses to keep us from God's work. If we stand with God, He will stand with us. The giants of our day and time are: Pride, Unbelief, Bitterness, Selfishness, Procrastination, and Indecisiveness. We must conquer the giants and win the victory.

The Digest Report was given by Mrs. Kirsten Kleedehn

| | |
|--------------------|----|
| Churches Reporting | 12 |
| Delegates | 18 |
| Deacons | 4 |
| Ministers | 8 |

| | |
|----------|-----------|
| Visitors | <u>20</u> |
| Total | 50 |

There was a motion and second made to receive the report and it carried.

The moderator then recognized the ministers and deacons. There was a motion and second made to seat the delegates and it carried.

The clerk then read the Executive Committee Report. There was a motion made and a second to receive the report and it carried.

The Moderator appointed a Finance Committee for the day. They were: Mr. Jason Dees; Chairperson, Mrs. Dorothy Hardin, and Mrs. Kim Lavender.

The morning offering was then taken up; Rev. S.E. Newberry and Rev. Stuart Bundy volunteered as ushers and Rev. Randy Jackson led in prayer.

STATE BOARD REPORTS: Camping Board: Teen Camp will be June 23-28, 2019 and Jr. Camp will be June 30-July 4, 2019. We received this as information. Christian Education: The senior citizens retreat has been cancelled due to recent hurricane. Couples Retreat is coming up. Someone from South Georgia Association has given money to be used for scholarship funding for someone attending Bible College. We received this as information. Mission Board: Rev. S.E. Newberry informed us that Brother Donnie Burke has left the Gainesville Church to go and pastor the First Free Will Baptist Church in Albany, GA. We received this as information.

DISTRICT BOARD REPORTS: Youth Board Report: Mrs. Kirsten Saunders informed us that the Walk-a-thon will be held on January 26,2019. She also handed packets for the Walk-a-Thon to each church.

The Finance Committee Report was given by Mr. Jason Dees as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| General Fund Balance | \$3,128.13 |
| Quarterly Dues Collected | \$1,155.00 |
| Offering | \$ 221.00 |
| Youth Fund Balance | \$1,707.72 |
| Minister's retirement Balance | \$9,109.40 |

The offering was designated to go to the State Office for the Hurricane Victims. There was a motion and second made and it carried to receive the report.

The Nominating Committee Report was given Rev. Wilbur Harris. The nominees for State Board Representatives were read. There was a motion and second made to accept the nominees and it carried. The nominees for Union District Board Representatives were read. There was a motion and second made to accept the nominees and it carried.

The Obituary Report was read by Rev. Kirk Lavender. After the report, the moderator then asked for a moment of silence and asked Rev. R.C. Wiggins to lead in prayer.

The moderator then called for any miscellaneous business. Rev Herbert Waid had some encouraging words to say about investing money back into the Free Will Baptist foundation, and said that the money goes into the Free Will Baptist Christian ministries. Rev. S.E. Newberry inquired about how many ministers were putting money into the minister's retirement fund. The Cairo Church will have a fall festival today at 4:00 p.m. After all business was completed, we gave a rising vote thanks to the host church. We then took a short recess.

Morning Worship Service

We began our morning worship service with our song leader leading us in the hymn, "The Banner of The Cross." Rev. Stuart Bundy then lead us in prayer. Mrs. Aimee Moore sung the special music, which was titled, "This Is the Promise." After the music, Rev. Eric Mitchell began his sermon. The text he used was from Ephesians 5:30. His asked the question, what is a Union? There is a Labor Union or a marriage union, but about our union with the Lord Jesus. Have we made that union? If we have formed that union with Christ, we will have life more abundantly. Jesus is the vine and if we are the branches, we will bear fruit. We need to be serious about serving Jesus. If we have formed a union, then we will be stable. After the sermon, we were dismissed for the day in prayer.

UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

October 30, 2018

The Executive Committee met October 30, 2018 at J Harvey's Restaurant in Moultrie at 6:30 p.m. Those present were: Moderator, Rev. Randy Jackson; Clerk, Rev. Kirk Lavender; Assistant Clerk and Ordaining Board Chairman, Rev. Wilbur Harris, and Retirement Board Chairman, Rev. Eric Mitchell. Also attending were Mrs. Kim Lavender, Ms. Mary Grace Lavender, and Ms. Anna Lavender

Rev. Eric Mitchell opened the meeting with a prayer of thanks for the meal.

After the meal the clerk read the minutes from the last executive meeting.

The moderator then asked for any reports from the board chairmen. Rev. Randy Jackson informed us that the Senior Citizens Retreat has been canceled due to the recent hurricane. He also said that Brother Michael McClintoc has been asked to be the Camp Director for Jr. Camp. Rev. Wilbur Harris also informed that the Nominating Committee Report was

almost complete. The executive committee also recommended that the offering from the November 10th, Union Association meeting be designated to go to state office to help with the hurricane victims.

We then proceeded to choose our speaker for the association meeting. We picked Rev. S.E. Newberry for our devotion and Rev. Eric Mitchell for the main message. They both accepted the invitation to speak.

There being no other business, we adjourned and dismissed in prayer.

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| <p style="text-align:center">CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF UNION ASSOCIATION OF THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF GEORGIA</p> |
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PREAMBLE

The object and purpose of the Union Association of Original Free Will Baptists of Georgia shall be to unify and strengthen the work of the various churches composing the association; and to devise and execute measures for the extension of the Kingdom of God.

ARTICLE I – NAME

This Association will hereafter be known as the Union Association of Original Free Will Baptists of Georgia.

ARTICLE II – CHURCH INDEPENDENT

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.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

This Association shall be composed of the various Free Will Baptist Churches in good standing.

Section 2

When member churches or ministers, whether serving a church or not, shall absent themselves from the Association for three (3) consecutive quarterly meetings:

- (1) The Association Executive Committee shall investigate the church or churches and minister or ministers.
- (2) If a satisfactory report is not given of the church or churches and minister or ministers they shall be appraised of their standing, namely:
 - (a) Place on probation until the next quarterly meeting;
 - (b) No voting privileges until such church or churches and minister or ministers attend two (2) successive quarterly meetings, at which they would be reinstated as members in good standing.

ARTICLE IV – MEETINGS

This body shall meet alphabetically with the churches on the second Saturday in the following months: February, May, August, and

November. This body shall not adjourn formally until all business is settled.

ARTICLE V – REPRESENTATION

Section 1

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

Section 2

Each church represented at this Association shall be entitled to three elected delegates who are expected to attend.

Section 3

Each church shall send a report, using the form adopted by the Association.

Section 4

Each church shall be requested to pay a minimum fee of \$12.00 per active member, broken down on a quarterly basis of \$3.00 per active member. This fee shall include the annual church registration fee to the State Association for National Representation.

ARTICLE VI

OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE BOARD, STANDING BOARDS

Section 1

The officers of this Association shall be: Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk-Treasurer, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer and

Parliamentarian. They shall be elected for a two year term on odd calendar years.

Section 2

There shall be an Executive Board composed of the officers of this Association plus the Chairman of each Board.

Section 3

The standing board of this Association shall be the following: Mission Board, Ordaining Board, Retirement Board, and Youth Board. Each board shall consist of 5 members, each elected for a 5 year term on a rotating basis and shall be elected yearly as terms expire.

ARTICLE VII – RULES

This Association shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENTS

The constitution may be amended or altered at any regular session of the Association, by a 2/3 vote of the members present, provided that the proposed changes have been presented in writing, one conference in advance.

BY- LAWS

ARTICLE I – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

All of the churches affiliated with this Association shall be required to adopt the Treatise of the Faith and Practice of the Free Will Baptists as adopted by the National Association. Applications for membership must contain a statement to this effect.

Section 2

Churches desiring to affiliate themselves with this Association must present a petitionary letter, and representation; adopt this Constitution and By-Laws, and conform to their usage.

ARTICLE II – DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

Section 1

The duties of the moderator shall be to preside at all meetings of the Association. He shall be empowered to appoint any committee necessary; unless requested otherwise by the body itself.

Section 2

The duties of the Assistant Moderator shall be to preside at the request or in the absence of the moderator, and shall assist him in such ways as are necessary and advisable.

Section 3

The duties of the Clerk-Treasurer shall be to keep accurate minutes of the Association, to compile the minutes of the various boards and auxiliaries, to prepare and publish them. It shall further be the duty of the Clerk-Treasurer to take care of all necessary correspondence. He shall be in charge of offerings and to disburse them as directed by the Association.

Section 4

The duties of the Assistant Clerk-Treasurer shall be to assume the position of the Clerk-Treasurer in the event the Clerk-Treasurer is absent or unable to perform his duties.

Section 5

The duties of the Parliamentarian shall be to keep the association meetings in accordance with the rules of the parliamentary procedure as per the Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE III – DUTIES OF THE BOARDS

Section 1 – Executive Board

It shall be the duties of the Executive Board to transact business for the Association when not in session. Decisions made by the Executive Board shall be subject to final approval by the Association and must be recorded in the minutes. The Executive Board may be

called into session by the Moderator or Assistant Moderator if the need arises.

Section 2 – Mission Board

It shall be the duty of the Mission Board to supervise the missionary program of this Association, to solicit cooperation of churches and individuals, and to set up missionary conferences.

Section 3 – Ordaining Board

A. The duty of this board shall be to examine candidates for the ministry according to the rules set forth by the ordination guidelines of the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists.

B. THE GUIDELINES OF THE GEORGIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

1. THE LICENSED MINISTER:

A person must be licensed for the period of one year before he can be ordained. He must also be called to the care of one or more churches, or into other service which would require ordination.

2. QUALIFICATIONS OF MINISTERS

They must possess good, natural, and acquired abilities, deep and ardent piety, be especially called of God to the work, and ordained by prayer and the laying on of hands.

3. DUTIES OF MINISTERS:

These are to preach the Word, administer the ordinances of the Gospel, visit their people, and otherwise perform the work of faithful ministers.

4. THE QUESTION OF DIVORCE:

No individual shall be ordained to the gospel ministry who has been married and divorced, and in the process has more than one living companion. No individual shall be ordained whose wife has been previously married and divorced.

NOTE: These regulations are set forth to comply with the Biblical standard for ministers found in 1 Timothy 3:1-7.

5. MARRIAGE:

Marriage is a biblical institution established by God as clearly described in the scriptures. The Union Association of Free Will Baptists recognizes that marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime.

Accordingly, this Association, its pastors, staff and members will not participate in same sex unions or same sex marriages, nor shall its property or resources be used for such purposes.

6. THE ORDINATION OF WOMEN:

Traditionally and historically, Free Will Baptists in the State of Georgia have not ordained women to the gospel ministry. So far as we are able to discern, this is still the true sentiment over the state. Therefore, until the thinking of our Free Will Baptist constituency becomes more definitive on this matter, we do not purpose to ordain women.

7. THE AUTHORITY TO ORDAIN:

Free Will Baptists, committed to the doctrine of congregation church government, understand that the authority to ordain ministers is in the local church. In practice, however, the Free Will Baptist churches in the State of Georgia work together in the matter of ordination by delegating the authority for ordination to the association of churches in which the local church holds membership. The true source of this authority should never be lost sight of.

- C. An ordained minister coming to the Union Association from another denomination shall be placed on a one (1) year waiting period under the watch-care of this Association before being accepted into the Union Association.
- D. A minister coming to any church of the Union Association must be a member of that church and come before the Ordaining Council for questioning.
- E. When a person is called to the Gospel Ministry and desires to be licensed to preach, he shall approach his local church and request to be licensed. The church shall then examine him thoroughly as to the nature of his 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 regular conference, he shall be granted a license to preach for a period of one year. At the end of one year, his license may be renewed, revoked or ordained. (The method mentioned here is the normal practice of most churches and associations.)
- F. 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 has become engaged in

Christian service the nature of which requires the authority of an Ordained Minister of the Gospel.

G. Each church should exercise due caution in licensing, commending to ordination, and calling of a minister to fill pastoral office.

H. Ministers and/or churches not complying with the above rules shall be ruled out of fellowship with this Association.

Section 4 – Retirement Board

A. The duties of this Board shall be to determine the eligibility of potential Retirement Fund receivers that have been recommended by their churches, and thereafter, to recommend the approval of the proposed quarterly allocation of these funds to the Union Association in session.

B. Qualifications of Retired Ministers:

1. If having obtained the age of sixty-five (65) years, and
2. If having served a period of five (5) years, which the last three (3) have been with the Union Association and,
3. If he is a member of and in good standing with one of our member churches and the Union Association, and
4. If his church so recommends him, he may be considered.

C. Any minister who by accident or sickness has been rendered permanently unable to continue as a Minister of the Gospel, may be considered, provided he meets the qualifications as stated in the above paragraph B, numbers 2, 3 and 4.

- D. A Minister's Widow may be considered if she is a member in good standing of a church that is a member of the Union Association and her church recommends her.
- E. Each recipient shall receive the same amount of retirement funds (If any recipient's funds shall be raised or lowered, all recipient's funds shall be similarly adjusted.)
- F. The Retirement Board shall regularly review all current cases to determine if the recipients are or are not in compliance with these guidelines.

Section 5 – Youth Board

- A. Plan and promote youth camp and all activities that go with the planning of said camp.
- B. Plan Associational Youth activities in order to promote fellowship among our youth.

ARTICLE IV – AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended or altered at any regular session of the Association by a 2/3 vote of the members present provided that the proposed changes have been presented in writing one conference in advance.

ASSOCIATION DECORUM

1. 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.
2. No person can speak more than twice on any subject without permission from the Moderator.
3. Members wishing to be excused from the session shall request permission from the Moderator.
4. The Association has the right to decide what matters shall be admitted for its consideration.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. First, we believe that there is but one living, true, eternal God, the Father, of whom are all things from everlasting, glorious and immutable in all His attributes. 1 Corinthians 8:6; Isaiah 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 back 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 Timothy 2:3-6; Hebrews 2:9; John 8; Acts 2:4; Ephesians 3:1; Ephesians 6.

3. We believe 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, John 16:7-8; Acts 2:4; Ephesians 4:4-5; and He comes into our hearts. John 1:1, 12; Galatians 4:4, 16; 2 Corinthians 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 himself a miserable and mortal state subject to death. Genesis 2:17; 3:19.
5. We believe that God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to the repentance and knowledge of the truth, that they might be saved; for which Christ has commanded the Gospel to be preached among all nations and to every creature. Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47; John 3:15; 1 Timothy 2:4.
6. We believe that no man shall suffer in hell for want of Christ who died for him. But as the Scripture has said, for denying the Lord that bought them; because they believe 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 another, are found in such capacity as that through the grace of God they might be eternally saved. Acts 17:30; Mark 6:6; Hebrews 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 practices. 2 Timothy 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; Matthew 28:19-20; Luke 24:47; Acts 3:19; Mark 1:15.

9. We believe that sinners are drawn to God, the Father, by the Holy Ghost who offers his divine aid to all the human family, so as all might be happy, if they would give place to His divine teachings; therefore, such who do not receive the divine impressions of His Holy Spirit, shall at a future day, seal their own condemnation, and charge themselves with their own damnation, willfully rejecting the offer of His sovereign grace. Matthew 11:27; John 6:45, 65; Psalm 1:1; Titus 2:11-12; Jeremiah 22:29.
10. We believe that men, not considered simply as, but ungodly men were of old ordained to condemnation, consider such who turn away the grace of God unto lasciviousness, denying the only Lord God and the Lord Jesus Christ who bought them, and therefore, shall bring upon themselves destruction, but we observe that they and such as the Apostle saith, because they received not the love of the truth that they might be saved. Therefore, the indignation and the wrath of God is upon every soul of man that doth live and die therein, for there is no respect of persons with God. Jude 1:4; 2 Peter 2:1; 2 Thessalonians 2:11-12; Romans 2:9, 11.
11. We believe that all children dying in infancy having not actually transgressed the law of God in their own person are only subject unto 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." 1 Corinthians 15:22; Matthew 18:25; Mark 9:36-37; Matthew 19:13.
12. We believe that good works are the fruits of a saving faith, and that in the use of this means of grace and not out of the use of these means, eternal life is promised to men. Revelation 22:14-15; Luke 13:34-35; Isaiah 1:19-20; Matthew 7:8; Jeremiah 6:16.
13. We believe that no man has any warrant in the Holy Scripture for justification before God through his own works, power, or ability, which he has in or 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. Romans 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 supported conditions, yet not as having decreed any person to everlasting death or everlasting life, out of respect or mere choices, further, that He hath appointed the godly unto life, and the ungodly who die in sin, unto death. Hebrews 4:13; Proverbs 8:22, 31; Matthew 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; Luke 22:19-20; John 13:5, 17, 5:14.
16. We believe the Gospel mode of baptism is by immersion, and believers are the only subjects for baptism. Matthew 3:16; Mark 1:9-10; Romans 6:4; Acts 3:19, 21; Colossians 2:12.
17. We believe in a general resurrection of the dead and a final judgment at the last day. John 5:28-29; 2 Corinthians 5:10.
18. We believe the happiness of the righteous are eternal and the torments of the wicked are endless. Matthew 25:46.



