

REV. ANSEL SMITH, PASTOR
SOUTH AVE. FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
78 BROOKLYN AVE. LANCASTER, S. C. 29720

17th Session

**SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE ASSOCIATION
of
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
MINUTES**



HIGH POINT CHURCH, LANCASTER

NOVEMBER 12, 13

1959



Rev. W. L. Jernigan, Moderator

Rev. Rufus Coffey, Clerk

1959

Minutes of the Seventeenth Annual Session of the
South Carolina State Association of Original

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

November 12, 13, 1960

Walter Jernigan, Moderator

Rufus Coffey, Clerk



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PROCEEDINGS OF THE STATE ASSOCIATION

The Seventeenth Annual Association of the South Carolina Original Free Will Baptists convened November 12, 1959, at the High Point Church, Lancaster. During the Registration of ministers, delegates and visitors, Mr. Ben Staten from the Liberty Church asked for an opportunity to make a suggestion for the promotion of home missions in the state. He recommended that a box be placed in the vestibule of each church to receive voluntary offerings which would go toward helping new churches. This matter was submitted to the Association for consideration during the session.

The opening devotion was conducted by Rev. Roger Tripp. At the conclusion of a hymn, he read Rev. 1:10-19. Speaking on the subject "What To Expect In A Worship Service" he emphasized spiritual worship, spiritual vision, humility and obedience.

Rev. W. L. Jernigan, Moderator, called the Association to order and made some pertinent remarks concerning the responsibility of each one co-operating. The welcome address was given by Rev. A. F. Lawter. Rev. Leonard Williams gave the response. The moderator delivered his message on the subject "The High Cost of Loving". (CF Appendix I)

A motion was seconded and adopted *(MSA), that all temporary committees be appointed by the moderator, the following were appointed on the Finance Committee: Mr. Hoyt Smith, Mr. Pressley Langston, Mr. Herbert Collins.

The Churches and Associations reported by letter. There were 21 churches represented and three associational letters received. Eastern Conference did not report. Rev. L. A. Holliday inquired concerning the dues of each association. The matter was deferred until later discussion.

The visitors were recognized and given an opportunity to express words of greetings. Rev. M. L. Johnson, Mt. Olive, N. C.; Mrs. E. C. Howell, Sumter; Rev. and Mrs. Noah Brown, Charleston; Rev. Charles Brown, Pamplico; Mrs. R. E. Flowers, Pamplico; Rev. Bayless McDonald, Nashville, Tenn., were present. MSA that they be given a voice and all privileges except that of voting.

The Committee on Committees was appointed as follows:

Rev. Louis Holiday, Rev. Miller Mellette, Rev. Julius Vause.

A recess of ten minutes was taken before the worship service. Rev. W. L. Jernigan brought a message on the subject: "A More Excellent Sacrifice" based upon the scriptures: Gen. 4:8; Heb. 11:4; 12:18.

The Committee on Committees asked that they might assume the duties of a nominating committee rather than naming another nominating committee. Discussion ensued—A motion was seconded that the Committee on Committees also serve as a nominating committee. Before any decision was reached, a motion was adopted to recess for lunch.

*Note (MSA—Motion, Seconded, and Adopted)

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

The Association reassembled with the singing of a hymn. Rev. Bayless MacDonald gave the devotional message from II Tim. 3:15. Mr. MacDonald also reported on the progress of the Free Will Baptist Bible College. MSA to include the written report into the minutes. (cf: Appendix II)

A vote was taken on the motion discussed during the morning proceedings. It was adopted by a majority vote that the Committee on Committees act as a nominating committee.

The State Promotional Secretary, Rev. Reedy Saverance, gave a written report and it was adopted. (cf: Appendix III)

The idea presented by Mr. Ben Staten was again discussed. MSA that the idea be endorsed and referred to the State Home Mission Board to be included with their report.

MSA that the following constitutional amendments lay on the table until Friday. "Article III, Section 3" be amended to include the following sentence: "Each member association and quarterly meeting shall also be requested to send a representative fee of one dollar per church."

The Children's Home report was given by the Superintendent. MSA that we receive this report. (cf: Appendix IV)

A report on Christian Education was given by Rev. Norman Adams for Rev. W. B. Rogers. MSA to receive this report.

The State Superannuation report was given by Rev. Clarence Lambert. MSA (cf: Appendix V)

The Committee on Committees reported and it was adopted as follows:

Resolution Committee: Rev. L. A. Holliday, Rev. H. W. Richburg, Rev. Carl Shook.

Grievance Committee: Rev. Edison Kirby, Mr. Laverne Hanna, Mr. Tebe Hicks.

Obituary Committee: Rev. Rufus Coffey.

A report of Public Morals was given orally by Rev. M. H. Mellette. Rev. I. J. Blackwelder also gave an oral report of the Sunday School. The State Woman's Auxiliary report was read. MSA to receive this report as information and to print them in the minutes. (cf: Appendix X) MSA to recess until Friday morning.

The Thursday night worship service was conducted in the host church. After singing and testimonies, Rev. Noah Brown spoke on "Being Symmetrical" from the scripture verse Hosea 7:8.

FRIDAY MORNING

With the joyful strains of a hymn, our hearts were lifted in worship. Rev. Joe Fort led in prayer and Rev. Ralph Staten was introduced. He brought an inspiring message on the subject "How Great Thou Art". After the devotion the visitors were recognized: Rev. Joe Fort, Ayden, N. C.; Rev. Burkette Raper, Mt. Olive, N. C.; Mrs. Alma McDonald, N. C.; Rev. Charles T. Dew, Conway; Rev. Clyde Cox, Caroleen, N. C.; Rev. Jerry Ballard, Columbia; Mrs. Herbert Collins, Beulah Church. MSA to extend them all privileges except that of voting.

Rev. Joe Fort spoke in behalf of the Free Will Baptist Press at Ayden, N. C. He gave information relative to the progress of the press and the new publications.

The minutes of the meeting on Thursday were read and adopted. The State Home Missions report was given by Rev. Fred Powers. MSA to receive this report and gave a rising vote of thanks for his service. (cf: Appendix VI)

There was no report from the Grievance Committee.

The progress, objectives and needs of the Mt. Olive Junior College were presented by the President, Rev. Burkette Raper. MSA to include the written portion into the minutes. (cf: Appendix VII)

After recess the Mission Service was conducted by Rev. L. A. Holliday. He reported that we were falling far short of our Quota in giving, and urged that we strive to increase our offerings to Foreign Missions. He read Isaiah 60:1-5 and brought a challenging message. The Association recessed for the lunch hour.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The devotions were given by Rev. Burkette Raper from Psalms 16:6-11 on the subject "A Goodly Heritage".

The final report of the Nominating Committee was given. The various officers were elected as designated by a star on pages two and three.

The following resolutions were adopted: (1) Be it resolved that the State Superannuation Director be bonded and that the expense be paid from the Superannuation treasury. (2) Be it resolved that the State Home Mission Director be bonded and that the bond be paid for out of their treasury. (3) Be it resolved that the State Association give time on the program for the Children's Home in the future. A discussion developed concerning the bonding of all treasurers. MSA that each one be bonded. Mr. Joe Lynch gave the Treasurer's report and the Poston Baggette Memorial Fund. MSA to receive the report. (cf: Appendix VIII)

A MSA to take from the table the constitutional amendment, and after due discussion MSA to adopt the change.

According to MSA the Credentials Committee is instructed to take care of the enrollment of delegates. They are to instruct our people how to make out reports and mail them along with their dues by November 1, each year to the committee.

A motion was adopted to give a rising vote of thanks for the hospitality, courtesy and royal entertainment extended to this body from the host church.

The 1960 Association was invited to meet with the Oak Grove Church near Conway. MSA that we accept this invitation.

After an announcement of the Spiritual Life Conference in February, MSA that delegates to the National Association be impaneled by the Moderator after arrival. A request was made for churches to purchase blocks to build a home at the Children's Home. Two thousand blocks were pledged.

The Conference adjourned and the congregation sang "God Be With You" in closing.

STATISTICAL REPORT

BEAVER CREEK CONFERENCE

Membership:	
Membership at the beginning of year	1508
Total increase this year	187
Present Membership	1695

Ministers:	
Ordained	23
Licensed	9

Finances:	
Total receipts for the year	\$ 44,118.13
Expenditures for the year:	
Childrens Home	\$ 808.05
Foreign Missions	202.73
Home Missions	197.41
Pastors	22,851.96
Revivals	1,797.11
Building and Repair	10,417.28
Christian Education	29.15
Total	\$ 36,529.19

Property:	
Total number of churches	20
Value of church property	\$227,205.38

MODERATOR: Rev. A. F. Lawter, Lockhart, S. C.

CLERK: Rev. Paul Reid, Spartanburg, S. C.

THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Membership:	
Membership at beginning of year	457
Total decrease this year	21
Present membership	436

Ministers:	
Ordained	12

Finances:	
Balance brought forward	\$ 6,379.88
Total receipts for the year	9,885.65

Grand Total	\$16,265.53
Expenditures for the year	14,629.84
Balance	\$ 1,635.69

Property:	
Number of churches—1 full time, 8 half time	
Value of church property	\$80,000.00
Value of parsonages	12,000.00

Services:
9 Sunday Schools, 3 Leagues, 4 Auxiliaries, 5 Prayer Meetings.

MODERATOR: Rev. J. A. Hucks, Rt. 3, Box 34, Conway, S. C.

CLERK: F. E. Powell, Rt. 2, Johnsonville, S. C.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE

Membership:

Membership at beginning of year	3564
Total increase this year	151
Present membership	3715

Finances:

Balance brought forward	\$ 7,282.71
Total receipts for the year	122,372.36
Total	\$129,655.07
Expenditures for the year:	
Childrens Home	\$ 4,571.07
Christian Education	3,350.37
Charity	1,299.00
Foreign Missions	5,755.65
Home Missions	1,829.37
Superannuation	516.68
Revivals	5,871.95
Pastor's Salaries	48,667.01
Building and Repairs	19,355.87
Operating Expenses	22,963.70
Convention Fees	2,025.41
Total	\$113,565.65
Balance in Treasuries	\$ 16,089.42

Property:

Number of churches—23 full time, 6 half time	
Value of churches	\$546,800.00
Number of parsonages	9
Value of parsonages	\$ 86,000.00

MODERATOR: Rev. L. A. Holliday, Manning, S. C.
 CLERK: Rev. Edison Kirby, Lake City, S. C.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE: Rev. W. L. Jernigan

"THE HIGH COST OF LOVING"

Mark 12:30-31

There could be no question in the minds of any of us with respect to what it cost God to love us. Listen!, "For God so loved the world", wait a minute, underscore, and capitalize SO. Possibly eternity alone will reveal the value and effect of that little two letter word in John 3:16, the golden text of the Bible.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if it could be said of we Free Will Baptists of South Carolina that we so loved the people of the world that our lives were spent in dutiful, loving service for the worthy cause of Christ.

Truly if we will do what our text admonishes us to do we will achieve more than we would at first imagine, so let us consider these points that suggest the high cost of loving as it relates to us, and our duty to God, and mankind.

First—We are to love Him with all our hearts, which suggests that we love Him with our spiritual self. When He has our heart He has the seat of our emotions; affections, intellect, and will. Thus we know His seat of government is in our hearts, therefore we love Him supremely, as a result of that, His cause comes first.

Second—We love Him with all our mind, as the text suggests we love Him with our mental self. Do you know of any better way to exhaust yourself mentally than in loving devotion to God, and service to your fellow man?

Third—We are to love Him with all our soul. Therefore we are to love Him with our social self. Since it is true that our souls associate us with our fellow creatures as well as to God, we love our fellow servants as the love of God beams through us to them. Oh, My! isn't it a pleasure to love, and serve in this capacity.

Fourth—We are to love with all our strength. What a pleasure it is to note that we can love God in this manner. We read in Ecclesiastes 12:1 "Remember now thy creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say I have no pleasure in them." So we can begin in our youth, and continue until the shadows fall and night comes when no man can work.

Fifth—We are to love our neighbor as ourself. Now let me ask this question, aren't we all neighbors? Those who are placed in key positions in our denomination, do they need our help? Do we need the Free Will Baptist Bible College? If so they are our neighbors, and they need our help. Do we need Mount Olive Junior College? Well you might say it is a liberal arts school, which is true. Listen, will you? You know as well as I do we have thousands of our boys and girls going to liberal arts schools every year, therefore why should anyone think it so incredible for us to have a liberal arts school of our own for them to attend. To say the least, Mount Olive Junior College is our neighbor, and they need our support. Do we need our missionary programs? Sure we do, they are our neighbors, and they need our support. Do we need our superannuation program? Of course we do, why not love, and support this worthy cause? Do we need our Childrens Home? They are our neighbors and they need our support.

In conclusion remember our subject, "The High Cost of Loving". Well isn't it true when we think sanely about ourselves that we have been too satisfied, too long, with too little. The above will cost us something, is it worth it? The answer is YES.

APPENDIX II REPORT FROM BIBLE COLLEGE

Free Will Baptist Bible College rejoices in reporting six students registered for the fall semester from South Carolina as follows:

Alvin Davis, junior; Jimmie Brown, sophomore; Ann Bailey, Maybelle Boseman, Trellis Hanna, and Sherwood Lee, freshmen. Also three faculty members are from South Carolina.

We are glad to acknowledge gifts from South Carolina during the past year, November 1, 1958—October 31, 1959, of \$2,908.83; of this amount \$2,124.14 was on the general fund and \$784.69 on the Improvement Program. We urge South Carolina pastors and churches to increase their gifts to the Bible College this year to \$3,200 to the general fund and \$1,000 for the Improvement Program as state quotas for 1959-60.

APPENDIX III

REPORT OF STATE PROMOTIONAL SECRETARY

We wish to thank each of you for giving to make the purchase of our new Mimeograph Machine possible. The final payment has been made. It belongs to us, South Carolina State Association of Free Will Baptists.

We have enjoyed meeting with you in your Quarterly and Annual Conferences and we appreciate the opportunities of speaking to you.

1,590 copies of **The Post** were prepared and mailed to you, to our National secretaries and to our missionaries. We trust they have proved a blessing.

Following is our financial statement for 1958-1959:

Balance brought forward	\$ 30.11
Received as per list	532.24
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Total before disbursements	\$562.35
Disbursements as per list	538.72
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Balance in Pee Dee State Bank, November 13, 1959	\$ 23.62

Statement of Receipts as Gifts:

Almeta Church	\$ 5.00
Beaver Creek Association	6.36
Bethany Sunday School	25.00
Beulah Church	20.00
First Church, Florence	62.79
First Church, Charleston	5.00
1st District Quarterly Meeting of S. C. Conference	84.00
Rev. Edison Kirby	2.00
Loan—Pee Dee State Bank	175.00
Re-run Check	5.00
Rev. H. W. Richburg	5.00
Sand Hill Church	10.00
2nd District Quarterly Meeting of South Carolina Conference	33.30
S. C. District League Convention	35.00
Mrs. Alma Weatherford	4.96
Total Receipts	\$ 478.41

Statement of Receipts from Sale of Supplies:

Cherry Vale Church	\$ 34.99
Norman Q. Adams	3.54
S. C. District League Convention	15.30
Total Receipts from Sale of Supplies	\$ 53.83

Statement of Cash Purchases:

Mimeograph Machine	\$ 179.50
Extra Silk Screen	8.20
Extra Distinctive Rolls	7.00
2 Tubes Gray Ink @ \$2.75	5.50
1 Quire Stencils	3.50
Sales and Federal Tax	18.68
Mimeograph Supplies	78.46
Total of Cash Purchases	\$ 300.84

Statement of Cash Expenses:

Mailing Permit Fee	\$ 10.00
Bulk Mailing Fee	20.00
Postage for 1,544 copies of "The Post" to you and 46 to Missionaries	16.82
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Total Cash Expenses	\$ 46.82

Statement of Note Expenses:

Pee Dee State Bank Note	\$ 175.00
Pee Dee State Bank Interest	16.06
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Total	\$ 191.06

By way of recommendation, we wish to recommend that each church send a monthly contribution to promotional secretary to carry on work of this department and to purchase much needed typewriter.

We also recommend that \$75.00 be allocated to the promotional department of our state from the funds received at this association.

Respectfully submitted,

Reedy Saverance

APPENDIX IV

CHILDREN'S HOME REPORT

We would like to report that our Children's Home is on a high spiritual level. The Lord has marvelously blessed. Six of our children have been saved during the last year. We thank God for His wonderful expressions of love in this way. We also want to thank God for each of you who have been so faithful with your support and prayers.

The following is an itemized report of farm and other receipts and expenditures for the Conference year of 1959:

We had a very successful year on the Farm—Gross Sales amounted to	\$10,354.50
Sales of Hogs	\$3,541.33
Sale of Tobacco	5,940.95
Sale of Cows	411.88
Sale of Pecans	65.78
Sale of Cotton	295.18
Miscellaneous Commodities	90.38

The Expense of raising these commodities was

Feed for Hogs Including Estimated Price of Corn Given by Churches	\$ 2,091.60
Cost of Building Farrowing Pens	665.68
Fertilizer, Feed for Cows and Chickens, Seed, Etc.	1,037.31
Our Farmers Salary	1,200.00
Our Mule died and we bought another for	100.00

This Subtracted from the Gross Commodity Sale Leaves a Profit of \$ 5,250.91

We had a Bank Balance of \$9,404.15 October the first.

Our Church support was off considerably this year. We received \$2,025.16 less this year than we did in 1958.

Hope you will check with your church and see if maybe it was responsible for a part of this failure.

H. W. Richburg, Superintendent

APPENDIX V

"STATE SUPERANNUATION REPORT"—1958-59

We sincerely urge all of the conferences, associations, quarterly meeting, churches, and individuals in South Carolina to support State Superannuation since we are now in position and have already started to help some of our aged preachers and there are others that will be applying for Superannuation Aid in the near future. Therefore, we need the support of everyone that these old preachers may not have to suffer in their last days on earth.

Financial Report as of November 5, 1959—

RECEIPTS:

Cash on Hand, November 8, 1958.....		\$ 1,294.78
Women's Aux. Bethany Church	\$ 15.00	
1st Quarterly Conference, S. C.	8.00	
South-Side Church (earmarked Pastors Insurance).....	53.67	
First Church, Florence	64.79	
Mt. Elon Church	53.51	
Lebanon Church	4.30	
Liberty Church	48.00	
Beulah Church	61.56	
Oates Church	16.00	
Horse Branch Church	23.15	
Manning Church	6.78	
Total Receipts for Year	\$ 380.76	
Grand Total for Year	\$ 1,675.60	

DISBURSEMENTS:

To National Board for Insurance on Southside Church's Pastor (as earmarked for same)	\$ 53.67
National Board 25% of Receipts	68.02
Expenses for Telephone Calls, Car Expense, Postage, etc.....	21.00
Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Oliver (Superannuation Aid)	180.00
Total Paid Out	322.69
Balance in Treasury, November 5, 1959	\$ 1,352.85

We recommend that superannuation aid be extended to unmarried widows of deceased ministers if it be so found that she is in need of such aid and further that she meet qualifications as set forth in the application for superannuation aid.

Respectfully submitted,
Clarence Lambert

APPENDIX VI

REPORT OF STATE HOME MISSIONS

Balance: (Guaranty Bank & Trust Company,
Florence, S. C., Dec. 1, 1958) \$ 2,615.87

RECEIVED FROM:

Beaver Creek Association	\$ 82.00	
South Carolina Conference	772.84	
Womans Auxiliary, State Convention	48.57	
Womans Auxiliary, Manning Church	2.53	
Womans Auxiliary, Bethany Church	29.07	
Womans Auxiliary, Sand Hill Church	8.76	
Womans Auxiliary, East Side Church	5.00	
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	\$948.77	\$ 948.77
Total to account for		<hr/>
		\$3,564.64

DISBURSEMENTS:

Tent and equipment	\$500.00	
National Home Missions	72.76	
Mid Way Free Will Baptist Church (Beaver Creek Assn.)	75.00	
Cherry Vale Free Will Baptist Church (S. C. Conference)	148.77	
Telephone	19.74	
Travel	42.80	
Moving Tent and equipment (truck)	40.00	
Moving pews and equipment (Hartsville Church)	25.00	
Postage & paper	8.90	
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	\$932.20	\$ 932.20

Balance in Guaranty Bank & Trust Company, Florence, S. C. \$2,632.44

The National Home Missions Director (Reverend Homer Willis) visited our state in the interest of Home Missions and received \$244.59 in gifts. This amount was not carried in Treasurer's financial report.

NEW CHURCHES ORGANIZED:

Cherry Vale, Sumter, S. C. was organized May 10, 1959 with 19 members. The Rev. Reedy Saverance is pastor.

Mt. Pleasant Free Will Baptist Church, Fort Milles, S. C., was organized May 10, 1959 with 42 members. The Rev. Coleman Pate is pastor.

The Home Missions Board now owns a tent and equipment for use by our ministers of the state in the home missions program. We also have a set of church pews that are now in use in the Beaver Creek Association.

We wish to thank all of you for your support during my years as state director. May the good Lord richly bless you in your work.

Fred S. Powers, Director

