

MINUTES OF  
THE YADKIN  
VALLEY  
ASSOCIATION

of

(Original) Free Will Baptists

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

with the

Alexis Free Will  
Baptist Church

in

Alexis, N. C.

SEPTEMBER 9-10, 1977

The next Annual Session will be held on Friday and Saturday before the second Sunday in September, 1978 at Arrington Heights Free Will Baptist Church in Lexington, North Carolina.



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## ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

(Addresses will be found in Associational Membership Roll)

Moderator ..... Rev. Alfred Absher  
Vice Moderator ..... Rev. Kenneth Deal  
Clerk and Assistant Treasurer ..... Bro. Jack Langley, Jr.  
Assistant Clerk ..... Mrs. Paulette Adams  
Treasurer ..... Mrs. Arlene Brown  
Promotional Evangelist ..... Rev. Kenneth Deal

Clerk's Address: 4755 Nokomis Drive, Kernersville, N. C. 27284  
Telephone (919) 769-2019

Treasurer's Address: Route 1, Box 35, Harmony, N. C. 28634  
Telephone: (704) 546-2387

## MINISTERS' CONFERENCE OFFICERS

Moderator ..... Rev. Wayne Hart  
Vice-Moderator ..... Rev. Clarence Talley  
Clerk and Treasurer ..... Rev. Kenneth Deal  
Assistant Clerk ..... Rev. William S. Childers

## SINGING CONVENTION OFFICERS

President ..... Bro. Roland Langley  
Vice President ..... Rev. William S. Childers  
Secretary and Treasurer ..... Mrs. Becky Murph  
Assistant Secretary and Treasurer ..... Mrs. Peggy Bunton

## TRUSTEES

Rev. Johnny Triplette  
Bro. Danny Wilson  
Rev. Raeford James

## ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. Johnny Triplette  
Rev. William S. Childers  
Rev. Raeford James  
Rev. Clarence Talley, Vice-Chairman  
Rev. Alfred Absher, Chairman

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. Alfred Absher (1978)  
Bro. Jack Langley, Jr. (1978)  
Bro. Jesse Ostwalt (1980)  
Rev. William S. Childers (1979)  
Rev. Bobby J. Brown (1978)

## ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP ROLL

### ORDAINED MINISTERS

Name	Address	Telephone
Rev. Alfred Absher, Rt. 2, Box 155, Rockwell, N. C. 28138	.....(704)	857-5421
Rev. Junior Ballew, Rt. 8, Rogers Rd., Monroe, N. C. 28110	.....(704)	283-4562
Rev. Grover C. Bare, Rt. 1, Box 234-E, Kannapolis, N. C. 28081	....(704)	932-5321
Rev. Bobby J. Brown, Rt. 1, Box 35, Harmony, N. C. 28634	.....(704)	546-2387
Rev. William S. Childers, 112 Stanfield Dr., Stanley, N. C. 28164	(704)	263-4559
Rev. J. E. Fisher, Rt. 2, Box 126-T, Rockwell, N. C. 28138	.....(704)	279-2712
Rev. Norman Hansley		
Rev. Wayne Hart, Rt. 1, Iron Station, N. C. 28080	.....(704)	735-4315
Rev. Lester Hughes		
Rev. Raeford James, 139 Douglas St., Statesville, N. C. 28677	.....(704)	872-0446
Rev. R. D. Mason, Rt. 2, China Grove, N. C. 28023	.....(704)	857-2582
Rev. Bruce Pendergrass, P. O. Box 3, Denver, N. C. 28037	.....(704)	483-2574
Rev. Clarence Talley, Rt. 2, Maiden, N. C. 28650	.....(704)	428-2330
Rev. Johnny C. Triplette, 104 Valley Circle, Thomasville, N. C. 27360	.....(919)	475-1425

### LICENSED MINISTERS

Rev. Kenneth Deal, 13 Freewill Circle, Lexington, N. C. 27292 ....(704) 249-8294

### RETIRED MINISTERS

Rev. Ray Dancy, 378 Water St., Mooresville, N. C. 28115  
Rev. J. C. Hunneycutt, Rt. 2, Box 177, Lexington, N. C. 27292 ....(919) 476-4364  
Rev. I. W. Plyler, Rt. 1, Troutman, N. C. 28160

### CHURCHES

Church	Clerk's Name and Address
Alexis FWB Church, Mary E. Hart, Rt. 1, Iron Station, N. C. 28080	
Arrington Heights FWB Church, Beatrice Jenkins, 30 Robbins Circle, Lexington, N. C. 27292	
Friendship FWB Church, Lester Oliver, 1311 Fox St., Kannapolis, N. C. 28081	
Lincolnton FWB Church,	
North View FWB Church, Louise Stewart, Box 537, Troutman, N. C. 28166	
Prince of Peace FWB Church, Ken Carter, 625 Barlow St., Kannapolis, N. C. 28081	

## 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 the knowledge of our Lord and Savior 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 the evangelistic effort 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.

## RULES OF THE DECORUM

1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. There shall be no conversation by the members one with another so as to interrupt business while in session.
3. Every member wishing to speak shall first rise and address the Moderator.
4. No member shall interrupt a member while speaking.
5. We shall admit no other title while in session but that of Brother and Sister.
6. Every member speaking shall attend to the subject under consideration.
7. No member shall speak more than twice on any one subject.
8. Every motion made and seconded shall be attended to, unless withdrawn by the person who made it.
9. No member shall absent himself from the body without leave of the Moderator.
10. On all motions made, where the vote of the body is taken, a majority shall prevail.
11. The Moderator shall have the same privilege to speak as any other member, provided the chair is filled.
12. Any member transgressing the above rules shall be admonished by the Moderator.
13. Not less than eight members shall constitute a quorum.

## YADKIN VALLEY ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

1. This Association shall be composed of delegates elected by each church; three for the first fifty members or fraction thereof, and one for each additional fifty members or fraction thereof sent to the Association to represent the church.
2. Each church is required to select the best qualified members of the body to represent the church and carry on business.
3. The Association, when assembled, shall first elect a Moderator and Clerk.
4. The Rules of the Decorum must be read immediately after the Association is assembled.
5. Any minister, in good standing with his church, or Association, may be invited to a seat in our Council and may take part in the deliberations, and his name enrolled in our minutes.
6. It is the duty of the Association to appoint, or elect committees to take care of special business, etc. Each committee report must be in writing, and turned into the Clerk for reading before the assembly.
7. All queries regularly presented to the Association by any Church shall be attended to.
8. Any Church wishing to become a member of this Association may do so by making application by letter and represented by the

delegates of said Church. The Church must adopt our Articles of Faith and Church Covenant.

9. The Association may withdraw from any church who walks disorderly or violates any rule made and passed on by the body.
10. It is understood that the Association assumes no higher authority than that of an Advisory Council.
11. Any church wishing a letter of dismissal from this Association may do so on the grounds of a two-thirds majority of the members of said church.
12. Any minister found casting his influence against any church or, in any way, marring the character unjustly of another minister, or working in any way to secure the church of a fellow minister, will be dealt with by the Association.
13. This Constitution may be amended at any annual meeting of the Association by two thirds votes of the delegates attending, providing that a notice of such change shall have been given during the first sitting of said meeting after permanent organization.
14. The Ordaining Council shall have authority to ordain Pastors of churches entering this Association between Sessions.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. The Bible. The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.
2. God. There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserve, and Righteous Governor of the universe; and in the Scriptures as Father, Son and Holy Ghost; yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore, and obey.
3. Christ. Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His Divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified, He is now risen and glorified, and is our ever present Savior and Lord.
4. The Holy Spirit. The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God.
5. The Government of God. God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of men requires.
6. The Sinfulness of Man. Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity therefore, inherit a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability, sin and become guilty before God.
7. The Work of Christ. The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death, and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free, and is the ground of salvation by faith.



8. The terms of Salvation. The conditions of salvation are: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Saviour and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith, the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin, and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.
9. Election. God determined from the beginning to save all who would comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ, men become His elect.
10. Freedom of the Will. The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.
11. Salvation Free. God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.
12. Perseverance. All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.
13. Gospel Ordinances. Baptism, or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel. Feet Washing, an ordinance teaching humility of universal obligation, and to be ministered to all true believers.
14. Tithing. God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ endorsed it in the Gospel (Matt. 23:23), and the apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him" (I Cor. 16:2a).
15. The Christian Sabbath. The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works, and activities, and for personal communion with God.
16. Resurrection, Judgment and Final Retribution. The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They have done good will, come forth to the resurrection of life and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. The Ministers' Conference shall have authority to elect the Ordaining Council. (Association of 1954).
2. All Ministers of this Association, licensed and ordained, shall have a seat, voice and vote at all Ministers' Conferences, and, along with all delegates, at Associational Conferences. (Amended thus Association 1966).

3. Any Minister failing to send a report to this Association shall subject his name to be placed on the Nominal Roll of Ministers. (Association of 1956).
4. Worship Service shall be conducted at 11:30 A.M. on Friday and Saturday and at 7:30 P.M. on Friday during the Association. (Amended Association of 1977).
5. The Annual Association shall begin at 10:00 A.M. on Friday and Saturday Mornings. (Amended Association of 1977).
6. The Friday Night service of the Association is to commemorate the Lord's Supper during the service. Also, to have a Feet Washing Service at this meeting. (Amended Association 1977).

### RULES GOVERNING ORDAINING COUNCIL

1. No minister may be granted license or certificate or ordination unless he presents a letter of recommendation from the church to which he belongs. Also, this church must be a member of this Association.
2. No licensed minister may be ordained under one (1) year from date of issuance of Associational license unless he is called to be full-time pastor of a church.
3. No licensed minister, even though called to be assistant pastor, may be ordained under one (1) year from date of issuance of Associational license.
4. All ministers being admitted to this Association must promise to relinquish the credentials they hold from this Association if, and when, he joins another Association, or when he is adjudged by the Ministers' Conference to be disqualified to preach the gospel.
5. All Ministers entering this Association from another Free Will Baptist Association must present a letter of recommendation from the Association he is leaving. Also he must surrender the credentials he holds from the Association he is leaving.
6. The Ordaining Council shall not have the authority to license women to preach.
7. This Council shall not issue credentials to brethren who have two (2) living companions, even though divorced.
8. These rules must be read to each minister asking for entrance into this Association.

## ANNUAL MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

The Annual Ministers' Conference met at Alexis Free Will Baptist Church in Alexis, N. C. on September 3, 1977. We opened with a song, "When We All Get To Heaven" and "Amazing Grace."

Rev. Wayne Hart, pastor of the host church extended a welcome to each one present and turned the service over to Rev. Raeford James for prayer and Scripture. Rev. James read the 28th Psalm.

The service then was turned over to Rev. Clarence Talley, the Assistant Moderator who declared the House in Order. The roll call was made by Rev. Lester Hughes with the following ministers answering to their names:

Rev. Alfred Absher	Rev. William S. Childers
Rev. J. E. Fisher	Rev. Wayne Hart
Rev. Lester Hughes	Rev. Raeford James
Rev. Clarence Talley	Rev. Johnny Triplette

Rev. Kenneth E. Deal

Rules of the Decorum were read by Bro. Derwin Greeson. Motion made, seconded and carried for permitting a minister to hold more than one office. Motion made, seconded and carried to drop the banner program as there is no representation in the Ministers' Conference. The banner is to be left with the Clerk. Motion, seconded and carried to withdraw Public Relations office.

Ministers' Conference officers were elected as follows:

Moderator .....	Rev. Wayne Hart
Vice-Moderator .....	Rev. Clarence Talley
Clerk and Treasurer .....	Rev. Kenneth Deal
Assistant Clerk .....	Rev. William S. Childers

The Ordaining Council was elected as follows:

Rev. Johnny Triplette	Rev. Raeford James
Rev. William S. Childers	Rev. Clarence Talley (Vice Chairman)
Rev. Alfred Absher (Chairman)	

The worship service opened with songs: "I'd Rather Be An Old Time Christian" and "I Feel Like Traveling On". Rev. Wayne Hart extended a warm welcome to everyone to enjoy themselves and praise the Lord, after which we enjoyed an altar prayer together.

The Singing Jubilees of Arrington Heights Free Will Baptist Church in Lexington, N. C. sang a special song: "He Wrote My Name In Heaven".

Rev. Lester Hughes brought a wonderful message from Numbers 23: 21-24 which was enjoyed by each one present.

The next Ministers' Conference will be held at Mary's Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Cherryville, N. C. on December 3, 1977. Rev. Lester Hughes is pastor of this church.

The meeting then adjourned with Rev. Alfred Assher leading the dismissal prayer.

## FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

September 9, 1977

The Twenty-fifth Annual Association opened at 10:00 A.M. by commorating the Lord's Supper. The commoration was delayed from 9:00 till 10:00 due to there not being enough present to have this service. The Association met with the Alexis Free Will Baptist Church in Alexis, N. C. Rev. Wayne Hart, pastor of host church extended a cordial welcome to everyone and the service was opened with the body singing "Amazing Grace". Rev. Lester Hughes read the Scripture from 1 Corinthians 11: 18-30 after which Rev. Alfred Absher led in prayer.

The service was then turned over to Rev. Absher, the Moderator who immediately declared the House in Order for business. Roll Call was made by Bro. Jack Langley, Jr. with the following ministers present: Reverends Alfred Absher, Bobby Brown, William Childers, Lester Hughes, Johnny Triplette, Wayne Hart and Kenneth Deal. Churches represented were: Arrington Heights, Alexis, North View, and a new church in Lincolnton which was later admitted into the Association. Rev. William Childers is pastor of the new church.

The Rules of the Decorum were read by Rev. Kenneth Deal. Rev. Dan Huntsinger, a visiting minister was given a voice and seat in our deliberations.

It was unanimously voted to give the clerk or the treasurer the authority to draw money from the savings account when needed. Reverends Wayne Hart, Kenneth Deal and William Childers were appointed by the moderator to analyze all of the committees and determine whether or not we needed all of them. Also, to present to the association their report in the afternoon session so that the body could discuss their opinions and vote on them.

Rev. Childers suggested that each Sunday School send 10% of their offerings into the clerk or treasurer each month to deposit into the savings account. This was held over till the afternoon session for discussion.

The officers of the association were elected;

Moderator .....	Rev. Alfred Absher
Vice Moderator .....	Rev. Kenneth Deal
Clerk and Assistant Treasurer .....	Bro. Jack Langley, Jr.
Assistant Clerk .....	Mrs. Paulette Adams
Treasurer .....	Mrs. Arlene Brown
Promotional Evangelist .....	Rev. Kenneth Deal

The service then was adjourned for the worship service.

The worship service was opened with "Everybody Will Be Happy Over There" being sung by the congregation. Special singing was provided by the Singing Jubilees of Arrington Heights church in

Lexington, N. C. They sang two numbers – “Land of the Living” and “When My Feet Touch The Streets of Gold”.

Rev. Kenneth Deal brought an inspiring message from Hebrews 11:1-4 after which we were dismissed for lunch by Bro. Jack Langley, Jr.

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

“Heaven’s Jubilee” opened the afternoon session with Bro. Danny Wilson leading in prayer. The moderator declared the House in Order for business and we went right into the business session.

The Executive Committee positions were filled with Rev. Bobby Brown, Rev. William Childers, and Bro. Jesse Ostwalt to fill the vacancies made by the death of Rev. J. P. Langley, Sr., the expiring term of Bro. Jesse Ostwalt, and Rev. Junior Ballew had not attended the meetings since giving up the work as pastor of Near Calvary Church in Lexington, N. C., therefore, his position was filled with a new term of Bro. Jesse Ostwalt.

Also, Rev. Johnny Triplette and Bro. Danny Wilson was elected to serve as trustees due to vacancies made by Rev. J. P. Langley, Sr. and Bro. James Hunneycutt who left the association. Rev. Raeford James is the third member of the trustees.

The committee that was appointed in the morning session gave their report on the dropping of some of the committees. They suggested that the following committees be deleted due to the inactiveness of them: Mission Committee, Sunday School Committee, Evangelism Committee and the Home for the Aged Committee. The remaining committees were appointed by the moderator: Singing Convention – Mrs. Becky Murph, Mrs. Bonnie Deal and Mrs. Ella Ostwalt; Ministers’ Report – Rev. Wayne Hart, Rev. Kenneth Deal and Bro. Jesse Ostwalt; Ladies Auxiliary – Mrs. Beatrice Jenkins, Mrs. Vina Triplette, and Mrs. Bessie Absher; Finance – Bro. Jack Langley, Jr., Rev. William Childers and Rev. Johnny Triplette. These committee reports and recommendations will be found following the Saturday A.M. session in these minutes. It was asked that all ministers and delegates to urge their churches to comply with these committee recommendations.

The proposal presented by Rev. William Childers in the morning session about each Sunday School sending 10% of their offerings once a month to be deposited in the savings account was discussed. The body finally agreed on “each church take up a special offering the first Sunday of each month and send to the clerk of the association for the purpose of depositing into the savings account”. All churches are asked to do this in order that our account may continue to grow and get an amount accumulated for future use as would be voted on by the association and ministers’ conference. (The clerk’s address will be found on page 2 of these minutes). The clerk will send a

statement out to each pastor once a month advising him of the amount of each receipt from each church. Also, a periodic report of the total amount accumulated will be sent periodically.

The problem of unfaithful ministers and churches belonging to the association was discussed. After a lengthy discussion, it was voted on that the clerk write to Rev. Grover Bare and Rev. Henderson Eller and ask for their credentials because of their unfaithfulness and lack of support to the association and the ministers' conferences. Also, since Rev. Bare pastored Friendship church, that the church also be dropped from the roll.

However, Rev. Bare made a call to the clerk after receiving his letter and stated that his desires were to remain in the association. He asked what he should do and also asked the clerk to advise him of the total amount that he owed and offered to pay the total amount. Also, he promised that he would be faithful to the meetings as much as possible if permitted to stay a member.

The clerk called upon the Executive Committee to discuss this and the committee took into consideration that everyone is subjected to errors and mistakes along their Christian journey, and that they felt that by the interest that Rev. Bare had displayed toward the association, then he should be given a chance to prove himself. Therefore, the clerk wrote Rev. Bare a letter stating our decision.

Rev. Henderson Eller sent in his credentials with no problem and they will be turned over to the Ministers' Conference clerk for filing.

The clerk was also asked to try to contact Rev. Junior Ballew and to find out his desires on remaining a member of the association. Rev. Ballew was contacted by the clerk and his desires are to remain a member. He promised to send in a report to the clerk to be published along with the other reports. Rev. Junior has also started a new Free Will Baptist work near Monroe, N. C. and asks that the association and all churches to remember this new work in prayer.

The association voted to accept the Lincolnton Free Will Baptist Mission into the association by faith with a letter to be presented to the Ministers' Conference in December. Rev. William Childers is pastor of this church.

✓ The Executive Committee was asked to visit the Near Calvary church in Lexington, N. C. and invite their new pastor into the association. Upon visiting the church, we found that the church had voted to go into the Piedmont Association with their pastor. An invitation was extended to them that we still had the doors open should God lead them back this way.

A motion was made and seconded that the Communion service be changed to the Friday night service at 7:30 P.M. Also, to have an old fashioned Feet Washing service at the same meeting. This was voted on and accepted unanimously.

Bro. Jack Langley, Jr. dismissed the session.

## FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Rev. Wayne Hart opened the service with the congregation singing, "I'll Fly Away" and "When We All Get To Heaven" after which a congregational prayer was rendered to the Lord.

Reverends William Childers and Kenneth Deal brought short but inspiring messages to the congregation. Special singing was provided by Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth Deal, Mrs. Beatrice Jenkins and Mrs. Paulette Adams. Also a special song was sang by Miss Lori Ann Hart.

Rev. Wayne Hart dismissed the service.

## SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Rev. Alfred Absher opened the service with the congregation singing, "The Gloryland Way". Prayer was made by Rev. William Childers after which the House was declared in Order for business.

Roll Call was made by Rev. Kenneth Deal. Ministers present were: Reverends Alfred Absher, William Childers, Wayne Hart, Johnny Triplette, and Kenneth Deal.

A motion was made and seconded to extend the worship service time to 11:30 a.m. in order to give more time to the business session. After discussion, this motion was adopted.

The reports that had been turned into the clerk at this time were read by him. The body voted to send the State Association a \$75.00 contribution and also \$25.00 that should have been sent to the state meeting. The money was not in the checking account at that time, therefore, the treasurer could not send this amount.

It was voted on and carried that the first month's special offering taken up by the churches be sent to Rev. William Childers to help him in his new work. All other offerings are to be deposited into the savings account.

The clerk was asked to get in touch with the pastor of Northview Free Will Baptist Church in Statesville, and also Rev. John Hall who has started a new work in Reidsville, N. C. and to give them a personal invitation to join our Association. This is on the clerk's schedule to personally visit each of these ministers and invite them.

A short recess was given in order for the committees to meet and get their reports ready to turn into the clerk. These reports were read by the clerk and accepted as written in the respective reports found elsewhere in this booklet.

A moment of silent prayer was offered in honor of our beloved Rev. I. P. Langley, Sr. who God called home on November 10, 1976.

Should there be a death of any Minister or Officer in the Yadkin Valley Association, the clerk is to be notified immediately. He in turn will contact all other ministers and inform them of any available

information so that they may be able to attend the services. Also, a wreath of flowers will be sent from the Yadkin Valley Association. The amount should be limited to the general area of \$20-25 dollars due to the treasure being low in funds. However, it was stated that whatever amount was necessary, he was given the authority to use his own discretion as to the amount to be spent since the expenses are higher when wiring flowers.

There being no further business, Rev. Wayne Hart dismissed the body for the worship service.

Rev. Wayne Hart opened the worship service and introduced the special singers, the Singing Jubilees who sang a song, "Nearer To Thee."

Rev. Johnny Triplette brought an inspiring message from St. John 2:28.

The Lord's prayer was rendered by the congregation as the dismissal prayer.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### SINGING CONVENTION COMMITTEE

We, your Singing Committee do recommend the following:

(1) That we have one Singing Convention each year. This Convention is to be held at the North View Free Will Baptist Church on Rayon Street in Statesville, N. C. on the first Sunday in May, 1978.

(2) That each church call off their 11:00 Worship Service on the day of the Singing to allow each one traveling time in order to be at the host church no later than 1:00 P.M.;

(3) That each Church encourage all of its attenders to attend these Singing Conventions, bringing a well filled basket to be spread together on tables provided by the host church;

(4) That the President and Secretary of the Singing Convention get together as soon as possible after lunch for the purpose of determining the number of groups attending; then, to equally divide the time between each Singing Group. Each group will then be expected to co-operate by using their allotted time only. The President will have the authority to advise the groups when their time is up.

(5) Officers are to be elected at every other Singing Convention for the next two-year term and will fill these offices for two consecutive years.

Mrs. Becky Murph

Mrs. Bonnie Deal

Mrs. Ella Ostwalt

### MINISTERS' REPORT COMMITTEE

We, your Committee on Ministers' Reports do hereby recommend:

(a) that each minister attend the Quarterly Ministers' Conferences; and if it is absolutely impossible to be at any of these conferences, each



minister is to make contact with someone who is to attend and advise them that they will be unable to attend and the reason. Then in turn, this minister can relay the message to the conference. Also, if he can't be at the Annual Association, each minister is to send in his report to the clerk to be read at the association meeting.

(b) We recommend that each minister attend the Annual Associations and bringing with them a complete report of their work during the past year; this report to contain the following information:

Ministers' name, address, telephone number, name of church he pastored, (if any) number of sermons he preached, number of revivals he conducted, number of professions, number of members received into the church, number of couples united in matrimony, number of homes visited, number of visits to hospitals, number of Sunday School lessons taught, and money given for religious work.

(c) We also recommend that pastors call Free Will Baptist ministers, or, ministers in harmony with Free Will Baptist doctrine, to conduct their revivals.

Rev. Kenneth Deal      Rev. Wayne Hart      Bro. Jesse Ostwalt, Jr.

### LADIES AUXILIARY REPORT

We, the Ladies Auxiliary Committee do hereby recommend that pastors encourage the ladies of their church to start a Ladies Auxiliary. As each organizes, let the other churches know about the steps they took. Also, send any interesting news to the Free Will Baptist Witness, c/o Dennis Lowery—Editor, P. O. Box 11277, East Durham Station, Durham, N. C. 27703.

We recommend that each Ladies Auxiliary have a prayer student from the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Greenville, Tenn.

We recommend that the members of the Ladies Auxiliary that holds an office be members of the Church.

We also recommend that pastors encourage the starting of a Young Girl's Auxiliary.

If anyone needs help in getting either auxiliary started, you may call Mrs. Paulette Adams at (707) 352-5372, or, one that may be closer to you.

Mrs. Beatrice Jenkins      Mrs. Vina Triplette      Mrs. Bessie Absher

### FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Finance Committee do hereby recommend the following:

1. That each church send one dollar (\$1.00) per member, annually to this association.

2. That each Sunday School send fifty-cents (.50) per member, annually to this association.

3. That each minister send twelve dollars (\$12.00) annually to this Association. In addition to this, we recommend that each pastor

receive a free will offering on the last Sunday before the Annual Association.

4. That the association pay the clerk forty dollars (\$40.00) per year for his or her services.

5. That the association pay the treasurer twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per year for his or her services.

6. If the Executive Committee is called to a church, said church shall pay the traveling expenses of the members of the committee.  
Bro. Jack Langley, Jr. Rev. Johnny Triplette

Rev. William S. Childers

### NOMINAL ROLL OF MINISTERS

Rev. Lester Hughes

Rev. R. D. Mason

Rev. Clarence Talley

Rev. Norman Hansley

Rev. Bruce Pendergrass

### DATES TO REMEMBER SCHEDULE

December 3, 1977 ..... 1st Quarterly Ministers' Conference  
Mary's Grove F.W.B. Church, Cherryville, N. C.

March 4, 1978 ..... 2nd Quarterly Ministers' Conference  
(To be announced)

May 7, 1978 ..... Annual Singing Convention  
North View F.W.B. Church, Statesville, N. C.

June 3, 1978 ..... 3rd Quarterly Ministers' Conference  
(To be announced)

September 2, 1978 ..... Annual Ministers' Conference  
Arrington Heights F.W.B. Church, Lexington, N. C.

September 8-9, 1978 ..... 26th Session of Yadkin Valley Association  
Arrington Heights F.W.B. Church, Lexington, N. C.

### GROUPS PARTICIPATING IN THE ANNUAL SINGING CON- VENTION AT NEAR CALVARY F.W.B. CHURCH, LEXINGTON, N. C. ON MAY 1, 1977.

Groups representing Alexis Free Will Baptist Church.

LORI ANN HART

Groups representing Arrington Heights Free Will Baptist Church.

### THE GOSPEL BEAMERS:

Roger Berrier

Mary Berrier

Bea Jenkins

Paulette Adams — CC12 Rodger Road, Lexington, N. C. 27292

**THE MURPH FAMILY:**

Tabatha Murph  
Glenna Murph  
Becky Murph -- Fairfax Rd., Lexington, N. C. 27292

**THE LITTLE DEAL TRIO:**

Angie Deal  
Juanita Deal  
Tammy Deal -- P. O. Box 649, Welcome, N. C. 27374

**THE SINGING JUBILEES:**

Becky Murph -- Fairfax Road, Lexington, N. C. 27292  
Kenneth Deal  
Bonnie Deal  
Tammy Deal  
Roland Langley

**THE SINGING JUBILETTS:**

Tammy Langley  
Juanita Deal  
Glenna Murph -- Fairfax Road, Lexington, N. C. 27292

**Groups Representing Northview Free Will Baptist Church**

**GOSPEL TRAVELEER'S TRIO:**

Louise Hobbs  
Patty Hobbs  
Peggy Bunton -- 2925 Eastway Drive, Statesville, N. C. 28677

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The following section consists of the following itemized Reports:

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Sunday School Reports .....	23
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Each Report has been compiled by the information submitted in the reports that were turned into the clerk at the Association. Any errors or missing items on any Report, the clerk is not liable since all reports were copied verbatim from the original reports.

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## TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance in treasure from 1976	\$ 10.92
Receipts:	
From Ministers .....	\$120.00
From Churches .....	206.00
	326.00
Total received .....	\$326.00    326.00
	\$336.92
Disbursements:	
Clerk of Association and Expenses .....	\$ 49.00
Treasurer .....	25.00
N. C. State Association of Free Will Baptists .....	75.00
	149.00
Total disbursements .....	\$149.00    149.00
	\$187.92    \$187.92
Balance in treasury .....	
Summary of Receipts:	
Churches:	
Alexis .....	\$ 23.00
Arrington Heights .....	80.00
Friendship .....	10.00
North View .....	40.00
Prince of Peace .....	53.00
	206.00
Total received from Churches .....	
Ministers:	
Rev. Alfred Absher .....	\$ 12.00
Rev. Junior Ballew .....	12.00
Rev. Grover C. Bare .....	12.00
Rev. Bobby J. Brown .....	12.00
Rev. William S. Childers .....	12.00
*Rev. Ray Dancy .....	12.00
Rev. Kenneth Deal .....	12.00
Rev. J. E. Fisher .....	12.00
**Rev. Norman Hansley .....	12.00
Rev. Wayne Hart .....	12.00
**Rev. Lester Hughes .....	12.00
*Rev. J. C. Huneycutt .....	12.00
Rev. Raeford James .....	12.00
**Rev. R. D. Mason .....	12.00
**Rev. Bruce Pendergrass .....	12.00
*Rev. I. W. Plyler .....	12.00

\*\*Rev. Clarence Talley ..... 12.00  
 Rev. Johnny C. Triplette .....  
 \$120.00

\*Retired

\*\*Sent neither report or membership fee  
 Savings Account Balance at present .....\$538.51

LADIES AUXILIARY REPORTS

Name of Church Auxiliary	President's Name and Address	No. on Roll	No. Present at Last Meeting	Average No. on Roll for the year	Average No. Present for the year	Money Received during the year	Money in Treasury at beginning of the year	Amount in Treasury
Alexis	Mrs. Jo Morris Alexis, N. C.	11	10	13	10	\$ .00	\$ 104.48	\$ 104.48
Arrington Heights	Mrs. Paulette Adams Lexington, N. C.	16	12	16	13	29.70	1,313.38	1,343.08
<b>TOTALS</b>		27	22	29	23	\$ 29.70	\$1,417.86	\$1,447.56

## MINISTERS REPORTS

Name	Church Pastored (If Any)	Sermons Preached	Reverals Held	Professions	Members Received	Number Baptised	Funerals Conducted	Homes Visited	Hospitals Visited	Weddings Performed	Sunday School Lessons Taught	Money Given For Religious Causes	Money Received In Religious Work
Rev. Alfred Absher	Arrington Heights	104	0	10	5	0	3	15	20	1	0	\$800	\$3,200
Rev. Junior Ballew	Near Calvary (6 mos.)	80	1	25	30	35	1	75	25	1	5		5,000
Rev. Grover Bare	Friendship	56	1		0	0	0			2	15	800	0
Rev. Bobby Brown			0			0	2	25	50	3	0		0
Rev. William Childers	Lincolnton	40	1	18	12	7	1	30	20	0	30	1,000	0
Rev. Ray Dancy	(Retired)	4	0	0	0	0	0	5	15	0	1	10	0
Rev. J. E. Fisher	Prince of Peace	48	0	0	7	5	0	50	40	1	2	400	300
Rev. Norman Hansley													
Rev. Wayne Hart	Alexis	94	0	6	5	5	0	120	60	1	25	700	80
Rev. Lester Hughes	Mary's Grove												
Rev. J. C. Huneycutt	(Retired)												
Rev. Raeford James		50	0	0		2	2	25	10	0	10		400
Rev. R. D. Mason													
Rev. Bruce Pendergrass													
Rev. I. W. Plyler	(Retired)												
Rev. Clarence Tally	Pleasant Hill												
Rev. Johnny Triplette		8	0	0		0	0	25	20	0	0		0
Rev. Kenneth Deal	(Licensed-1977)	6	0	1		0	1	12	11	0	0		0
<b>TOTALS</b>		490	3	60	59	54	10	392	271	9	90	\$3,710	\$8,980

## CHURCH MEMBERSHIP REPORTS

Name of Church	Pastor	Total Membership				Received				Dismissed				Loss	Gain	
		Total Membership Last Year	By Letter	By Statement	By Baptism	Total Received	By Letter	By Erasure	By Death	Total Dismissed						
Alexis	Rev. Wayne Hart	20	25	0	1	5	6	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	5
Arrington Heights	Rev. Alfred Absher	78	76	0	6	0	6	0	3	1	4	2				
Friendship	Rev. Grover C. Bare	16	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Northview	Rev. Robert Ferguson	69	60	2	5	4	10	3	0	0	3	9				
Prince of Peace	Rev. J. E. Fisher	33	37	0	12	4	16	8	0	0	8	4				
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>216</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>18</b>				

\*If your church is not listed, a report was not sent in.



**CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Name of Church	Pastor	Paid Out To Pastor	Other Salaries	Paid Out For Evangelistic Purposes	Contributions To Charitable Causes	Sent To Association For Expenses	Paid Out For Building and Repair	Miscellaneous	Indebtedness	Value Of Church Property
Alexis	Rev. Wayne Hart	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 220	\$ 972	\$ 23	\$ 150	\$2,490	\$ 0	\$ 4,500
** Arrington Heights	Rev. Alfred Absher	6,270	1,575	518	2,720	75	1,515	1,722	40,000	70,000
Friendship	Rev. Grover C. Bare	0	0	0	200	10	600		0	18,000
Northview	Rev. Robert Ferguson	2,781				40	25,000		18,000	75,000
Prince of Peace	Rev. J. E. Fisher	1,995		100	560	53	1,481	957	1,350	20,000
<b>TOTALS</b>		\$11,046	\$1,575	\$ 838	\$4,452	\$201	\$28,746	\$5,169	\$59,350	\$187,500

\*Churches not listed sent no report

\*\*See additional financial report on separate page.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORTS

Name of Sunday School	Supt. Name and Address	Sec. Name and Address	No. On Roll At Present	Average No. On Roll For Year	No. Present Last Sunday	Average No. Present For Year
Alexis		Mary E. Hart Iron Station, N. C.	14	36	14	34
Arrington Heights	Kenneth Deal Lexington, N. C.	Gerrie M. Langley Kenersville, N. C.	171	182	138	148
Northview	Cecil L. Stewart, Sr. Troutman, N. C.	J. D. Ostwalt, Jr. Troutman, N. C.	69	68	38	60
Prince of Peace	Ken Carter Kannapolis, N. C.	June Louise Morris Kannapolis, N. C.	33	33	30	28
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>287</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>270</b>

\*Churches not listed sent no reports

**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURES FOR  
ARRINGTON HEIGHTS F.W.B. CHURCH  
FROM JULY 1, 1976 TO JULY 1, 1977**

**INCOME:**

Total Cash Received .....	\$28,230.67
Plus Cash In Bank July 1, 1976 .....	4,934.53
Plus Cash In Building Fund .....	6,630.91
	<hr/>
Total To Be Accounted For .....	\$39,886.11

**EXPENDITURES:**

National Association .....	\$ 300.00
State Association .....	375.00
Board Of Care .....	30.00
Pastors Salary .....	5,320.00
Pastors Expense .....	950.00
Janitor Salary .....	780.00
Treasure Salary .....	120.00
Caretakers Salary .....	375.00
Christmas Treats & Play .....	500.87
Utilities .....	1,315.15
Flowers .....	459.69
Literature .....	597.84
Church And Fellowship Hall Payments .....	5,420.64
Bible School .....	241.66
Cash Contributions .....	2,720.00
Additions & Repairs .....	1,515.35
Miscellaneous .....	1,721.59
Evangelistic Purposes .....	517.71
Yadkin Valley Association .....	75.00
Church & Fellowship Ins. ....	533.00
Pastors Retirement .....	185.00
Caretaker Of Fellowship Hall .....	300.00
Deposit In Building Fund .....	5,000.00
	<hr/>
Total .....	\$29,353.50
Total Expenditures .....	\$29,353.50
Plus Cash In Bank July 1, 1977 .....	3,901.70
Plus Cash In Building Fund .....	6,630.91
	<hr/>
Total Accounted For .....	\$39,886.11

Respectfully Submitted  
Mrs. Kenneth Deal, Sec./Tres.

